it reveals the daily experience of ordinary people. Extraordinary because Katie Makanya’s devotion to her faith, family and work in extraordinary times is extraordinary.


Originally written in 1974 on the author’s release from prison as a report to various international organisations on the conditions in the Robben Island prison, it is now made publicly available. It gives an account of the conditions in the prison as well as Alexander’s own views of the people that ran the prison. A valuable first-hand report on the treatment and living conditions of political prisoners.


’n Lywige werk wat dikwels in fyn besonderhede ingaan en daarom dit des te waardevoller maak. Die onderhandelingsproses waardeur die interim-grondwet van Suid-Afrika tot stand gekom het, word deur skrywers wat óf deel van die proses was óf baie na daaraan gestaan het, bespreek. As van die politieke onderhandelaars eendag hulle dagboek van die onderhandelingsproses sal publiseer a la F.S. Malan se Konvensie Dagboek, sou dit voorwaar ’n interessante studie wees om die tegniese proses wat hier beskryf word, met die politieke proses in die gemoed en ervaring van die onderhandelaars te vergelyk.


A very timely and valuable addition to the biographical literature on the history of prominent Black leaders. Maqoma’s name is linked with the struggles on the Eastern frontier in the first half of the nineteenth century. Born in 1798 as the Right Hand Son of Nqika, king of the Rharabes, Maqoma strongly opposed his father’s ceding of the land between the Fish and Keiskamma rivers. He challenged the authority of the Cape government by returning to the Neutral Zone in 1822 from which he was forcibly expelled in 1829. On Nqika’s death Maqoma became regent for Sandile, who was still a minor. Maqoma played a central role in the Sixth and Seventh Frontier Wars. In 1857 Maqoma was condemned to twenty years imprisonment on Robben Island for receiving stolen goods. After his release in 1869 Maqoma tried to return to his original lands. He was arrested and banned to Robben Island for a second time where he died in 1873.

With the help of oral evidence and intensive field work Stapleton has succeeded in reconstructing a convincing history of Maqoma’s chequered career.


Tomaszewski is Professor of Political Science at Warsaw University and thus provides a more intimate view of the internal struggles in Eastern Europe at the end of the war as well as the influence of the Great Powers. He sheds new light on British policy in the area. He also deals with the internal struggles to establish socialist states in the area and the huge difficulties they had to face once in power in their