

PROFESSOR JOHN ILIFFE (G52-57)

He was born on 1 May 1939.

After captaining the College cricket side in 1957, he went on to have a distinguished academic career and publish a number of books.

He was appointed Professor of African History at St John's College, Cambridge in 1990.

He has written about the whole of African history but his main research has been in East and Central African history during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. His most recent work has been in medical history. He lectures on the history of Africa from 1800 to the present day.

His books are :-

A modern history of Tanganyika (Cambridge, 1979)

This is the first comprehensive and fully documented history of modern Tanganyika (mainland Tanzania).

The African poor: a history (Cambridge, 1987)

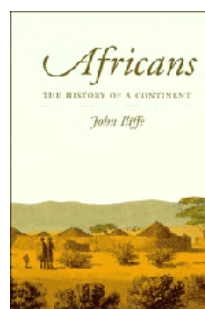
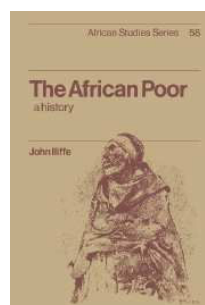
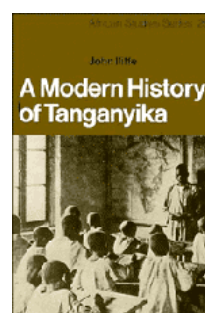
This first history of the poor of Sub-Saharan Africa begins in the monasteries of thirteenth-century Ethiopia and ends in the South African resettlement sites of the 1980s. Its thesis, derived from histories of poverty in Europe, is that most very poor Africans have been individuals incapacitated for labour, bereft of support, and unable to fend for themselves in a land-rich economy. Only recently has there emerged the new poverty of those excluded from access to productive resources.

Africans: the history of a continent (Cambridge, 1995)

This is a history of Africa from the origins of mankind right up to the South African general election of 1994. Africans have been pioneers struggling against disease and nature in an overwhelmingly hostile environment, and their social, economic and political institutions have been designed to ensure survival and maximise numbers.

East African doctors: a history of the modern profession (Cambridge, 1998)

This is the first history of the African medical profession in Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania from the earliest training of modern medical staff in the 1870s to the present day. Based on extensive research, and dealing exclusively with African doctors, it offers a new understanding of professionalisation in the Third World.



Honour in African History (Cambridge, 2005)

This is the first published account of the role played by ideas of honour in African history from the fourteenth century to the present day. It argues that appreciation of these ideas is essential to an understanding of past and present African behaviour.

