

The Trouble With Nigeria Chinua Achebe

Twelve stories by the internationally renowned novelist which recreate with energy and authenticity the major social and political issues that confront contemporary Africans on a daily basis.

A chronicle of the African writer's life and career explores his work in broadcasting, politics, and publishing, and his role in encouraging other African writers

Covers the period from 2003-2006.

In light of this research work, the Vatican II Council remains a landmark, and its document *Apostolicam Actuositatem* (what we decided to call a 'Text of witness of actions' for the Catholic Laity), the Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity, *inter alia* *Lumen gentium* and *Gaudium et spes*, that border on the mission of the Catholic Laity in the human society, is a great achievement. After the Vatican II Council the Church saw the need to enhance and harness the witnessing message of the Council for the Catholic Laity mission in the Church and in the world. In the light of the foregoing this work is part of these efforts. We developed a 'hermeneutical model' via the political theology of Johann Baptist Metz in the light of the Vatican II Council message that becomes a challenge for concrete action of the Nigerian Catholic Laity in the existential socio-political situation of Nigeria.

Chinua Achebe is Africa's most prominent writer, the author of *Things Fall Apart*, the best known--and best selling--novel ever to come out of Africa. His fiction and poetry burn with a passionate commitment to political justice, bringing to life not only Africa's troubled encounters with Europe but also the dark side of contemporary African political life. Now, in *Home and Exile*, Achebe reveals the man behind his powerful work. Here is an extended exploration of the European impact on African culture, viewed through the most vivid experience available to the author--his own life. It is an extended snapshot of a major writer's childhood, illuminating his roots as an artist. Achebe discusses his English education and the relationship between colonial writers and the European literary tradition. He argues that if colonial writers try to imitate and, indeed, go one better than the Empire, they run the danger of undervaluing their homeland and their own people. Achebe contends that to redress the inequities of global oppression, writers must focus on where they come from, insisting that their value systems are as legitimate as any other. Stories are a real source of power in the world, he concludes, and to imitate the literature of another culture is to give that power away. *Home and Exile* is a moving account of an exceptional life. Achebe reveals the inner workings of the human conscience through the predicament of Africa and his own intellectual life. It is a story of the triumph of mind, told in the words of one of this century's most gifted writers.

"Powerfully magnetic. . . . In the lineage of great works by Chinua Achebe and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. . . . A thoroughly contemporary—and deeply moving—portrait of a marriage." —The New York Times Book Review *Ilesa*, Nigeria. Ever since they first met and fell in love at university, Yejide and Akin have agreed: polygamy is not for them. But four years into their marriage—after consulting fertility doctors and healers, and trying strange teas and unlikely cures—Yejide is still not pregnant. She assumes she still has time—until her in-laws arrive on her doorstep with a young woman they introduce as Akin's second wife. Furious, shocked, and livid with jealousy, Yejide knows the only way to save her marriage is to get pregnant. Which, finally, she does—but at a cost far greater than she could have dared to imagine. The unforgettable story of a marriage as seen through the eyes of both husband and wife, *Stay With Me* asks how much we can sacrifice for the sake of family. A New York Times Notable Book One of the Best Books of the Year: NPR, The Wall Street Journal, The Economist, Chicago Tribune, BuzzFeed, Entertainment Weekly, The New York Post, Southern Living, The Skimm A 2017 BEA Buzz Panel Selection A Belletrist Book-of-the-Month A Sarah Jessica Parker Book Club Selection Shortlisted for the 2017 Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction Shortlisted for the Wellcome Book Prize and the 9mobile Prize for Literature Longlisted for the International Dylan Thomas Prize

A collection of poetry spanning the full range of the African-born author's acclaimed career has been updated to include seven never-before-published works, as well as much of his early poetry that explores such themes as the African consciousness, the tragedy of Biafra, and the mysteries of human relationships.

With her award-winning debut novel, *Purple Hibiscus*, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie was heralded by the Washington Post Book World as the "21st century daughter" of Chinua Achebe. Now, in her masterly, haunting new novel, she recreates a seminal moment in modern African history: Biafra's impassioned struggle to establish an independent republic in Nigeria during the 1960s. With the effortless grace of a natural storyteller, Adichie weaves together the lives of five characters caught up in the extraordinary tumult of the decade. Fifteen-year-old Ugwu is houseboy to Odenigbo, a university professor who sends him to school, and in whose living room Ugwu hears voices full of revolutionary zeal. Odenigbo's beautiful mistress, Olanna, a sociology teacher, is running away from her parents' world of wealth and excess; Kainene, her urbane twin, is taking over their father's business; and Kainene's English lover, Richard, forms a bridge between their two worlds. As we follow these intertwined lives through a military coup, the Biafran secession and the subsequent war, Adichie brilliantly evokes the promise, and intimately, the devastating disappointments that marked this time and place. Epic, ambitious and triumphantly realized, *Half of a Yellow Sun* is a more powerful, dramatic and intensely emotional picture of modern Africa than any we have had before.

Inspired by her mother's stories of war and Nigeria's folktale traditions, "Under the Udala Trees" is Chinelo Okparanta's deeply searching, powerful debut about the dangers of living and loving openly"

"One of the most vital and original novelists of her generation." —Larissa MacFarquhar, The New Yorker From the bestselling author of *Americanah* and *We Should All Be Feminists* Fifteen-year-old Kambili and her older brother Jaja lead a privileged life in Enugu, Nigeria. They live in a beautiful house, with a caring family, and attend an exclusive missionary school. They're completely shielded from the troubles of the world. Yet, as Kambili reveals in her tender-voiced account, things are less perfect than they appear. Although her Papa is generous and well respected, he is fanatically religious and tyrannical at home—a home that is silent and suffocating. As the country begins to fall apart under a military coup, Kambili and Jaja are sent to their aunt, a university professor outside the city, where they discover a life beyond the confines of their father's authority. Books cram the shelves, curry and nutmeg permeate the air, and their cousins' laughter rings throughout the house. When they return home, tensions within the family escalate, and Kambili must find the strength to keep her loved ones together. *Purple Hibiscus* is an exquisite novel about the emotional turmoil of adolescence, the powerful bonds of family, and the bright promise of freedom.

Sweet Medicine takes place in Harare at the height of Zimbabwe's economic woes in 2008. Tsitsi, a young woman, raised by her strict, devout Catholic mother, believes that hard work, prayer and an education will ensure a prosperous and happy future. She does well at her mission boarding school, and goes on to obtain a scholarship to attend university, but the change in the economic situation in Zimbabwe destroys the old system where hard work and a degree guaranteed a good life. Out of university, Tsitsi finds herself in a position much lower than she had set her sights on, working as a clerk in the office of the local politician, Zvobgo. With a salary that barely provides her a means to survive, she finds herself increasingly compromising her Christian values to negotiate ways to get ahead. Panashe Chigumadzi is a young and upcoming media executive passionate about creating new narratives that work to redefine and reaffirm African identity. She is the founder and editor of *Vanguard Magazine*, a platform which aims to speak

to the life of young black women coming of age in post-apartheid South Africa. She has previously worked as a TV journalist for CNBC Africa, a columnist for Forbes Woman Africa and a contributor to Forbes Africa. She has been invited to speak at a number of local and international events. In 2013 she became a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Shapers community, a network of young people who strive to make an impact in their communities. Panashe is a 2015 Ruth First Fellow at Wits University.

"The trouble with Nigeria is simply and squarely a failure of leadership," concludes internationally acclaimed writer Chinua Achebe. In this book Achebe broke his silence about the 1983 Nigerian elections. The style and wit in part cover his deep despair over the direction of change in his home country.

The Trouble with Nigeria Heinemann

Obi Okonkwo is an idealistic young man who, thanks to the privileges of an education in Britain, has now returned to Nigeria for a job in the civil service. However in his new role he finds that the way of government seems to be backhanders and corruption. Obi manages to resist the bribes that are offered to him, but when he falls in love with an unsuitable girl - to the disapproval of his parents - he sinks further into emotional and financial turmoil. The lure of easy money becomes harder to refuse, and Obi becomes caught in a trap he cannot escape. Showing a man lost in cultural limbo, and a Nigeria entering a new age of disillusionment, *No Longer at Ease* concludes Achebe's remarkable trilogy charting three generations of an African community under the impact of colonialism, the first two volumes of which are *Things Fall Apart* and *Arrow of God*.

Recounts how the leopard got his claws and teeth and why he rules the forest with terror.

The politics of development in Africa have always been central concerns of the continent's literature. Yet ideas about the best way to achieve this development, and even what development itself should look like, have been hotly contested. *African Literature as Political Philosophy* looks in particular at Achebe's *Anthills of the Savannah* and *Petals of Blood* by Ngugi wa Thiong'o, but situates these within the broader context of developments in African literature over the past half-century, discussing writers from Ayi Kwei Armah to Wole Soyinka. M.S.C. Okolo provides a thorough analysis of the authors' differing approaches and how these emerge from the literature. She shows the roots of Achebe's reformism and Ngugi's insistence on revolution and how these positions take shape in their work. Okolo argues that these authors have been profoundly affected by the political situation of Africa, but have also helped to create a new African political philosophy.

From the renowned author of *The African Trilogy*, a political satire about an unnamed African country navigating a path between violence and corruption As Minister for Culture, former school teacher M. A. Nanga is a man of the people, as cynical as he is charming, and a roguish opportunist. When Odili, an idealistic young teacher, visits his former instructor at the ministry, the division between them is vast. But in the eat-and-let-eat atmosphere, Odili's idealism soon collides with his lusts—and the two men's personal and political tauntings threaten to send their country into chaos. When Odili launches a vicious campaign against his former mentor for the same seat in an election, their mutual animosity drives the country to revolution. Published, prophetically, just days before Nigeria's first attempted coup in 1966, *A Man of the People* is an essential part of Achebe's body of work.

The Life and Times of Chinua Achebe introduces readers to the life, literary works, and times of arguably the most widely-read African novelist of recent times, an icon, both in continental Africa and abroad. The book weaves together the story of Chinua Achebe, a young Igboman whose novel *Things Fall Apart* opened the eyes of the world to a more realistic image of Africa that was warped by generations of European travelers, colonists, and writers. Whilst continuing to write further influential novels and essays, Achebe also taught other African writers to use their skills to help their national leaders to fight for their freedoms in the post-colonial era, as internal warfare compounded the damage caused by European powers during the colonial era. In this book Kalu Ogbaa, an esteemed expert on Achebe and his works, draws on extensive research and personal interviews with the great man and his colleagues and friends, to tell the story of Achebe and his work. This intimate and powerful new biography will be essential reading for students and scholars of Chinua Achebe, and to anyone with an interest in the literature and post-colonial politics of Africa.

Collects three of the author's novels, all inspired by the tragedies faced by the Igbo people during the European colonization of Africa.

Several hundred A-Z entries cover Achebe's major works, important characters and settings, key concepts and issues, and more.

To understand Africa, one must understand Nigeria, and few Americans understand Nigeria better than Karl Maier. *This House Has Fallen* is a bracing and disturbing report on the state of Africa's most populous, potentially richest, and most dangerously dysfunctional nation. Each year, with depressing consistency, Nigeria is declared the most corrupt state in the entire world. Though Nigeria is a nation into which billions of dollars of oil money flow, its per capita income has fallen dramatically in the past two decades. Military coup follows military coup. A bellwether for Africa, it is a country of rising ethnic tensions and falling standards of living, very possibly on the verge of utter collapse -- a collapse that could dramatically overshadow even the massacres in Rwanda. A brilliant piece of reportage and travel writing, *This House Has Fallen* looks into the Nigerian abyss and comes away with insight, profound conclusions, and even some hope.

Updated with a new preface by the author.

From the legendary author of *Things Fall Apart*—a long-awaited memoir of coming of age in a fragile new nation, and its destruction in a tragic civil war For more than forty years, Chinua Achebe maintained a considered silence on the events of the Nigerian civil war, also known as the Biafran War, of 1967–1970, addressing them only obliquely through his poetry. Decades in the making, *There Was a Country* is a towering account of one of modern Africa's most disastrous events, from a writer whose words and courage left an enduring stamp on world literature. A marriage of history and memoir, vivid firsthand observation and decades of research and reflection, *There Was a Country* is a work whose wisdom and compassion remind us of Chinua Achebe's place as one of the great literary and moral voices of our age.

Dissect Nigeria's 37 member parts, and all you will find, in all parts of this great nation, are potentials which convert immediately into chewy cake-bits and pieces of hope for the country and for all Nigerians. This hope will be fruitfully rewarding if all these potentials are harnessed.

For the purpose of this book, the strategic fight against corruption is shifting our focus from the unnecessary distraction of pointing accusing fingers, casting blames, giving excuses and defending oneself about corruption in Nigeria. The purpose of this political discourse is to imbue in us a positive attitude of looking inward to discover our true role in the fight against corruption. The recommendations of this book point out how to start taking responsibility of examining and sanitizing oneself sincerely, forgiving oneself genuinely, and resolving within oneself firmly to get to the root of corruption in one's vicious tendencies, in order to eradicate all vices in oneself. The Hallmark of this book is a guide for each of us to set a personal example of zero tolerance for corruption that others may do likewise in personalizing the strategic fight against corruption. The fight is inward-out, not vice versa as before, hence we begin with ourselves to fight our own vices. Dedicating this book also to my Late Dad - Esq. Friday B. Isugu, I would state at once that I do not write this book with any glee of enthusiasm but in sadness, not because my education was interrupted by the sudden death of my dad two years after my mum's death, when I started researching for this work, but because I am really not learned enough to be writing this work at this time. If only I had been more learned than I am at the time of this writing, at 27, I would have been happy to write it better than I write now. But I accept my misfortune in agreement with Ben Gbulie, whose opening words about fate, in Part I, "Case, Cause and Consequence" of his book "Nigeria's Five Majors," sank a personal meaning of fate into my heart, as fate has made me write this way. So I will love my work to summon up the immortal words of Ben Gbulie on fate saying, "There can be no armour against fate. This I know for sure, especially with the advantage of hindsight. Fate, to my mind, curtails every person's liberty to act or do as he pleases. It cuts every human being down to size, peasant and patrician alike; and reduces everyone almost to the status of a bar magnet in a field of iron filings. There is therefore no shaking off any situation, or even changing the course of any event, once fate has ordained it." I am thus made certain that fate has left me right upon where I can base my present literary strides. And so, anyone may accept this discourse at the level it is because I didn't learn more than I could express, yet I have truly put my best into it, before seeking rest. One of the most fascinating places on planet earth is Nigeria, also one of the most catawamptious socio-political enclaves, a favorable naturally endowed terrain for all types of economic activities taking place on earth. Its inhabited landmass is populated by the most fascinating multi ethnic black people on earth. They are a people that cannot be kibbled if dribbled by harsh conditions of life. This is ensuing from the challenge of the deleterious social impact of colonialism and neocolonialism; which, as a menace to national growth, created the brunt of weakness akin to generational degeneration of the people, garnered with their potentialities for independence and excellence in autonomy. Our broad condition of living is by far below poverty margin - an indication of dehumanization, such that, empathetically, one would begin to imagine how we are able to survive with less than N197.00k, the equivalent of \$1.00 a day. I see no need for statistics. Unity, Peace and Progress are three essentials for the Nigerian project to stand erect and not suffer a sudden collapse. Corruption is today's foe. From one of the greatest writers of the modern era, an intimate and essential collection of personal essays on home, identity, and colonialism Chinua Achebe's characteristically eloquent and nuanced voice is everywhere present in these seventeen beautifully written pieces. From a vivid portrait of growing up in colonial Nigeria to considerations on the African-American Diaspora, from a glimpse into his extraordinary family life and his thoughts on the potent symbolism of President Obama's elections—this charmingly personal, intellectually disciplined, and steadfastly wise collection is an indispensable addition to the remarkable Achebe oeuvre.

The more Chike saw the ferry-boats the more he wanted to make the trip to Asaba. But where would he get the money? He did not know. Still, he hoped. Eleven-year-old Chike longs to cross the Niger River to the city of Asaba, but he doesn't have the sixpence he needs to pay for the ferry ride. With the help of his friend S.M.O.G., he embarks on a series of adventures to help him get there. Along the way, he is exposed to a range of new experiences that are both thrilling and terrifying, from eating his first skewer of suya under the shade of a mango tree, to visiting the village magician who promises to double the money in his pocket. Once he finally makes it across the river, Chike realizes that life on the other side is far different from his expectations, and he must find the courage within him to make it home. Chike and the River is a magical tale of boundaries, bravery, and growth, by Chinua Achebe, one of the world's most beloved and admired storytellers. One of the most provocative and original voices in contemporary literature, Chinua Achebe here considers the place of literature and art in our society in a collection of essays spanning his best writing and lectures from the last twenty-three years. For Achebe, overcoming goes hand in hand with eradicating the destructive effects of racism and injustice in Western society. He reveals the impediments that still stand in the way of open, equal dialogue between Africans and Europeans, between blacks and whites, but also instills us with hope that they will soon be overcome.

No one would doubt the topic of the book 'the trouble with Nigeria' from the revered author and nationalist, Chinua Achebe, the emeritus writer, scholar and author with the undying nationalistic spirit running in his veins till death. How can a nation so much endowed be wallowing in abject poverty when all the resources to make it to compete with the wealthiest nations in the world are abundantly available? The title and the contents of the popular book has produced this thoughtful rejoinder, a research-based book where we went into the political archives of the nation to unveil the major causes of the underdevelopment and the bane towards having the right leaders to manage the abundant natural resources. 'The trouble with Nigeria is the selfishness of the political elites that operated and still operating under ethno-religion divides of the masses to feather their own nests' as author Amusa Abdulateef wrote. In short, this author wrote the book to act as rejoinder of the popular book 'the trouble with Nigeria'. The point that served as the bane of national economic and political growth that are negatively affecting the other areas is no doubt the dearth of leadership at different time in the history of the nation. It is either the leaders are not emerged from the right political ideology that suit the environment or the leaders are not the right people for the job. The nation has been ruled by the military with dictatorial laws, the parliamentary and presidential system of governance with flaws. This author's researches also critically looked into the stakeholders and the primary and other roles of each in the national growth in all ramifications. Author Amusa Abdulateef wrote huge on the constitutional rights of the eligible voters on the election and recall of the elected leaders, the duties of the electoral body and the other stakeholders in the electioneering. All these are targeted at having the right leaders for the tiers of government for the positive impacts on the nation and the nationals. To the author, there is need for reforms in voting, active participation of voters' assembly, electoral laws and the terms as tenure in offices then the nation is off the wood. Through the emergence of the right crops of leaders and necessary reforms, the trending restructuring by the people shall go down and the trouble with Nigeria shall end within a short time. The book is a prized asset to the students of history and socio-economic, political analysts and philosophers. It is a must for all libraries as a good reference in administrative books.

An insurgency in Nigeria by the Islamist extremist group Boko Haram has left thousands dead, shaken Africa's biggest country and worried the world. Yet it remains a mysterious - almost unknowable - organisation. rough exhaustive on-the-ground reporting, Mike Smith takes readers inside the conflict and provides the first in-depth account of the violence and unrest. He traces Boko Haram from its beginnings as a small Islamist sect in Nigeria's remote north-east, led by a baby-faced but charismatic preacher, to its transformation into a hydra-headed entity, deploying suicide bombers and abducting schoolgirls. Much of the book is told through the eyes of Nigerians who have found themselves caught between frightening insurgents and security forces accused of horrifying brutality. It includes the voices of a forgotten police officer left paralysed by an attack, women whose husbands have been murdered and a sword-wielding vigilante using charms to fend off insurgent bullets. It journeys through the sleaze and corruption that has robbed Africa's biggest oil producer of its potential, making it such fertile ground for extremism. Along the way it questions whether there can be any end to the violence and the ways in which this might be achieved. Interspersed with history, this book delves into the roots of this unholy war being waged by a virtually unknown organisation, which is set to shape the destiny of Africa's biggest economy and most populous state - and perhaps affect the future of Africa.

Set in the 1990s in West Africa, Saturday's Shadows is a novel about the slow, yet unpredictable implosion of a marriage. It is also a tale of love and devotion, as well as a study in the psychology of tyrants and how their rule destroys not only their subjects but themselves. Influenced by Naguib Mahfouz's Palace Walk (Anchor, 1956) and William Faulkner's As I Lay Dying (1930), Saturday's Shadows allows its four characters to narrate how they will do almost anything to find themselves.

He needed to hear Africa speak for itself after a lifetime of hearing Africa spoken about by others. Electrifying essays on the history, complexity, diversity of a continent, from the father of modern African literature.

Asserts the author's belief in Joseph Conrad as a 'bloody racist' and his conviction that Conrad's novel "Heart of Darkness" only serves to perpetuate damaging stereotypes of black people. This title includes "The Trouble with Nigeria", the author's searing outpouring of his frustrations with his country.

Chris, Ikem and Beatrice are three like-minded friends working under the military regime of His Excellency, the Sandhurst-educated President of Kangan. In the pressurized atmosphere of oppression and intimidation they are simply trying to live and love - and remain friends. But in a world where each day brings a new betrayal, hope is hard to cling on to.

'Things Fall Apart' tells the story of Okonkwo, an important man in the Igbo tribe in the days when white men were first on the scene. Okonkwo becomes exiled from his tribe, as a result of his pride and his fears, with tragic consequences.

Formation tracks the unlikely series of events and characters that led to the creation of the modern Nigerian nation: from 1804 when the first Jihadists began their attack on a collection of independent nations to 1914 when the current shape of Nigeria was completed as a British colony through amalgamation. Formation sheds light on an increasingly forgotten and largely mythologised period of Nigeria's history; revealing an incredibly complicated portrait of a nation with a tangled history, where violence was and remains a primary organising principle for elite competition and political negotiations. Influential figures loom large over the narrative including: Usman dan Fodio, Modibbo Adama, Fred Lugard, Samuel Ajayi-Crowther, Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti, Flora Shaw, Joseph Chamberlain alongside other well-known and many less familiar names.

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