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A History of Modern Ethiopia (review) Charles W. McClellan Northeast African Studies, Volume 2, Number 1, (New Series), pp.

Therefore, some informants still claim that Mengesha Yohannes was strongly attached to Yohannes throughout his life. Dejazmach Mengesha Yohannes was designated by the Emperor as his heir-to-the-throne, and allegedly crowned still on the battlefield of Metemma, but Mengesha Yohannes was not able to claim the throne. In the aftermath of the disastrous battle of Metemma, the Tigrayan ruling families found themselves embroiled in a power struggle that led to a regional civil war. Quickly, instead atse Menelik II was proclaimed emperor in November. Additionally, he had inherited a considerable number of armaments and soldiers that had long bolstered the power of Yohannes IV. Italian attempts to instigate them were, nonetheless, short-lived. Menelik, in turn, appointed him governor, not negus of Tigray. For a while, Mengesha Yohannes demonstrated his loyalty. The conflict subsequently developing between the Italians and Menelik, gave him the opportunity to prove his indispensability to the central government. During the first phase, in the years , the Italians made a number of incursions into northern Ethiopia. Mengesha Yohannes was then responsible for defending the northern borders. Ras Mengesha Yohannes played an even more important role in the next phase of the conflict. Together with ras Alula, he was largely responsible for organizing and running the intelligence of Menelik II. He exploited his local connections, gathered intelligence and rendered a fairly outstanding command of the Tigrayan army. All these inputs had a crucial role in deciding the outcome of the battle of Adwa in , which ended up as a grim loss to the Italians. His proposal to sustain the war to push the Italians out of Eritrea was played down by the Emperor, who focused on the control of his own realm. The marriage was meant to cement further the bonds between the houses of Tigray, Shewa, and Yejju. It was obtained at the cost of divorcing his loving wife. Indeed, his son leul ras Seyoum Mengesha and his grandson, leul ras Mengesha Seyoum were able to gain the governorship of Tigray, each at different stages of the history of this region sometimes also partitioned among several governors, relatives of Mengesha Yohannes , until the Revolution. Mengesha Seyoum played then a role as the leader of an anti- Derg oppositional party, the Ethiopian Democratic Union , which dates back to the mids. On the death of Ras Arya Sellassie, son and heir of Yohannes, the title of Ras was conferred on Mengesha and the army of Ras Araya Sellassie was transferred under his command. It was only on his deathbed, at Metemma, that Yohannes declared to Etchege Tewoflos and the important dignitaries present that Mengesha was not the son of his brother Gugsä, but his. He thus acknowledged him as his son and declared him as his heir. Since Gugsä had the same father and mother as Yohannes, the legitimacy of Mengesha would not have been affected if Yohannes had declared that he had chosen Mengesha, his nephew, as his heir. Mengesha, through his mother, had also additional claim to the Imperial lineage. Wylde , a correspondent of the British paper, *The Manchester Guardian* , who had been in Ethiopia as a member of the Hewett Mission of and later, soon after the Battle of Adwa of , contends that Mengesha was indisputably the actual son Yohannes. In , Haile Selassie Gugsä joined forces with the Italian invaders when they conquered Ethiopia and occupied the country.

Chapter 2 : A history of modern Ethiopia, - Bahru Zewde - Google Books

A History Of Modern Ethiopia, has 62 ratings and 5 reviews. J Dunn said: This book is more of a political and economic history of Ethiopia as o.

Additional Information In lieu of an abstract, here is a brief excerpt of the content: In general, the book is a welcome addition to survey books on Ethiopia. It can be a valuable source of information for students of Ethiopia and others who are interested in Ethiopia. This book serves its purpose well for its intended audience—university undergraduates and generalists. It is an excellent synthesis of the scholarly work that has been produced over the last 30 years, not all of it published. Primarily a political history, it does drift off occasionally to tie in social and economic events. Bahru brings them all together into a broadsweeping, well-focused, and readable work, one which the field has greatly needed. Bahru is interested in the leadership style of each emperor and, in particular, in their various approaches to nation-building. For him, Tewodros was the intractable centralist, struggling after the Zamanamesafint to reunify the state and strengthen the power of the monarchy, opposition be damned. Yohannis IV was the federalist, open-minded in his support for local autonomy, although uncompromising in matters of religion. Menilek was the practical eclectic who dramatically expanded the empire into areas never before controlled by the Ethiopian state. In some fields like revenue collection and communication, he furthered the process of centralization while recognizing that indirect rule in many conquered areas was the most efficient and inexpensive way of administration. Each approach seemed to have had its deficiency, which may have lain in the unique leadership style of the particular emperor or in the times in which they ruled. Bahru unfortunately does not bother to assess this. Bahru reserves the highest praise for Iyasu, who, among modern emperors, had the shortest reign. Maybe he was the Ethiopian Kennedy, a young man of broad vision, who did not have the religious or ethnic hang-ups of the others, and who held the greatest potential for "fashioning" modern Ethiopia had he not been deposed by his detractors. Scholars might wonder where Ethiopia might be today had Iyasu been allowed to rule unhindered. Bahru develops his arguments in generally convincing fashion, although it is hard to refute generalizations. It is also evident that there is little here that is dramatically new. The reader may be a bit disappointed that Bahru chooses to examine this time period in isolation. Readers deserve to have the main themes, as defined by Bahru, set into some historical context. Even more disappointing is the fact that Bahru fails utterly to

Chapter 3 : A history of modern Ethiopia

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Chapter 4 : Ethiopia - Bibliography

Preface to 2nd edition - The background - Unification & independence - From Adwa to Maychaw - The Italian occupation - From liberation to revolution

A history of modern Ethiopia Publication info: This work is protected by copyright and may be linked to without seeking permission. Permission must be received for subsequent distribution in print or electronically. Please contact mpub-help umich. Program of African Studies, Northwestern University no. James Currey; Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press; Addis Ababa: Addis Ababa University Press, , pp, illustrated. For far too long, the absence of a general history of Ethiopia has been acutely felt by specialists engaged in Ethiopian studies, by educators in institutions of higher learning, and by many readers interested in Ethiopia. Yet few historians have turned their attention to the writing of such a general history, although Ethiopian historiography has made remarkable advances in the last two and a half decades. The dramatic changes that Ethiopia has been going through, particularly in the last twenty years, have made the need for a background history leading up to those events more urgent. The time span of this book provides perspective on current political history. Events after the fall of Haile Selassie in , however, are only presented in brief introductory remarks. Zewde shows how the death of Tewodros re-opened the issue of the throne, and how Yohannes IV followed substantially different policy of unification from that of his predecessors. Zewde provides a narration of the complex history of struggles during the s and s among ethnic groups, local chiefs, and the throneâ€™ and the context of colonial rivalriesâ€™ that culminated in the Italian invasion and the creation of the modern Ethiopian empire-state. Menelik pushed the frontier of the Ethiopian state close to its modern boundaries, a shape consecrated by the colonial powers after the battle of Adwa. A decade of consolidation and the settlement of the Tripartite Agreement followed. With the exception of Eritreaâ€™ which was federated with Ethiopia in and united in â€™ the territory of the state was integrated and defined under Italian colonial rule and British administration These struggles, and the reign of Haile Selassie, receive a critical contextualization of real depth. As a general history, the book is very well written and presented, supplemented with passages http: This is a model for an African history that bridges the audiences of specialists and general readers. For more information please contact mpub-help umich.

Chapter 5 : - A History of Modern Ethiopia, (Eastern African studies) by Zewde Bahru

Ethiopia was reunified in under Tewodros II, beginning Ethiopia's modern history and his reign was followed by Yohannes IV who was killed in action in Under Menelik II Ethiopia started its transformation to well organized technological advancement and the structure that the country have now.

Ethiopia Table of Contents Abir, Mordechai. The Era of the Princes. Ethiopia and the Red Sea. Africa under Colonial Domination. University of California Press, The Prester John of the Indies. Cambridge University Press, The Coming of the Italian-Ethiopian War. Harvard University Press, A History of Modern Ethiopia, Ohio University Press, The Emperor Theodorus and the Magdala Campaign, Oxford University Press, Peoples and Cultures of the Ethio-Sudan Borderlands. Travels to Discover the Source of the Nile in the Years , , , , and The Story of the Jesuits in Ethiopia, University of Notre Dame Press, Africa from the Seventh to the Eleventh Century. Transformation and Continuity in Revolutionary Ethiopia. Harney and Jones, n. Shewa, Menelik, and the Ethiopian Empire, Work and Power in Maale, Ethiopia. Iowa State University Press, The Southern Marches of Imperial Ethiopia: Essays in History and Social Anthropology. Dugan, James, and Laurence Lafore. Days of Emperor and Clown: The Italo- Ethiopian War, Garden City, New York: Ethiopia and the Challenge of Independence. The Cambridge History of Africa. War Clouds on the Horn of Africa: Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Peasant Revolts in the Twentieth Century. Feudalism and Modernization in Ethiopia. A New Political History. The Quest for the Post-Imperial State. The Modernization of Autocracy. Cornell University Press, Land Tenure among the Amhara of Ethiopia: The Dynamics of Cognatic Descent. University of Chicago Press, The Galla of Ethiopia: The Kingdoms of Kafa and Janjero. International African Institute, Indiana University Press, Pennsylvania State University Press, History of the Southern Gonga. The Evolution of a Multi-Ethnic Society. Tradition and Innovation in Ethiopian Culture. Jimma Abba Jifar, Ethiopia, University of Wisconsin Press, Human Relations Area Files, From Poverty to Famine in Northeast Ethiopia: A Rural History, University of Pennsylvania Press, Northern Resistance to Imperial Expansion, African Studies Center, Boston University, State Transformation and National Integration: Gedeo and the Ethiopian Empire, Ethiopia, Great Britain, and the United States, The Politics of Empire. The Formative Years, Anatomy of a Traditional Polity. National and Class Conflict in the Horn of Africa. Markakis, John, and Nega Ayele. Class and Revolution in Ethiopia. The Study of a Polity, Eyre and Spottiswoode, The Italian-Ethiopian Campaign, The Oromo of Ethiopia: Mulatu Wubneh and Yohannis Abate. Transition and Development in the Horn of Africa. An African Civilisation of Late Antiquity. Edinburgh University Press, Soviet and American Influence in the Horn of Africa. The Political Economy of Ethiopia. Ottaway, Marina, and David Ottaway. Economic History of Ethiopia, Haile Selassie I University Press, History of Ethiopian Towns: From the Mid-Nineteenth Century to Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, A Social History of Ethiopia. Institute of Ethiopian Studies, Africa in the Nineteenth Century until the s. The Government of Ethiopia. Northwestern University Press, Empress Taytu and Menelik II: Red Sea Press, Prouty, Chris, and Eugene Rosenfeld. Historical Dictionary of Ethiopia. Britain and Ethiopia, Haile Selassie I University, Fascism and the Colonial Experience. Politics, Economics, and Society. Ancient and Medieval Ethiopian History to Church and State in Ethiopia, Italian Colonialism in Eritrea,

Chapter 6 : A History Of Modern Ethiopia, by Bahru Zewde

An excellent book about the history of Ethiopia during Prof. Zewde has brought to light many of the more important points of Ethiopia's recent history.

Gebre Mesqel Lalibela , the Zagwe dynasty King credited with having constructed the rock-hewn churches of Lalibela. About presumably c. According to legends, during the execution of the royals, an infant heir of the Axumite monarch was carted off by some faithful adherents and conveyed to Shewa , where his authority was acknowledged. Concurrently, Yodit reigned for forty years over the rest of the kingdom and transmitted the crown to her descendants. Though parts of this story were most likely made up by the Solomonic Dynasty to legitimize its rule, it is known that a female ruler did conquer the country about this time. Exactly when the new dynasty came to power is unknown, as is the number of kings in the dynasty. The new Zagwe dynasty established its capital at Roha also called Adeffa , where they build a series of monolithic churches. These structures are traditionally ascribed to the King Gebre Mesqel Lalibela , with the city being renamed Lalibela in his honour; though in truth some of them were built before and after him. The architecture of the Zagwe shows a continuation of earlier Aksumite traditions, as can be seen at Lalibela and at Yemrehana Krestos Church. The building of rock-hewn churches , which first appeared in the late Aksumite era and continued into the Solomonic dynasty, reached its peak under the Zagwe. The Zagwe dynasty controlled a smaller area than the Aksumites or the Solomonic dynasty, with its core in the Lasta region. The Zagwe seem to have ruled over a mostly peaceful state with a flourishing urban culture, in contrast to the more warlike Solomonids with their mobile capitals. The church and state were very closely linked, and they may have had a more theocratic society than the Aksumites or Solomonids, with three Zagwe kings being canonized as saints and one possibly being an ordained priest. Like many other nations and denominations, the Ethiopian Church maintained a series of small chapels and even an annex at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Later, as the Crusades were dying out in the early fourteenth century, the Ethiopian Emperor Wedem Arad dispatched a thirty-man mission to Europe, where they traveled to Rome to meet the Pope and then, since the Medieval Papacy was in schism, they traveled to Avignon to meet the Antipope. Around , a new dynasty was established in the Abyssinian highlands under Yekuno Amlak who deposed the last of the Zagwe kings and married one of his daughters. According to legends, the new dynasty were male-line descendants of Aksumite monarchs, now recognized as the continuing Solomonic dynasty the kingdom being thus restored to the biblical royal house. This legend was created to legitimize the Solomonic dynasty and was written down in the 14th century in the Kebra Negast , an account of the origins of the Solomonic dynasty. Under the Solomonic dynasty, the chief provinces became Tigray northern , what is now Amhara central and Shewa southern. Under the early Solomonic dynasty Ethiopia engaged in military reforms and imperial expansion which left it dominating the Horn of Africa, especially under the rule of Amda Seyon I. Under the early Solomonic dynasty monasticism grew strongly. The abbot Abba Ewostatewos created a new order called the Ewostathians who called for reforms in the church, including observance of the Sabbath, but was persecuted for his views and eventually forced into exile, eventually dying in Armenia. His zealous followers, also persecuted, formed isolated communities in Tigray. The movement grew strong enough that the emperor Dawit I , after first trying to crush the movement, legalized their observance of the Sabbath and proselytization of their faith. Finally under Zara Yaqob a compromise was made between the new Egyptian bishops and the Ewostathians at the Council of Mitmaq in , restoring unity to the Ethiopian church. This was first noticed when Zara Yaqob sent delegates to the Council of Florence in order to establish ties with the papacy and Western Christianity. In , the Emperor sent an Armenian named Matthew to the king of Portugal to request his aid against the Muslims. In , the Portuguese fleet, with Matthew on board, entered the Red Sea in compliance with this request, and an embassy from the fleet visited the Emperor, Lebna Dengel , and remained in Ethiopia for about six years. In this remote location, the ruler again turned to the Portuguese. Bermudes certainly came to Europe, but with what credentials is not known. On February 21, , however, Al-Ghazi was shot and killed in the Battle of Wayna Daga and his forces were totally routed. After this, quarrels arose between the Emperor and Bermudes, who

had returned to Ethiopia with Gama and now urged the emperor to publicly profess his obedience to Rome. This the Emperor refused to do, and at length Bermudes was obliged to make his way out of the country. Oromo migrations The Oromo migrations were a series of expansions in the 16th and 17th centuries by the Oromo people from southern areas of Ethiopia to more northern regions. The migrations had a severe impact on the Solomonic dynasty of Abyssinia, as well as being the death blow to the recently defeated Adal Sultanate. The migrations concluded in around 1600, when the Oromo conquered the kingdom of Ennarea in the Gibe region. Gondarine Period[edit] Gondar as a third permanent capital after Aksum and Lalibela of the Christian Kingdom was founded by Fasiladas in 1634. It was the most important center of commerce for the Kingdom. The Jesuits who had accompanied or followed the Gama expedition into Ethiopia, and fixed their headquarters at Fremona near Adwa, were oppressed and neglected, but not actually expelled. He directed the erection of churches, palaces and bridges in different parts of the country, and carried out many useful works. His successor Afonso Mendes was less tactful, and excited the feelings of the people against him and his fellow Europeans. Upon the death of Emperor Susenyos and accession of his son Fasilides in 1667, the Jesuits were expelled and the native religion restored to official status. Fasilides made Gondar his capital and built a castle there which would grow into the castle complex known as the Fasil Ghebbi, or Royal Enclosure. Fasilides also constructed several churches in Gondar, many bridges across the country, and expanded the Church of Our Lady Mary of Zion in Aksum. During this time of religious strife Ethiopian philosophy flourished, and it was during this period that the philosophers Zera Yacob and Walda Heywat lived. Zera Yaqob is known for his treatise on religion, morality, and reason, known as Hatata.

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Chapter 8 : Ras Mengesha Yohannes - Wikipedia

For Bahru, modern Ethiopia is defined as the time period from Emperor Tewodros II on. He chooses to stop with the deposition of Haile Sellassie I in 1974, and thus his work becomes a study of leadership in Book Reviews Ethiopia from the time of monarchy's revival after the decentralized and chaotic period known as the Zamanamesafint to the.

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