

University of Wisconsin
Department of History
Spring 1994

History 861
7:00-9:00, Wednesday
2611 Humanities
office hours: 4:00-5:00 Tues & Thurs

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'Mau Mau' and Colonialism in Kenya

The seminar will explore the nature of colonialism in Kenya as revealed in the outbreak of the 'Mau Mau' movement. We will start by surveying the extensive literature on the subject prior to preparing research papers on different aspects of colonialism and revolt in Africa drawing on the extensive materials available for Kenya (and perhaps Zimbabwe).

Requirements: Students will be expected to write two papers during the course of the seminar: the first an extensive essay based on one of the topics (and literature) listed for weeks 1-9, and the second a major research paper (including a methodological appendix) on a select aspect of the overall topic. In each case, students should be prepared to distribute copies of their paper to the other seminar participants (with two copies to me) by Monday noon preceding the relevant class. Students will also be expected to write and present a critique of one of the research papers during weeks 10-15.

All required reading is available on reserve at H.C. White. The following are also available at the University Bookstore:

- B. Berman & J. Lonsdale, Unhappy Valley (Books 1 & 2)
- G. Kitching, Class & Economic Change in Kenya
- T. Kanogo, Squatters & the Roots of Mau Mau
- C. Leys, Underdevelopment in Kenya
- Ngugi wa Thiong'o, Matigari

Schedule

Review Essays

11/26 Introduction

- S. Feierman, 'African Histories & the Dissolution of World History' in R. Bates, et al(eds.), Africa & the Disciplines, 167-212
- J. Lonsdale, 'Explanations of the Mau Mau Revolt' in T. Lodge(ed.), Resistance & Ideology in Settler Societies (1986), 168-177
- M. Clough, 'Mau Mau Memoirs' (ASA, 1993)

- 2/2 Political Economy of Colonialism in Kenya
 B. Berman & J. Lonsdale, Unhappy Valley (1992), Book 1, Chs 2, 4-5
 C. Rosberg & J. Nottingham, The Myth of 'Mau Mau' (1966), standard
 'nationalist' history optional for those who feel they need more background

recommended

- N. Leys, Kenya (1924)
 W. Ross, Kenya From Within (1927)
 R. Meinertzhagen, Kenya Diary, 1902-1906 (1957)
Oxford History of East Africa (1965), II: 1, 5-7
 G. Mungeam, British Rule in Kenya, 1895-1912 (1966)
 M. Sorrenson, Origins of European Settlement in Kenya (1968)
 E. Brett, Colonialism & Underdevelopment in East Africa (1973)
 J. Munro, Colonial Rule & the Kamba (1975)
 R. Tignor, The Colonial Transformation of Kenya (1976)
 R. Waller, 'The Maasai & the British,' JAH, 17(1976), 529-553
 P. Rogers, 'The British & the Kikuyu,' JAH, 20(1979), 255-269
 P. Mosely, The Settler Economies (1983)
 D. Kennedy, Islands of White (1987)
 D. Throup, Economic & Social Origins of Mau Mau (1987)
 B. Berman, Control & Crisis in Colonial Kenya (1991)

2/9 Socio-Economic Differentiation

- G. Kitching, Class & Economic Change in Kenya (1980), Chs 1-10 (focus on
 sections on Kikuyu & Central Kenya)

recommended

- W. & K. Routledge, With a Prehistoric People (1910)
 C. Cagnolo, The Akikuyu (1933)
 H. Lambert, The System of Land Tensure in the Kikuyu Land Unit (1949)
 H. Lambert, Kikuyu Political & Social Institutions (1956)
 G. Muriuki, A History of the Kikuyu (1974)
 L. Leakey, The Southern Kikuyu before 1903 (1977)
 C. Clark, 'Land, Food, Women & Power,' Africa, 50(1980), 357-371
- Oxford History of East Africa (1965), II: 7
 P. Marris & A. Sommerset, African Businessmen (1971)
 M.J. Hay, 'Economic Change in Luoland' (PhD, UW, 1972)
 D. Parkin, Palms, Wine & Witnesses (1972)
 A. Clayton & D. Savage, Government & Labour in Kenya (1974)
 R. van Zwandenbergh, Colonial Capitalism & Labour in Kenya (1975)
 M. Cowen, 'Commodity Production in Central Province' in J. Heyer(ed.), Rural
 Development in Tropical Africa (1981)
 S. Stichter, Migrant Labor in Kenya (1982)
 G. Hodges, The Carrier Corps (1986)
 F. Cooper, On the African Waterfront (1987)

- 2/16 The Circumcision Controversy & Religious Differentiation
D. Sandgren, Christianity & the Kikuyu (1989)

recommended

- J. Kenyatta, Facing Mount Kenya (1939)
F. Welbourne, East African Rebels (1961)
B. Ogot & F. Welbourne, A Place to Feel at Home (1966)
J. Anderson, The Struggle for the School (1970)
J. Murray, 'The Kikuyu Female Circumcision Controversy (Ph.D, UCLA, 1974)
Oxford History of East Africa (1976), III: 10
R. Strayer, The Making of Mission Communities in East Africa (1978)
J. Davidson, Voices from Mutira (1989)

- 2/23 African Politics
J. Spencer, KAU, The Kenya African Union (1985)

recommended

- H. Thuku, Harry Thuku: An Autobiography (1970)
J. Spencer(ed.), James Beauttah, Freedom Fighter (1983)

C. Rosberg & J. Nottingham, The Myth of 'Mau Mau' (1966)
B. Kiporir(ed.), Imperialism & Collaboration in Kenya (1980)
M. Clough, Fighting Two Sides: Kenyan Chiefs & Politicians (1990)

- 3/2 Mau Mau in the White Highlands & the City
T. Kanogo, Squatters & the Roots of Mau Mau (1987)

recommended

- J. Kariuki, Mau Mau Detainee (1963)
R. Gatheru, Child of Two Worlds (1964)
N. Kahiyo, Man in the Middle (1973)
M. Mathu, The Urban Guerilla (1974)
B. Kaggia, Roots of Freedom (1975)
R. Wambaa & K. King, 'The Political Economy of the Rift Valley: A Squatter's Perspective' in B. Ogot(ed.), Hadith, 5(1975), 195-217
H. Wachanga, The Swords of Kirinyaga (1975)
G. Gikoyo, We Fought for Freedom (1979)

M. Tamarkin, 'Tribal Associations, Tribal Solidarity, and Tribal Chauvinism in a Kenya Town,' JAH, 14(1973), 257-274
F. Furedi, 'The African Crowd in Nairobi,' JAH, 14(1973), 275-290
M. Clough & K. Jackson, A Bibliography on Mau Mau (1975)
S. Stichter, 'Workers, Trades Unions & Mau Mau,' CJAS, 9(1975)
M. Tamarkin, 'Mau Mau in Nakuru,' JAH, 17(1976), 119-134 [repr. in KHR, 5/2(1977), 225-241]
A. Hake, African Metropolis (1977)
C. Dickerman, 'Africans in Nairobi During the Emergency' (MA, UW, 1978)
F. Gadsden, 'The African Press in Kenya,' JAH, 21(1980), 515-536
F. Furedi, The Mau Mau War in Perspective (1989)
L. White, The Comforts of Home (1990)
L. White, 'Separating the Men from the Boys,' IJAHS, 23(1990), 1-26

- 3/9 Mau Mau in the Reserves
 Berman & Lonsdale, Unhappy Valley (1992), Book 2, Ch 12

recommended

- D. Barnett & K. Njama, Mau Mau from Within (1966)
 W. Itote, Mau Mau General (1967)
 G. Wachira, Ordeal in the Forest (1968)
 C. Waciuma, Daughter of Mumbi (1969)
 K. Muriithi, War in the Forest (1971)
 J. Wamweya, Freedom Fighter (1971)
 K. Muchai, The Hardcore (1973)
 E. Mutonyi, Mau Mau Chairman
 G. Gikoyo, We Fought for Freedom (1979)
 M. Likimani, Passbook Number F47927: Women & Mau Mau in Kenya (1985)
 G. Wanjau, Mau Mau Author in Detention (1988)
- B. Ogot, 'Revolt of the Elders' in Hadith, 4(1972), 134-149.
 B. Ogot, 'Politics, Culture and Music in Central Kenya,' KHR, 5(1977), 275-286
 D. Mukaru Ng'ang'a, 'Mau Mau, Loyalists, and Politics in Muranga,' KHR,
 5(1977), 365-384
 R. Bates, Beyond the Miracle of the Market (1989)
 R. Edgerton, Mau Mau (1989)
 M. Green, 'Mau Mau Oathing Rituals & Political Ideology in Kenya,' Africa,
 60(1990), 69-87
 C. Presley, Kikuyu Women, the Mau Mau Rebellion & Social Change in Kenya
 (1992)

- 3/16 Decolonization
 C. Leys, Underdevelopment in Kenya (1974), Chs 3, 5-7
 F. Furedi, The Mau Mau War in Perspective (1989), 149-224

recommended

- G. Bennett & C. Rosberg, The Kenyatta Election (1961)
 M. Sorrenson, Land Reform in Kikuyu Country (1967)
 J. Murray-Brown, Kenyatta (1972)
 G. Lamb, Peasant Politics (1974)
 A. Clayton, Counterinsurgency in Kenya (1976)
 G. Wasserman, The Politics of Decolonization (1976)
 M. Tamarkin, 'The Loyalists in Nakuru,' African & Asian Studies, 12(1978)
 'Kenya: The Agrarian Question,' special issue of ROAPE, 20(1981)
 D. Goldsworthy, Tom Mboya (1982)
 C. Leo, Land & Class in Kenya (1984)
 M. Tamarkin, 'A Failure in the Counter-Revolution to Mau Mau,' African & Asian Studies, 18(1984)
 D. Gordon, Decolonization & the State in Kenya (1986)
 M. Schatzberg (ed.), Kenya (1988)
 B. Ogot & W. Ochieng'(eds.), Decolonization & Independence in Kenya (in press)

- 3/23 The Debate over Mau Mau
 Ngugi wa Thiong'o, Matigari (1987)
 D. Kennedy, 'Constructing the Colonial Myth of Mau Mau,' IJAHS, 25(1992)
 W. Maloba, Mau Mau and Kenya (1993), Ch 9.

recommended

- L. Leakey, Mau Mau & the Kikuyu (1953) & Defeating Mau Mau (1954)
 J. Carothers, The Psychology of Mau Mau (1954)
 I. Leigh, In the Shadow of Mau Mau (1954)
 M. Slater, The Trial of Jomo Kenyatta (1955)
 M. Koinange, The People of Kenya Speak for Themselves (1955)
 P. Evans, Law and Disorder (1956)
 I. Henderson, The Hunt for Kimathi (1958)
 M. Gicaru, Land of Sunshine (1958)
 F. Kitson, Gangs and Countergangs (1960)
 F. Corfield, Historical Survey of the Origins & Growth of Mau Mau (1960)
 G. Kushner, 'An Af. Revitalization Movement,' Anthropos, 60(1965), 763-802
 C. Rosberg & J. Nottingham, The Myth of 'Mau Mau' (1966)
 J. Ngugi, A Grain of Wheat (1967)
 J. Kenyatta, Suffering without Bitterness (1968)
 O. Furley, 'Historiography of Mau Mau' in B. Ogot (ed.), Hadith, 4(1972)
Mau Mau Twenty Years Later (1973)
 E. Keller, 'The Mau Mau Transformation from Social Banditry to Social Rebellion,' KHR, 1(1973), 188-206
 'Perspectives on the Mau Mau Movement,' special issue of Kenya Historical Review, 5/2(1977), cf., e.g., articles by Ogot, Kinyatti, Kipkorir & Ng'ang'a.
 Maina wa Kinyatti, Thunder from the Mountains (1980)
 W. Buitjenhaus, Essays on Mau Mau (1982)
 Ngugi wa Thiong'o, Barrel of a Pen (1983)
 C. Maughan-Brown, Land, Freedom & Fiction (1985)
 J. Lonsdale, 'Explanations of the Mau Mau Revolt' in T. Lodge(ed.), Resistance & Ideology in Settler Societies (1986), 168-177
 A. Mazrui, 'Ideology, Theory & Revolution,' Monthly Review, 39(1987), 20-30
 F. Cooper, 'Mau Mau & the Discourses of Decolonization,' JAH, 29(1988), 313-320
 J. Lonsdale, 'Mau Maus of the Mind,' JAH, 31(1990), 393-421.
 M. Clough, 'Mau Mau Memoirs' (ASA, 1993)

Spring Vacation -- Enjoy

Research Papers

4/6

4/13

4/20

4/27

5/4

5/11