

GOMA: STORIES OF STRENGTH AND SORROW FROM EASTERN CONGO

THEODORE TREFON AND NOËL KABUYAYA

Theodore Trefon is a senior researcher at the Belgian Royal Museum for Central Africa and a lecturer in environmental governance at ERAIFT/ University of Kinshasa. He has published a number of articles and books in French and English, including *Congo Masquerade* and *Reinventing Order in the Congo*.

Noël Kabuyaya is assistant professor of human geography at the University of Kinshasa.

Review Quotes:

Séverine Autesserre, author of “Peaceland and The Trouble With the Congo”

“In this moving and inspiring book, Trefon and Kabuyaya finally give voice to the ordinary people of eastern Congo. Reading these stories transported me back to Goma.”

Pierre Englebert, Pomona College

“Trefon and Kabuyaya’s superb research and clear-headed writing takes us into the everyday lives of Goma’s residents. In addition to hardship and resilience, it is by revealing the normalcy of their lives, and our shared humanity, that the book helps us connect with its protagonists.”

Michela Wrong, author of “In the Footsteps of Mr Kurtz: Living on the brink in Mobutu’s Congo”

“News from the DRC is often so bleak, outsiders wonder how ordinary folk survive. The answer lies in these testimonies. Trefon and Kabuyaya's protagonists negotiate militiamen, lava flows, and cholera outbreaks with humour, determination and remarkable grace.”

Kris Berwouts, author of “Congo’s Violent Peace”

“A fascinating dissection of Goma as told through the lives of its citizens. It reminded me why I passionately fell in love with this town.”

Patience Kabamba, author of “From Charity to Parity”

“One can only respect these life stories, which resonate like gunfire and silent screams with Congolese readers and come closer to revealing the true state of the DRC than the many theoretical accounts.”

Georges Nzongola-Ntalaja, author of “The Congo from Leopold to Kabila”

“A masterpiece of urban sociology. Zed Books are to be congratulated for making this outstanding book by Theodore Trefon and Noël Kabuyaya available to English-language readers.”