

thomas pakenham the scramble for africa

Thomas Pakenham and The Scramble for Africa: Unveiling a Pivotal Chapter in History

thomas pakenham the scramble for africa is a phrase that resonates deeply within the world of historical writing, particularly for those fascinated by the late 19th-century European imperialist expansion. Thomas Pakenham's seminal work, **The Scramble for Africa**, offers an in-depth, richly detailed account of one of the most transformative and controversial periods in African and European history. His narrative brings to life the complex political maneuvers, adventurous explorers, and fierce rivalries that defined the partitioning of Africa among European powers.

Who is Thomas Pakenham?

Before diving into the book itself, it's worth understanding who Thomas Pakenham is and why his perspective matters. Pakenham is a British historian and author renowned for his ability to weave engaging stories from intricate historical events. His focus on Africa, colonialism, and the Victorian era is particularly notable, and **The Scramble for Africa** (published in 1991) stands out as one of his most acclaimed works. Pakenham combines meticulous research with vivid storytelling, making history accessible and captivating for a broad audience.

Understanding The Scramble for Africa

The term "Scramble for Africa" refers to the intense period of colonization and territorial acquisition by European powers between approximately 1881 and 1914. This era saw countries like Britain, France, Germany, Belgium, Italy, Portugal, and Spain fiercely competing to claim vast areas of the African continent. The motivations were complex—ranging from economic interests, strategic advantages, national prestige, to a belief in the so-called "civilizing mission."

Europe's Motivations and the Context of Imperialism

Pakenham's work excels at dissecting the various driving forces behind the scramble. The Industrial Revolution had fueled European economies, creating a voracious appetite for raw materials like rubber, gold, and diamonds—resources abundant in Africa. Moreover, technological advancements

such as the steamship and the telegraph facilitated deeper penetration into the continent's interior.

But beyond economics, Pakenham highlights the geopolitical chess game. The Berlin Conference of 1884-85, a pivotal diplomatic meeting, sought to regulate European colonization and trade in Africa, ironically intensifying the rush to claim territories before rivals could. His detailed account shows how diplomacy, brinkmanship, and sometimes outright deception shaped the continent's fate.

The Narrative Style of Thomas Pakenham's The Scramble for Africa

One of the reasons *The Scramble for Africa* remains a must-read is Pakenham's narrative approach. Rather than presenting dry facts, he introduces readers to the key figures who influenced events, such as King Leopold II of Belgium, Cecil Rhodes of Britain, and Pierre Savorgnan de Brazza of France.

Pakenham's storytelling weaves personal ambitions, dramatic episodes, and political intrigue into a cohesive tapestry. For example, he recounts King Leopold's secretive and brutal exploitation of the Congo, exposing the humanitarian crises that accompanied imperial ambition. This technique not only educates but also evokes empathy and critical reflection on colonial legacy.

Explorers, Diplomats, and the Role of Conflict

Exploration was central to the scramble, and Pakenham paints vivid portraits of adventurers who mapped unknown territories, often with little regard for indigenous populations. Figures like Henry Morton Stanley are portrayed with nuance—both as heroic explorers and agents of imperial conquest.

Diplomatically, Pakenham discusses the tense negotiations and occasional clashes, such as the Fashoda Incident between France and Britain, which nearly led to war. His analysis of these conflicts provides insights into how fragile and volatile international relations were during this period.

Why Thomas Pakenham's The Scramble for Africa Still Matters

Decades after its publication, Pakenham's book remains a foundational text for understanding colonial history and its long-term impacts. It sheds light

on how arbitrary borders drawn by imperial powers sowed seeds of future conflicts and socio-political challenges across Africa.

For students, historians, or curious readers, the book offers more than historical facts—it encourages questioning the narratives around empire, power, and the consequences of colonization. The detailed maps, photographs, and primary source excerpts enrich the reader's experience, making it a valuable educational tool.

Insights and Reflections on Colonial Legacies

Engaging with Pakenham's work can inspire a deeper reflection on how the scramble shaped modern Africa. The economic exploitation, cultural disruption, and political domination have echoes that persist today. Understanding this history, as Pakenham presents it, is crucial for grasping contemporary African geopolitics and international relations.

Tips for Readers Approaching The Scramble for Africa

If you're planning to dive into Thomas Pakenham's **The Scramble for Africa**, here are some helpful tips to maximize your experience:

- **Approach with an open mind:** Pakenham presents a multifaceted view, so be ready to encounter both the grandeur and the grim realities of imperialism.
- **Use supplementary materials:** Consult maps and timelines to better understand the geographical and chronological flow of events.
- **Note the human stories:** Focus on personal narratives within the larger political context to connect emotionally with the history.
- **Consider the legacy:** Reflect on how the scramble's outcomes affect current African nations politically, socially, and economically.

Exploring Further: Related Works and Resources

For those intrigued by Thomas Pakenham's portrayal of the scramble, several other resources complement his work:

- *"King Leopold's Ghost"* by Adam Hochschild—an investigative narrative on the Congo Free State atrocities.
- *"The African Experience"* by Vincent B. Khapoya—provides broader context on African history pre- and post-colonialism.
- Documentaries and archives related to the Berlin Conference and colonial administration records.

These materials enrich the understanding of the complex interplay between European powers and African societies during the scramble.

Thomas Pakenham's **The Scramble for Africa** remains a vivid, compelling window into a dramatic chapter of world history. Through his engaging prose and meticulous research, readers gain a clearer picture of the ambitions, contradictions, and consequences that defined the era. Whether you are a history enthusiast or a student, exploring this work sheds light on the enduring legacies of colonialism and the intricate story of Africa's transformation during the late 19th century.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Thomas Pakenham in relation to 'The Scramble for Africa'?

Thomas Pakenham is a British author and historian known for his book 'The Scramble for Africa,' which provides a detailed account of the European colonization of Africa in the late 19th century.

What is the main focus of Thomas Pakenham's book 'The Scramble for Africa'?

The book focuses on the period of rapid colonization and partition of African territories by European powers between 1876 and 1912, highlighting the political, economic, and social impacts of imperialism.

Why is 'The Scramble for Africa' by Thomas Pakenham considered an important work?

It is considered important because it offers a comprehensive and well-researched narrative of the complex events and key figures involved in the colonization of Africa, making it accessible to both scholars and general readers.

What sources did Thomas Pakenham use for writing 'The Scramble for Africa'?

Pakenham extensively used primary sources such as letters, diaries, official documents, and contemporary newspapers, as well as secondary sources, to provide a balanced and detailed historical account.

How does Thomas Pakenham portray the African perspective in 'The Scramble for Africa'?

While the book primarily focuses on the European powers and their leaders, Pakenham also acknowledges the impact on African societies and includes accounts of African resistance and the consequences of colonization.

What lessons does Thomas Pakenham's 'The Scramble for Africa' offer about imperialism?

The book highlights the destructive consequences of imperialism, including exploitation, cultural disruption, and long-term political instability, encouraging readers to reflect on the historical roots of contemporary African challenges.

Additional Resources

****Thomas Pakenham The Scramble for Africa: A Definitive Examination of Colonial Conquest****

thomas pakenham the scramble for africa stands as a seminal work that meticulously documents one of the most transformative and controversial episodes in 19th-century history. Pakenham's narrative explores the intense period of European colonization in Africa, known as the Scramble for Africa, which reshaped the continent's political, social, and economic landscapes. This article delves into Pakenham's approach to this complex historical era, highlighting the strengths and nuances of his analysis while situating his work within broader historiographical discussions.

In-Depth Analysis of Thomas Pakenham's Work

Thomas Pakenham's book, **The Scramble for Africa**, offers an exhaustive account of the late 19th-century partitioning of Africa by European powers. His work is widely regarded for its vivid storytelling combined with rigorous research, drawing from a wealth of archival material, personal letters, and contemporaneous reports. Unlike many historical accounts that focus primarily on high-level diplomatic exchanges, Pakenham weaves together the perspectives of explorers, indigenous leaders, and colonial administrators, providing a

multifaceted view of the events.

Pakenham charts the timeline from the early exploratory missions to the Berlin Conference of 1884-85, where European nations formalized rules for territorial claims, to the eventual establishment of colonial regimes. His examination does not shy away from the brutal realities of imperialism, including military confrontations, exploitation, and the disruption of indigenous societies.

Key Themes and Insights

One of the central themes in Pakenham's narrative is the interplay of ambition, diplomacy, and economic interests driving the scramble. He illustrates how technological advancements, such as the steamship and telegraph, accelerated European penetration into the African interior, while economic motivations—including the search for raw materials and new markets—fueled competition among powers like Britain, France, Germany, Belgium, and Portugal.

Pakenham also pays close attention to the role of individual actors. Figures such as Cecil Rhodes, King Leopold II, and Henry Morton Stanley emerge not merely as distant historical names but as dynamic personalities whose decisions had lasting impacts. This biographical dimension adds depth and humanizes the often impersonal forces of imperialism.

Historical Context and Critical Perspectives

The Scramble for Africa was not an isolated phenomenon but part of the broader currents of European imperialism in the 19th century. Pakenham situates this event within the context of industrialization, nationalism, and shifting power balances in Europe. His work implicitly invites readers to consider the ethical and political legacies of colonialism.

However, some critics argue that while Pakenham's narrative is rich in detail and balanced in tone, it occasionally reflects a Eurocentric perspective, focusing predominantly on European actors and political maneuvering. The complexities of African agency and resistance, though addressed, sometimes receive less nuanced treatment compared to the extensive coverage of European strategies.

Comparisons with Other Histories of the Scramble

When compared to other historical accounts, such as those by John Darwin or A.G. Hopkins, Pakenham's work stands out for its narrative style and accessibility to a general readership. While academic texts might delve

deeper into economic analyses or post-colonial critiques, **The Scramble for Africa** strikes a balance between scholarly rigor and engaging prose.

- **John Darwin's approach:** Emphasizes political and diplomatic history with a focus on state actors and international relations.
- **A.G. Hopkins' perspective:** Centers economic motivations and the impact of capitalism on imperial expansion.
- **Thomas Pakenham's contribution:** Combines biographical storytelling with detailed event chronology, appealing to both scholars and lay readers.

Features of Pakenham's Narrative Technique

Pakenham's narrative is characterized by:

- **Comprehensive research:** Extensive use of primary sources, including private correspondence and government documents.
- **Balanced presentation:** An attempt to portray the motivations and actions of both Europeans and Africans without overt moralizing.
- **Descriptive richness:** Vivid descriptions of landscapes, battles, and political intrigues that draw readers into the era.
- **Chronological clarity:** A clear temporal structure that tracks the progression of events from exploration to colonization.

These features contribute to making **The Scramble for Africa** a touchstone for those seeking to understand the complexity of late 19th-century imperialism.

Pros and Cons of Pakenham's Account

1. Pros:

- Engaging and accessible narrative style.
- Rich biographical detail enhances understanding of key figures.
- Meticulous documentation supports credibility.

- Balanced view that acknowledges multiple perspectives.

2. Cons:

- Limited depth on African perspectives and resistance movements.
- Occasional Eurocentric framing of events.
- Less focus on the long-term socio-economic consequences for African societies.

The Legacy of "Thomas Pakenham The Scramble for Africa" in Modern Scholarship

The enduring relevance of Pakenham's work lies in its ability to ignite interest and debate about a critical period that continues to influence global geopolitics. His detailed portrayal of the Scramble for Africa serves as a foundational reference point for historians, educators, and policymakers seeking to understand the roots of colonialism and its enduring impact.

Moreover, Pakenham's book encourages a nuanced reflection on how imperial ambitions shaped international relations and the modern world order. By examining the motives, strategies, and consequences of the scramble, readers gain insight into the complexities of power, identity, and resistance that define much of Africa's modern history.

In this light, *Thomas Pakenham The Scramble for Africa* remains not only a historical account but also a catalyst for ongoing discussions about decolonization, restitution, and historical memory. Its detailed scholarship combined with compelling narrative continues to inspire both critical inquiry and wider public understanding of one of history's most consequential epochs.

Thomas Pakenham The Scramble For Africa

thomas pakenham the scramble for africa: The Scramble for Africa, 1876-1912 Thomas Pakenham, 1991 History of European colonialism in Africa from 1876-1912.

thomas pakenham the scramble for africa: *The Scramble for Africa, 1876-1912* Thomas Pakenham, 2001 The Scramble for Africa astonished everyone. In 1880 most of the continent was ruled by Africans, and barely explored. By 1902, five European Powers (and one extraordinary individual) had grabbed almost the whole continent, giving themselves 30 new colonies and

protectorates and 10 million square miles of new territory, and 110 million bewildered new subjects. Thomas Pakenham's story of the conquest of Africa is recognised as one of the finest narrative histories of the last few decades. We are given arresting vignettes of the main players. Lord Derby, protesting at 'this absurd scramble'; the Belgian Emperor King Leopold II grabbing and ruthlessly exploiting the rubber deposits in the Congo; and Prince Otto von Bismarck casually munching on prawns at the Congress of Berlin while determining the fate of millions.

thomas pakenham the scramble for africa: Africa at the Millennium NA NA, 2016-04-30 This book is aimed at providing a framework for African issues in the 21st century. Apart from its African-centered approach, it argues that previously marginalized areas of research require in-depth study. It also introduces new areas of interest absent in existing works. The book pays particular attention to the relative success of African countries and regions in their attempt to find solutions to Africa's problems and the changing role in African states in international relations.

thomas pakenham the scramble for africa: The Acquisition of Africa (1870-1914) Mieke van der Linden, 2016-10-05 Over recent decades, the responsibility for the past actions of the European colonial powers in relation to their former colonies has been subject to a lively debate. In this book, the question of the responsibility under international law of former colonial States is addressed. Such a legal responsibility would presuppose the violation of the international law that was applicable at the time of colonization. In the 'Scramble for Africa' during the Age of New Imperialism (1870-1914), European States and non-State actors mainly used cession and protectorate treaties to acquire territorial sovereignty (imperium) and property rights over land (dominium). The question is raised whether Europeans did or did not on a systematic scale breach these treaties in the context of the acquisition of territory and the expansion of empire, mainly through extending sovereignty rights and, subsequently, intervening in the internal affairs of African political entities.

thomas pakenham the scramble for africa: *Colonial and Postcolonial Africa* Rosina Beckman, 2016-12-15 By the early twentieth century, nearly the entire continent of Africa had been divided up between European powers. This volume traces the history of colonialism in each of Africa's regions, as well as the fight for independence and the challenges of establishing viable nations after years languishing under the colonial yoke. The political, economic, and social elements of colonialism are all explored. The title also delves into the patterns in European-African interactions that led to colonialism, including the slave trade and the ivory trade. A comprehensive, wide-ranging reference volume.

thomas pakenham the scramble for africa: Reappraising the Life and Legacy of Jan C. Smuts David Boucher, Bongani Ngqulunga, 2024-08-01 In this book, the authors cover both familiar and unfamiliar themes. One of the principal themes running throughout the book addresses head-on the deficiency in the literature highlighted by Saul Dubow, namely, the question of racism and Smuts's reluctance to implement 'native' policies that may have averted future problems, rather than postpone them. We see throughout, a gap between the rhetoric and policy, and between policy and practice in its implementation. Amongst the familiar themes that are reappraised, are Smuts's successes and failures in policies and leadership, domestically and internationally. 'This wide-ranging volume re-evaluates myriad aspects of Smuts' life, philosophy, political career and legacy. An important and timely book exploring one of South Africa's most consequential and controversial leaders.' Luc-Andre Brunet - Contemporary International History, The Open University. The book is a great contribution to South African cultural and social history. With the military element covered in other publications, the editors and authors have focussed on the less well-trodden aspects of Smuts's history including but not limited to discussions on the atomic bomb, counter-revolution, film, early cabinets, racialism, trusteeship, 'greatness', political philosophy, racial segregation, and myth-making. The editors have skilfully continued the longer political discussion, reflecting on the myth and legacy of a prominent South African - Smuts. Antonio Garcia, Stellenbosch University, coauthor of *Botha, Smuts and the First World War*, co-founder Underground Strategy.

thomas pakenham the scramble for africa: The Gentle Civilizer of Nations Martti Koskenniemi, 2001-11-29 International law was born from the impulse to 'civilize' late nineteenth-century attitudes towards race and society, argues Martti Koskenniemi in this extensive study of the rise and fall of modern international law. In a work of wide-ranging intellectual scope, now available for the first time in paperback, Koskenniemi traces the emergence of a liberal sensibility relating to international matters in the late nineteenth century, and its subsequent decline after the Second World War. He combines legal analysis, historical and political critique and semi-biographical studies of key figures (including Hans Kelsen, Hersch Lauterpacht, Carl Schmitt and Hans Morgenthau); he also considers the role of crucial institutions (the Institut de droit international, the League of Nations). His discussion of legal and political realism at American law schools ends in a critique of post-1960 'instrumentalism'. This book provides a unique reflection on the possibility of critical international law today.

thomas pakenham the scramble for africa: Muslim Interpreters in Colonial Senegal, 1850-1920 Tamba M'bayo, 2016-07-01 This book investigates the lives and careers of Muslim African interpreters employed by the French colonial administration in Saint Louis, Senegal, from the 1850s to the early 1920s. It focuses on the lower and middle Senegal River valley in northern Senegal, where the French concentrated most of their activities in West Africa during the nineteenth century. The Muslim interpreters performed multiple roles as mediators, military and expeditionary guides, emissaries, diplomatic hosts, and treaty negotiators. As cultural and political powerbrokers that straddled the colonial divide, they were indispensable for French officials in their relations with African rulers and the local population. As such, a central concern of this book is the paradoxical and often contradictory roles the interpreters played in mediating between the French and Africans. This book argues that the Muslim interpreters exemplified a paradox: while serving the French administration they pursued their own interests and defended those of their local communities. In doing so, the interpreters strove to maintain some degree of autonomy. Moreover, this book contends that the interpreters occupied a vantage position as mediators to influence the construction of colonial discourse and knowledge, because they channeled the flow of information between the French and the African population. Thus, Muslim interpreters had the capacity to shape power relations between the colonizers and the colonized in Senegal.

thomas pakenham the scramble for africa: Africa in Black Liberation Activism Tunde Adeleke, 2016-12-19 This book analyzes three of the most accomplished twentieth century black diaspora activists: Malcolm X, Stokely Carmichael and Walter Rodney. All began their careers in the Diaspora and later turned toward Africa. This became the foundation for developing and solidifying a global force that would advance the struggles of Africans and people of African descent in the Diaspora. Adeleke explores this African-centered discourse of resistance which informed the collective struggles of these activists. The book illuminates shared attributes and differences, presenting these men as unified by a struggle against, and resistance to, shared historical and cultural challenges.

thomas pakenham the scramble for africa: Human Rights in Development, Volume 7 George Ulrich, Louise Krabbe Boserup, 2021-11-29 The present edition of the Human Rights in Development Yearbook is the thirteenth edition in this series. With this volume, the yearbook's formal structure has shifted from that of a journal to a thematic anthology. The theme of this year's volume is "Reparations: Redressing Past Wrongs". The articles contained in the publication primarily stem from contributions prepared for a conference entitled "The Right to Compensation and Related Remedies for Racial Discrimination" that was hosted by the Danish Centre for Human Rights in April 2001. The conference was organised in anticipation of the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, which was held in Durban in September 2001. The publication consists of 15 articles divided into four main parts addressing the subjects of "Reparations at the National and Regional Levels", "Precedence and Standing of International Law", "The Moral and Social Aspects of Reparation" and "Reflections". Human Rights in Development is the result of a joint research project born out of longstanding co-operation between the following

research institutes and centres for human rights: the Christian Michelsen Institute, Bergen; the Danish Centre for Human Rights, Copenhagen; the Icelandic Human Rights Centre, Reykjavik; the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights, Vienna; the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development, Montreal; the Netherlands Institute of Human Rights, Utrecht; the Norwegian Institute of Human Rights, Oslo; the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, Lund and Åbo Academy University, Åbo.

thomas pakenham the scramble for africa: Fevers, Feuds, and Diamonds Paul Farmer, 2020-11-17 “Paul Farmer brings his considerable intellect, empathy, and expertise to bear in this powerful and deeply researched account of the Ebola outbreak that struck West Africa in 2014. It is hard to imagine a more timely or important book.” —Bill and Melinda Gates [The] history is as powerfully conveyed as it is tragic . . . Illuminating . . . Invaluable. —Steven Johnson, *The New York Times Book Review* In 2014, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Guinea suffered the worst epidemic of Ebola in history. The brutal virus spread rapidly through a clinical desert where basic health-care facilities were few and far between. Causing severe loss of life and economic disruption, the Ebola crisis was a major tragedy of modern medicine. But why did it happen, and what can we learn from it? Paul Farmer, the internationally renowned doctor and anthropologist, experienced the Ebola outbreak firsthand—Partners in Health, the organization he founded, was among the international responders. In *Fevers, Feuds, and Diamonds*, he offers the first substantive account of this frightening, fast-moving episode and its implications. In vibrant prose, Farmer tells the harrowing stories of Ebola victims while showing why the medical response was slow and insufficient. Rebutting misleading claims about the origins of Ebola and why it spread so rapidly, he traces West Africa’s chronic health failures back to centuries of exploitation and injustice. Under formal colonial rule, disease containment was a priority but care was not – and the region’s health care woes worsened, with devastating consequences that Farmer traces up to the present. This thorough and hopeful narrative is a definitive work of reportage, history, and advocacy, and a crucial intervention in public-health discussions around the world.

thomas pakenham the scramble for africa: *Africa in the Indian Ocean* Tor Sellström, 2015-05-26 The four sovereign Indian Ocean states of Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles, the two French overseas departments of Mayotte and Reunion, as well as the British colony of BIOT (Chagos), all form part of Africa. As insular nations and territories in an increasingly globalized, militarized and largely unregulated ocean, they face particular challenges. Commonly overlooked in the fields of African and international studies, this text traces the islands’ history and explores their diverse contemporary social, political and economic trajectories. From human settlement and slavery to conflict resolution and piracy, the relations with continental Africa and the African Union feature prominently. Richly sourced, this comprehensive and up-to-date introduction to Africa’s Indian Ocean islands covers a significant lacuna.

thomas pakenham the scramble for africa: *Sovereign Debt at the Crossroads* Chris Jochnick, Fraser A. Preston, 2006-04-13 Recent world events have created a compelling need for new perspectives and realistic solutions to the problem of sovereign debt. The success of the Jubilee 2000 movement in raising public awareness of the devastating effects of debt, coupled with the highly publicized Bono/O'Neill tour of Africa, and the spectacular default and economic implosion of Argentina have helped spur a global debate over debt. A growing chorus of globalization critics, galvanized by the Catholic Church's demand for forgiveness and bolstered by recent defaults, has put debt near the top of the international agenda. Creditor governments and international financial institutions have belatedly recognized the need for more sustainable progress on debt as an inescapable step towards economic recovery in many parts of the world. This book is intended to advance the dialogue around these issues by providing a comprehensive overview of the problems raised by debt and describing new and practical approaches to overcoming them. It will be the first in more than a decade to bring together under one cover the voices of prominent members of the international debt community. It will include pieces from the most relevant constituencies: from creditors (the IMF/World Bank, government lenders, private investors) to critics (debtor

representatives, activists, and academics) and analysis from economists, bankers, lawyers, social scientists, and politicians. As contributions come from such leading thinkers across a range of disciplines, this book will offer a timely guide for understanding and influencing the debt debate.

thomas pakenham the scramble for africa: The History and Practice of Humanitarian Intervention and Aid in Africa B. Everill, J. Kaplan, 2013-06-24 The history of humanitarian intervention has often overlooked Africa. This book brings together perspectives from history, cultural studies, international relations, policy, and non-governmental organizations to analyze the themes, continuities and discontinuities in Western humanitarian engagement with Africa.

thomas pakenham the scramble for africa: *In Defense of German Colonialism* Bruce Gilley, 2022-08-02 Famed historian and author of the groundbreaking *The Case for Colonialism* demonstrates that, contrary to modern presuppositions, German colonialism from its early roots to the mid-twentieth century was overall a force for good in the world where development was encouraged and native governance flourished. Historian and university professor, Bruce Gilley, delves into the history of German colonialism from its earliest roots through the 20th century, demonstrating that contrary to modern presuppositions, it served as a global force for good—elevating the lives of its subjects and encouraging scientific development while allowing native cultures to flourish within its governance.

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thomas pakenham the scramble for africa: *China in Africa* Suisheng Zhao, 2017-10-02 China's expansion and growing influence in Africa is arguably the most remarkable global political and economic development in the 21st century. China's foray into Africa started in the late 1990s, propelled by its desire to obtain new sources of raw materials and energy for its economic growth, as well as new markets for its manufactured goods. While China's no political strings attached policy proves attractive to many of African leaders, China has been criticized as neo-colonialist, interested solely in stripping Africa of its mineral wealth without proper environmental or social precautions. This book addresses the controversy by exploring the motivations and practices of China's African engagement, providing a comprehensive account of the intensified interactions between China and African states. The first part examines the debate surrounding whether China has pursued a neo-colonialist path in Africa, by looking at the perception of China by the locals and the challenges that the intensified relationship has posed for African states. The second part analyses China's strategic motivations to see if Beijing has acquired sustaining power and influence in Africa in competition with the West. The third part focuses on economic and business practices of Chinese companies in Africa, as well as China-Africa trade patterns. The articles in this book were originally published in special issues of the *Journal of Contemporary China*.

thomas pakenham the scramble for africa: TRIUMPH OF RACISM: The History of White Supremacy in Africa and How Shithole Entered the U.S Presidential Lexicon Emmanuel Neba-Fuh,

2021-04-05 Emmanuel Neba-Fuh in this comprehensive chronological compilation and thorough narrative of the history of white supremacy in Africa provide an unflinching fresh case that African poverty - a central tenet of the "shithole" demonization, is not a natural feature of geography or a consequence of culture, but a direct product of imperial extraction from the continent - a practice that continues into the present. A brutal and nefarious tale of slave trade, genocides, massacres, dictators supported, progressive leaders murdered, weapon-smuggling, cloak-and-dagger secret services, corruption, international conspiracy, and spectacular military operations, he raised the most basic and fundamental question - how was Africa (the world's richest continent) raped and reduced to what Donald J. Trump called "shithole?" (V. Mbanwie)

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