



Language

Alport, Baron Charles Ja, [The Sudden Assignment](#) [1], London, Hodder and Stoughton, 1965, pp. 255

Alport was appointed High Commissioner to the Federation from 1961-63, and gives an official British perspective on these contentious years.

Baker, Colin, [State of Emergency: Crisis in Central Africa, Nyasaland, 1959-1960](#) [2], London, Tauris Academic Studies, 1997, pp. 299

Brock, Guy Clutton, [Dawn in Nyasaland: The Test Case in Africa](#) [3], London, Hodder and Stoughton, 1959, pp. 192

Clutton Brock, a member of the African National Congress, worked with a village cooperative in Southern Rhodesia. Puts the political and economic case against the Federation, justifying strikes and 'disorderly conduct' in Nyasaland, because 20 years of constitutional tactics had been unsuccessful. Chronology of political events in Nyasaland from 1859 (coming of Livingstone) to proposed conference on constitution of Federation in 1960.

Dulani, Boniface, [Democracy Movements as Bulwarks against Presidential Usurpation of Power: Lessons from the Third-Term Bids in Malawi, Namibia, Uganda and Zambia](#) [4], Stichproben, no. 20, 2011, pp. 115-139

Englund, Harri, [Democracy of Chameleons: Politics and Culture in the New Malawi](#) [5], Uppsala, Nordic Africa Institute, 2002, pp. 208 pb

This book explores how far the ending of one-man rule in 1994 had achieved wider economic, social and cultural changes and explores the continuing problems such as political intolerance and hate speech. The contributors, mostly from Malawi, criticize both 'chameleon' political leaders and aid donors for supporting superficial democratization.

Gabay, Clive, [Exploring an African Civil Society: Development and Democracy in Malawi, 1994-2014](#) [6], Chicago IL, Rowman and Littlefield, 2015, pp. 132

This is an interesting critical look at 'civil society' in an African context, in particular the role of international donors in promoting 'civil society', which can be seen as a continuing form of imperial control. However, the author suggests that since Malawi became a multi-party democracy in 1994 civil society groups generally played a constructive democratic role, especially in the 2011 protests against the increasingly authoritarian President Bingu wa Mutharika.

Green, Duncan, [How Does Change Happen? Lessons from Malawi](#) [7], Oxfam FP2P, 2020

Oxfam provides a very useful analysis of developments in Malawi by Nic Cheeseman and Golden Matonga, who argue that two key lessons are that change results from a combination of pressures and that 'people power is critical to strengthening the independence and effectiveness of democratic institutions'. There are also 10 comments on this analysis by Malawi citizens.

See also: Corcoran, Bill, 'Malawi One of the Few Wins for Democracy in 2020:', *Irish Times*, 28 December, 2020.

Corcoran comments on Chatham House awarding their 2020 prize in December to the judges of Malawi's



Constitutional Court in recognition of their bravery in annulling the presidential poll of 2019. He then elaborates on the evolution of the campaign to annul the election and to celebrate the upholding of democracy in Malawi when it was under threat in many other parts of the world.

See also: Swift, Richard, 'Introducing Lazarus Chakwera', *New Internationalist*, September-October 2020, p.11.

Brief but useful summary of events leading to the election of the opposition leader Chakwera in June 2020.

Gros, Jean-Germain, [Democratization in Late Twentieth Century Africa: Coping with Uncertainty](#) [8], ed. [Gros, Jean-Germain](#) [9], Westport CT and London, Greenwood Press, 1998, pp. 162

Contributors to this book include democracy activists as well as scholars, who look critically at the process of democratization in: Malawi, Cameroon, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Ghana and Gabon. The focus is not on institutions but on leadership, and also on the role of the military and churches in the reform process.

Kell, Fergus, [Malawi's Re-Run Election is Lesson for African Opposition](#) [10], Chatham House, 2021

Kell stresses the role of the constitutional court and notes the role also played by the high court in thwarting an attempt by President Mutharika just before the re-run June 2020 election to force the chief justice to retire. But he also notes the importance of public pressure and the judiciary have worked together before to uphold the constitution and prevent a president from abolish term limits on his tenure.

See also: Moffat, Craig, 'Malawi Elections Provide a Global Lesson in Democracy', *Mail and Guardian* (South Africa), 23 November 2020, pp.3.

Moffat celebrates the securing of democracy in Malawi, notes key factors which led to the successful election of the opposition in the June 2020 re-run election, and comments also on the difficult context of Covid-19 and the absence of external observers to monitor the conduct of the poll.

See also: 'Lessons from Malawi's Fresh Presidential Elections of 23 June 2020', International IDEA, 25 November 2020, pp. 23.

Conference Report and Webinar in August 2020, when Malawi's Electoral Commission share their experiences with other electoral commissions in the Southern African Development Community (SADF).

Mchombo, Sam, [Democratization in Malawi: Its roots and prospects](#) [11], In Gros, [Democratization in Late Twentieth Century Africa: Coping with Uncertainty](#) [8] ([E. I.2.1.i. General Overviews](#) [12]), Westport CT and London, Greenwood Press, pp. 21-40

Nowack, Daniel, [Process Tracing the Term Limit Struggle in Malawi: The Role of International Democracy Promotion in Muluzi's Bid for a Third Term](#) [13], *Africa Spectrum*, Vol. 55, no. 3, 2021, pp. 291-300

Nowack examines the struggle between 1999 and 2003 to prevent the President serving a third term contrary to the constitution. Drawing on newspaper reports and interviews he argues that a decline in party support and a strong civil society were key, conditions imposed by aid donors and international democracy promotion influenced both these internal factors.

Rotberg, Robert I, [The Rise of Nationalism in Central Africa: The Making of Malawi and Zambia: 1873-1964](#) [14], Cambridge MA, Harvard University Press, 1967, pp. 360

Chapter 8 'Discovering their voice: the formation of national political movements' (pp. 179-213) goes up to 1948; chapter 10 'The Federal dream and African reality' (pp. 253-302) charts growing resistance from 1953; and chapter 11 traces 'The triumph of nationalism' (pp. 303-16). Gives some detail on protests and indexes 'non-violent resistance'. Includes detailed bibliography.



Short, Philip, [Banda](#) [15], London, Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1974, pp. 357

Biography of Hastings Banda, a central figure in Malawi's independence struggle who later became his country's increasingly autocratic president. Banda's role in the struggle against the Federation is covered pp. 55-172.

van Donge, Jan Kees, [Kamuzu's Legacy: The democratization of Malawi](#) [16], African Affairs, Vol. 94, no. 375, 1995, pp. 227-257

Wood, J.R.T., [The Welensky Papers: A History of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland](#) [17], Durban, Graham Publishing, 1983, pp. 1329

Account based on Welensky's perspective, stressing top level negotiations and relations with successive British colonial secretaries.

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