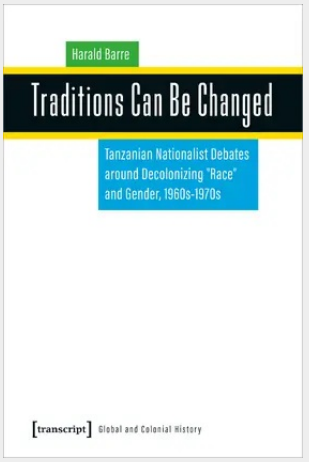
Barre

Traditions Can Be Changed

Tanzanian Nationalist Debates around Decolonizing »Race« and Gender, 1960s-1970s

Whether and to what extent African states and societies have been able to break away from colonial impact is a still contentious issue. Harald Barre considers newspapers and academic activism in Tanzania as forums in which the project of an independent African nation was shaped through heated debates. Examining the changing discourses on race and gender in the 1960s and 1970s, he reveals that equating difference with inequality in the national narrative was fiercely contested. Pervasive images rooted in colonialism were thus challenged and in some cases fundamentally transformed by journalists, students, (inter)national scholars, (inter)national events and the promise of an egalitarian socialist state.

1. Why did you choose this topic?In 2014, I got the chance to look through some historical newspapers from the late 1960s in the East Africana Collection of the University of Dar es Salaam. I was fascinated by the open and controversial debates in the readers section. Years later, I met Deborah Brycescon, who introduced me to a range of people who worked and studied in in Tanzania during those years – their stories and the discourse in the newspaper fitted perfectly.2. What new perspectives does your book offer?Tanzania under Julius Nyerere is often vilified or glorified. However, the analysis of more than a decade of newspaper debates and the recollections of contemporaries illustrate the complexity of the period. Furthermore, one can neatly observe, how not only the discourse, but also individual agency changes in the course of the years.3. What makes your topic relevant for current research debates?One interviewees once told me: ›Tanzania is a nation of newspaper readers‹. Having written this book, I would add, it is also a nation of debaters. The book offers a unique window in the debate culture of a nation that was just forming. It contributes to ongoing debates on post-colonial nations' ability to part from their colonial heritage. However, it also adds a unique perspective to analyses of civil societal discourse, as it weaves a fabric of macro-political events, individual biographies and the public discourse.4. Choose one person you would like to discuss your book with!Angela Davis – she is a groundbreaking scholar. Furthermore, she is an iconic figure of the African-American struggle and she experienced Tanzania in the 1970s. She would be a wonderful discussant as both an academic as well as a contemporary.5. Your book summary in one sentence:In the 1960s and early 1970s, academics, officials and political activists imagined and debated what an independent Tanzania should look like.



45,00 €
42,06 € (zzgl. MwSt.)

Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

Artikelnummer: 9783837659504
Medium: Buch
ISBN: 978-3-8376-5950-4
Verlag: transcript
Erscheinungstermin: 23.11.2021
Sprache(n): Englisch
Auflage: 1. Auflage 2021
Serie: Global- und Kolonialgeschichte
Produktform: Kartoniert
Gewicht: 429 g
Seiten: 274
Format (B x H): 148 x 225 mm

Kundenservice Verlag Dr. Otto Schmidt KG
Neumannstraße 10, 40235 Düsseldorf | kundenservice@otto-schmidt.de | 0221-93738-997 (Inland)