

Brief history of the original project, data processing

The original survey instrument was a part of a two-year PhD graduate student field project, originally proposed and designed at Indiana University in 1963 and carried out by Norman Miller in 1964-65. The survey instrument was pretested in the field and thereafter administered to 435 informants (household heads and local leaders) by Norman Miller and three assistants. These field assistants were trained, one in each of the three districts, with particular attention to the meanings of the terms in the questionnaire, in case they had to be explained to informants in the vernacular languages (Kinyamwezi, Kinyakyusa, Kizaramo). The instrument was administered in Swahili, usually at the informant's homestead or rural office.

The three districts, Tabora, Rungwe, and Kisarawe, were chosen for the geographic differences (semi-arid savannah, southern fertile highland, coastal), whether fishing or farming, and for their traditional political diversity. These were an asphalted system (family heads only as on the coast, without chiefs), a middle-level traditional system with chieftaincies but no paramount chiefs (Rungwe with the Nyakyusa), and a traditional paramount chieftaincy as with the Nyamwezi of Tabora.

Approximately six months were spent in each of the three districts. Interviews were carried out in some 22 villages and took an average of 90 minutes each. Respondents were thanked and after the interview given a sawadi (small gift of tea and sugar packets). The main ethnic group in each district, Nyamwezi, Nyakyusa, Zaramo, predominated but a total of xx ethnic groups were represented. Some of the data was analyzed "by hand" in East Africa for ideas and question frequencies at the Institute of Public Administration when Norman Miller taught there after his field work, 1965-1966. The data was also used in the author's PhD dissertation, which focused entirely on Tabora (Village Leadership, PhD, Indiana University, 1967).

The author took the data to Michigan State University on his first assignment as an Assistant Professor, and used the MSU computer center to tabulate the data further via

early punch card systems, although no analysis of the information was completed. While in storage, the data cards and codebooks were inundated by a warehouse flood, believed lost and stored away. After retirement the data was rediscovered, and shown to a Google executive who found a computer museum in California that could transfer the cards to an excel spreadsheet. Dartmouth informatics specialists Dr. Katja Koeppen and Frances Eanet worked with the data and have made it ready to be used by Tanzanian students and faculty.

A second survey using many of the same questions was carried out in 2005, in Tabora and Kisarawe districts, returning to the same informants or their descendants and asking many of the same questions. This project was done by Ms. Amy Miller Eberhardt, the author's daughter, and Ms. Peyton Patrell, both of Davidson College, on fellowship grants, and four Tanzanian graduate students under Professor Simeon Mesaki. This data has been used informally, but not processed or analyzed until the present time. See files ("**Amy Miller PROJECT DESCRIPTION**" and "**Amy's Code Book in Excel.xls**" and "**Amy's data Tanzania codes in word.doc**").

Professor Miller has gifted the University of Dar es Salaam the two databases, copies of his field notes and publications, some of the district histories of the three areas, and his publications relating to the data.

It is proposed to do a third modest follow-up in Kisarawe District in 2015 if two or more graduate students are interested and research approval obtained or extended from the 2005 Government approvals.