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David Henige, Editor

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"We must consider how very little history there is;
I mean real authentick history"

Samuel Johnson [18 April 1775]

"Because man's memory is short and weak, if we did not resort to the written word for our needs, it would be impossible to remember in detail all the lengthy and important affairs that come our way"

Titu Cusi Yupanqui, *Relación de la Conquista del Peru*, [1570], 12

"Mythology: The body of a primitive people's beliefs concerning its origins, early history, deities, heroes and so forth, as distinguished from the true accounts which it invents later."

Bierce, *The Devil's Dictionary*

"A cloud of critics, of compilers, of commentators, darkened the face of learning, and the decline of genius was soon followed by the corruption of taste."

Gibbon, *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, ch. ii

CONTENTS

Traditions of Igbo Origins: A Comment <i>A.E. Afigbo</i>	1-11
The Rozvi in Search of Their Past <i>D.N. Beach</i>	12-34
Patterns in Linguistic Geography and the Bantu Origins Controversy <i>Patrick R. Bennett</i>	35-51
The Conquest That Never Was: Ghana and the Al- moravids, II, The Local Oral Sources <i>David C. Conrad and Humphrey J. Fisher</i>	53-78
Endre Sik and the Development of African Studies in the USSR: A Study Agenda From 1929 <i>Colin Darch and Gary Littlejohn</i>	79-108
Taking Arms Against a Sea of Scholarship: Serial Bibliographies and Indexes of Interest of African Historians <i>David Henige</i>	109-149
White Roots: Written and Oral Testimony on the "First" Mr. Rogers <i>Adam Jones</i>	151-162
Interwar Schools and the Development of African History in French West Africa <i>Gail P. Kelly</i>	163-185
R.S. Rattray and the Construction of Asante History: An Appraisal <i>T.C. McCaskle</i>	187-206
History From Linguistics: The Case of the Tana River <i>Derek Nurse</i>	207-238
A Bio-Bibliography of E.S. Grogan <i>Thomas P. Ofcansky</i>	239-245

Ancient Malagasy Dynastic Succession: The Merina Example <i>Paul Ottino</i>	247-292
European Models and West African History: Further Comments on the Recent Historiography of Dahomey <i>David Ross</i>	293-305
Is Elegance Proof? Structuralism and African History <i>Jan Vansina</i>	307-348
Circular Arguments and Self-Fulfilling Definitions: "Statelessness" and the Dagaaba <i>Kojo Yelapaala</i>	349-385
The Teixeira da Mota Archive and the Guinea Texts Project <i>P.E.H. Hair</i>	387-394
A Report on the State of the Moroccan Archives <i>Thomas K. Park</i>	395-409
Guide to the Basel Mission Materials on the Gold Coast	411-413
Comparative Bibliography - 1983	415-443
Contributors	445-446
General Indexes: vol. 1 (1974) - vol. 10 (1983)	