

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-29894-0 - The African Middle Ages, 1400-1800
Roland Oliver and Anthony Atmore
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

The African Middle Ages
1400–1800

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-29894-0 - The African Middle Ages, 1400-1800

Roland Oliver and Anthony Atmore

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

The African Middle Ages

1400–1800

ROLAND OLIVER

ANTHONY ATMORE



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-29894-0 - The African Middle Ages, 1400-1800
Roland Oliver and Anthony Atmore
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paulo, Delhi

Cambridge University Press
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521233019

© Cambridge University Press 1981

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception
and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements,
no reproduction of any part may take place without the written
permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 1981
Reprinted 1986, 1987, 1989, 1993
Re-issued in this digitally printed version 2008

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

ISBN 978-0-521-23301-9 hardback
ISBN 978-0-521-29894-0 paperback

Cambridge University Press
 978-0-521-29894-0 - The African Middle Ages, 1400-1800
 Roland Oliver and Anthony Atmore
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Contents

	<i>List of maps</i>	<i>page</i> vi
	<i>Acknowledgements</i>	viii
	Introduction	i
1	The African dimension of Islam	5
2	The back country of the African Middle Ages	16
3	Egypt and the Nilotic Sudan	31
4	The north-eastern triangle	45
5	The states of Barbary	60
6	Western West Africa	75
7	Eastern West Africa	92
8	From the Niger to the Nile	107
9	The upper Nile basin and the East African plateau	120
10	From the Lualaba to the Zambezi	136
11	The land of the blacksmith kings	150
12	The approaches to Zimbabwe	165
13	The peoples of the south	183
	Epilogue	195
	<i>Suggestions for further reading</i>	198
	<i>Index</i>	203

Maps

1	North-west Africa, <i>c.</i> 1400	<i>page</i> 9
2	Christian and Muslim north-east Africa, <i>c.</i> 1400	11
3	Muslim trading in the Indian Ocean, <i>c.</i> 1400	13
4	West Africa, <i>c.</i> 1400	16
5	West-central Africa, <i>c.</i> 1400	21
6	Eastern and southern Africa, <i>c.</i> 1400	27
7	Egypt and the Nilotic Sudan, 1400–1800	33
8	The north-eastern triangle (1): Solomonid expansion, 14th–16th centuries	46
9	The north-eastern triangle (2): the 16th century	52
10	The north-eastern triangle (3): the Oromo settlements	56
11	<i>a</i> The states of Barbary: eastern half	62
11	<i>b</i> The states of Barbary: western half	63
12	Western West Africa (1): Portugal, Morocco and Songhay	76
13	<i>a</i> Western West Africa (2): African states and peoples, Senegal to Asante; European trade in slaves (western half)	86
13	<i>b</i> Western West Africa (2); African States and peoples, Senegal to Asante; European trade in slaves (eastern half)	87
14	<i>a</i> Eastern West Africa (western half)	94
14	<i>b</i> Eastern West Africa (eastern half)	95
15	From the Niger to the Nile (1): the savanna lands	108
16	From the Niger to the Nile (2): the backlands of the central Sudan	115
17	The upper Nile basin and the East African plateau (1): language distribution, <i>c.</i> 1200	121
18	The upper Nile basin and the East African plateau (2): language distribution, <i>c.</i> 1800	122
vi		

Cambridge University Press
 978-0-521-29894-0 - The African Middle Ages, 1400-1800
 Roland Oliver and Anthony Atmore
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

List of maps

19	The upper Nile basin and the East African plateau (3): later Iron Age immigrants (Highland Paraniotes)	125
20	The upper Nile basin and the East African plateau (4): Nilotes and later Paraniotes (Plains), 17th–18th centuries	129
21	From the Lualaba to the Zambezi (1)	137
22	From the Lualaba to the Zambezi (2)	144
23	The land of the blacksmith kings	151
24	The approaches to Zimbabwe (1): Arabs and Portuguese on the East African coast	166
25	The approaches to Zimbabwe (2): Muslim trading activities in the Indian Ocean	168
26	The approaches to Zimbabwe (3): Zimbabwe/Mutapa/Butwa	171
27	The approaches to Zimbabwe (4): Portuguese trading activities in the Indian Ocean	176
28	The peoples of the south	184

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-29894-0 - The African Middle Ages, 1400-1800
Roland Oliver and Anthony Atmore
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Acknowledgements

The authors wish to record their gratitude to Professor Richard Gray and Dr Andrew Roberts, who read the manuscript in draft and made very many useful suggestions for its improvement.