

Myth Of Iron Shaka In History

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over the decades we have heard a great deal about shaka the famous or infamous of zulu leaders it may come as a surprise therefore that we do not know when he was born nor what he looked like nor precisely when or why he was assassinated this book lays out the available evidence mainly hitherto under utilised zulu oral testimonies

since his assassination in 1828 king shaka zulu founder of the powerful zulu kingdom and leader of the army that nearly toppled british colonial rule in south africa has made his empire in popular imaginations throughout africa and the west shaka is today the hero of zulu nationalism the centerpiece of inkatha ideology a demon of apartheid the namesake of a south african theme park even the subject of a major tv film terrific majestyexplores the reasons for the potency of shaka s image examining the ways it has changed over time from colonial legend through africanist idealization to modern cultural icon this study suggests that tradition cannot be freely invented either by european observers who recorded it or by subsequent african ideologues there are particular historical limits and constraints that operate on the activities of invention and imagination and give the various images of shaka their power these insights are illustrated with subtlety and authority in a series of

highly original analyses terrific majesty is an exceptional work whose special contribution lies in the methodological lessons it delivers above all its sophisticated rehabilitation of colonial sources for the precolonial period through the demonstration that colonial texts were critically shaped by indigenous african discourse with its sensitivity to recent critical studies the book will also have a wider resonance in the fields of history anthropology cultural studies and post colonial literature

in this riveting new book john laband pre eminent historian of the zulu kingdom tackles some of the questions that swirl around the assassination in 1828 of king shaka the celebrated founder of the zulu kingdom and war leader of legendary brilliance why did prominent members of the royal house conspire to kill him just how significant a part did the white hunter traders settled at port natal play in their royal patron s downfall why were shaka s relations with the british cape colony key to his survival and why did the powerful army he had created acquiesce so tamely in the usurpation of the throne by dingane his half brother and assassin in his search for answers laband turns to the zulu voice heard through recorded oral testimony and praise poems and to the written accounts and reminiscences of the port natal trader hunters and the despatches of cape officials in the course of probing and assessing this evidence the author vividly brings the early zulu kingdom and its inhabitants to life he throws light on this elusive character of and his own unpredictable intentions while illuminating the fears and ambitions of those attempting to prosper and survive in his hazardous kingdom a kingdom that nevertheless endured in all its essential characteristics particularly militarily until its destruction fifty one years later in 1879 by the british and whose fate legend has it shaka predicted with his dying breath

john laband tackles the questions that swirl about the assassination in 1828 of king shaka the celebrated founder of the zulu kingdom what was it about the nature of his kingdom that it produced so many intransigent opponents to his rule including prominent members of the royal house why were shaka s relations with the british cape colony apparently key to his survival and why did the powerful army he had created acquiesce so tamely in the usurpation of the throne by dingane his half brother and assassin back cover

filled with colorful characters dramatic battles like isandhlwana and rorke s drift and an inexorable narrative momentum this unsurpassed history details the sixty year existence of the world s mightiest african empir from its brutal formation and zenith under the military genius shaka 1787 1828 through its inevitable collision with white expansionism to its dissolution under cetshwayo in the zulu war of 1879

the classic of african history a biography of shaka zulu founder of the zulu nation born leader and brilliant general e a ritter grew up with the zulus earning their respect and accumulating a rich store of material during his long association with them shaka s life and deeds had been handed down by word of mouth from generation to generation and they are here evoked with a sense of drama and an eye for detail back cover

the violent struggle in south africa between supporters of inkatha and the anc focusing on the distribution of power and resources in the new south africa is accompanied by another lesser known battle over symbols representations of the past and the reconstruction of history this book looks at an image at the center of many of these struggles that of king shaka the renowned nineteenth century zulu emperor an image used by inkatha to assert its authentic right to shape south africa s future

volume ii documents and analyses genocide and extermination throughout the early modern and modern eras it tracks their global expansion as european and asian imperialisms and euroamerican settler colonialism spread across the globe before the great war forging new frontiers and impacting indigenous communities in europe asia north america africa and australia twenty five historians with expertise on specific regions explore examples on five continents providing comparisons of nine

cases of conventional imperialism with nineteen of settler colonialism and offering a substantial basis for assessing the various factors leading to genocide this volume also considers cases where genocide did not occur permitting a global consideration of the role of imperialism and settler indigenous relations from the sixteenth to the early twentieth centuries it ends with six pre 1918 cases from australia china the middle east africa and europe that can be seen as premonitions of the major twentieth century genocides in europe and asia

this scholarly account traces the emergence of the zulu kingdom in south africa in the early nineteenth century under the rule of the ambitious and iconic king shaka in contrast to recent literary analyses of myths of shaka this book uses the richness of zulu oral traditions and a comprehensive body of written sources to provide a compelling narrative and analysis of the events and people of the era of shaka s rule the oral traditions portray shaka as rewarding courage and loyalty and punishing failure as ordering the targeted killing of his own subjects both warriors and civilians to ensure compliance to his rule and as arrogant and shrewd but kind to the poor and mentally disabled the rich and diverse oral traditions transmitted from generation to generation reveal the important roles and fates of men and women royal and subject from the perspectives of those who experienced shaka s rule and the dramatic emergence of the zulu kingdom

through intensive and extensive research the frontiers of knowledge in social economic political and religious life of people of kilimanjaro mountain area has been extensively revealed the book enables readers to see kilimanjaro and its people from a much better view and perspectives for the first time the book has assisted in removing the many gaps that existed in the history of kilimanjaro and its people thus making progress in the effort to get a better and more comprehensive understanding of the wa shaka people of kilimanjaro in that endeavor recognition is made of the esteemed contributions of people such as charles dundas 1924 miss mary cathleen stahl 1962 and a few other recent day persons such as dr anzamen lema the book puts readers on a new level of understanding of wa shaka people in a simple but understandable language which makes it not only easily manageable but also friendly in the effort to comprehend its contents it is a unique master piece of work

the encyclopedia of women in world history captures the experiences of women throughout world history in a comprehensive 4 volume work although there has been extensive research on women in history by region no text or reference work has comprehensively covered the role women have played throughout world history the past thirty years have seen an explosion of research and effort to present the experiences and contributions of women not only in the western world but across the globe historians have investigated womens daily lives in virtually every region and have researched the leadership roles women have filled across time and region they have found and demonstrated that there is virtually no historical social or demographic change in which women have not been involved and by which their lives have not been affected the oxford encyclopedia of women in world history benefits greatly from these efforts and experiences and illuminates how women worldwide have influenced and been influenced by these historical social and demographic changes the encyclopedia contains over 1 250 signed articles arranged in an a z format for ease of use the entries cover six main areas biographies geography and history comparative culture and society including adoption abortion performing arts organizations and movements such as the egyptian uprising and the paris commune womens and gender studies and topics in world history that include slave trade globalization and disease with its rich and insightful entries by leading scholars and experts this reference work is sure to be a valued go to resource for scholars college and high school students and general readers alike

this book examines the active role played by africans in the pre colonial production of historical knowledge in south africa focusing on perspectives of the second king of amazulu king dingane it draws upon a wealth of oral traditions izibongo and the work of public intellectuals such as magolwane kamkhathini jiyane and mshongweni to present african perspectives of king dingane as multifaceted and in some cases constructed according to socio political formations and aimed at particular

audiences by bringing african perspectives to the fore this innovative historiography centralizes indigenous african languages in the production of historical knowledge

at one time francis l k hsu put forth a hypothesis on kinship that proposed a functional relationship between particular kinship systems and behavior patterns in particular cultural contexts the controversy provoked among cultural anthropologists by this hypothesis is reflected in this book which points the way toward more fruitful investigations of kinship in cultural and psychological anthropology hsu s hypothesis offers an alternative to the study of kinship as a mathematical game and to the treatment of fragmentary aspects of child rearing practices as major causal factors in culture considering the kinship system as the psychological factory of culture hsu s aim is to discover the crucial forces in each system that shape the interpersonal orientation of the individual which forms the individual s basis for adequate functioning as a member of his society and which in turn provides his culture with a basis for continuity and change his central hypothesis is that the attributes of the dominant dyads in a given kinship system such as father son or mother daughter tend to determine the attitudes and action patterns that the individual in such a system develops toward other relationships in that system as well as toward his relationships outside of it the topics are varied ranging from the link between dyadic dominance and household maintenance to role dilemmas and father son dominance to sex role identity and dominant kinship relationships the editor has contributed an introduction an original essay on kinship and patterns of social cohesion and a summary chapter to bring coherence to the diversity of opinion stated this new presentation of hsu s hypothesis together with its discussion by eminent anthropologists and its recommendations for future research in the area is an important addition to the literature on kinship francis l k hsu 1909 1999 was professor emeritus of anthropology at the university of san francisco and before that chairman of the department of anthropology northwestern university concentrating mainly in two related areas psychological anthropology and the comparative study of large civilizations hsu did fieldwork in china japan india and the united states he was also president of the american anthropological association

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