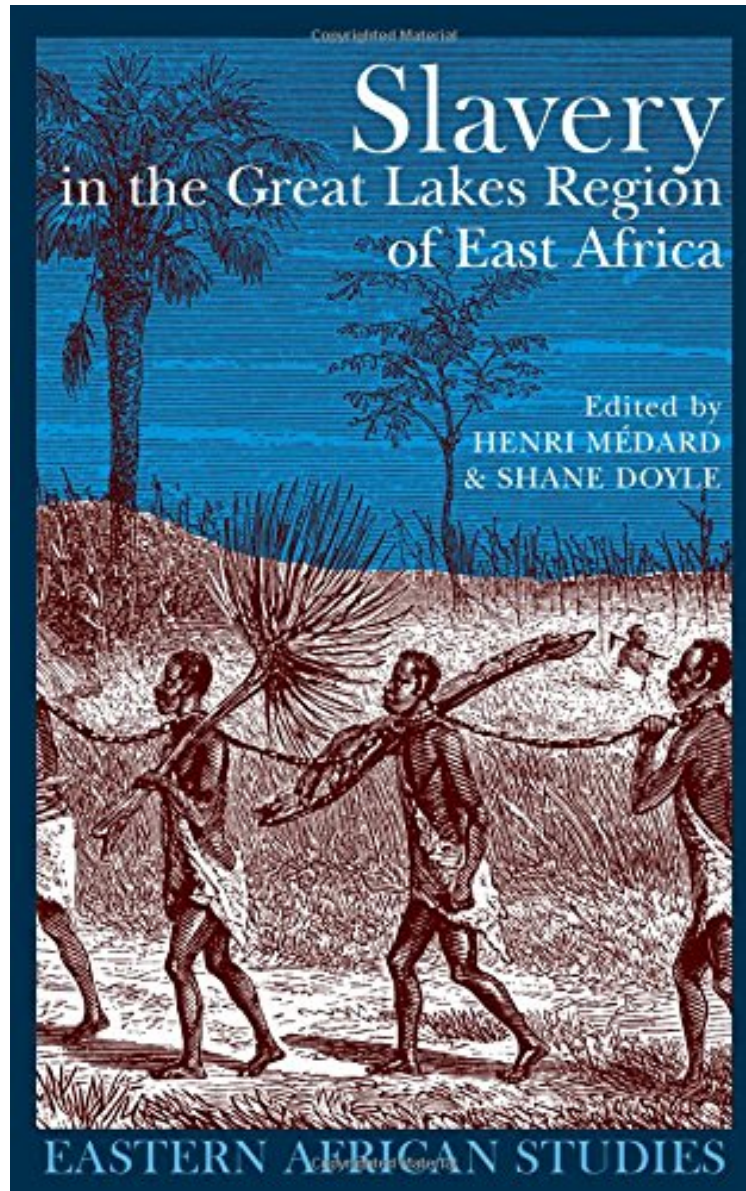


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From Ohio University Press : Slavery in the Great Lakes Region of East Africa (Eastern African Studies) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Slavery in the Great Lakes Region of East Africa (Eastern African Studies):

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating use of linguistics to tease out a little known history
By Lawrence MacDonald
This careful work of scholarship challenges the widely held view that slavery in Africa was primarily a western coast phenomenon driven by demand from the Americas. By examining previously neglected historical records and utilizing linguistic analysis, the authors of the papers in this volume show that slavery was more important in the Great Lakes region than often assumed, and that Africans from the interior played a more complex role than previously recognized. Historians of the area will be particularly interested but people with wide curiosity, like me, will find it rewarding to skim for the key ideas.

Slavery in the Great Lakes Region of East Africa looks at the perceptions of one of the main themes of African history: slavery. There was no single form of slavery, and the line between enslaved and nonslave labor was fine. This book challenges the assertion that domestic slavery increased in Africa as the result of the international trade. Slavery in this region was not a uniform phenomenon and the line between enslaved and non-slave labor was fine. Kinship ties could mark the difference between free and unfree labor. Social categories were not always clear-cut and the status of a slave could change within a lifetime.

“Penetration of the region by slave dealers led to a rapid expansion of slavery in the nineteenth century, but this book makes clear that slavery has a long history there.” — The Journal of African History