

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910791356403321
Autore	Vansina Jan
Titolo	Being colonized [[electronic resource]] : the Kuba experience in rural Congo, 1880-1960 / / Jan Vansina
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Madison, Wis., : University of Wisconsin Press, c2010
ISBN	1-282-55528-6 9786612555282 0-299-23643-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (357 p.)
Collana	Africa and the diaspora: history, politics, culture
Disciplina	305.896/397
Soggetti	Kuba (African people) - Congo (Democratic Republic) - Social conditions Congo (Democratic Republic) Colonization Congo (Democratic Republic) History To 1908 Congo (Democratic Republic) History 1908-1960
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Congo: becoming a colony -- The colonial relationship -- Incidental conquest -- Company rule and its consequences -- Were the Kuba nearly wiped out? -- Fifty years of Belgian rule: an overview -- A kingdom preserved -- Village life: 1911-1950s -- In pursuit of harmony -- Visions for a different future -- Toward a new world -- Conclusion: the experience of being colonized.
Sommario/riassunto	What was it like to be colonized by foreigners? Highlighting a region in central Congo, in the center of sub-Saharan Africa, Being Colonized places Africans at the heart of the story. In a richly textured history that will appeal to general readers and students as well as to scholars, the distinguished historian Jan Vansina offers not just accounts of colonial administrators, missionaries, and traders, but the varied voices of a colonized people. Vansina uncovers the history revealed in local news, customs, gossip, and even dreams, as related by African villagers through archival documents, material culture, and oral interviews. Vansina's case study of the colonial experience is the realm of Kuba, a kingdom in Congo about the size of New Jersey—and two-thirds the

size of its colonial master, Belgium. The experience of its inhabitants is the story of colonialism, from its earliest manifestations to its tumultuous end. What happened in Kuba happened to varying degrees throughout Africa and other colonized regions: racism, economic exploitation, indirect rule, Christian conversion, modernization, disease and healing, and transformations in gender relations. The Kuba, like others, took their own active part in history, responding to the changes and calamities that colonization set in motion. Vansina follows the region's inhabitants from the late nineteenth century to the middle of the twentieth century, when a new elite emerged on the eve of Congo's dramatic passage to independence.
