

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My thanks are due, first and foremost, to the people of Oledai and Agolitom who contributed their time, energy and thinking to this study. Few villages in my home county of Shropshire would have put up with as much from an African researcher as the people of Oledai and Agolitom endured from me. I owe them an enormous debt of gratitude.

In Teso my thanks must also be extended to the staff at Vision Terudo in Ngora, a local charitable organisation that provided me with a room to work and a place to stay. In particular I would like to thank Churchill Ongole and Florence Among for their support, advice and patience during my stay in the area, and Ongit John, Isaiah Oonyu, Cuthbert Malinga and Aogon Sam for their friendship and conversation. In Kampala I would like to thank Harriet Acham and Nathan Ogwang for their hospitality and friendship, for being my Teso family. I would also like to thank my family back in Shropshire for their support and generosity. To my mother, to my brothers Robert, Matthew, Nick and Michael, to Muriel and to my late grandmother, Mary, my deepest thanks. The book is dedicated to the memory of my father.

At the London School of Economics I would like to thank the staff of the Development Studies Institute. My supervisor Liz Francis was immensely supportive of the work that led to the publication of this book. I would like to also thank my colleagues Jo Beall and James Putzel for making my stay at the Development Studies Institute a happy and productive one. Dru Daley, Sue Redgrave and Steph Davies provided much needed friendship and advice along the way. Friendship and creativity also came from my fellow musicians Paul Williams, David Ainsworth, Louisa Carney, Sean Joyce, Ruth Corbridge, Marc Verlet and James Freed. Rachel Wrangham, Thi Minh Ngo and Elliott Green provided help at critical moments in writing the book, and their input is reflected in the final text, as are the thoughtful comments of Carol Summers and Anders Sjögren. I would also like to thank my thesis examiners Paul Gifford and David Maxwell for their guidance and advice.

I would like to thank Bernard Phelan of the Mill Hill Society for Overseas Missions, particularly in advance of my first visit to the Teso region. My stay in Uganda was brightened by the presence of Father Declan O'Toole, also a Mill Hill Father, who was sadly killed by soldiers serving in the Ugandan army in March 2002. This book is informed by the memory of

Father O'Toole, and of Edotun Jackson, a young man from the sub-parish of Oledai, who was killed in August of that year.

After my stay in Teso, I was fortunate to find a haven among the research community at Roskilde University in Denmark. I would like to express my deep thanks to Edwin Rap, Wolf Dressler, Steffen Jensen, Catrine Christiansen, David Kibikyo, Birthe Bruun, Mette Gerding, Amanda Hammar, Inge Jensen, Karen Lauterbach, Holger Bernt Hansen, Roger Leys, Niels Kastfelt and Fiona Wilson. The writing seminar at the Department of International Development Studies in Roskilde was particularly helpful and I owe a great debt to the community of Africanists in Denmark. The thesis on which this book is based was revised while undertaking a postdoctoral fellowship with the Research Council for the Social Sciences in Denmark. The fellowship also allowed me to spend time at the University of Nigeria at Nsukka, a special place to stay and reflect on what I would like to say about another part of the African continent.

Writing up the book also involved a six-month stay in the Philippines, where I was given the warmest of welcomes by the School of Economics at the University of the Philippines, Diliman (a welcome that was all the more remarkable given my status as an Africanist with no presentable knowledge of economics or of the Philippines). I must extend my sincerest thanks to Emmanuel Jimenez and Odie Grajo Santos for their support in Diliman, and to James Putzel at the London School of Economics for making my stay there possible. I would like to thank the SAGA project of Cornell and Clark Atlanta Universities for the grant that made the stay of Dr Chia-Hsin Hu in the Teso region a possibility. I would also like to thank Chia-Hsin, more personally, for her wisdom and support during the long journey towards completing the book.

This book is the product of a doctoral research grant from the Economic and Social Research Council. I would like to offer my sincere gratitude to the ESRC for the tremendous support and freedom they extend to their research students. Additional support came from the LSE Research Studentship fund, the LSE Postgraduate Travel Fund and the International Development Studies department at Roskilde University. I would also like to thank the Uganda National Council of Science and Technology for making my research stay in Teso as straightforward and trouble-free as possible. The PhD thesis on which the book was based was awarded the William Robson Memorial Prize and I would like to acknowledge the support of the prize in helping towards the costs of publication.

This book is published as part of the International African Library series. I would like to express my gratitude to Robert Molteno, Stephanie Kitchen, J. D. Y. Peel and Mike Kirkwood for helping me bring the manuscript to completion. As part of the process I have also had the privilege of working with Suzette Heald, a noted Uganda scholar, and the editor responsible for

East Africa in the series. Suzette's ideas and thinking are reflected in the final text, as are the very generous comments of two anonymous reviewers.

I must divide my final thanks two ways. First, to the support of my main thesis supervisors Christian Lund and Teddy Brett. Second, to the advice and friendship of Akello Suzan, Enou Andrew Ben, Osakan Chris and Aguti Stella, my research colleagues in Teso.