

GENDER AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN ZAMBIA, 1890-1990

BY

DOROTHY MWANSA

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DECLARATION

I, **Dorothy Mwansa**, declare that this thesis:

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ABSTRACT

This study investigates the extent to which both sexes participated in Zambia's agricultural development from 1890-1990. Utilising primary and secondary sources of information and analysing data qualitatively, the study examines gender roles in agriculture in the colonial and post-colonial periods. It is argued that prior to the advent of colonialism, gender roles in agriculture among the country's ethnic groups were well defined and that the prosperity of the African husbandman depended on this sexual division of labour in farming. The study also examines the impact of colonialism on these gender roles in farming. It is argued that within a few years of the British South Africa's Company occupation of the territory in 1890, certain policies were formulated by the company. The study demonstrates that because of these policies, a radical change in the sexual division of labour was stimulated. It is argued that even under the rule of the Colonial Office, policies that negatively impacted on gender roles in farming were formulated. Females were not perceived as farmers and ultimately female headed households were not included in the African agricultural schemes established in the territory in the post-Second World War period.

The study also examines the efforts made by the Government of the Republic of Zambia to address gender imbalances in the agricultural sector. It is demonstrated that legacies from the colonial period were perpetuated in the post-colonial period and male farmers continued receiving more favours from the state than females. It is argued, in the study that agricultural education, extension, research and donor funded projects, for the most part favoured males as opposed to females. Although some successes were recorded in the way of bridging gender imbalances in the agricultural sector, they were minimal.

The study attempts to identify the bottlenecks that stood in the way of reducing gender imbalances in the agricultural sector. It is argued that among other bottlenecks, male-female relationships in which males were deemed a superior sex was a factor in reducing gender imbalances in the sector. Despite these constraints, some women responded positively to the opportunities that they were accorded to become part of the country's agricultural development through different institutions. These institutions included women's farming cooperatives and Women's Clubs. The

study demonstrates that in spite of the efforts made to narrow the gender gap in the country's agricultural sector, by 1990, the gender divide was still visible.

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DEDICATION

To my late father, Roy Victor Mwansa who was excited about his first born daughter aspiring to become a Doctor of Philosophy but unfortunately lost his bravely fought battle with cancer three months into my doctoral studies.

ABBREVIATIONS

AETP	Agricultural Extension Training Programme
AFC	Africa Finance Company
AFIF	African Farmers' Improvement Fund
ARPT	Adaptive Research Planning Team
CARO	Chief Agricultural Research Officer
CCS	Credit Cooperative Society
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
DANIDA	Danish International Development Agency
EPAD	Eastern Province Agricultural Development Programme
FINNIDA	Finnish International Development Agency
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organisation
FCSU	Food Conservation and Storage Unit
FNDP	First National Development Plan
FTC	Farmer Training Centre
GRZ	Government of the Republic of Zambia
GTZ	German Technical Cooperation Agency
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
IDZ	Intensive Development Zone
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IRDP	Intensive Rural Development Programme
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
LEGCO	Legislative Council
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
MAWD	Ministry of Agriculture and Water Development

MEF	Mindolo Ecumenical Foundation
MRD	Ministry of Rural Development
NAS	Needs Assessment Survey
NORAD	Norwegian Development Agency
NRDC	Natural Resources Development College
NRG	Northern Rhodesian Government
ODA	Overseas Development Agency
PAO	Provincial Agricultural Officer
PPP	Peoples' Participation Project
REIST	Rural Extension In-Service Training
RELO	Research-Extension Liaison Officer
RFF	Radio Farm Forum
RNLB	Rhodesian Native Labour Bureau
SADCC	Southern African Development Coordination Conference
SIDA	Swedish International Development Agency
SNDP	Second National Development Plan
SSRP	Small-Scale Services Rehabilitation Project
UNO	United Nations Organisation
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
UNZA	University of Zambia
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WAVT	Women's Appropriate Village Technology
WENELA	Witwatersrand Native Labour Association
WPRD	Women's Participation in Rural Development
ZARD	Zambia Association for Research and Development
ZCA	Zambia College of Agriculture

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