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NOTES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

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EDITORS' NOTE

It is our pleasure to welcome our esteemed readers to this issue of *Tanzania Zamani*. Like the immediate previous release, this issue consists of five articles that cover a wide range of historical issues; ranging from diseases, war and agricultural marketing societies, to colonial labour and wildlife ecology. Similarly, the articles cover different time periods spanning from the late 19th century to the present. Although so diverse in terms of themes and temporal scope, the contributions are all bound together by their common thrust on human historical experience in Tanzania.

In the first article, Lorne Larson joins John Iliffe, Megan Vaughan and other historians of Africa in highlighting the history of leprosy in colonial East Africa. Larson's article focusses particularly on how, during the period before the First World War, ideas about the nature of this disease and practices in handling it spread from Germany to the territory now known as Mainland Tanzania. In narrating this journey of ideas and practices, the author identifies the contexts in Germany where they developed, a diversity of colonial administrative and religious structures that played differing roles in interpreting and handling leprosy in the colony and changes in colonial official policy on how to deal with the disease. In the final analysis, Larson argues that the result of the complex historical process was adoption of a model for handling leprosy in German East Africa that was largely territorial and decentralised.

The second article by Frank Masele reports on an initial archaeological investigation of the German-Hehe battlefields in the Tanzania's Iringa Region. This is the first attempt to employ archaeological methodology to study the famous 1891 Battle of Lugalo, in which Hehe forces under the command of Mkwawa defeated German colonial forces. According to the author, the investigation was conducted to obtain data for use in what he calls military terrain analysis, being an aspect of modern conflict archaeology. During the fieldwork, the author was able to collect more than a dozen bullet cartridges that are linked to the battle under investigation. In writing the article, the author uses the particulars found on these cartridges and the geographical features of the battlefield to "clarify, validate and reconcile" the information already gathered from documentary and oral historical sources. With the preliminary archaeological data at hand, the author is able to not only contribute to the existing scholarly debate on the particularities of the military engagement in the Lugalo Battle but also suggest the conditions under which the Hehe won the battle despite their comparatively inferior weapons.

In the third article, Somo Seimu examines the history of agricultural marketing societies in British colonial Tanganyika. The article concentrates on the efforts made by the colonial authorities to promote the development of these societies in various parts of the territory. Based mostly on data from archival sources, the author points out that the

initial drive for the promotion of agricultural marketing societies was to emasculate the all too powerful self-initiated planters' associations (NPAs) such as the Kilimanjaro Native Planters' Association (KNPA). The article discusses the ragged path through which Agricultural Marketing Co-operative Societies (AMCOs) passed during their evolution. The turning point in this process was the institution of the Cooperative Legislation of 1932, which promulgated establishment of AMCOs in place of the NPAs. Yet, efforts to promote the latter associations was marred by various factors, including differences in perspectives and interests among and between colonial authorities at various levels, including the empire, territory, provinces and districts. The outcome was lack of coordinated effort and, consequently, limited attainment of the intended goals. The author argues that the generally poor outcomes were not surprising given the fact that, right from start, the initiative to embark on the promotion of Agricultural Marketing Cooperatives was driven not by genuine will to improve the wellbeing of producers but by a political motive to inhibit the power of the prospering Native Planters' Association.

The fourth article by Hezron Kangalawe addresses the theme of colonial economy, particularly the question of labour supply and discipline in settler farms in British colonial Tanganyika. In contrast to many studies on the labour question in African colonial economy, which mostly focus on labour exploitation and colonial government's facilitation of the process, Kangalawe focusses on tensions between the

colonial government on one hand and settlers on the other regarding the same questions of labour supply and discipline. Based mainly on archival sources, the author shows how settler farmers in Iringa complained about the colonial government's laxity in enforcing labour discipline against what they claimed to be Africans' laziness and excessive drinking of alcohol. He also documents European settlers' complaints about Africans' insensitivity to environmental degradation in their use of land resources; and thus, justifying transfer of land from such users to European settlers for sustainable use. In contrast to the line taken by many other scholars on this subject, the author submits that the colonial government's responses to these complaints and demands were cautious of the fact that the settlers needed to create conditions that would attract African labourers to the plantations, and to the dangers of disturbing the subsistence economy of the majority Africans. By revealing these realities, the article provides a clear illustration of contradictions between the interests of the colonial state on one hand and those of the settler community on the other in an African setting.

The fifth and last article by Makarius Itambu presents an overview of existing literature on the impending extinction of the African wild dogs. It underlines the widely acknowledged rapid decline of these species in most parts of Africa and discusses the causative historical factors for this trend. Itambu places this phenomenon in the broader

context of the global decline in biodiversity and the role of human agency in the making and unmaking of this conundrum. Thus, besides sketching the declining pattern in the numbers of African wild dogs in different part of the continent over time, the author explains the ways in which human activities around and within conserved areas have resulted in habitat fragmentation as well as in direct negative effects on the population of wild dogs. The article also recommends policy and administrative measures to reduce the alarming rate of decline of the species under discussion.

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