

A2792 WEBSTER, David Papers 13 boxes 1969-1990

David Webster, born 19/12/1945 in Luanshya, Zambia, studied Social Anthropology at Rhodes University and was a lecturer at the University of the Witwatersrand at the time of his assassination at the hands of a pro-apartheid hit squad on 1 May 1989. He was a dedicated anti-apartheid activist and supporter of NUSAS, the Detainees' Parents Support Committee, and Five Freedoms Forum. His research covered the Va-Chopi of Mozambique, and the Tembe Thonga of Ingwavuma, and he also did studies on poverty, TB and migrant labour. (For detailed biographical notes see file A1)

Classification

A PERSONAL
B PROFESSIONAL
C POLITICAL

A PERSONAL

A1 Biographical 1f

Includes 'Dave Webster: his life and work'; 'Why Dave Webster? – the context of his assassination'; interview with David Webster (Dec 1988); curriculum vitae including a list of publications by DW.

A2 Obituaries and Tributes 1f 1989

Obituaries by Prof D Hammond-Tooke, Max Coleman, Phil Bonner, Mohamed Valli Moosa and others, poems and funeral service leaflets
Also 'NUSAS pays tribute to David Webster' (speeches by DW to three NUSAS National Meetings)

A3 Press statements 1f 1989

Statements and press releases on DW's assassination (by DPSC, SACC, SACBC, HRC, FEDSAW, UDUSA, SAMA etc etc.)

A4 David Webster Trust 2f 1989-1990

Documents relating to a trust of which the objects were to investigate the death or abuse of opponents of apartheid and to make public the results of such investigations. Includes correspondence, memorandum by the WITS University Council outlining 42 attacks on staff, students and university property, and lists of assassinations, death threats, attacks on vehicles, attacks on organizations and other hit squad activity.

A5 Photographs 1f 1989 + - 30 items

Photographs of David, Maggie Friedman, David and Maggie (at Fancy Dress Party) and of David's funeral

A6 Correspondence , D Webster 1f 1969-1989

Mainly work-related

A7 Correspondence – letters of condolence 1 box 1989

Letters, telegrams, cards to MF and others, expressing sympathy, sorrow and outrage after DW's death. Includes tributes to DW.

A8 Press cuttings 1f 1989

Mainly re funeral

- A9 Miscellaneous: includes DW's degree certificates and graduation programmes.
- B PROFESSIONAL
- B1 PhD Thesis by D Webster. Rhodes University, 1976
Agnation, alternative structures and the individual in Chopi Society'.
(Also another dissertation on the Chopi people, untitled, undated (front pages missing, author unknown))
- B2 Articles/papers/reviews by D Webster 1 box
Includes:
- B2.1 'Spreading the risk: the principle of laterality among the Chopi'. Africa 47 (2) 192-207 (1977)
- B2.2 Migrant Labour, Social Formations and the Proletarianisation of the Chopi of Southern Mozambique' African Perspectives 1978/1: 157-174
- B2.3 'Living in the interstices of capitalism: towards a reformulation of the "informal sector" concept.' Social Dynamics 8 (2): 1-10 (co-author Peter Wilkinson) (1982)
- B2.4 The political economy of food production and nutrition in Southern Africa in historical perspective' Journal of Modern African Studies 24 (3) 1986
- B2.5 Tembe-Thonga kinship: the marriage of anthropology and history' Cahiers d'etudes africaines 104 XXV1 – 4 1986
- B2.6 Chopi classificatory kinship terminology, formal analysis and the sociology of knowledge: a synthetic approach' . Paper ASSA Congress 1974
- B2.7 The reproduction of labour power and the struggle for survival in Soweto' Paper: Second Carnegie inquiry into poverty and development in Southern Africa. 1984
- B2.8 Labour Migrancy: problems of the underdevelopment of Mozambique'
n.d.
- B2.9 .'Making a living: Towards the anthropology of survival' n.d.
- B2.10 From Peasant to Proletarian: the development/underdevelopment debate in South Africa'
n.d.
- B2.11 'The political economy of survival: the unemployment crisis and informal income opportunities in Soweto n.d.
- B2.12 Class and rural differentiation in a rural Kwazulu Community: the people of Kosi Bay' n.d.
- B2.13 'Family and household in Kwa Dapha, Kwazulu.' 1987
- B2.14 Class and rural differentiation in a rural Kwa-Zulu Natal community: the people of Kosi Bay' 1988
- B2.15 Abafazi bathonga bafihlakala (1): ethnicity and gender in a Kwazulu border community (2) 1989
- B2.16 'Capital, class and consumption: a history of tuberculosis in SA' (1984?)
- B2.17 'Families in crisis: survival strategies in Soweto households' (1985?)
- B2.18 'Unemployment and 'informal' income-earning activity in Soweto'
African Studies Institute paper by D Webster and others. 1980
- B2.19 'The place of traditional art and music in African society' 1976
- B2.20 Book review by DW: on 'Transformation on the highveld' by WF Lye and Colin Murray in Social Dynamics. Undated
(and miscellaneous incomplete articles)
- B3 Notes by David Webster 1 box
Mainly Ms, various topics

- B4 Fieldwork notebooks 13 items 1969
Research done in Mozambique; (also press cuttings on Mozambique in the 1970s.)
- B5 Fieldwork notebooks 13 items (and index cards) 1980s
Research done in Kosi Bay, Kwa Dapha, Bhonga Neck
- B6 Research materials: Zulu migrancy and ethnicity project 2 boxes
Questionnaires, household statistics etc. 1986-1987
- B7 Research materials :Community research group. (WITS) if 1987
An enquiry into attitudes (to work, social problems, political problems) in certain communities in the Transvaal. (miscellaneous documents)
- B8 Research materials (General) 3 boxes
Articles and papers by other people, on subjects mainly related to DW's research. Includes interviews with tribal people about customs etc, 1949. (Interviewer and locality unknown)
- B9 Photographs/Slides 1 box
Negatives, some prints and a large number of slides, mainly relating to DW's work
- C POLITICAL
- CI Articles and speeches by DW on topics unrelated to his work 4f 1980s
Academic Freedom lecture; speeches at NUSAS meetings; papers on: academic responsibility, 'Repression and the state of emergency' (co-author: Maggie Friedman) ; Militarisation ('The SADF: shielding the nation or defending apartheid?' – DW and F van Zyl Slabbert); articles on education (The political economy of education: its place in democratic struggles') and other articles on education.
- C2 Miscellaneous 1980s
Includes a paper by Gilbert Marcus on the Freedom Charter, some 'political' articles not by DW; court records (affidavits) in a case brought by Ernest Mabe and others vs the Minister of Law and Order re police torture; (1985) A United Nations report on human rights violations in South Africa (1985) and some documents from the Detainees' Parents Support Committee, mostly about police brutality. Also an account of a discussion between David Dison, Nick Roodt and Carol Kruger about CCB activity on the part of someone called 'Fergus Jones'.