

**POVERTY IN THE MIDST OF ABUNDANCE: THE CASE OF FISHERMEN OF
SAMFYA DISTRICT, 1935-1970**

BY

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the Requirements of the Degree of Master of Arts in History**

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DECLARATION

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ABSTRACT

Fishing was one of the oldest and lifelong human activities which did not only attract high population densities, but was also used, in certain areas, as an alternative source of income and food security. Fish contributed to the development of trade between the riverine communities, which caught fish and agricultural communities which grew crops. This study appreciated the strategic importance of the Bangweulu Fishery and its contribution to the economy of Samfya District from 1935 to 1970.

The study analysed the lifestyle of the fishermen and how their dependence on fishing as the only source of livelihood led to overexploitation of the Bangweulu fishery. The study further looked at how some primary and secondary colonial and post colonial fishing regulations affected the fishermen and their industry in Samfya District. The study noted how increased fishing activities in the Bangweulu fishery drastically reduced fish catches per fisherman, and how consequently, the dependence on fishing alone made it difficult for most fishermen to make a meaningful living.

DEDICATION

To my mother, Elina Musabula, my wife, Vestina Chilonge and my children, Katuka, Silvester, Maria and Joshua for their patience, support and sacrifice throughout my studies.

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ABBREVIATIONS

AAAR	African Affairs Annual Review
AFMU	African Fishers Marketers Union.
BETUZ	Basic Education Teachers' Union of Zambia
BWTS	Bangweulu Water Transport Service
CSO	Central Statistical Office
D.C	District Commissioner
DoF	Department of Fisheries
FNDP	First National Development Plan
GN	Government Notice
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries.
NAZ	National Archives of Zambia
NER	North Eastern Rhodesia
NISTCOL	National In-Service Teachers' College
NWR	North Western Rhodesia
PPP	Purchasing Power Parity
SI	Statutory Instrument

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