

Contents

Introduction	9
Bibliography	13
Note on the Transliteration of Swahili and Arabic Words.	18
Part 1: The Tanganyika Coast as Part of Azania	
Chapter I The Times of Ignorance	21
Chapter II Zanj or Seng-Chih	31
Part 2: The Polity of Kilwa	
Chapter I The Documents	45
Chapter II The Chronology of the Sultāns of Kilwa Kisiwani	60
Chapter III The Settlement of Kilwa: 957–1131	74
Chapter IV The Rise to Prosperity and its Aftermath: 1131–1333	88
Chapter V The Times of al-Ḥasan and Dā'ūd ibn Sulaimān: 1310–1356	99
Chapter VI The Shadows of Decline: 1356–1442	111
Chapter VII The Later 15th Century: 1442–1498	126
Chapter VIII The State of Kilwa: its Dominions and Political Organisation	143
Chapter IX Other Historical Sites of the Tanganyika Coast	156
Chapter X Coinage before the Coming of the Portuguese	176
Chapter XI Daily Life and Commerce.	192
Chapter XII Summary and Conclusions	207
Appendix	
I The Traditional History of Kua	211
II A Portuguese Description of Kilwa in 1505	216
Tables	
Recorded Finds of Coins in East Africa	
I Kilwa (including coins classified as either Kilwa or Mafia)	220
II The Mafia Islands.	221
III Zanzibar	222
IV Pemba	223
V Kenya	223
VI Summary of Totals by Area	223
Index	225

Plates

1. The Sultān's Palace, Kilwa, from the north side.
2. Mihrāb of the Friday Mosque, Kilwa.
3. Detail of the interior of the east wall of the northern section of the Friday Mosque, Kilwa, looking south.
4. Detail of the arches in the Friday Mosque, Kilwa, looking west.
5. Detail of an arch and a partly filled doorway in the Palace, Songo Mnara.
6. Detail of a portion of the upper part of the mihrāb, Ndumi, showing (lower right) a roundel bearing an incised cross.

Genealogical tables

- I Genealogy of the Sultāns of Kilwa Kisiwani: The Royal House
- II Genealogy of the House of the Amīrs

Maps

- I The East African Coast, showing the principal places mentioned in the text
- II Historical Sites of the Tanganyika Coast
- III Sites of Coin Finds of the Sultāns of Kilwa and Others