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Africana Reference Works: An Annotated List of 2000 Titles

Jill Young Coelho

Published Online: 2007-12-10 | **DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1515/ABPR.2001.171>

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Reference sources

Africana Reference Works: An Annotated List of 2000 Titles

by Phyllis B. Bischof (University of California, Berkeley),
Simon Bockie (University of California, Berkeley),
Jill Young Coelho (Harvard University), Robert Lesh
(Northwestern University), Peter Malanchuk (University of
Florida), Mette Shayne (Northwestern University), and
David Westley (Boston University)

Edited by **Jill Young Coelho**

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The present publication continues the annual lists published since 1986 in *The African Book Publishing Record*. It is generally limited to titles in European languages, published since 1998. We include significant titles before 1998, however, when they recently have come to our notice. Most of the titles were examined by the compilers, but when they were not, the source for citations, e.g. the Library of Congress online catalog, are noted. Excluded are basic annuals, such as *Africa South of the Sahara*. New editions are listed selectively, but usually not annotated unless significantly different from the previous edition.

A number of the sources in this list exist in both print and online versions. We have provided citations to both versions whenever possible, as well as both postal and electronic contact information for many smaller or non-commercial publishers. This information is directed especially to researchers and librarians in areas where the services of book dealers may not be readily available.

Online resources

Excellent sources of information are available online. The following broad Africana sites are well arranged and annotated, and are kept up-to-date.

- *The Electronic African Bookworm*
<<http://www.hanszell.co.uk/navtitle.htm>> by Hans Zell.
This guide also exists in print form (see entry under PUBLISHING AND BOOK TRADE).
- *Africa South of the Sahara: Selected Internet Resources*
<<http://www-sul.stanford.edu/depts/ssrg/africa/guide.html>>
by Karen Fung at Stanford University.
- *African Studies Internet Resources*
<<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/web/indiv/africa/cuvl/>>
by Joseph Canuso at Columbia University.

The online catalogs of some libraries with strong Africana collections are:

- United States Library of Congress:
<<http://catalog.loc.gov/>>
- Northwestern University:
<<http://nucatl.library.northwestern.edu/>>
- University of Florida: <<http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/>>
- New York Public Library: <<http://catnyp.nypl.org/>>
- School of Oriental and African Studies:
<<http://lib.soas.ac.uk/>>

Print resources

An excellent bibliographic overview is Alfred Kagan and Yvette Scheven's *Reference Guide to Africa: A Bibliography of Sources* (Lanham, MD & London: Scarecrow Press, 1999). This was preceded by *Africa: A Guide to Reference Material* by John McIlwaine (London: Hans Zell Publishers, 1993). Both are richly rewarding guides to the literature of non-bibliographic reference works.

For earlier bibliographies, see Yvette Scheven's *Bibliographies for African Studies 1987-1993* (London: Hans Zell Publishers, 1994) and her *Bibliographies for African Studies, 1970-1986* (Oxford: Hans Zell Publishers, 1988). The former has incorporated bibliographic entries from ABPR lists through the year 1993. For general reference works, consult Robert Balay, *Guide to Reference Works* 11th ed. (1996), and its updates in *College & Research Libraries*, as well as A.J. Walford, *Guide to Reference Material* (6th ed., 3 vols., 1993-1995).

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