

CONTRIBUTORS

Maryan Omar Ali is an independent researcher specializing in Somali popular song. She collaborated with Lidwien Kapteijns on *Women's Voices in a Man's World: Women and the Pastoral Tradition in Northern Somali Orature, c. 1899–1980* (Portsmouth, N.H.: Heinemann, 1999). She lives and works in Toronto, Canada.

Lidwien Kapteijns is Professor of History and Chair of the Department of History at Wellesley College, where she teaches African and Middle Eastern history. Her most recent work has dealt with Somali history and includes the volume (with Maryan Omar Ali) *Women's Voices in a Man's World: Women and the Pastoral Tradition in Northern Somali Orature, c. 1899–1980* (1999).

Mohamed M. Kassim is currently completing his Ph.D. in History at York University in Toronto. He specializes in the Islamic cultural and intellectual history of Southern Somalia and the Swahili Coast in the 19th and 20th centuries. His publications include "Islam and Swahili Culture on the Benadir Coast," in *Northeast African Studies* 2, no. 3 (1995): 21–37.

Abdi Ismail Samatar is a Professor of Geography at the University of Minnesota–Twin Cities. His recent volume, *Botswana: An African Miracle* (1999), was a finalist for the Herskovits Award of the African Studies Association in the United States. He is working on two assignments: one is on the Somali Ethiopia region and the other is on leadership and democracy. The latter, a book project, is a collaborative effort with Ahmed I. Samatar. Currently, he is a member of the Board of Directors of the African Studies Association.

Ahmed I. Samatar is James Wallace Professor and Dean of International Studies and Programming at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota. He is the co-editor of the forthcoming volume, with Abdi Ismail Samatar, *The State in Africa: Reconsiderations*. Samatar is a founding member and editor-in-chief of *Macalester International* in addition to *Bildhaan*.

Said S. Samatar is a Professor of African History at Rutgers University, Newark campus. The author of numerous scholarly publications, his celebrated volume, *Oral Poetry and Somali Nationalism* (1982), is now a classic in Somali historical and literary studies. Samatar is a founding member of the International Congress of Somali Studies.