

Introduction – scope and arrangement

The bibliographic listings in *The African Book Publishing Record* are compiled in collaboration with over 800 African publishers, research institutions, learned societies, professional associations, and other organizations with publishing programmes. They include the publishers who have previously supplied data for inclusion in *African Books in Print*, and *ABPR* provides a supplementary and updating service to *ABIP* giving details of new and forthcoming publications not yet listed in *African Books in Print* (fourth edition, London: Bowker-Saur Ltd, 1993). Additional publishers and new imprints – not included in *ABIP* – are being added all the time and these are identified by an asterisk in the directory of publishers. All entries in the journal will be cumulated and listed in the next edition of *African Books in Print*.

The African Book Publishing Record includes books in English and in French as well as significant new titles in the African languages, which are listed selectively. It covers books, pamphlets, reports, series (including irregular series), but does not include periodical publications or magazines, other than year-books or annuals. Government and official publications are also excluded, except for titles from certain quasi-autonomous government bodies with independent publishing programmes. Otherwise, the sole criterion for inclusion of a title, regardless of content or origin, is that it must have been published on the African continent or its offshore islands. The books of British multinational publishers operating in Africa are also included, but are confined to titles that are actually published under the imprints of African subsidiary companies. Titles are listed by subject and by country of publication, and are indexed by author. Arrangement throughout is alphabetical and follows the style adopted for *African Books in Print*.

Classification and subject index:

Classification of entries is based on *Sears List of Subject Headings*, but is modified to suit the particular needs of *ABPR*. Since titles are usually classified without guidance other than publisher's original information, it is possible that there may be occasional entries whose classification is not entirely accurate.

Sears provides no definite rules on subdividing by place or by subject, but the following classification policies generally apply:

(i) Entries under subject, subdivided by place and/or form:

Agricultural development
Agricultural sciences and industries
Archaeology
Architecture, Housing and urban planning
Business, Management, Industry, Labour, Trade unions,
Employment
Church history, Christianity in Africa, Christian Missions
Economics, Finance, Economic development

Geology, Mines and mineral resources
Health education, Public health, Nutrition
Languages and linguistics
Law (all areas)
Leisure and entertainment
Library sciences (other than bibliographies)
Medicine, Life sciences, Natural history
Philosophy
Pure sciences
Sports
Technology, and applied sciences
Wildlife and conservation

(ii) Entries under place (i.e. geographic division, country, area, etc.) subdivided by subject and/or form:

Administration, Local government, Rural development
Bibliographies, national
Demography
Education
Geography
History
Politics and government
Religion (other than Missions, Christian and Church history)
Social sciences
Travel and guide books

It should be noted, however, that *general works* on African topics are always classified under subject first regardless of its nature; for example, a book entitled *Education in Africa Today* will appear under:

Education – Africa
not
Africa – Education

whereas a title on the Nigerian educational system, for example, will be listed under place first, i.e.:

Nigeria – Education

Various form headings supplement subject and place headings as appropriate. Titles of a biographical or autobiographical nature appear in the direct form under the name of the person treated. Books in the African languages are classified in a simplified form as outlined on the following page.

Education, text, and school books:

In addition to the subject matter, most educational and textbooks are identified, as far as possible, by the form heading *Study and teaching*, and for further guidance the words *Secondary* or *Elementary* are given in parentheses. Entries under these two headings are strictly school books, whereas those which appear with the form heading *Study and teaching* only are tertiary or academic texts. Another form heading, *Examinations, questions* is also used and identifies self-study books.