

Par-As-Salaam

Profiles of African Leaders by Thomas Patrick Melady
McMillan Co., NY '61

Quite superficial & uneven, includes everyone from Haile Selassie, Tom Mboya, Nyerere, Senghor, Tours, Tubman, Houphouet-Boigny, Alhaji Sir Abubakar & others. But at least it is only one of its kind in a small (181pp) book. Obviously Catholic.

Special prefatory note breaks Africa down in 4 basic areas:

- (1) Egypt & parts of neighboring Libya, & Sudan; 34 mln., Arabic, Islamic faith, more tied to M.E.
- (2) Maghreb--Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia & part of Libya. Arabic & Islamic. Sample of its superficiality is included in this part, which states "In Algeria there is a strong European minority."
- (3) Union of So. Africa & Rhodesia--21 mln., 18 mln. of whom are Bantu, 2 mln. whites. (Why Rhodesia with that & where is the movement?)
- (4) Black Afr. incl. all of the continent below the Sahara except Union of So. Afr. & Rhodesia. Negro, Bantu, Hamitic; more than 140 mln.

In contrast to So. Am's 7 1/2 mln. sq. miles, Afr. has 11 1/2 mln. In contrast to 13 countries in So. Am. (incl. 3 European-owned Guianas) Afr. has approximately 50; 224 mln. as against So. Am.'s 95 mln. Afr. produces most of world's uranium, 1/3rd of its chrome, 1/6th of its lead, 3/4 of its antimony, over 1/3rd of its manganese & phosphates; 1/2 of its copper, over 60% of its gold & nearly all of its precious diamonds. Petroleum potential may be enormous. Agric. & hydroelec. sources have hardly been touched.

Under ch. on "The Afr. Rev.", which is not seen at all other than Europe "giving up" its colonies, he says of G-ism, p. 5: "Human nature, enforced by experience, has made new nations significantly reluctant to adopt either the forms or the symbols of dial. mat."

Israel's becoming ind. 5/14/48 exerted influence. The author doesn't explain what he means except, obviously, he means since Moslem is stronger than Christian & Moslem hates Jew, it will "balance" itself out. Accra 3/6/57 as Gold Coast became Ghana.

Fr. Afr: Rep. of Chad, Central Afr. Re., Rep. of Congo, Rep. of Gabon, Gabon Rep., Rep. of Ivory Coast, Malagasy Rep., Rep. of Mali, Islamic Rep. of Mauritania, Rep. of Niger, Rep. of Senegal, Voltaic Rep., (Guinea, Camerons, Togoland)

*** Of these, Ivory Coast, Dahomey, Niger & Voltaic have formed Council of the Entente.

Bet. Congo & Tanganyika lies Ruanda-Urundi, which had part of Ger. E. Afr. till '18 & in '46 mde.

UN Trust Territory under Belgium; Watusi and Bahutu conflict in Nov. '59 when 100 lives lost.; considering separate (!) elections for Ruanda & Urundi.

Julius Nyerere, Julius Kambarage Nyerere, shepherd, schoolmaster (PHD) Chief Minister in Tanganyika "the land of snow-capped Mt. Kilimanjaro & Africa's 3 most beautiful lakes... since the period of great change began in Afr. in '46." 3 climactic zones: 1st warm humid coast, seldom below 80° during 2 rainy seasons; 2nd hot dry plateau temp. 70°; 3rd zone semi-temperate highlands to n. & Crater Highland to w. where altitudes range from 5-10,000 ft. Only extractive ind. is diamond mines; world's greatest exporter of sisal (whatever that is); also hides, coffee & cotton; some tobacco.

9 mln. people, 8.9 Africans, 25,000 Europeans, 75,000 Indians, 14,000 Arabs. 120-200 tribes with Sukuma rep. about 125 for 2000 Bushman-Pygmy tribe, oldest; following Negroid migrations came Hamitic peoples from Wes. Asia; it was this group that mixed with Negroes to form Bantu language complex. In 19th came Masai from no. & Zulus from so. Ruins show earlier movement from Arabia & PERSIA, which is earlier than the 800 A.D. of Arab colonies. Bet. 1100-1300 a rather advanced civilization flourished on ivory, gold, tortoise shell, ambergris & slaves; brought traders from Ch. & Europe. Portugal controlled till 1622 when Arabs revolted & coast fell to Saif Bin Sultan, Imam of Muscat; by 1749 Portuguese relegated to Mozambique & Arab influence centered in Zanzibar. Suez Canal 1869; Stanley expedition to find Livingstone, 1871; Dr. Karl Peters snatched it for Ger. in 1884 when slave trade still going on. Ger. East Afr. Co. tried making radical agricultural changes (which?) & tried taking over trade & Arab uprisings occurred in 1888 LASTING TILL 1907. There were never more than a 100 Germans to govern 7 mln. Africans. "The govt. encouraged planters who in turn demanded land & labor. These demands plus taxes were greatly resented by the AFRICANS. VIOLENCE BROKE IN THE SOUTH IN 1905 IN MAJI MAJI REBELLIONS. They fought with fanatical determination... Since Germans were unable to subdue the people by arms, they burned the crops & villages, causing famine & starvation. It is believed 120,00 Africans died."

(p. 64) Members of Social Democratic party & various missionary groups, shocked at this horror.... "WW I more disastrous than from dysentery, malar. a. famine, & finally the flu epidemic. It was a devastated land when the Br. assumed adm. under the League of Nations mandate." 1953 "parity" introduced, i.e. governor assisted by Exec. Council & Legislative Council, membership in which is on "parity" that is equal of racial groups represented, regardless of numerical differences." (This with a white face!) More stability in country because no cohesiveness among Europeans, he agrees. No higher educ. institutions, but 3,000 Africans in technical, vocational & teacher-training schools & no Asians or Europeans. 400 have been receiving college training in England, Kenya & Uganda.

Nyerere born on eastern shore of Lake Victoria, son of chief of the Zanaki, a tribe of 35,000, many of whom herd cattle & goats. Attended local schools at Masoma & Sabors for 9 yrs, then Makerere College where he receiving taught diploma in '46, then to Univ. of Edinburgh (1949-52) where he received master's degree in his & economics. teacher in Catholic school outside of capital of Dar es Salaam. '53 left school to devote full time to TANU (Tanganyika Afr. Nat. Union) which was but small org. then now claims 800,000 members. The party is opposed to land alienation to non-Africans. Early yrs of TANU Nyerere's competitor Thomas Marealle, self-made chief & leader of Chagga Union. Nyerere created precedent for Afr. p l. leader in 1955 when he appeared before UN since it was 1st time (what about Togo?) an Afr. had been sent by a territorial pol. org. (TANU). Pol. problem is Indian who holds much of wealth & power thru business; only group that challenged TANU in '58 election was United Tanganyika Party, of some Europeans. In Sept. '60 TANU's overwhelming victory at polls. He also heads Tanganyika Elected Members Org. (permanent multiracial opp) "and it has been remarked, somewhat facetiously, that JN has less trouble keeping it solidly behind him than the TANU with its exclusively Afr. membership now up to almost 800,000"

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Chosen to head also Pan-Afr. Freedom Movement of East & Central Africa.

SEKOU TOURE at UN, 11/5/59:

"Populations which include more than 80% of illiterate peasants, with an annual indiv. income of less than \$100, & therefore with the most precarious conditions of life - these are the harsh realities of Afr., when it is no longer masked behind the ridiculous veil of exoticism which hides from unaware eyes the colossal misery of our vast underdeveloped countries at present

sparsely populated because of centuries of slavery.

"& yet in this poverty, of which humanity should be ashamed, there is man, with his invisible faith in the destiny of humanity; there is his hope, his determination to win & to grow; his immense spiritual brotherhood & harmony, his kindness still in its purest form; & at the same time his extraordinary energy & sharp sense of responsibility. There is, in the incalculable amt. of virtues & values of almost 200 mln. Africans, the tremendous possibilities which this represents & the

INTELLECTUAL POTENTIAL which this may hold."

Born in '22 at Frans, a town on the banks of the Niger now known as Djoliba. His parents, Alpha and Aminata Toure ... poor farmers. 1 of 7 children, attended school of Koranic studies at Kankan. Later went to a Fr. technical school. 1st job in '49 at age of 18, as clerk in local business firm; following year passed examination which qualified him for empl. as adx. cler in Post & Telecommunications Dept. of Fr. govt. READ VORACIOUSLY. then moved to Treasury dept., but didn't like French Colonial Service for Guineans & resigned to become full-time labor organizer; & soon became head of full-time of Guinea branch of France's General Confederation of Labor; this union work later took him to Warsaw and Prague.

2.7 mln. people in 105,000 sq. miles; 3 tribes Fulas, Susus & Jalonkes which comprise 5/6ths of pop. & absorbed many characteristic of Mandingos, a tribe of once great stature. Guinea coast one of the wettest spot of Afr. Moving inland, in mountainous chain running nw-sw that divides Guinea from Sierra Leone, is Fulta Jallon, most prosperous agric. belt in W. Afr.. Peanuts, sesame seed, fruit, cotton sisal, kola, coffee, cocoa, cattle & sheep are all raised in Guinea. Millets, rice & maize, however, are chief staples. Principle exports: bananas, palm products, kola nuts, gum rubber & sesame seed. Za dynasty followed by Sonni dynasty, to be conquered by Mali the 2 Songhai bros. of this dynasty escaped "to restore Songhai glory." Last of this line, Sonni Ali, was 1st great Songhai king; reign ended in 1493, influence spread to Timbuktu & Niger headwaters; fame of scholars of Timbuktu & Jenne attracted students thruout ancient world & a whole lit. dev. there in 16th & 17th c. During his reign Sonni Ali had dominated western Sudan; his more human adviser, Mohammed Abou Bekr succeeded Sonni Ali. He was a Moslem with great respect for religion & learning; & there was Moslem revival; trade expanded & kingdom dominated an area almost to ocean & into Hausaland. Mohammed assumed name of Askia & his dynasty ruled till overrun by Moors; final collapse of Songhai, 1545.

Guinea assigned to French at Berlin Conf, 1884-5, 1886. "The only real obstacle to the Fr. occupation of this area was SAMORI TOURE whose campaigns were waged against them throughout the present Ivory Coast & Guinea territory. He finally retreated to Kouta Diala WHERE HE WAS CAPTURED IN 1906. "Little did the French know that within a few decades another Toure, Samori's descendant, would arise during ind. to his people."

*****Sekou Toure's org'd & WON A GENERAL STRIKE LASTING 76 days. This strike brought the 1st major concessions to the wkrs. of Fr.W.Afr. In '51 he won seat in Fr.Nat.Assembly but was prevented from taking it; won it again in '54 again prevented from taking it, but this time riots ensued. '55 elected Mayor of Conakry & '56 finally elected to National Assembly. 1st territorial Councilor for Conakry & then Grand Councilor for Fr.W.Afr. By end of '57 he was V-P of Govt. Council of Guinea. Under loicadre French kept control of overseas thru Fr.governors but gave Africans right to elect operating needs. Altho his powers as V-P were limited TOURE LIMITED POWERS OF CHIEFS & SET UP MORE THAN 4000 village councils ELECTED BY UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE. Thus removed "chieftaincy" institution & up beginning of a dynamic pol. org. Within few mos. after est. of loicadre in '58 proceeded to bring about next step by going to Paris where he informed the Fr.govt. officials that the Guineans came "to make the law."; in '58 he attacked the idea of Fr union because it would continue Guinean in status of "perpetual dependence & indignity...subordination" so vote of "No" should have been a surprise.; & after de Gaulle's visit Toure got 95% vote of "No" to Fr.Constitution. Referendum was held 9/28/58 & ind. declared.

ST: "African his. in our days is undergoing such an acceleration that decisive & imp. events punctuate the process at an unexpected rhythm. Only 10 years ago Afr. was almost entirely occupied by foreigner & its life regulated for their exclusive profit."

"The most significant fact is the massive & general uprising of all our peoples, even those who until now have been considered the most backward, that is, the most oppressed. All the plans to restrain this fierce will of Afr. for the reconquest of its rights are being frustrated one way or another, & always it is the same burning cry that echoes across our entire continent: independence. Thus, ind. & unity today are the 2 irresistible forces which are shaking Afr."

p.90: The Parti Democratique de Guinee is the only one but Toure claims it is "complete democracy because it is org'd. *** from base to the summit. Within the party there is 1 comm. ***** for every 600 men & women, or a total of 4,000 local comm. The committees are elected each year.

p.91. Sekou Toure: "It is evident that certain Marxist concepts suit African conditions, but it is no less evident that Africa will have to find its own revolutionary principles. As for the class problems, you will note that there exists in Africa one & the same class--that of the dispossessed."

from the Tigris-Euphrates area est'd white dynasty in 400A.D. The throne later passed to a Negro family.

Other leaders mentioned: Abdullahi Issa of Somalia
Edw. Mutesesa II of Uganda (where Buganda
are the elite)
& Dr. Hastings Banda, but very brief.

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