

# North and northeast Africa to the eighteenth century

## *Further reading list*

For the history of [Egypt](#) in this period:

The best survey is to be found in the two Cambridge volumes:

- C. F. Petrie (ed.), *The Cambridge History of Egypt: Vol I: Islamic Egypt, 640-1517* (CUP, Cambridge, 1998)
- M. W. Daly (ed.), *Cambridge History of Egypt: Vol II: Modern Egypt, from 1517 ...* (CUP, Cambridge, 1998)



Created by Laymik  
from Noun Project

For the [Fatimid period](#) see also:

- E. P. Walker, *Exploring an Islamic Empire: Fatimid History and its Sources* (I. B. Taurus, London 2002)

For the [Mamluks](#), see:

- D. Nicolle, *The Mamluks, 1250-1517* (Osprey, London, 1993)

For the [Maghrib](#), see:

- J. M. Abun-Nasr, *A History of the Maghrib in the Islamic Period* (CUP, Cambridge, 1987)
- M. Le Gall and K. Perkins (eds.), *The Maghrib in Question* (University of Texas Press, Austin, 1997)
- G. Fischer, *The Barbary Legend: War, Trade, and Piracy in North Africa, 1415-1830* (Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1957) is still worth consulting

For an important aspect of [Moroccan history](#) see:

- V. J. Cornell, *Realm of the Saint: Power and Authority in Moroccan Sufism* (University of Texas Press, Austin, 1998)

For an important aspect of [Ethiopian history](#) in this period see:

- M. Hassen, *The Oromo of Ethiopia: A History, 1570-1860* (Red Sea Press, Trenton NJ, 1994); while S. A. Getahun, *History of the City of Gondar* (AWP, Asmara, 2006)

A fascinating study of the Ethiopian capital by a local Ethiopian historian.

# Central and eastern Africa to the eighteenth century

## *Further reading list*

The best [general survey of central Africa](#) to 1800 remains:

- D. Birmingham and P. M. Martin (eds.), *History of Central Africa, Volume I* (Longman, Harlow, 1983).

It contains an insightful survey of the region before 1400 by David Birmingham; the savannah country north of the forest by Dennis Cordell; the peoples of the forest by Jan Vansina; the impact of the slave trade by Joe Miller; the Luba/Lunda zone by Thomas Reef; and the Zimbabwe plateau by David Beach.

For the [peoples of the Congo forest](#):

- J. Vansina, *Paths in the Rainforest: Toward a History of Political Tradition in Equatorial Africa* (James Currey, Oxford, 1990)

Essential reading.

- R. Harms, *River of Wealth, River of Sorrow: the Central Zaire Basin in the Era of the Slave and Ivory Trade, 1500-1891* (Yale UP, New Haven, 1981)

Deals in dramatic fashion with a specific aspect of this region's history.

For the [Kingdom of Kongo](#):

- A. Hilton, *The Kingdom of Kongo* (OUP, Oxford, 1985)

A good place to start, while the work of John Thornton is recommended for detailed study:

- J. Thornton, *The Kingdom of Kongo: Civil War and Transition, 1641-1718* (UWP, Madison, 1985); and *The Kongolese Saint Anthony: Dona Beatriz Kimpa Vita and the Antonian Movement, 1684-1976* (CUP, Cambridge & New York, 1998) for a fascinating study of the way Christianity was adapted in a distinctly African way

The impact of the [slave trade on the Angolan region](#) is dealt with masterfully by:

- J. C. Miller, *Way of Death: Merchant Capitalism and the Angolan Slave Trade, 1730-1830* (UWP, Madison, 1988)

While L. Heywood's *Njinga of Angola: Africa's Warrior Queen* (Harvard UP, Cambridge MA, 2017) provides an excellent example of the possibilities of detailed biographical research into the lives of prominent Africans in the complex era of early colonial contact.

For the [savannah region south of the forest](#):

- A.D. Roberts, *A History of Zambia* (Heinemann, London, 1976) is a good starting point.
- J. Vansina's *Kingdoms of the Savannah* (UWP, Madison, 1966) remains a classic for the [Luba/Lunda](#) peoples and dispersals; while T. Q. Reece, *The Rainbow and the Kings: A History of the Luba Empire to 1891* (UCLA, Berkeley, 1981) is the best single work on the [Luba empire](#).

For a good introduction to [east African history](#) in this period, see:

- B. A. Ogot (ed.), *Zamani: a survey of East African history* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Longman, London, 1974)

A large number of works on east African pre-colonial history (many based on PhDs by local African scholars) were published in the late 1960s and early 1970s (see below). Most have still not been surpassed.

For the [Ugandan region](#), see:

- S. R. A. Karugire, *A History of the Kingdom of Nkore in Western Uganda to 1896* (Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1971)
- M. S. M. Kiwanuka, *A History of Buganda: from the foundation of the kingdom to 1900* (Longman, London, 1971)
- D. W. Cohen, *The historical tradition of Busoga* (Oxford, 1972)

- J. Lamphear, *The Traditional History of the Jie of Uganda* (Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1976)

For more recent works see:

- J. E. G. Sutton, 'The Antecedents of the Interlacustrine Kingdoms', *Journal of African History*, Vol 34 (1993), pp. 33-64
- D. K. Apuuli, *A Thousand Years of Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom: The People and the Rulers* (Fountain Publishers, Kampala, 1994)
- G. E. Connah, *Kibiro: The Salt of Bunyoro, Past and Present* (BIEA, Memoir 14, Nairobi, 1996)
- S. K. McIntosh (ed.), *Beyond Chiefdoms: Pathways to Complexity in Africa* (CUP, Cambridge, 1999)
- R. Reid, *Political Power in Pre-Colonial Buganda* (James Currey, Oxford, 2002)
- J.-P. Chrétien, *The Great Lakes of Africa: Two Thousand Years of History* (translated by Scott Straus from the original French edition (2000), Zone Books, New York, 2003)

For [Rwanda and Burundi](#), see:

- J. Vansina, *Antecedents to Modern Rwanda: The Nyiginga Kingdom* (UWP, Madison, 2004)
- J.-P. Chrétien, *Burundi: L'histoire retrouvée* (Karthala, Paris, 1993)

and the introductory chapter of:

- R. Lemarchand, *Burundi: Ethnic Conflict and Genocide* (CUP, Cambridge, 1995)
- J.-P. Chrétien, *The Great Lakes of Africa: Two Thousand Years of History* (translated by Scott Straus from the original French edition (2000), Zone Books, New York, 2003)

For the [Kenyan/Tanzanian](#) region, see:

- B. A. Ogot, *History of the Southern Luo, Vol I* (EAPH, Nairobi, 1967)
- N. Kimambo, *A Political History of the Pare* (EAPH, Nairobi, 1969)
- G. Muriuki, *A History of the Kikuyu, 1500-1900* (EAPH, Nairobi, 1974)
- S. Feierman, *The Shambaa Kingdom* (UWP, Madison, 1974)
- K. Katoke, *The Karagwe Kingdom: A History of the Abanyambo of North-West Tanzania* (EAPH, Nairobi, 1975)
- J. Lamphear, 'The People of the Grey Bull: The Origin and Expansion of the Turkana', *Journal of African History*, Vol 29 (1988)
- T. Spear and R. Waller (eds.), *Being Maasai: Ethnicity and Identity in East Africa* (James Currey, Oxford, 1993)
- T. Spear, *Mountain Farmers: Moral Economies of Land and Agricultural Development in Arusha and Meru* (James Currey, Oxford, 1997)

# Southern Africa to the eighteenth century

## *Further reading list*

The best history of the **Cape Colony**, from its foundation in the mid-17<sup>th</sup> century to the early 19<sup>th</sup> century remains the second edition of:

- R. Elphick and H. Giliomee (eds.), *The Shaping of South African Society* (Maskew Millar Longman, Cape Town, 1989)
- R. Elphick, *Khoikhoi and the founding of White South Africa* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Yale UP, New Haven & Ravan Press, Johannesburg, 1985)

Takes a look at the foundation of the Dutch settlement from the point of view of the indigenous peoples of the Cape.

See also the more recent:

- R. Ross, 'Khoesan and Immigrants: the Emergence of Colonial Society in the Cape, 1500-1800', in C. Hamilton, B. K. Mbenga and R. Ross (eds), *The Cambridge History of South Africa, Volume I. From Early Times to 1885* (CUP, Cambridge, 2010), pp 168-2010

For the nature of **Cape society** before the 19<sup>th</sup> century, see three important titles on Cape slavery:

- R. Ross, *Cape of Torments: Slavery and Resistance in South Africa* (Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1982)
- N. Worden, *Slavery in Dutch South Africa* (CUP, Cambridge, 1985)
- R. C.-H. Shell, *Children of Bondage: A Social History of the Slave Society at the Cape of Good Hope* (Wesleyan UP, London & Hanover, 1995)

For the largely overlooked [wars of resistance and conquest on the Cape's northern frontier](#), see:

- N. Penn, *The Forgotten Frontier: Colonist & Khoisan on the Cape's Northern Frontier in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century* (Ohio UP, Athens & Double Storey Books, Cape Town, 2005)

The best introduction to the [farmers and herders of southern Africa's highveld and lowveld](#), remains:

- M. Hall, *The Changing Past: Farmers, Kings and Traders in Southern Africa, 200-1800* (David Philip, Cape Town, 1987)

For the [Botswana region](#) an important work based upon archaeological interpretation is:

- P. Lane, A. Reid and A. Segobye (eds.), *Ditswa Mung: The Archaeology of Botswana* (Botswana Society, Gaborone, 1998)

For the [Sotho-Tswana](#), see:

- N. Parsons, 'Prelude to the Difaqane in the Interior of Southern Africa, C. 1600-c.1822,' in C. Hamilton (ed.), *The Mfecane Aftermath: Reconstructive Debates in Southern African History* (Wits UP, Johannesburg & University of Natal Press, Pietermaritzburg, 1995)

For [early Nguni](#) history, see:

- T. N. Huffman, 'The Archaeology of the Nguni Past,' in *Southern African Humanities*, Vol. 16, (2004)

For the [pre-colonial history of the Xhosa](#), see:

- J. B. Peries, *The House of Phalo: A History of the Xhosa People in the Days of their Independence* (Ravan Press, Johannesburg, 1981)