

cohesive narrative. Most chapters share overlapping themes, except Chapter Three, which investigates Ethel Miller's anti-Muslim campaign and activism on behalf of Muslim women. This chapter seems a bit out of place considering that Shankar focuses on the relationship between Hausa-speaking Christians and their Muslim neighbors in the book. Despite being disjointed, the narrative effectively showcases multiple dimensions of Christianity in Northern Nigeria.

Shankar successfully brings to light the "forgotten" history of Christianity in Northern Nigeria and unravels the traditional historical narratives that give credit to the policies of the colonial administration for the current state of the region. Her engaging biographical vignettes reveal a complex world of religious interactions that defined the development of both Christianity and Islam in the region. At a modest 209 pages, Shankar's timely book offers a fresh perspective on the nature of conversion and what it entails, as well as Christian-Muslim relations in Northern Nigeria. *Who Shall Enter Paradise? Christian Origins in Muslim Northern Nigeria, ca. 1890-1975* is an impressive addition to an already vast literature about Christianity in Africa.

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Mary-Alice Waters. 2013. *Cuba and Angola: Fighting for Africa's Freedom and Our Own*. Atlanta, GA: Pathfinder Press. 144 pp.

Cuba and Angola: Fighting for Africa's Freedom and Our Own is an excellent read for both the academic and layperson. Mary-Alice Waters' socialist passion is truly felt in these accounts of Cuba's campaign to defend the country of Angola against Zaire (now known as the Democratic Republic of Congo), South Africa, and their benefactors circa 1975 until 1991. The multiple sections of this book contain excerpts from key decision makers such as Fidel Castro, Raul Castro, and Nelson Mandela; as well as accounts from generals of the Cuba's Revolutionary Armed Forces, the Cuban Five, and Gabriel Garcia Marquez. It details how former President Fidel Castro used centralized command and decentralized execution to devastate some of the best militaries on the African continent during the struggle known as "Operation Carlota." "The mission was named Operation Carlota, after a slave woman from the Triunvirato sugar mill near Matanzas, Cuba, known as 'Black Carlota'. Armed with a machete, she led a slave rebellion in 1843 that extended to a number of plantations in the province. She was captured and drawn and quartered by the Spanish colonial troops" (p. 17). The name of this operation captured the spirit that the Cuban people wished to exhibit in every aspect of this conflict. It also revealed how Castro used motivated Cuban nationalists known as Internationalists to build relationships with the African people creating a movement utilizing the basic principles of the Sun Tzu's *Art of War* to defeat their adversaries on the African continent from November 1975 until May 1991.

This book seems to suggest that the Internationalist cadre helped the Cuban people gain a better understanding of the pulse of the Angolan people. Waters states that, "[a]n additional 50,000 internationalist volunteers carried out various civilian responsibilities" (p. 15). The dynamic group of volunteers integrated into the various aspect of Angola life to understand

and assist them throughout their initial development. This relationship was symbiotic and benefitted not only Angolans, but also the Cubans through the fulfillment of a sense of assisting a brother country against a racist imperialist power. This sense seemed to validate the character of the Cuban people. However, a heart and mind campaign was only part of Cuba's plan. One of the true skill-sets of Castro, according to the book, was his skill as a strategist.

Castro directly supervised and utilized his understanding of the basic principles of the *Art of War* to defeat his adversaries. Numerous accounts in this book posit that Castro was intimately involved in every aspect of the battles that occurred in Angola, like the battle was being fought in Cuba. History paints former President Castro as a strategist, and this book seems to emphasize that a fundamental aspect of his strategies consist of understanding and effectively utilizing Sun Tzu's military treatise. The premise of one of Sun Tzu's principles was that if one knows themselves and their opponent, then one was better suited to defeat the enemy.¹ This principle was displayed through Cuba's deployment of internationalists as well as military forces, thereby gaining a better understanding of the actors fighting in this conflict. Another principle that Castro demonstrated from the *Art of War* was one of the five factors from which victory is known: "[o]ne who recognizes how to employ large and small numbers will be victorious."² This was evident in the different approaches that Fidel had from that of the Soviets in the employment of the Angolan forces.⁸ Therefore, this book lays out in plain English how Castro reinvigorated the motivation of the Cuban people to encourage internationalists to build relationships with the African people, as well as how he utilized his skills as a strategist to defeat numerical superior militaries on the African continent.

In conclusion, this book captures the passion of Mary-Alice's writing on Cuba's assistance of Angola against several strong militaries on the African continent in what is known as "Operation Carlota." It reveals how Castro used over 50,000 motivated internationalist in civilian and military roles to perform a heart and mind campaign. It also divulges how Castro directly worked battles using the basic principles of the "Art of War" to defeat the adversaries.

Notes

1. Ralph D. Sawyer (trans.) and Mei-chun L. Sawyer. 1996. *The Complete Art of War: Sun Tzu/Sun Pin* (Boulder, CO: Westview Press): 32.
2. *Ibid.*, p. 52.

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Michael J. Willis. 2014. *Politics and Power in the Maghreb: Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco from Independence to the Arab Spring*. New York: Oxford University Press. 410 pp.

In this medium-sized compendium, Willis explains the political complexion and dynamics of the three states of the central Maghreb by examining the roles played by various actors such as the military, political parties, and Islamic movements. Each of the nine chapters presents a logical and coherent sequence of historical developments that describe the continuities and