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## UFAHAMU

AFRICAN ACTIVIST ASSOCIATION  
AFRICAN STUDIES CENTER  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

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UFAHAMU will accept contributions from anyone interested in Africa and related subject areas. Contributions may range from scholarly articles and book reviews to freelance writing and poetry.

Manuscripts may be of any length, but those of 15-25 pages are preferred. The Editorial Board, however, reserves the right to abbreviate any manuscript in order to fit page requirements. All contributions must be clearly typed and double-spaced, with footnotes gathered at the end. Contributors should endeavor to keep duplicate copies of all their manuscripts.

All correspondence - manuscripts, subscriptions, books for review, inquiries - should be addressed to the Editor-in-Chief at the above address.

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## ABOUT THIS NUMBER

This issue of *Ufahamu* had been designed exclusively to carry articles on "The Role and Position of Women in Contemporary Africa." In other words, we had meant it to be a special number on women in Africa. Unfortunately many of our indigenous Africanist contributors from whom we had specially solicited articles failed us at the last moment. We had hoped their research opinions would balance those of foreign Africanists and help to provide a balanced concept on the subject of the African woman today.

However, by publishing the controversial views presented here about the African woman,—her social, economic and political situation in contemporary Africa—we are providing our readers and other contributors the incentive to continue this important discussion in future *Ufahamu* numbers or elsewhere. Eventually we will gather enough material to do a real special on African women.

We are pleased to present in the following pages, Judith Van Allen's and James L. Brain's socio-economic and political critiques on the position of the rural and urban African woman; Sally Robinson's brief but extremely important analysis on the role of women towards Black liberation in White-ruled South Africa; and Margaret Jean Hay's personal research notes which constitute a valuable research methodology.

Through these and other articles in this issue, such as those by Mohamed A. El-Khawas on American involvement in the former Portuguese African territories especially during Richard Nixon's presidency and Micah S. Tsomondo on a reassessment of Pan-Africanism as an ideological tool in contemporary African development, we continue to provide on an on-going basis radical discussions to Africa's contemporary issues.

- The Editors

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"Ufahamu" means Understanding  
So reveal your own perception  
Of Africa's history unending;  
Pass it on to *Ufahamu* today  
To enlighten a bewildered world tomorrow.

j.n.a.

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## OBITUARY

HENRY B. MASAIKO CHIPEMBERE

*Ufahamu* announces with a deep sense of loss the sudden death of an Africanist politician, Henry B. M. Chipembere. Mr. Chipembere died at the age of 45 on September 24 in Los Angeles after a brief illness. We remember him as a progressive African politician whose refusal to tow Dr. Kamuzu Banda's egotistical and pro-South African political steps resulted in his fleeing his country, Malawi (formerly Nyasaland) in 1964. We also recall with pride that Chipembere's first public account of the crisis in Dr. Banda's government was carried in *Ufahamu* Vol. 1, Number 2, Fall 1970, under the title *Malawi in Crisis: 1964*. This article, which constitutes an indictment of a renegade African "government which has been turning to places like South Africa and [the then] Portuguese controlled Mozambique for protection," remains one of Chipembere's finest and a bedrock of his political ideology.

Mr. Chipembere was educated in Malawi, at Rhodesia's Goromonzi School, and at Fort Hare University, South Africa where he received his B.A. in politics and history. After his graduation from Fort Hare in 1954, he entered the Malawi political scene where his roles included being a member of the Legislative Council, representative of the Nyasaland African Congress, General Treasurer of the Malawi Congress party, Minister of Local Government and later, Minister of Education.

In 1964, Mr. Chipembere fled into exile following his disagreement with Dr. Banda over government policy. He came to the United States and received an M.A. degree at UCLA in 1966. Then he returned to Tanzania to teach at Kivukoni College.

Until his death, Mr. Chipembere was a history candidate in philosophy at UCLA and professor of African history at California State University, Los Angeles.

*Ufahamu* laments the untimely death of this illustrious African whose guiding light, bright and intense, burned out rather too quickly. We extend our sympathies to his wife, Catherine, his eight children and other members of his family.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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HENRY B.M. CHIPEMBERE FUND

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Following the death of Henry B.M. Chipembere in Los Angeles on September 24, 1975, a fund has been established in his honor to help his distressed family of eight children and his wife. *Ufahamu* appeals to Africanists and readers the world over to support the Chipembere Fund. Contributions should be sent directly to the Henry B.M. Chipembere Fund, c/o African Studies Center, University of California, Los Angeles, California 90024. However, if any of our readers wishes to make a contribution through *Ufahamu*, we will be glad to forward it to the right quarters.

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FORTHCOMING NUMBERS OF UFAHAMU

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UFAHAMU Vol. VI #2 will be discussing "The Fine Arts in Contemporary Africa." Articles will be dealing with the nature and function of the arts towards Society building and social awareness.

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Vol. VI #3 will be dealing with "Religion versus Political and Economic Development in Africa." This provocative number is designed towards a critical evaluation of what religion has contributed in the development or, otherwise, impoverishment of Sub-Saharan Africa.

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A special number of *Ufahamu* will be issued in memory of the late Henry B.M. Chipembere. This number will be distributed by special request. We urge contributions from those who knew Chipembere well and from students of Malawi-South Africa relations.

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