

Abstract:

The book provides information on environmental hostility and East African reactions to it. It focuses on the environmental hardships experienced by various sections of Kenyan society including the Boni hunter-gatherers, nomads, women, elders, Nairobi workers and the unemployed garbage collectors in the city. The ten chapters provide information for both an overview of the situation and case studies, covering: human needs and environmental over-exploitation; famines in East Africa, timetable for a catastrophe; economics of garbage collection, a survival strategy for Nairobi's urban poor; Kokwo, change and challenges of an indigenous political institution; development theories and the future of Kenya nomads; the forest people, Boni hunter-gatherers; managing a difficult environment, small-scale vegetable irrigation scheme at the lakeshore; Pokot women's struggle for water; Mutomo, a market in the periphery; and Nairobi, a city under siege.