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## African Politics in Comparative Perspective

This book reviews fifty years of research on politics in Africa. It synthesizes insights from different scholarly approaches and offers an original interpretation of the knowledge accumulated over the years. It discusses how research on African politics relates to the study of politics in other regions and mainstream theories in comparative politics. It focuses on such key issues as the legacy of a movement approach to political change, the nature of the state, the economy of affection, the policy deficit, the agrarian question, gender and politics, and ethnicity and conflict. It concludes by reviewing what scholars agree upon and what the accumulated knowledge offers as insights for more effective political and policy reforms. This book is an ideal text in undergraduate and graduate courses in African and comparative politics as well as in development-oriented courses in political science and related disciplines. It is also of great relevance to governance and development analysts and to practitioners in international organizations.

Goran Hyden is distinguished professor in political science at the University of Florida. His publications include *Beyond Ujamaa in Tanzania* (1980); *No Shortcuts to Progress* (1983); *Governance and Politics in Africa*, coedited with Michael Bratton (1992); and *Making Sense of Governance*, coauthored with Julius Court and Kenneth Mease (2004). He served as president of the African Studies Association in 1995. He has also served as a consultant on African development to many international agencies.

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Goran Hyden