

Weep Not Child Ngugi Wa Thiongo

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Things Fall Apart Chinua Achebe 2013-04-25
Okonkwo is the greatest warrior alive, famous throughout West Africa. But when he accidentally kills a clansman, things begin to fall apart. Then

Okonkwo returns from exile to find missionaries and colonial governors have arrived in the village. With his world thrown radically off-balance he can only hurtle towards tragedy. Chinua Achebe's stark novel reshaped both African and world literature. This arresting parable of a proud but powerless man witnessing the ruin of his people begins Achebe's landmark trilogy of works chronicling the fate of one African community, continued in *Arrow of God* and *No Longer at Ease*.

Why Africa is Poor Greg Mills 2012-10-01 Economic growth does not demand a secret formula. Good development examples now abound in East Asia and further afield in others parts of Asia, and in Central America. But why then has Africa failed to realise its potential in half a century of independence? Why Africa is Poor demonstrates that Africa is poor not because the world has denied the continent the market and financial means to compete: far from it. It has not been because of aid per se. Nor is African poverty solely a consequence of poor infrastructure or trade access, or because the necessary development and technical expertise is unavailable internationally. Why then has the continent lagged behind other developing areas when its people work hard and the continent is blessed with abundant natural resources? Stomping

across the continent and the developing world in search of the answer, Greg Mills controversially shows that the main reason why Africa's people are poor is because their leaders have made this choice.

Rite of Passage Richard Wright 1995-12-19

"Johnny, you're leaving us tonight . . ." Fifteen-year-old Johnny Gibbs does, well in school, respects his teachers, and loves his family. Then suddenly, with a few short words, his idyllic life is shattered. He learns that the family he has loved all his life is not his own, but a foster family. And now he is being sent to live with someone else. Shocked by the news, Johnny does the only thing he can think of: he runs. Leaving his childhood behind forever, Johnny takes to the streets where he learns about living life--the hard way. Richard Wright, internationally acclaimed author of *Black Boy* and *Native Son*, gives us a coming-of-age story as compelling today as when it was first written, over fifty years ago. 'Johnny Gibbs arrives home jubilantly one day with his straight 'A' report card to find his belongings packed and his mother and sister distraught. Devastated when they tell him that he is not their blood relative and that he is being sent to a new foster home, he runs away. His secure world quickly shatters into a nightmare of subways, dark alleys, theft and street warfare. . . .

Striking characters, vivid dialogue, dramatic descriptions, and enduring themes introduce a new generation of readers to Wright's powerful voice.'—SLJ. Notable 1995 Children's Trade Books in Social Studies (NCSS/CBC)

Draw 50 Flowers, Trees, and Other Plants Lee J. Ames 2012-05-08 Draw 50 Flowers, Trees, and Other Plants shows artists of all levels how to draw with ease by following simple, step-by-step examples. Celebrated author Lee J. Ames shows you how to create a lush garden of roses, orchids, cacti, and a variety of fruit, as well as forests of towering firs, sequoias, and weeping willows. Ames's drawing method has proven successful for children and adults of all ages over the past forty years. The twenty-nine books in the Draw 50 series have sold more than 5 million copies and have shown artists from beginning to advanced levels how to draw everything from animals to airplanes. It's easy to grow your own garden when it's done the Draw 50 way.

A Mercy Toni Morrison 2009-08-11 A powerful tragedy distilled into a small masterpiece by the Nobel Prize-winning author of *Beloved* and, almost like a prelude to that story, set two centuries earlier. Jacob is an Anglo-Dutch trader in 1680s United States, when the slave trade is still in its infancy.

Reluctantly he takes a small slave girl in part payment from a plantation owner for a bad debt. Feeling rejected by her slave mother, 14-year-old Florens can read and write and might be useful on his farm. Florens looks for love, first from Lina, an older servant woman at her new master's house, but later from the handsome blacksmith, an African, never enslaved, who comes riding into their lives At the novel's heart, like *Beloved*, it is the ambivalent, disturbing story of a mother and a daughter – a mother who casts off her daughter in order to save her, and a daughter who may never exorcise that abandonment.

Fantasy of Frost Kelly St. Clare 2017-06-05 I know many things. What I am capable of, what I will change, what I will become. But there is one thing I will never know?The veil I've worn from birth carries with it a terrible loneliness; a suppression I cannot imagine ever being free of. Some things never change?My mother will always hate me. Her court will always shun me.'Until they do. When the peace delegation arrives from the savage world of Glacium, my life is shoved wildly out of control by the handsome Prince Kedrick who, for unfathomable reasons, shows me kindness. And the harshest lessons are learned. Sometimes it takes the world bringing you to your knees to find that

spark you thought forever lost. Sometimes it takes death to show you how to live.

The Concubine Elechi Amadi 2017-04-26 Amadi's masterpiece of African literature captures village life and practices not yet touched by the white man.

The novel's beautiful, hardworking protagonist, Ihouma, is admired by all in her village. Yet those who express their love for her meet with mysterious tragedy, leaving her devastated. This enticing odyssey, where exemplary attributes go unrewarded and the boundaries between myth and reality are muted, outwits readers with unexpected twists that make them want to keep turning the page.

Detained Ng?g? wa Thiong?o 1987

The Art of Work Jeff Goins 2015-03-24 On his thirtieth birthday, Jeff Goins quit his job and began his pursuit of becoming a full-time writer. While certainly that was a milestone day, it was still less significant than the ones that lead to that memorable moment. The journey he took leading up to that daring decision involved twists, turns, and surprises he never expected. In the end, he found his life's purpose, his calling; and in The Art of Work, he wants to share his journey with you and help you, too, discover your life's work, along with the invaluable treasure that comes with doing so. As writer, keynote speaker, and award-winning blogger

Jeff Goins explains, our search for discovering the task we were born to do begins with passion but does not end there. Only when our interests connect with the needs of the world do we begin living for a larger purpose. Those who experience this intersection experience something exceptional and enviable. Though it is rare, as Jeff discovered along the journey he shares in this one-of-a-kind book, such a life is attainable by anyone brave enough to try. Through personal experience, compelling case studies, and current research on the mysteries of motivation and talent, Jeff shows readers how to find the vocation they were meant for and what to expect during the long, arduous journey to discovering and pursuing it.

Decolonising the Mind Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o 1986 "Afro-European"--The literature written by Africans in European languages - may come to be seen as part and parcel of the uneasy period between colonialism and full independence, a period equally reflected in the continent's political instability. This book presents the arguments for using African language and forms.

The Perfect Nine Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o 2020-10-06 A dazzling, genre-defying novel in verse from the author Delia Owens says "tackles the absurdities, injustices, and corruption of a continent" Ngũgĩ wa

Thiong'o's novels and memoirs have received glowing praise from the likes of President Barack Obama, the New Yorker, the New York Times Book Review, The Guardian, and NPR; he has been a finalist for the Man International Booker Prize and is annually tipped to win the Nobel Prize for Literature; and his books have sold tens of thousands of copies around the world. In his first attempt at the epic form, Ngũgĩ tells the story of the founding of the Gĩkũyũ people of Kenya, from a strongly feminist perspective. A verse narrative, blending folklore, mythology, adventure, and allegory, *The Perfect Nine* chronicles the efforts the Gĩkũyũ founders make to find partners for their ten beautiful daughters—called “The Perfect Nine”—and the challenges they set for the 99 suitors who seek their hands in marriage. The epic has all the elements of adventure, with suspense, danger, humor, and sacrifice. Ngũgĩ's epic is a quest for the beautiful as an ideal of living, as the motive force behind migrations of African peoples. He notes, “The epic came to me one night as a revelation of ideals of quest, courage, perseverance, unity, family; and the sense of the divine, in human struggles with nature and nurture.”

Weep Not, Child Ngũgĩ Wa Thiong'o ; retold by

Margaret Turner 1988

Minutes of Glory Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o 2019-03-05 A dazzling short story collection from the person Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie calls “one of the greatest writers of our time” Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o, although renowned for his novels, memoirs, and plays, honed his craft as a short story writer. From “The Fig Tree, ” written in 1960, his first year as an undergraduate at Makerere University College in Uganda, to the playful “The Ghost of Michael Jackson,” written as a professor at the University of California, Irvine, these collected stories reveal a master of the short form. Covering the period of British colonial rule and resistance in Kenya to the bittersweet experience of independence—and including two stories that have never before been published in the United States— Ngũgĩ’s collection features women fighting for their space in a patriarchal society, big men in their Bentleys who have inherited power from the British, and rebels who still embody the fighting spirit of the downtrodden. One of Ngũgĩ’s most beloved stories, “Minutes of Glory,” tells of Beatrice, a sad but ambitious waitress who fantasizes about being feted and lauded over by the middle-class clientele in the city’s beer halls. Her dream leads her on a witty and heartbreaking adventure. Published for the first time

in America, *Minutes of Glory and Other Stories* is a major literary event that celebrates the storytelling might of one of Africa's best-loved writers.

Nikolski Nicolas Dickner 2009-05-12 Spring 1989.

Three young people leave their far-flung birthplaces to follow their own songs of migration. Each ends up in Montreal, each on a voyage of self-discovery, dealing with the mishaps of heartbreak and the twisted branches of their shared family tree. Filled with humor, charm, and good storytelling, this novel shows the surprising links between cartography, garbage-obsessed archeologists, pirates past and present, a mysterious book with no cover, and a broken compass whose needle obstinately points to the Aleutian village of Nikolski (a minuscule village inhabited by thirty-six people, five thousand sheep, and an indeterminate number of dogs).

Wizard of the Crow Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o 2006 The individual stories of characters both powerful and ordinary create a kaleidoscopic portrait of postcolonial Africa in the twentieth century, in a novel set in the Free Republic of Aburiria.

Petals of Blood Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o 2002 There has been a murder in the Kenyan village of Ilmorog.

Four suspects are placed in detention: headmaster Munira, teacher and political activist Karega, spirited barmaid Wanja and storekeeper Abdulla. But there

are no easy solutions to the crime in a place already filled with fear and intimidation. As the murder is investigated, it becomes clear how the lives of suspects and victims are inextricably linked to the fortunes of their village, and to the crisis of modern Kenya itself. *Petals of Blood* was published in 1977 to huge controversy, leading to Ngugi's imprisonment for his portrayal of a post-independence Kenya ruled by greed, corruption and brutality. Yet his blistering criticism of the legacy of colonialism still burns with hope for the future.

Butterfly Burning
Yvonne Vera 2000-09-12
Butterfly Burning brings the brilliantly poetic voice of Zimbabwean writer Yvonne Vera to American readers for the first time. Set in Makokoba, a black township, in the late 1940s, the novel is an intensely bittersweet love story. When Fumbatha, a construction worker, meets the much younger Phephelaphi, he "wants her like the land beneath his feet from which birth had severed him." He in turn fills her "with hope larger than memory." But Phephelaphi is not satisfied with their "one-room" love alone. The qualities that drew Fumbatha to her, her sense of independence and freedom, end up separating them. And the closely woven fabric of township life, where everyone knows everyone else, has a mesh too tight and too intricate to allow her to

escape her circumstances on her own. Vera exploits language to peel away the skin of public and private lives. In *Butterfly Burning* she captures the ebullience and the bitterness of township life, as well as the strength and courage of her unforgettable heroine.

Dreams in a Time of War Ngugi wa Thiong'o 2010-03-09 Born in 1938 in rural Kenya, Ngugi wa Thiong'o came of age in the shadow of World War II, amidst the terrible bloodshed in the war between the Mau Mau and the British. The son of a man whose four wives bore him more than a score of children, young Ngugi displayed what was then considered a bizarre thirst for learning, yet it was unimaginable that he would grow up to become a world-renowned novelist, playwright, and critic. In *Dreams in a Time of War*, Ngugi deftly etches a bygone era, bearing witness to the social and political vicissitudes of life under colonialism and war. Speaking to the human right to dream even in the worst of times, this rich memoir of an African childhood abounds in delicate and powerful subtleties and complexities that are movingly told.

The River Between Ngugi wa Thiong'o 1975
A Companion to African Literatures Olakunle George 2021-01-26 How have African literatures unfolded in their rich diversity in our modern era of

decolonization, nationalisms, and extensive transnational movement of peoples? How have African writers engaged urgent questions regarding race, nation, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality? And how do African literary genres interrelate with traditional oral forms or audio-visual and digital media? *A Companion to African Literatures* addresses these issues and many more. Consisting of essays by distinguished scholars and emerging leaders in the field, this book offers rigorous, deeply engaging discussions of African literatures on the continent and in diaspora. It covers the four main geographical regions (East and Central Africa, North Africa, Southern Africa, and West Africa), presenting ample material to learn from and think with. Chapters focus on literatures in European languages officially used in Africa --English, French, and Portuguese-- as well as homegrown African languages: Afrikaans, Amharic, Arabic, Swahili, and Yoruba. With its lineup of lucid and authoritative analyses, readers will find in *A Companion to African Literatures* a distinctive, rewarding academic resource.

Ngũgĩ? Simon Gikandi 2018 This collection of essays reflects on the life and work of Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o, who celebrated his 80th birthday in 2018. Drawing from a wide range of contributors, including

writers, critics, publishers and activists, the volume traces the emergence of Ngugi as a novelist in the early 1960s, his contribution to the African culture of letters at its moment of inception, and his global artistic life in the twenty-first century. Here we have both personal and critical reflections on the different phases of the writer's life: there are poems from friends and admirers, commentaries from his co-workers in public theatre in Kenya in the 1970s and 1980s, and from his political associates in the fight for democracy, and contributions on his role as an intellectual of decolonization, as well as his experiences in the global art world. Included also are essays on Ngugi's role outside the academy, in the world of education, community theatre, and activism. In addition to tributes from other authors who were influenced by Ngugi, the collection contains hitherto unknown materials that are appearing in English for the first time. Both a celebration of the writer, and a rethinking of his legacy, this book brings together three generations of Ngugi readers. We have memories and recollections from the people he worked with closely in the 1960s, the students that he taught at the University of Nairobi in the 1970s, his political associates during his exile in the 1980s, and the people who worked with him as he embarked on a

new life and career in the United States in the 1990s. First-hand accounts reveal how Ngugi's life and work have intersected, and the multiple forces that have converged to make him one of the greatest writers to come out of Africa in the twentieth century. Simon Gikandi is Robert Schirmer Professor of English, Princeton University. He was editor of the PMLA, the journal of the MLA (the Modern Languages Association) from 2011-2016. He served as the 2nd and 1st president of the MLA in 2017 and 2018 and is the president elect of the association for 2019. Ndirangu Wachanga is Professor of Media Studies and Information Science at the University of Wisconsin. He is also the authorized documentary biographer of Professors Ali A. Mazrui, Ngugi wa Thiong'o and Micere Mugo. Wrestling with the Devil Ngugi wa Thiong'o 2018-03-06 A New York Times Editors' Choice "A welcome addition to the vast literature produced by jailed writers across the centuries . . . [a] thrilling testament to the human spirit." —Ariel Dorfman, The New York Times Book Review "Wrestling with the Devil is a powerful testament to the courage of Ngugi and his fellow prisoners and validation of the hope that an independent Kenya would eventually emerge." —Minneapolis Star Tribune "The Ngugi of Wrestling with the Devil called not just for adding a

bit of color to the canon's sagging shelf, but for abolition and upheaval." —Bookforum An unforgettable chronicle of the year the brilliant novelist and memoirist, long favored for the Nobel Prize, was thrown in a Kenyan jail without charge *Wrestling with the Devil*, Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o's powerful prison memoir, begins literally half an hour before his release on December 12, 1978. In one extended flashback he recalls the night, a year earlier, when armed police pulled him from his home and jailed him in Kenya's Kamiti Maximum Security Prison, one of the largest in Africa. There, he lives in a prison block with eighteen other political prisoners, quarantined from the general prison population. In a conscious effort to fight back the humiliation and the intended degradation of the spirit, Ngũgĩ—the world-renowned author of *Weep Not, Child*; *Petals of Blood*; and *Wizard of the Crow*—decides to write a novel on toilet paper, the only paper to which he has access, a book that will become his classic, *Devil on the Cross*. Written in the early 1980s and never before published in America, *Wrestling with the Devil* is Ngũgĩ's account of the drama and the challenges of writing the novel under twenty-four-hour surveillance. He captures not only the excruciating pain that comes from being cut off from his wife and children, but

also the spirit of defiance that defines hope.

Ultimately, *Wrestling with the Devil* is a testimony to the power of imagination to help humans break free of confinement, which is truly the story of all art.

Wizard of the Crow Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o 2007

A Quiet Kind of Courage Anthony Schneider 2013-

03-01 Henry Wegland, a former ANC activist now living in New York City with his son, encourages Saul, his grandson, to travel to South Africa to make a documentary about the people involved in the country's liberation. Saul begins to unravel the dark secrets of his grandfather's past and the shocking events that led to his exile, when he is kidnapped in a rural township. Henry, now in his twilight years, must come to a new understanding of his son and make peace with the choices he once made for them both. Spanning past and present, South Africa and New York, the interlocking narratives of *A Quiet Kind of Courage* are a spellbinding portrayal of exile, the meaning of home, and how one man's attempt to liberate his country changed the lives of his family for generations.

Weep Not, Child Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o 1987 This is a simple and powerful tale of the effects of the Mau Mau war on individuals and families in Kenya.

In the House of the Interpreter Ngũgĩ Wa Thiong'o

2012 The second volume of memoirs from the

renowned Kenyan novelist, poet and playwright covers his high school years at the end of British colonial rule in Africa, during the Mau Mau Uprising. 15,000 first printing.

Weep Not, Child Ngugi wa Thiong'o 2012-06-05

The Nobel Prize–nominated Kenyan writer's powerful first novel Two brothers, Njoroge and Kamau, stand on a garbage heap and look into their futures: Njoroge is to attend school, while Kamau will train to be a carpenter. But this is Kenya, and the times are against them: In the forests, the Mau Mau is waging war against the white government, and the two brothers and their family need to decide where their loyalties lie. For the practical Kamau, the choice is simple, but for Njoroge the scholar, the dream of progress through learning is a hard one to give up. The first East African novel published in English, Weep Not, Child explores the effects of the infamous Mau Mau uprising on the lives of ordinary men and women, and on one family in particular.

For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by

introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

Birth of a Dream Weaver Ngugi wa Thiong'o 2016-10-04 One of Oprah.com's "17 Must-Read Books for the New Year" and O Magazine's "10 Titles to Pick up Now." "Exquisite in its honesty and truth and resilience, and a necessary chronicle from one of the greatest writers of our time." —Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, *The Guardian*, Best Books of 2016. "Every page ripples with a contagious faith in education and in the power of literature to shape the imagination and scour the conscience." —*The Washington Post* From one of the world's greatest writers, the story of how the author found his voice as a novelist at Makerere University in Uganda Birth of a Dream Weaver charts the very beginnings of a writer's creative output. In this wonderful memoir, Kenyan writer Ngugi wa Thiong'o recounts the four years he spent at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda—threshold years during which he found his voice as a journalist, short story writer, playwright, and novelist just as colonial empires were crumbling and new nations were being born—under the shadow of the rivalries, intrigues, and assassinations of the Cold War. Haunted by the memories of the carnage and mass incarceration

carried out by the British colonial-settler state in his native Kenya but inspired by the titanic struggle against it, Ngũgĩ, then known as James Ngugi, begins to weave stories from the fibers of memory, history, and a shockingly vibrant and turbulent present. What unfolds in this moving and thought-provoking memoir is simultaneously the birth of one of the most important living writers—lauded for his “epic imagination” (Los Angeles Times)—the death of one of the most violent episodes in global history, and the emergence of new histories and nations with uncertain futures.

Devil on the Cross Ngugi wa Thiong'o 1987 This remarkable and symbolic novel centers on Wariinga's tragedy and uses it to tell a story of contemporary Kenya.

I Will Marry when I Want Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o 1982 This is the renowned play that was developed with Kikuyu villagers at the Kamiriithu Cultural Centre at Limuru.

East Africa Robert M. Maxon 2009 "[The author] revisits the diverse eastern region of Africa, including the modern nations of Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda."--

A Grain of Wheat Ngugi wa Thiong'o 1986 In this ambitious and densely worked novel, we begin to see early signs of Ngugi's increasing bitterness

about the ways in which the politicians are the true benefactors of the rewards of independence.

Migritude Shailja Patel 2010 The U.S. debut of internationally acclaimed poet and performance artist Shailja Patel, *Migritude* is a tour-de-force hybrid text that confounds categories and conventions. Part poetic memoir, part political history, *Migritude* weaves together family history, reportage and monologues to create an achingly beautiful portrait of women's lives and migrant journeys undertaken under the boot print of Empire. Patel, who was born in Kenya and educated in England and the U.S., honed her poetic skills in performances of this work that have received standing ovations throughout Europe, Africa and North America. She has been described by the *Gulf Times* as "the poetic equivalent of Arundhati Roy" and by CNN as "the face of globalization as a people-centered phenomenon of migration and exchange." *Migritude* includes interviews with the author, as well as performance notes and essays.

Decolonising the mind Ngugi wa Thiong'o 1992

Xala Ousmane Sembène 1997-08-01 A biting satire about the downfall of a businessman-polygamist who assumes the role of the colonialist in French-speaking Africa.

The Upright Revolution Ngugi wa Thiong'o 2019-07-

15 Science has given us several explanations for how humans evolved from walking on four limbs to two feet. None, however, is as riveting as what master storyteller Ngugi wa Thiong'o offers in *The Upright Revolution*. Blending myth and folklore with an acute insight into the human psyche and politics, Wa Thiong'o conjures up a fantastic fable about how and why humans began to walk upright. It is a story that will appeal to children and adults alike, containing a clear and important message: "Life is connected." Originally written in Gikuyu, this short story has been translated into sixty-three languages--forty-seven of them African--making it the most translated story in the history of African literature. This new collector's edition of *The Upright Revolution* is richly illustrated in full color with Sunandini Banerjee's marvellous digital collages, which open up new vistas of imagination and add unique dimensions to the story.

A Grain of Wheat Ngugi wa Thiong'o 2008-01-01 A bestselling title in Heinemann's long-established 'African Writers Series', this novel is now being published with a new introduction as part of the new series 'African Writers Series Classics'.

A Handful of Rice Kamala Markandaya 1966
"Kamala Markandaya, whose *Nectar in a Sieve* (1955) was a miniature epic about India's poor,

returns to the earlier concerns of that book in *A Handful of Rice*. Ravi is a village son who has left his desolate, destitute home for the promise of the city. There he falls into the company of similarly rootless young men, presided over by the wily city boy, Damodar, who appears fitfully through the book as a seducer to criminal and get-rich-quick schemes which Damodar is clever enough to survive and thrive by. By a chance misdeed, Ravi becomes acquainted with the tailor Apu and his family; Apu's daughter Nalini wins his heart and brings him from the streets into the already crowded household, first as Apu's apprentice, then his son-in-law. The author recreates the life of the respectable poor with moving fidelity as they face the problems of food, illness, unemployment. When Apu dies, the still rebellious but worn Ravi, now a father of three and head of the household, cannot keep his customers. After the death of his son, he reverts to the street, but Damodar now discards him as unfit for dangerous enterprises, and he ends storming the rice supplies with the mob. A portrait in poverty, which is part of the history of our times. It is less compelling than the earlier book as a novel while managing the same concerned compassion."--Kirkus

Postcolonialism in the Wake of the Nairobi Revolution A. Amoko 2010-10-25 This work

examines both the emergence of African literature and its institutionalization within nationalist African academies. Amoko analyzes the relationship between such institutions of literature and the processes of nationalist legitimization and between colonial and postcolonial school cultures and national cultures.

The Trial of Dedan Kimathi Ngugi wa Thiong'o 2013-10-11 Kenyan-born novelist and playwright Ngugi wa Thiong'o and his collaborator, Micere Githae Mugo, have built a powerful and challenging play out of the circumstances surrounding the 1956 trial of Dedan Kimathi, the celebrated Kenyan hero who led the Mau Mau rebellion against the British colonial regime in Kenya and was eventually hanged. A highly controversial character, Kimathi's life has been subject to intense propaganda by both the British government, who saw him as a vicious terrorist, and Kenyan nationalists, who viewed him as a man of great courage and commitment. Writing in the 1970s, the playwrights' response to colonialist writings about the Mau Mau movement in *The Trial of Dedan Kimathi* is to sing the praises of the deeds of this hero of the resistance who refused to surrender to British imperialism. It is not a reproduction of the farcical "trial" at Nyeri. Rather, according to the preface, it is "an imaginative

recreation and interpretation of the collective will of the Kenyan peasants and workers in their refusal to break under sixty years of colonial torture and ruthless oppression by the British ruling classes and their continued determination to resist exploitation, oppression and new forms of enslavement.”