
In Memoriam

Colin Legum; *The Observer's* Commonwealth Correspondent, 1951-1989; founding editor of *Africa Contemporary Record* in 1969 with Rex Collings; June 8, 2003.

To friends of ACR

It is with great sadness that I write to inform you of Colin Legum's death on 8 June 2003 while recovering from surgery.

He was the founding editor of *Africa Contemporary Record* in 1969 with Rex Collings. Over the years, though the series weathered changes in publisher, executive editors, contributors and frequency of publication, Colin Legum was the constant.

A journalist by training and profession, his knowledge of the continent was gained firsthand through both his continual travels and the close relationships he held with many of Africa's leaders. In the course of his long and productive career, he was hailed as British media's premier analyst of African affairs. In the current age of specialization, Colin was an unabashed generalist and respected as such by the academic community.

Colin Legum had come to personify ACR. It is difficult to envision it without him. Yet, in recent years, especially following his move back to South Africa, he expressed a desire to slow down and cut back his involvement with ACR and devote more time to family and writing. He welcomed the idea of ACR's new editorial board and looked forward to his role as editor emeritus and contributor.

We met several times over a period of twenty years and he was always vigorous, outspoken and somewhat larger than life—even when he was not in the best of health.

I have the same feeling that I had following my father's death—regret that I didn't listen better and learn more. He will be missed.

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Thomas Odhiambo, entomologist, founder of the International Center of Insect Physiology and Ecology in Nairobi in 1967 and founder of the African Academy of Sciences in 1985; May 26, 2003.

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
NAIROBI, Kenya, May 31 — Thomas R. Odhiambo, the Kenyan scientist who founded an international insect research center renowned for giving African farmers low-cost solutions for pest control, died here on Monday. He was 72.

The cause was liver cancer, said his physician, G. B. A. Okelo.

Dr. Odhiambo, a Cambridge-educated entomologist, founded what became the International Center of Insect Physiology and Ecology in 1967 at the University of Nairobi, where he taught. The center was started to help African farmers combat harmful insects.

During his 25-year tenure as director, the center became an independent research organization where more than 150 African scientists were trained under Dr. Odhiambo's vision of development in Africa through scientific advancement, especially insect control.

Dr. Odhiambo was also a pioneer in researching how to control insects without using synthetic chemicals, said the center's current director, Hans Herren.

"He recognized that this movement, which began in Europe and America, would be essential to assisting Africa," Mr. Herren said, "by not burdening the environment with chemicals."

Dr. Odhiambo also founded the African Academy of Sciences in 1985. In 1987, he and the former president of Senegal, Abdou Diouf, were the first recipients of the Africa Prize for Leadership for the Sustainable End of Hunger. The prize is given by The Hunger Project, which is based in New York.

He was also won the Albert Einstein Medal in 1979 and an honorary doctorate of sciences from the University of Oslo in 1986.

Dr. Odhiambo is survived by two wives and six children.

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Charles David Smith

Dr. Charles David Smith—Africanist, sociologist, field researcher and author—died after a long struggle against colon cancer at age 54, this past April. While teaching at Moi University in El Doret (Kenya) during the 1990s, his gradually worsening condition remain undiagnosed. After returning to his native Canada in 2000, doctors there advised him that his case was fatal, after which Chuck focused his full range of physical and mental resources on continuing to live as actively as possible in Toronto. Chuck is survived there by his sister Robbie, their mother and family, as well as his daughter Leah and her mother, Lesley Stevens, who was also his long-time companion and research associate.

Many Africanists have come to know and respect Charles Smith as a thoughtful colleague—from his graduate work at Essex University in England (where he studied theory with Harold Wolpe); in Montreal, where he maintained an enduring relationship with McGill University's Center for Developing Area Studies (while teaching at Concordia and Sir George Williams Universities); or as a research scholar who was especially devoted to teaching East African students, both at University of Dar es Salaam and Moi University (from the late 1970s, to the late 1990s). An inveterate field researcher, Charles Smith often made the particular results of his various projects known by presenting papers at the African Studies Association, Canadian Association of African Studies and other professional conferences, as well as through scholarly articles and an extended "Research Report," *Did Colonialism Capture the Peasantry?* (Uppsala: 1989), which was part of a series published by the Scandinavian Institute of African Studies. His recent and remarkably concise synthesis of previous work—*Ecology, Civil Society and Informal Economy in North West Tanzania* (Aldershot: 2001)—was published in Ashgate's "The Making of Modern Africa" series. He wrote this