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Bengt Sundkler and Christopher Steed
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The late Bengt Sundkler was the leading authority on African Christian Churches, and he pioneered the study of Independent Churches in Africa. He had a long career as a missionary, in South Africa and in Tanzania, and he became the first Lutheran Bishop of Bukoba in Tanzania, before returning to Sweden as Professor in Church History at the University of Uppsala. Christopher Steed was Bengt Sundkler's research assistant, and he currently teaches African history at the University of Uppsala.

In this magisterial work, Sundkler and Steed review the entire history of the development of Christianity in all regions of the continent. In contrast to the conventional focus on the missionary enterprise, they place the African converts at the centre of the study. African Christians, typically drawn from the margins of the society, reinterpreted the Christian message, proselytized, governed local congregations, and organized Independent Churches. Emphasizing African initiatives in the process of Christianization, Sundkler and Steed argue that its development was shaped by African kings and courts, the history of labour migration, and local experiences of colonization. This long-awaited book will become the standard reference text on African Christian Churches.

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A HISTORY OF THE CHURCH IN AFRICA



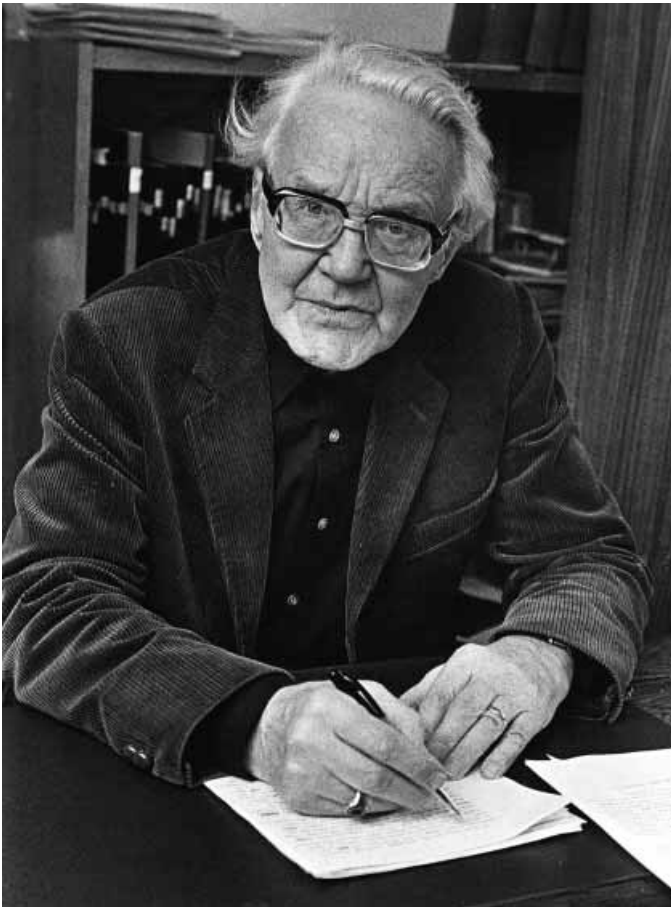
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STUDIA MISSIONALIA UPSALIENSIA LXXIV

In honour and memory of Bengt Sundkler, who was the founder of *Studia Missionalia Upsaliensia* and the editor of its first twenty-seven volumes, *A History of the Church in Africa* is also included in that series.

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Bengt Sundkler 1909–1995

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BENGT SUNDKLER
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CHRISTOPHER STEED



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ABBREVIATIONS

AACC	All Africa Conference of Churches
ABCFM	American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
ABFMS	American Baptist Foreign Mission Society
AIM	Africa Inland Mission
AME	African Methodist Episcopal Church
AMECEA	Association of Members of Episcopal Conferences of Eastern Africa
AMEZ	African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
BCMS	Bible Churchmen's Missionary Society
BFBS	British and Foreign Bible Society
BMS	Baptist Missionary Society
CICM	Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mercy – the Scheut Fathers
CMML	Christian Missions in Many Lands
CMS	Church Missionary Society
CR	Community of the Resurrection
CSSp	Holy Ghost Fathers (Spiritans)
DRC	Dutch Reformed Church
HGF	Holy Ghost Fathers (Spiritans)
IMC	International Missionary Council
LMS	London Missionary Society
LWF	Lutheran World Federation
MMS	Methodist Missionary Society
OMI	Oblates of Mary Immaculate
OSB	Benedictine Order
PEMS	Paris Evangelical Missionary Society
SACC	South African Council of Churches
SAGM	South Africa General Mission
SIM	Sudan Interior Mission
SJ	Jesuits – Society of Jesus
SMA	Society of African Missions

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ABBREVIATIONS

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SPCK	Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge
SPG	Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts
SUM	Sudan United Mission
SVD	Society of the Divine Word (Societas Verbi Divini)
TEF	Theological Education Fund
UBS	United Bible Societies
UMCA	Universities' Mission to Central Africa
USPG	United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel
WCC	World Council of Churches
WEC	Worldwide Evangelization Crusade
WF	Society of Missionaries of Africa (White Fathers)
WMMS	Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society