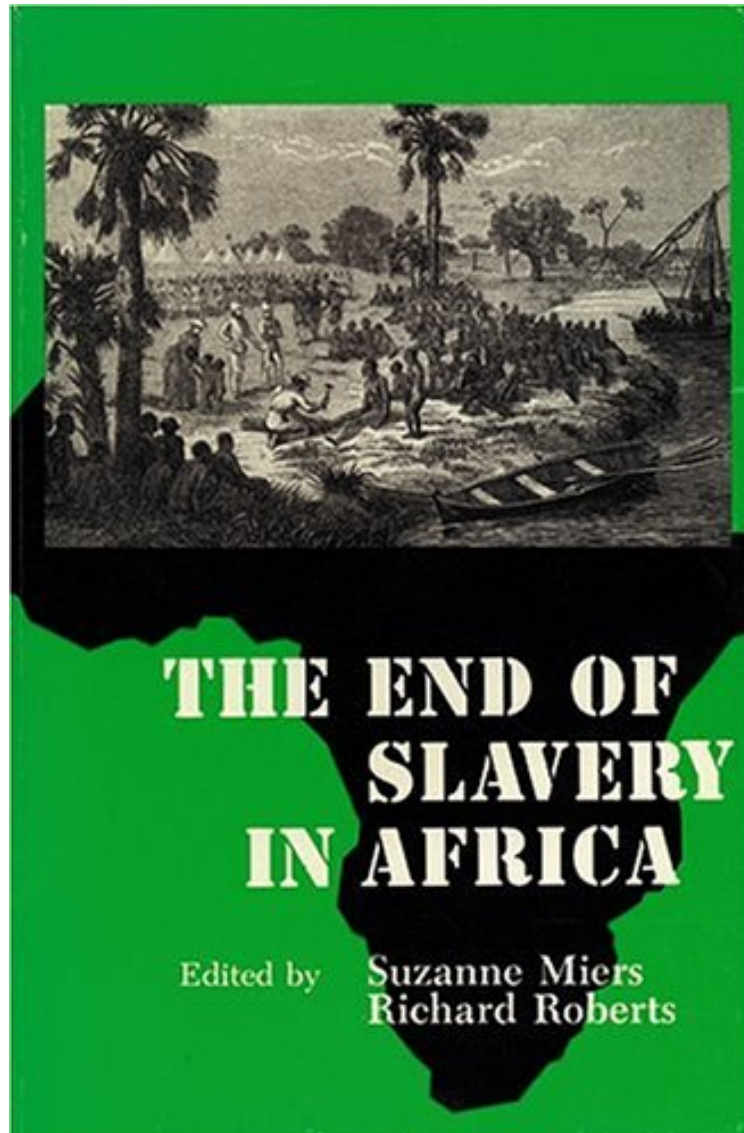


[FREE] The End of Slavery in Africa

## The End of Slavery in Africa

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**From University of Wisconsin Press : The End of Slavery in Africa** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The End of Slavery in Africa:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Africa's Tortuous Path to Abolition By Chimonso On first publication TEOSIA was ground-breaking in raising understanding of the interplay between colonial policies, African institutions master/slave relations. The contents fully document conflicts between European abolitionist rhetoric and concern to maintain social stability and economic production. Typically they prohibited raiding and trading, but not

ongoing ownership of captives. In one sense slaves ended bondage by dying out: no more slaves, no more slavery .... But in another sense they actively struck against the institution through individual and collective resistance, especially mass flight. The 1905-6 exodus from Banamba in Mali brought self-liberation for tens of thousands. This mass escape paralleled similar monumental events that helped end slavery in 1880s Brazil and Civil War America. Many chapters represent first fruits culminating in essential books on the regions covered, e.g. titles by M. Klein, Lovejoy Hogendorn, etc. Another review here is somewhat misleading: many chapters give due attention to societies and states in the interior. Overall, a major scholarly contribution with important implications for appreciating slavery's retreat a century ago. Sadly, the New Slavery now affects more people than ever. Welcome to the globalized economy. PS Four stars is more appropriate, but it gets 5 here. This compensates for the silly 1-star review, which unfairly lowers the average rating. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Do u know when slavery ended in Africa? By Michael J. Sopher First, there is no one set date when slavery ended in Africa. It varied from country to country. In some parts, slavery came to an abrupt end causing widespread panic among the people. But as Miers and Roberts argue, the end of slavery, whether it came to an immediate halt or was gradually abolished "always brought the nature of the economic, political, and social structure sharply into focus." (3) In *The End of Slavery in Africa*, Miers and Roberts show in the introduction that the transition from slave to free labor was complex. The notion that once given their "freedom" slaves had the choice to leave or stay with their masters does not pertain to the entire slave population in Africa. In African societies, most slaves belonged to a kin group and so their rights were at the judgment of the family. At the time of emancipation, the slave was usually given the option to run away or in some cases become a member of the family. Also, desertion rates among African tribes were overwhelming, some estimate that 25 to 40% (roughly 5-6 million people) of slaves deserted from their owners. The authors conclude that these numbers represent the overall harsh treatment of slaves. This collection of essays focuses typically on the ending of slavery along the coastal societies where colonial rule was much more common. In these coastal towns, the right to emancipate the slaves was usually left up to the African society but not without approval from the colonial power which controlled the profitable slave trade. In general, most of the contributing authors agree that it was the European influence that eliminated slavery in Africa. 1 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Worst Historical Book I Have Ever Read By J. Bain The editors' argument is lost with poor sentence structure, lack of definition of key terms, superfluous use of words (no pun intended). It was honestly painful trying to finish this text. When I did, I threw it across the room and cursed at it. You could not get me to read this book again, I would rather scrub used bedpans at a Senior's Care Facility for a week than read this terrible, terrible book. I would have signed my name as "Anonymous" if I was the editor of this collection of essays.

This is the first comprehensive assessment of the end of slavery in Africa. Editors Suzanne Miers and Richard Roberts, with the distinguished contributors to the volume, establish an agenda for the social history of the early colonial period when the end of slavery was one of the most significant historical and cultural processes. *The End of Slavery in Africa* is a sequel to *Slavery in Africa*, edited by Suzanne Miers and Igor Kopytoff and published by the University of Wisconsin Press in 1977. The contributors explore the historical experiences of slaves, masters, and colonials as they all confronted the end of slavery in fifteen sub-Saharan African societies. The essays demonstrate that it is impossible to generalize about whether the end of slavery was a relatively mild and nondisruptive process or whether it marked a significant change in the social and economic organization of a given society. There was no common pattern and no uniform consequence of the end of slavery. The results of this wide-ranging inquiry will be of lasting value to Africanists and a variety of social and economic historians.

"The end of slavery is one of the most misunderstood major social changes to take place in colonial Africa. Many people believe that the Emancipation Act of 1834 ended all slavery in the British empire. It did not; forms of slavery continued under British and French rule into the 1930s. Miers and Roberts' collection of essays goes a long way to correct false impressions. The editors provide an excellent introduction to the volume, and Igor Kopytoff's concluding essay on African emancipation in its rural context is alone worth the price of admission." Philip D. Curtin, The Johns Hopkins University "This book makes an important contribution to the study of African history. Focusing on the end of slavery, it gives us another vantage point from which to view colonial rule, and provides insights not thus far given by studies into resistance and collaboration, labour history and colonial policy." Ken Smith, University of South Africa "The editors . . . seemed to have relished the search for the unique in their encyclopaedic catalogue of various possibilities in emancipation. . . . The more lasting contribution of the book is perhaps the fifteen case studies across Africa from Mauritania to Mozambique." Abdul Sheriff, University of Dar es Salaam From the Inside Flap "This book makes an important contribution to the study of African history. Focusing on the end of slavery, it gives us another vantage point from which to view colonial rule, and provides insights not thus far given by studies into resistance and collaboration, labour history and colonial policy." Ken Smith, University of South Africa "The editors . . . seemed to have relished the search for the unique in their encyclopaedic catalogue of various possibilities in emancipation. . . . The more lasting contribution of the book is perhaps the fifteen case studies across Africa from Mauritania to

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