In Oshiwambo, the elephant is likened to the most challenging situation that people can face. If an elephant appears in the morning, all planned activities are put on hold and the villagers join forces to deal with it. For Tshiwa Trudie Amulungu, the elephant showed up on many mornings and she had no choice but to tame it.

Growing up in a traditional household in northern Namibia, during the period of South African rule, Amulungu’s life started within a very ordered framework. Then one night she crossed the border into Angola with her schoolmates and joined the liberation movement. Four months later she was studying at the UN Institute for Namibia in Lusaka Zambia. She went on to study in France before returning after 12 years to take part in the elections that led to Independence.

Amulungu recounts the cultural shocks and huge discoveries she made, both in exile and after Independence, with honesty, emotion and humour. She draws the reader into her experiences, reflecting on the socio-historical-cultural context, and portraying life, friends, and community in the different places she lived.

This is a compelling story of survival, longing for home, fear of the return and overcoming adversity in strange environments. It is also a love story that brought two families and cultures together.

The author reflects on the vast differences in life experiences over three generations in her family. There is no comparison between her childhood and that of her children, let alone between their youthful experiences and those of her parents.

A remarkable and important book, which should be widely read in Namibia and by other general and academic readers interested in Namibia.

Heike Becker, Professor of Anthropology, University of the Western Cape
In 1963 Mukwahepo left her home in Namibia and followed her fiancé across the border into Angola. They survived hunger and war and eventually made their way to Tanzania. There, Mukwahepo became the first woman to undergo military training with SWAPO. For nine years she was the only woman in SWAPO’s Kongwa camp. She was thrust into a more traditional women’s role of taking care of children in the SWAPO camps in Zambia and Angola.

At Independence, Mukwahepo returned to Namibia with five children. One by one their parents came to reclaim them, until she was left alone. Already in her fifties, and with little education, Mukwahepo could not get employment. She survived on handouts until the Government introduced a pension and other benefits for veterans.

Through a series of interviews, Ellen Ndeshi Namhila recorded and translated Mukwahepo’s remarkable story. This book preserves the oral history of not only the ‘dominant male voice’ among the colonised people of Namibia, but brings to light the hidden voice, the untold and forgotten story of an ordinary woman and the outstanding role she played during the struggle.

Mukwahepo’s story is a fascinating one that fills a gap not only in the history of the liberation struggle but also the very neglected history of how liberation movements dealt with the transition to the post-liberation period. The story of Mukwahepo is so important, not only for Namibia but all the Southern African countries that have gone through liberation struggles.

Elinor Sisulu, writer, human rights activist, author of the award-winning biography Walter and Albertina Sisulu: In our Lifetime

‘Failure is not in my vocabulary,’ says Libertina Inaaviposa Amathila – medical doctor, leading member of Namibia’s liberation movement SWAPO, and Cabinet Minister for 20 years.

Insightful, candid and amusing, this book traces Libertina Amathila’s journey from a village in western Namibia travelling alone to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania in 1962; medical training in Poland, Sweden and London; and the health and education centres in Zambia and Angola that she helped develop and run for Namibians in exile; to a victorious return home in 1989; service in the Cabinet of independent Namibia; and leadership of the World Health Organisation.

Courageous, committed, cutting through difficulties that deterred others, Libertina Amathila has assisted and empowered Namibian communities, particularly the women, in exile and at home. As Minister of Regional and Local Government and Housing, Minister of Health and Social Services, and Deputy Prime Minister, she focused on those in need, such as squatters, street children, and those affected by HIV/AIDS, and undertook immediate practical measures to improve their lives. Packing her tent and supplies, she drove to remote areas and camped out until houses and clinics were built for marginalized communities, assisting in the design and construction process herself.

An indomitable spirit and an open heart drive this remarkable woman. This is her story.

A major contribution to the body of literature on the contribution of women towards the liberation struggle in Namibia and the region.

Dr Martha Akawa-Shikufa, Deputy Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Namibia
The Namibian constitution makes full provision for education as a fundamental human right and freedom. Three years into independence, as part of the government’s educational policy, the ‘Education for All Policy’ was launched as a stepping stone to free quality education. However, inequities have become widely pronounced within the Namibian educational system.

Democracy and Education in Namibia and Beyond debates the education–democracy nexus in Namibia and the southern African context. It defines and explores the meaning of democracy and related concepts. It also looks at what democracy means in the context of human rights and access to education.

The authors in the collection have drawn material from their own teaching and research experience across the fields of education and social science in Namibia and beyond, and present their findings in a pedagogical framework suitable as a challenging text for tertiary students. At a time when education is in crisis, especially in South Africa where strident calls for free tertiary education and Africanisation of the curriculum are spreading like wildfire, this book gives scholarly insight into the history and social conditions that gave rise to our current predicament.

This is an important contribution to the Namibian education landscape, and it will certainly stimulate further debate and highlight key deficits that we must deal with to ensure meaningful reform in our education system.

Hon. Professor Peter H. Katjavivi, MP

The editor, Elizabeth Magano Amukugo, holds a PhD (Education) from Lund University (Sweden). Formerly a Member of Parliament for the Republic of Namibia, she serves on a number of African and international advisory groups for education. Currently, she is Associate Professor in the Department of Educational Foundations and Management, Faculty of Education, at the University of Namibia.

Adding to the increasing body of literature on the contentious period of the 1904-08 Namibian genocide, Elizabeth Baer’s analysis focuses on the concept of the genocidal gaze and the African gaze of resistance to it. Implying power structures, the notion of the gaze allows Baer to explore different modes of perception and presentation of dominance and victimhood, over time and through the eyes of both German and African authors.

She draws on literary texts and art, using the 19th century letters and diaries of visionary Nama leader, Hendrik Witbooi; a 1906 colonial novel by the German Gustav Frenssen, and three post-Holocaust texts by German Uwe Timm, Ghanaian novelist Ama Ata Aidoo, and artist William Kentridge of South Africa. Highlighting concepts such as racial superiority, lebensraum (living space), rassenschande (racial shame) and endlösung (final solution), as well as methods such as the use of concentration camps, death camps, intentional starvation, and the killing of women and children, she demonstrates connections between the Ovaherero and Nama genocide and that of the Holocaust in the 1940s.

The Genocidal Gaze is a challenging discussion of contemporary issues such as colonial practices, cultures in contact, definitions of genocide, European and African race relations and post-colonial theory.

Elizabeth Baer explores the resisting gaze of the colonised … which looks back at the coloniser in defiance and challenges the superiority of the Europeans.

Professor Sarala Krishnamurthy, Former Dean, Faculty of Human Sciences, Namibia University of Science and Technology

Elizabeth Baer served as the Ida E. King Distinguished Visiting Scholar in Holocaust studies at Stockton University in New Jersey in 2016-2017. She continues as research professor of English and African studies at Gustavus Adolphus College in Minnesota. She is the editor or author of four books, including The Golem Redux: From Prague to Post-Holocaust Fiction.
The Politics of Distinction is an insightful study into the difficulties, and strategies, of a youth elite attempting to succeed the established post-colonial order in Namibia. It highlights the fundamental contribution elites make to society and their promotion of nation building at the local level.

In this important ethnography of the changing politics of the public sphere in urban Namibia, Dr Mattia Fumanti focuses on the border town of Rundu. He gives the people of Rundu a voice, including direct quotation, enriching the book with character and immediacy.

Located on the border between Namibia and Angola, Rundu is one of countless such towns across Africa, whose study has largely been neglected by Africanists preoccupied with ‘the problem of Africa’, while being apparently blind to much urban change in everyday public life on the continent.

Focusing on how generational relations between elites in Rundu have shaped, and been shaped by, the transitions from colonial rule and the war of liberation, to Independence and post-Independence, this study opens a window on relations between the hinterland and the capital. It illuminates post-apartheid issues in Namibia and elsewhere in Southern Africa as they have come to be reflected in public debates about education, alcoholism, youth aspirations, the state, citizenship, good governance and the role of ethnic and settler minorities.

Mattia Fumanti is Lecturer in Social Anthropology at the University of St Andrews in the United Kingdom. He has conducted anthropological research in Namibia, Ghana and the UK.

Namibia and Germany: Negotiating the Past explores the relationship between Namibia and Germany in the post-colonial era by examining the ongoing debates, conflicts and confrontations over the past. The book frames the national historical narrative with particular reference to the Namibian War of 1904–1908 and the genocide perpetrated by the German colonial army. The book has a section of colour photographs as well as black and white illustrations within the text.

Part I of the book describes the country’s violent colonial experience and its consequently diverse and unequal society, with a dominant historical narrative captured in Windhoek’s architecture. It explores diverging memories of the past through both Namibian and German perspectives within the field of memory politics where assertion, commemoration, denial, amnesia and recognition are the central themes.

Part II explores the resilience and resistance of central and southern Namibian groups, who assert their respective historical roles and current aims in independent Namibia through commemoration of their traditions in annual festivals.

Part III confronts the contentious issues of apology, restitution and reparation, looking at post-colonial processes of explicit and implicit negotiation, and conversations between relevant actors both in Namibia and Germany.

For lasting reconciliation and mutual respect, Kössler advocates active engagement with, and recognition of a ‘dire past’, despite breaks in communication and refusals to understand, and even in the face of the challenging and far-reaching implications of truth-seeking.

Reinhart Kössler was Director of the Arnold Bergstraesser Institute, Freiburg i.B. in Germany, and Professor in the Politics Department of the University of Freiburg. Besides a regional focus on southern Africa, his research includes social and development theory, political sociology and memory politics. He has published extensively on Namibia, including In Search of Survival and Dignity: Two Traditional Communities in Southern Namibia under South African Rule (2005).
Re-viewing Resistance in Namibian History brings together the work of experienced academics and a new wave of young Namibian historians – architects of the past – who are working on a range of public history and heritage projects, from late nineteenth century resistance to the use of songs, from the role of gender in SWAPO’s camps to memorialisation, and from international solidarity to aspects of the history of Kavango and Caprivi.

In a culturally and politically diverse democracy such as Namibia, there are bound to be different perspectives on the past, and history will be as plural as the history-tellers. The chapters in this book reflect this diversity, and combine to create a remarkable collection of divergent voices, providing alternative perspectives on the past.

Re-viewing Resistance in Namibian History writes ‘forgotten’ people into history; provides a reading of the past that reflects the tensions and competing identities that pervaded ‘the struggle’; and deals with ‘heritage that hurts’. If readings of the past provide the windows through which society addresses the present, then the ways in which the past is packaged will be indicative of the way the present is dealt with.

Editor of the collection, Jeremy Silvester, is Director of the Museums Association of Namibia (MAN). He taught history at the University of Namibia and the Universities of Bristol, Keele, and the West of England. He is widely published and co-edited Posters in Action (2009), The Colonising Camera (1999), and Namibia Under South African Rule (1998).

Indigenous Knowledge (IK) attracts increasing public interest due to its numerous applications in bio-technology, health, bio-prospecting, pharmaceuticals, medicinal plants, agriculture, food preparation, mathematics, natural resource management, climate change, astronomy, etc.

It is the dynamic information base of a society, facilitating communication and decision-making, and is continuously influenced by internal creativity, experimentation, and external contacts. Indigenous Knowledge is the cornerstone of many modern-day innovations in Science and Technology. It is also a ready and valuable resource for sustainable and resilient livelihoods.

However, the libraries of such knowledge are usually older people who are not part of the educational establishments. Thus there is urgency in documenting Indigenous Knowledge before it is lost. There is also need to document IK in order to mainstream it into formal education, ensure its effective use in instruction, and its preservation.

Indigenous Knowledge of Namibia is an invaluable compendium of Namibian IK compiled by an editorial team of respected academics, under the auspices of the University of Namibia’s Faculty of Science and Multi-Disciplinary Research Centre (MRC). The 17 chapters are authored by UNAM academics and post-graduate students from several disciplines in the natural and social sciences, and cover a wide range of topics and themes. They are based on the authors’ many years of experience and research and are a fine blend of relevant literature reviews and the authors’ own research results.

Indigenous Knowledge of Namibia is a fascinating and invaluable trans-disciplinary book aimed at a wide readership of government officials, policy makers, academics and students. It will also appeal to cooperating partners and donors who wish to anchor their programmes on the indigenous knowledge of the people of Namibia.
Otuzo twovaherero

Ngungaa Hangara

FORMAT: Paperback
SIZE (Width x Height): 140 x 210 mm
EXTENT: 160 pages
CATEGORY: Otjiherero
PUBLICATION DATE: 2017

Otuzo twovaherero provides valuable information on Ovaherero patriclans and records folklore and praise poems in Otjiherero. Previously, these did not exist in written form. The book attempts to preserve these oral traditions before they disappear. It aims to restore pride to the Ovaherero, particularly in patrilineages that were displaced by the Ovaherero-German war of 1904-1907.

Otuzo twovaherero is structured around the Ovaherero patrilineal descent system (otuzo) which is the basis of the Ovaherero religion Oupwee. The surnames and homesteads that belong to the same patrilineage are grouped together under each patriclan to help the reader to easily trace the homesteads that belong to one patriclan (and thus have a common ancestry). The distinct features of each patriclan are specified in terms of totems, taboos, patriclans which collaborate, and praise poems of homesteads.

All the patriclans and praise poems in this book were collected from Ovaherero communities living in Namibia. The author uses the term ‘Ovaherero’ to include the various groups which speak the common language Otjiherero and which include the Ovahimba, Ovaherero, Ovatjimba and Ovambanderu.

This book has the potential to promote unity within the Ovaherero community by showing how families are connected in lineages which trace back centuries.

In the era where we witness the erosion of oral traditions and expressions due to rapid urbanisation, industrialisation and environmental changes, there is a need to document these forms of expressions.

Nathanael Kaonomunjo Mbaeva
Senior Education Officer, National Institute for Educational Development (NIED)

Dr Ngungaa Hangara grew up in the Epukiro communal area of the Omaheke Region in Namibia, and obtained his PhD in sustainable agriculture from the University of the Free State in South Africa. He currently works for the National Youth Service as an Executive responsible for the Agriculture and Aquaculture Department.

Von schelmen und Tatorten

Von Literatur und Sprache. Festschrift für Hans-Volker Gretschel

(Marianne Zappen-Thomson & Gertrud Tesmer (Eds)

FORMAT: Paperback
ISBN: 978-99916-42-31-4
SIZE (Width x Height): 140 x 270 mm
EXTENT: 192 pages
CATEGORY: German
PUBLICATION DATE: 2014

The book is a Festschrift in honour of Prof Dr Hans-Volker Gretschel who retired from the University of Namibia at the end of 2011. In academia, a Festschrift is a book honouring a respected person, especially an academic, and presented during his or her lifetime. The term, borrowed from German, can be translated as a celebratory publication or celebratory (piece of) writing. A Festschrift contains original contributions by the honoured academic’s close colleagues and may also feature a Tabula gratulatoria – an extended list of academic colleagues and friends who send their best wishes to the honouree.

‘In a country like Namibia, where few academics often have to cover a subject in all its aspects, the scope of research necessarily has to be wide. In the case of the one honoured with this Festschrift, Hans-Volker Gretschel, these areas cover the German language and literature, comparative literature, translation as well as didactics and lexicography. In this book his colleagues, friends, and companions address all of these issues. Nonetheless, this is not a random potpourri but one united by the relevance of the contributions for the development of Namibia. The reader can look forward to noteworthy articles showing the way for German and German Studies in Southern Africa.’

Dr Katrin Krüger, Technical University of Berlin

Marianne Zappen-Thomson is a Professor at the University of Namibia and Head of the German Section in the Department of Language and Literature Studies. She is currently President of the Association of German Studies in Southern Africa.

Gertrud Tesmer’s academic career spanned 35 years teaching and research at the University of Pretoria, before she retired as their Head of the Department Modern European Languages. She has since taught German Mother Tongue and German as Foreign Language in Namibia.
Omiano vya Tjipangandjara: Otjiherero Proverbs and Idioms is a unique collection of linguistic and cultural significance.

The author has collected over 150 proverbs and idioms from the Ovaherero community, particularly the Ovakakoko, in Namibia, and from various written sources. He encourages the use of these proverbs as a means of cultural enrichment, since younger speakers of Otjiherero tend to use and/or translate English or Afrikaans proverbs.

Concise and extensively researched, this book distinguishes between proverbs and idioms; gives the literal English translation; the origin; general meaning; context; usage; and English equivalents.

Jekura Uaurika Kavari holds a PhD in African Oral Literature from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. He has taught Otjiherero language and literature, culture, and linguistics at the University of Namibia for more than twenty years.

Since Namibia’s Independence in 1990, a variety of English words have come into use, referring predominantly to political developments but also to changes in society in general. As German is one of the national languages in Namibia, these vocabulary changes also need to be expressed in this language. Yet because these terms are specific to the Namibian context, equivalent words cannot always be found in existing German dictionaries.

Professor Marianne Zappen-Thomson, head of the German Section at the University of Namibia (UNAM), together with UNAM post-graduate students, and colleagues from the University of Duisburg-Essen and the University of Bonn, in Germany, have coined appropriate terminology to express as accurately as possible the given English vocabulary in German. This glossary is the result of their work.

The aim of the glossary is not to duplicate what can be found in existing dictionaries, but rather to elaborate on these with the unique situation of Namibia in mind, and to standardize the use of this terminology in the German media, German-language schools, non-governmental agencies, etc. in Namibia.

Marianne Zappen-Thomson is a German language specialist and has lectured at the University of Namibia since its establishment. She implemented a Postgraduate Diploma in Translation at UNAM and served as Head of the Department of Germanic and Romance Languages and as Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. She has published widely and was awarded the Goldene Lilie Award in 2009 for her contribution to the German language in Namibia.
Customary Law Ascertained Volume 2 is the second of a three-volume series in which traditional authorities in Namibia state the customary laws of their communities.

The recognised traditional authorities in Namibia are expected to ascertain the customary law applicable in their respective communities and to note the most important aspects of the laws in written form. The Ministry of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development, and the Council of Traditional Leaders therefore initiated the ascertainment of customary law. The ascertainment project is housed in the Human Rights and Documentation Centre of the University of Namibia. The former Dean of the Faculty of Law, Professor Manfred O. Hinz, directed the project.

The Embassy of Finland to Namibia, and the Office for Development Cooperation of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen, Germany, provided the financial means for conducting the project.

The ascertainment of customary law helps us to understand and appreciate our cultural diversity in the process of forging a common Namibian identity and heritage. It also helps us understand the rationale for the existence of the various customary laws, as well as how communities decide what laws they will keep and which to discard in view of the Namibian Constitution and other laws. We need to start the process of engagement and dialogue – which these volumes will help us to achieve.

Advocate Bience Gawanas, from the foreword to Customary Law Ascertained Volume 2

Customary Law Ascertained Volume 2 contributes towards making customary law accessible to its users, and also aims to contribute towards the evolution of traditional and informal justice systems in Namibia. It will be of value to legal practitioners, academics, students, and members of Namibia’s communities whose laws are presented.

Customary Law Ascertained Volume 3 is the third of a three-volume series in which traditional authorities in Namibia state the customary laws of their communities.

Recognised traditional authorities in Namibia are expected to ascertain the customary law applicable in their respective communities, after consultation with the members of that community, and to note the most important aspects of such law in written form.

The Customary Law Ascertained series is the result of that process. It has been facilitated by the Human Rights and Documentation Centre (HRDC) of the Law Faculty at the University of Namibia, through the former Dean of the Faculty, Professor Manfred Hinz.

The ascertainment project and the publication of these books have been generously supported by the Finnish Embassy in Namibia and the Department of Development Cooperation of the Free Hanseatic State of Bremen in Germany.

The Foreword to Volume 3 is written by UNAM’s Founding Vice Chancellor, Professor Peter H Katjavivi.

These books contribute towards making customary law accessible to its users, and also aim to contribute towards the evolution of traditional and informal justice systems in Namibia. They will be of value to legal practitioners, academics, students, and members of Namibia’s communities whose laws are presented therein.
The Namibian Constitution entrenches fundamental rights and freedoms, and provides for their vertical and horizontal application in any criminal process. However, since the advent of Independence in 1990, Namibia has developed its own criminal jurisprudence. Criminal procedure and law are taking new shape. Namibian courts have pronounced on criminal issues, and legislation has been passed to keep up with the demands, aspirations, spirit, and vision of the Namibian Constitution and its people.

Clever Mapaure, Ndjodi Ndeunyema, Pilisano Masake, Festus Weyulu and Loide Shaparara have written an invaluable book that deals with these developments. It explains the rights of individuals, the duties of law enforcement officers, and the procedures of the courts in criminal cases.

The Law of Pre-Trial Criminal Procedure in Namibia introduces readers to the fundamental principles and values underlying Namibian criminal law, through a systematic examination of the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977 (Act No. 51 of 1977) as amended, which was originally passed by the legislature of South Africa, and still regulates criminal procedure in Namibia, the amendments to it since 1990, and relevant Namibian Case Law.

The book captures and discusses the law relating to the pre-trial criminal process in Namibia in detail, from the roles of the prosecutor and the police, search, seizure and forfeiture, interrogation, notices and summons, arrest, court appearance, bail, criminal charges, disclosure, diminished capacity, right to assistance, to pleas and plea-bargaining.

...a welcome addition to the legal literature in Namibia and to other common law jurisdictions... [It] will be of assistance not only to law students, but also to magistrates, judges, defence lawyers, prosecutors and law enforcement agents.

Norman Tjombe, Namibian human rights lawyer
## Labour Law in Namibia

*Collins Parker*

**Format:** Paperback  
**ISBN:** 978-99916-870-1-8  
**Size (Width x Height):** 170 x 240 mm  
**Extent:** 332 pages  
**Category:** Law  
**Publication Date:** 2012

*Labour Law in Namibia* is the first comprehensive and scholarly text to analyse labour law in the country, the Labour Act of 2007, and how it affects the common law principles of employment relations. Concise and extensively researched, it examines the Labour Act in detail in 16 chapters that include the employment relationship; duties of employers and employees; unfair dismissal and other disciplinary actions; the settlement of industrial disputes; and collective bargaining.

Over 500 relevant cases are cited, including court rulings in other countries, and comparative references to the labour laws of other Commonwealth countries, notably South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and the United Kingdom, making it a reference and comparative source book for common law countries in the SADC region and beyond.

Written by an authority in the field of labour law, this is a unique reference guide for key players in labour relations, including teachers and students of law, legal researchers and practitioners, human resource and industrial relations practitioners, employers and employer’s organisations, employees and trade unions, public servants and public policy advisors, and the academic community internationally.

In clear and uncomplicated English, the book is accessible to professional and lay people. A comprehensive list of contents, tables of cases and statutes, bibliography and index, assist the reader.

*Collins Parker* has been a Judge of the High Court of Namibia since 2006. He was Chief: Legal Services and International Cooperation and Coordinator of the SADC Legal Sector, and one of the counsel for Namibia in the Case concerning Kasikili/Sedudu Island at the International Court of Justice. He also served as a Judge of the Industrial Court of the Kingdom of Swaziland. His other publications include *Human Rights Law*, *A Manual of Public Management*; and *Comparative Electoral Systems and Political Consequences: Options for an Independent Namibia*.

## Understanding Policy Domains, their Salient Forces, and Organisational Challenges

*Tapera O. Chirawu +*

**Format:** Paperback  
**ISBN:** 978-99916-870-0-1  
**Size (Width x Height):** 170 x 240 mm  
**Extent:** 105 pages  
**Category:** Public policy  
**Publication Date:** 2012

*Understanding Policy Domains, their Salient Forces, and Organisational Challenges* examines the complexity of policy making processes within the context of human action arising from culture, life necessities, and politics. It provides an understanding of human, environmental and institutional behaviour, and identifies the policy factors that underline the success or failure of governments and institutions.

This book provides policy-makers, practitioners and other researchers in the field with a clear understanding of the process of policy-making and who is responsible for what. It sets the tone for academics and policy practitioners to confront the problems and challenges that countries face as they seek to improve governance and service delivery.

The author provokes debate on the cause and effect of past, present and future human actions, bringing into play the issues of honesty, transparency and political will. He promotes policy as a way towards achieving social harmony in the human struggle for survival.

User-friendly for both students and lecturers, as well as for researchers, government and NGO policy ‘gurus’, *Understanding Policy Domains, their Salient Forces, and Organisational Challenges* is also valuable for political parties whose members are often unaware of this important aspect of government responsibility.

*Tapera O. Chirawu* held a PhD from Howard University in the USA. He taught African politics and history in the USA, worked in government in Zimbabwe and was Senior Researcher at the Zimbabwe Institute for Developmental Studies in the 1980s. At the University of Namibia, he served as Acting Director for the Centre for Public Service Training, Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Management Science, and Department Head: Political and Administrative Studies for over 10 years. He established and headed the Namibian chapter of the Organisation for Social Science Research in Eastern and Southern Africa (OSSREA). His work focused on political formations, policy processes, land utilization and strengthening democracy in Southern Africa.
WRITING NAMIBIA: LITERATURE IN TRANSITION

Sarala Krishnamurthy and Helen Vale (Eds)

Writing Namibia: Literature in Transition is a cornucopia of extraordinary and fascinating material which will be a rich resource for students, teachers and readers interested in Namibia. The text is wide ranging, defining literature in its broadest terms. In its multifaceted approach, the book covers many genres traditionally outside academic literary discourse and debate. The 22 chapters cover literature of all categories in Namibia since independence: written and performance poetry, praise poetry, Oshiwambo orature, drama, novels, autobiography, women’s writing, subaltern studies, literature in German, Ju’hoansi and Otjiherero, children’s literature, Afrikaans fiction, story-telling through film, publishing, and the interface between literature and society. The inclusive approach is the book’s strength as it allows a wide range of subjects to be addressed, including those around gender, race and orature which have been conventionally silenced.

Sarala Krishnamurthy (PhD, Bangalore, India) is Professor of English in the Faculty of Human Sciences at the Namibia University of Science and Technology. She has published two books on African literature and several articles in international peer-reviewed journals. She is currently working on a major project which is the compilation of Namibian English as part of the International Corpus of English, based at the University of Hong Kong.

Helen Vale has taught literature in the English Departments of the University of Swaziland (four years) and of the University of Namibia (sixteen years). She is now a freelance editor and trainer. Her academic interests include Namibian literature in English since independence, linkages between history and literature, the role of memory and autobiography.

HAKAHANA

Hugh Ellis

Hugh Ellis presents a varied collection of poetry in English (and occasionally other Namibian languages) relating to the themes of Southern African life, politics, feminism, the struggle against racism, creativity, belonging and identity, and new beginnings. The poems take inspiration from early-to-mid-20th century poets like WH Auden, Dylan Thomas and Langston Hughes, as well as South African ‘struggle’ poets such as Mongane Wally Serote, and ‘Afrofuturist’ novelists like Octavia Butler.

Hugh Ellis obtained an MA in journalism from Rhodes University and worked as a journalist before taking up a post as lecturer at the Namibia University of Science and Technology. He began writing poetry and performing at Spoken Word events in 1998, during his second year at university. He is reading for his PhD in media studies through Wits University in Johannesburg.
The Lie of the Land is a novel set against the background of the German colonial wars in Namibia in the early 1900s. The central character is an academic in linguistics who occasionally acts as a British agent. He is a cynical, private individual who sees himself as a neutral observer but is eventually forced to take sides when he witnesses the atrocities of the Herero and Nama genocide and, above all, meets a young Nama woman who enchants him. The novel explores the shifting nature of the oppressor and the oppressed.

Despite the unfolding tragic events, the story is lightened by surprising bursts of humour, and is ultimately a love story.

A compelling story that pulls the reader in from the very start. Utley is especially adept at creating realistic settings backed by his obviously ample research. A tightly plotted and fast-paced novel.

– Lauri Kubuitsile, author of The Scattering

A very well researched historic novel, it makes events which shaped the subsequent history of Namibia accessible. The strength of the novel is the rich and evocative use of language to paint landscapes and characters and its enthralling use of humour.

– Dr Jeremy Silvester, Historian at the Museums Association of Namibia

Jaspar David Utley was the first director of the British Council in Namibia from 1990 to 1995. His first books Allsorts and other stories and Ngoma and Click were published in Namibia where he also wrote and recorded over 30 stories for the Namibian Broadcasting Corporation. From Namibia he was posted to India where he wrote and published books and plays for both children and adults. Currently living in Britain, he regularly directs, produces and acts in amateur dramatics and at present is working on a novel set in modern Afghanistan.
We publish works in English and indigenous languages on topics related to Namibia and the Southern African region, reflecting the strengths of the University and the best scholarship in and on Namibia and the region. Our publishing programme is guided by the UNAM Press Policy approved by Senate in 2011.

An Editorial Board works with the Press to implement policy and approve or reject publication proposals and manuscripts. Submissions go through initial evaluation by the Publisher and Editorial Board members, and selected manuscripts of interest are sent for double-blind peer review.

UNAM Press engages critically with content, language, design and technology to ensure that its publications are of high academic, editorial, and production quality.

Published and forthcoming titles include studies of literature, language and culture; indigenous knowledge; education and democracy; statutory and customary law; public policy; social and political history, and autobiographies.

Our vision is to be the leading publisher of scholarly research and innovation in Namibia.
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