

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910797233603321
Autore	Rijpma Sjoerd <1931-2015, >
Titolo	David Livingstone and the myth of African poverty and disease : a close examination of his writing on the pre-colonial era // by Sjoerd Rijpma
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Boston : , : Brill, , [2015] ©2015
ISBN	90-04-29373-6
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (640 p.)
Collana	Afrika-studiecentrum series ; ; volume 35
Disciplina	362.10967
Soggetti	Public health - Africa, Sub-Saharan - History - To 1884 Nutrition - Africa, Sub-Saharan - History - To 1884 Africa, Sub-Saharan Social conditions 19th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Preliminary Material -- 1 'Health and Nutrition' or 'Disease and Hunger'? -- 2 1849–56: Missionary Travels and Researches -- 3 1858–64: Narrative of an Expedition -- 4 David Livingstone: A Usable Source of 'General' Information? -- 5 1849–56: Missionary Travels and Researches -- 6 1858–64: 'Narrative of an Expedition' -- 7 1866–73: Waller's The Last Journals of David Livingstone -- 8 What David Livingstone Really Discovered in Tropical Africa -- Some Closing Remarks -- Literature -- Books Consulted, Not Cited -- Maps: from David Livingstone and the Victorian Encounter with Africa -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	This study about David Livingstone is different from all other publications about him. Here, Livingstone is not the main topic of interest; the focus of the author is on nutrition and health in pre-colonial Africa and Livingstone is his key informant. David Livingstone and the Myth of African Poverty and Disease is an unusual book. After a close examination of Livingstone's writings and comparative reading of contemporary authors, Sjoerd Rijpma has been able to draw cautious conclusions about the relatively favourable conditions of health and nutrition in southern and central Africa during the pre-colonial period. His findings shed new light on the medical history of Sub-Saharan Africa. The surprise awaiting travellers in and also before 19th century

Africa was that the inhabitants of the interior, even the 'slaves', were healthier and better fed than many of their contemporaries in Europe's Industrial Revolution. "An impressive piece of scholarship, truly forensic in its close reading and re-reading of Livingstone's published works and those of other travellers during the same era, clearly a labour of love which has taken years to complete" (Joanna Lewis).

---