himself as a formidable economic power and public figure. He was founder of the coal industry, creator of the South African steel industry, a landowner and the proprietor of a notorious liquor distillery near Pretoria.

He is also the man who spun a web of influence around Paul Kruger and the man who helped persuade Boer leaders to abandon the struggle against Britain in 1902.


Dr. van der Merwe, doent in Afrikaans en Nederlands aan die Universiteit van Kaapstad, werp in hierdie vertaalde studie nuwe lig op die vraag watter politieke rol Afrikaanse skrywers gespeel het, veral in die bevaagtekening van apartheid. Vir dié doel ontleed hy Afrikanernasionalsme, die Afrikaanse patriargale samelewings en die Calvinisme. Hy dui aan hoe dat stereotipes ter ondersteuning van ‘n bepaalde tydsgewrig ontwikkel het om daarna bevraagteken en verwerp te word. ’n Belangrike werk vir Geskiedenisonderwysers wat ook die letterkunde onderrig.


The historian Kissinger has become one of the best known diplomats of the twentieth century and one of America’s most powerful and controversial Secretaries of State. This definitive biography examines Kissinger’s life and career, from his childhood in Germany to his present occupation as an international business consultant. Written by a journalist with typical journalistic flair, this is a very readable book.

History teachers should perhaps be reminded of the great lesson Kissinger the historian learned from Kissinger the diplomat. In his own words: “As a professor, I tended to think of history as run by impersonal forces. But when you see it in practice, you see the difference personalities make”.


Journalist Mallaby was one of the first to climb on the bandwagon of post-apartheid analyses of South Africa. As Africa correspondent of the ECONOMIST and a student of history, Mallaby is interested in this central question: will Africa’s most sophisticated economy become an East Asian-style powerhouse, or another African disappointment? Will the white South Africans, with their money and skills remain in the country? Will the black politicians prove equal to the challenge of building a new order?

This book could be skilfully used to stimulate the thoughts of senior pupils doing contemporary South African history.


Hierdie is eerder ‘n beskrywing van die leefwyse en kultuur van die Boesmans wat in die Kalahari woon, as wat dit ‘n historiese studie is. Bied ‘n nuttige kort oorsig oor die huidige posisies van die Boesmans in Namibië en Botswana en hoe hulle belange weinig aandag van die huidige regerings kry.