

DEDICATION

We dedicate this book to the memory of Rt. Hon. Kirunda Kivejinja (1935-2020) for his love for Busoga and its history was outstanding. He dedicated his life to promoting and enabling education of the masses in Uganda. He interested many to contribute to his life-long goals and whenever he saw such efforts similar to his own, exercised by anybody, he supported them wholeheartedly.

This book was initially set for publication in 2020. However as final touches of the book were being made, we got news that Rt. Hon. Kirunda Kivejinja was in hospital from where he succumbed to Covid-19 on December 19th, 2020. Plans for completion of the book stalled for a while but we managed to finally rejuvenate them.

The lessons captured in this book and those learnt from the loving father to whom this book is dedicated are captured very well in the title 'Enkaana'. For in Busoga, if you received seeds to plant from someone, when you harvested your crop, you give a gift back to the one who gave you that seed. The name of that gift in Lusoga is Enkaana.

We may not have been able to give this book back to Rt. Hon. Kirunda Kivejinja but we have made it available to a wider audience. David William Cohen who also got the seed of knowledge on the History of Busoga from the Basoga people is enabled to give the gift back of the stories he collected from Busoga. This book is our collective Enkaana.

Minah Nabirye & Gilles-Maurice de Schryver

BOOK SUMMARY

The fieldwork texts compiled by David William Cohen on the origins of the Basoga people are over half a century old. They were collected in Busoga between 1964-1972. Some had field notes written all over them or the typewriter ink used to type them had faded or discolored making them almost unreadable. Plus both the orthography and languages used varied continuously.

Gilles-Maurice de Schryver scanned all these texts and sorted them into the categories of either interviews or letters. Minah Nabirye made them machine readable either through retyping or OCRing. She then sorted them into their respective language categories and formatted each individual text as follows: All the original texts were allocated a title that shows the name and clan of the person interviewed or letter correspondent plus the name of the clan's place of origin whenever it was mentioned. Respondent's names are arranged alphabetically. Subtitles were used to show either the language varieties used or the special information entailed in the texts on topics such as folk stories, food production, famine, technological advancements and war tales.

The final book is divided into three main parts. The first part has two chapters which introduce the book. These chapters show the contributions and implications that the stories in the fieldwork texts have to the study of African history and legacy data documentation. The second part has the fieldwork texts presented in two chapters. The original fieldwork interviews and narrations are in Chapter 3. Letters sent to the Radio Uganda Talk Show hosted between 1964-1965 by L .K. Bagimba regarding inquests into Busoga clans are in Chapter 4. The third part is the appendix which has a list summarizing the clans of Busoga plus the respective totems and taboos mentioned in the texts, some fieldwork-work related photographs and the lemmatized wordlists in both Lusoga and English.

This book provides the best possible rendition of Cohen's fieldwork