

Contents

Preface by Claude Boucher Chisale xi

Dedication xv

Acknowledgements xvii

Subscribers xxi

Claude Boucher and the Chewa by Gary Morgan xxiii

Glossary of Chichewa terms xxvi

Introduction and background by Gary Morgan i

Form and content of descriptions 43

Maps – places referred to in the book 44

MAJOR THEMES

1. History and politics 49
2. Community, authority and the ancestors 87
3. Sexuality, fertility and marriage 129
4. Childbirth and parenthood 193
5. Health, food and death 201
6. Witchcraft and medicines 209
7. Personal attributes 231

Afterthoughts: The ironies and future of *gule wamkulu* by Gary Morgan 256

Mwali, Thunga and their Children 261

List of informants 263

References and further reading 265

Index of mask names 269

Index of themes 271

About the Contributors 276