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Main content

Article Preview :

A Continent for the Taking: The Tragedy and Hope of Africa by Howard W. French. Alfred A. Knopf (http://www.randomhouse.com/knopf/home.pperl), 1745 Broadway, New York, New York 10019, 2004, 304 pages, \$25.00 (hardcover); 2005, 280 pages, \$15.00 (trade paperback).

A Continent for the Taking gives insight into the instability and corruption that have held Africa back from proper governance and sustainable development since the era of independence. The author, Howard W. French, argues not only that instability is the result of poor African leaders but also that despite the United States' intermittent involvement on the continent, it has never had a sound Africa policy. French contends that although Washington isn't culpable for most of Africa's problems, "it would be dishonest to pretend there is no link between what has perhaps been the least accountable and least democratically run compartment of America's foreign policy-- African affairs--and the undemocratic fortunes of the continent" (p. 107). Catchphrases such as "Trade, Not Aid" and "African Solutions for African Problems" were used during the 1990s to mollify critics--both domestic and foreign--of America's strategy (or lack thereof). The author sets out to show how these glossy slogans were a thin veil for...

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In A Continent for the Taking Howard W. French, a veteran correspondent for "The "New York Times, gives a compelling firsthand account of some of Africa's most devastating recent history--from the fall of Mobutu Sese Seko, to Charles Taylor's arrival in Monrovia, to the genocide in Rwanda and the Congo that left millions dead. Blending eyewitness reportage with rich historical insight, French" searches deeply into the causes of today's events, illuminating the debilitating legacy of colonization and the abiding hypocrisy and inhumanity of both Western and African p... Mariam soon became my first African girlfriend, and we saw each other steadily for the next

few weeks. A Continent for the Taking book. Read 68 reviews from the world's largest community for readers. In A Continent for the Taking Howard W. French, a vetera... While he captures the tragedies that have repeatedly befallen Africa's peoples, French also opens our eyes to the immense possibility that lies in Africa's complexity, diversity, and myriad cultural strengths. The culmination of twenty-five years of passionate exploration and understanding, this is a powerful and ultimately hopeful book about a fascinating and misunderstood continent. ...more. Get A Copy. Amazon. Topics. Africa, Sub-Saharan -- Description and travel., Africa, Sub-Saharan -- Social conditions -- 1960-, Africa, Sub-Saharan -- Politics and government -- 1960-, United States -- Foreign relations -- Africa, Sub-Saharan., Africa, Sub-Saharan -- Foreign relations -- United States. Publisher. New York : Alfred A. Knopf : Distributed by Random House. The author, along with Gayle Smith former senior director for African Affairs at the National Security Council, answered questions from members of the audience after the discussion. Howard French talked about his new book, A Continent for the Taking: The Tragedy and Hope of Africa , published by Alfred A. Knopf. Mr.... read more. Howard French talked about his new book, A Continent for the Taking: The Tragedy and Hope of Africa , published by Alfred A. Knopf. Mr. French detailed the Ebola and AIDS epidemics plaguing several parts of the region. The journalist expressed his frustration over the lack of media coverage concerning these outbreaks and the constant dismissal of Africa as an important area with serious socio-political problems. Read A Continent for the Taking by Howard W. French for free with a 30 day free trial. Read unlimited* books and audiobooks on the web, iPad, iPhone and Android. While he captures the tragedies that have repeatedly befallen Africa's peoples, French also opens our eyes to the immense possibility that lies in Africa's complexity, diversity, and myriad cultural strengths. The culmination of twenty-five years of passionate exploration and understanding, this is a powerful and ultimately hopeful book about a fascinating and misunderstood continent. Read More. Publisher