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John Iliffe was Professor of African History at the University of Cambridge and is a Fellow of St. John’s College. He is the author of several books on Africa, including *A modern history of Tanganyika* and *The African poor: A history*, which was awarded the Herskovits Prize of the African Studies Association of the United States. Both books were published by Cambridge University Press.
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Africans

THE HISTORY OF A CONTINENT

Second Edition

JOHN ILIFFE
Fellow of St. John’s College, Cambridge
In memory of

Charles Ross Iliffe

and

Joy Josephine Iliffe
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Preface to the second edition

David Fieldhouse suggested this book. In writing it, I have strayed far from my expertise as a documentary historian. John Sutton is partly to blame for that because he first interested me in African prehistory through his lectures at Dar es Salaam. David Phillipson kindly read and commented on my typescript, as did John Lonsdale, who has taught me so much. John Alexander and Timothy Insoll helped with books. To the first edition, published in 1995, I have added a chapter, current to 2006, and I have extensively revised the chapters on prehistory and the Atlantic slave trade, together with less substantial revisions to take account of recent scholarship on other periods. The mistakes that remain are my own.

John Iliffe