THE GROWTH AND FUNCTIONS OF SMALL URBAN CENTRES IN ZAMBIA: A CASE STUDY OF MAZABUKA AND KALOMO

by

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A thesis submitted to the University of Zambia in fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Geography

THE UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA
LUSAKA

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DECLARATION

I, Wilma Sithabiso Sichombo Nchito, declare that this thesis is a representation of my work. It has not previously been submitted for a degree, diploma or other qualification at this or any other University. All published work or material from other sources incorporated in this thesis have been specifically acknowledged and adequate reference thereby given.

Signature: ________________________________

Name : ________________________________

Date : ________________________________
ABSTRACT
This study is an analysis of Mazabuka and Kalomo, two small towns in Zambia. The study presents a historical baseline study in order to outline the growth of the towns. These small urban centres have experienced growth from the time they were created and it is the nature and quality of this growth that needs to be understood. The functional aspects of the towns are examined by considering the expansion of the most prominent economic sector which is the retail sector from the time they were established to the time of the study. The role of Mazabuka and Kalomo in terms of rural-urban linkages is also presented in the study with the transport sector and movement of shoppers. The study examines the growth or lack of it in terms of existing policies in the country. A survey was carried out in the two towns and data was collected using interview schedules to obtain information from shoppers, central business district entities, seasonal workers and transporters found in the two towns. Structured interviews were held with council officials and other key informants in both towns. The findings from the study show that the urban growth has been in phases and has inadvertently been affected by government policies. The study findings also show that the rural population still depends on the nearest small town and distance is not a deterrent as there are few alternatives in the rural areas. This indicates that small urban areas are important for rural development. Government policies such as decentralization should focus on small town development in order to develop rural areas. The presence of large private sector activities will increase the rate of growth and the initial investment is needed to drive small town growth. This study found that liberalization of the economy led to an initial downturn in retail activities but this was overturned after a period. As a result Mazabuka and Kalomo have both experienced gradual but increased investments in the retail sector. This investment can be in the agricultural or retail sectors as the study findings revealed in the case of Mazabuka. In Kalomo, where the level of capital investment has historically been low, the growth has been slower. This is an indication that there are differences in functional complexities and capacities which will need to be taken into consideration during the process of decentralization. The increasing importance of small individually owned retail outlets in small towns was also studied and noted as was the importance of the private sector in transportation. On the whole, the study presents unprecedented geographical and historical baseline aspects of urbanization in Zambia. In analysing the evolution of Mazabuka and Kalomo, the study outlines the process of colonial urban development and explains the impact on this historical context on current developments. In conclusion, the study found that these small towns have grown at different rates due to differences in existing infrastructure and different responses to economic policies. It also found that, small towns such as Mazabuka and Kalomo act as central places offering higher order goods to their hinterland. In this case the consumers came from a radius beyond what would be expected in the Central Place Theory but this is due to the lack of secondary settlements. Despite small towns not being able to provide adequate services, the study findings show that they still present a level of urban concentration which is able to generate economic growth and employment.
DEDICATION

TO Mutembo, the love of my life, for the constant encouragement.

Twapelwa, Mutenda, Langila and Buseko, my precious children, for sacrificing the
time I should have spent with you but spent working on this thesis.

and

Denis and Leah Sichombo, dad and mom, for having had unwavering faith in what I
could achieve in life and for teaching me to put God first in all that I do.
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May God Bless you all!
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<td>ADC</td>
<td>Area Development Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMDC</td>
<td>African Management Development Centre</td>
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<td>AMT</td>
<td>Action for Market Towns</td>
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<td>ASIP</td>
<td>Agricultural Sector Investment Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASL</td>
<td>Above Sea Level</td>
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<td>ATM</td>
<td>Automated Teller Machine</td>
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<td>CBD</td>
<td>Central Business District</td>
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<td>Council Chairman</td>
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<td>CDE</td>
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<td>Civil Society for Poverty Reduction</td>
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<td>Community Transport Infrastructure</td>
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<td>DISS</td>
<td>Department of Infrastructure and Support Services</td>
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<td>DSA</td>
<td>District Situational Analysis</td>
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<td>ECZ</td>
<td>Electoral Commission of Zambia</td>
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<td>GRZ</td>
<td>Government of the Republic of Zambia</td>
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<td>ID</td>
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<tr>
<td>IDP</td>
<td>Integrated Development Programme</td>
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<td>IDZ</td>
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<tr>
<td>IFI</td>
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<td>IFPRI</td>
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<td>IIED</td>
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<td>ILO</td>
<td>International Labour Organization</td>
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<td>IMF</td>
<td>International Monetary Fund</td>
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<td>IMT</td>
<td>Intermediate Means of Transport</td>
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<td>INDECO</td>
<td>Industrial Development Corporation</td>
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<td>IRDP</td>
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<tr>
<td>JICA</td>
<td>Japan International Cooperation Agency</td>
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<td>KDC</td>
<td>Kalomo District Council</td>
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<td>KDSA</td>
<td>Kalomo District: Situational Analysis</td>
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<td>LED</td>
<td>Local Economic Development</td>
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<td>MATS</td>
<td>Mukwela Assisted Tenants Scheme</td>
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<tr>
<td>MCDSS</td>
<td>Ministry of Community Development Social Services</td>
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MDSA  Mazabuka District Situational Analysis
MIDP  Mazabuka Integrated Development Plan
MLGH  Ministry of Local Government and Housing
MMB  Mazabuka Management Board
MMC  Mazabuka Municipal Council
MMD  Movement for Multi-Party Democracy
MOE  Ministry of Education
MOF  Ministry of Finance
MOH  Ministry of Health
MTENR  Ministry of Tourism Environment and Natural Resources
NAZ  National Archives of Zambia
NDP  National Development Plan
NERP  New Economic Recovery Plan
NGO  Non Governmental Organization
NIEC  National Import and Export Corporation
NPF  National Pension Fund
NRB  National Roads Board
NRC  National Research Council
NRFA  National Road Fund Agency
NRIDC  Northern Rhodesia Industrial Development Corporation
OECD  Organisation for Economic Corporation and Development
OSP  Outgrower Support Programme
PF  Patriotic Front
PRSP  Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers
PSC  Public Service Commission
RDA  Road Development Agency
RDC  Resident Development Committee
RSA  Republic of South Africa
RSZ  Railway Systems of Zambia
ROADSIP  Road Sector Investment Programme
RTSA  Road Transport and Safety Agency
SAG  Sector Advisory Group
SAP  Structural Adjustment Program
SCP  Sustainable Cities Programme
SDA  Seventh Day Adventist
SDR  Special Drawing Rights
SEI  Stockholm Environment Institute
SIAS  Scandinavian Institute of African Studies
SNDP  Second National Development Plan
SPCMU  Southern Province Co-operative and Marketing Union
SPSS  Statistical Package for Social Sciences
SRP  Social Recovery Project
TBZ  Tobacco Board of Zambia
TC  Town Clerk
TDAU  Technical Development Advisory Unit
TNDP  Third National Development Plan
UDI  Unilateral Declaration of Independence
UFRD  Urban Functions in Rural Development
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
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<tr>
<td>UMCA</td>
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<td>UNCHS</td>
<td>United Nations Centre for Human Settlements</td>
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<td>UNFPA</td>
<td>United Nations Population Fund</td>
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<td>UNIP</td>
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<td>United Party for National Development</td>
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<td>WINLA</td>
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<td>ZCBC</td>
<td>Zambia Consumers and Buyers Corporation</td>
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<td>Zambia Dairy Produce Board</td>
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<td>Zambia Institute of Animal Health</td>
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<td>ZIMCO</td>
<td>Zambia Industrial and Mining Corporation</td>
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<td>ZISC</td>
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