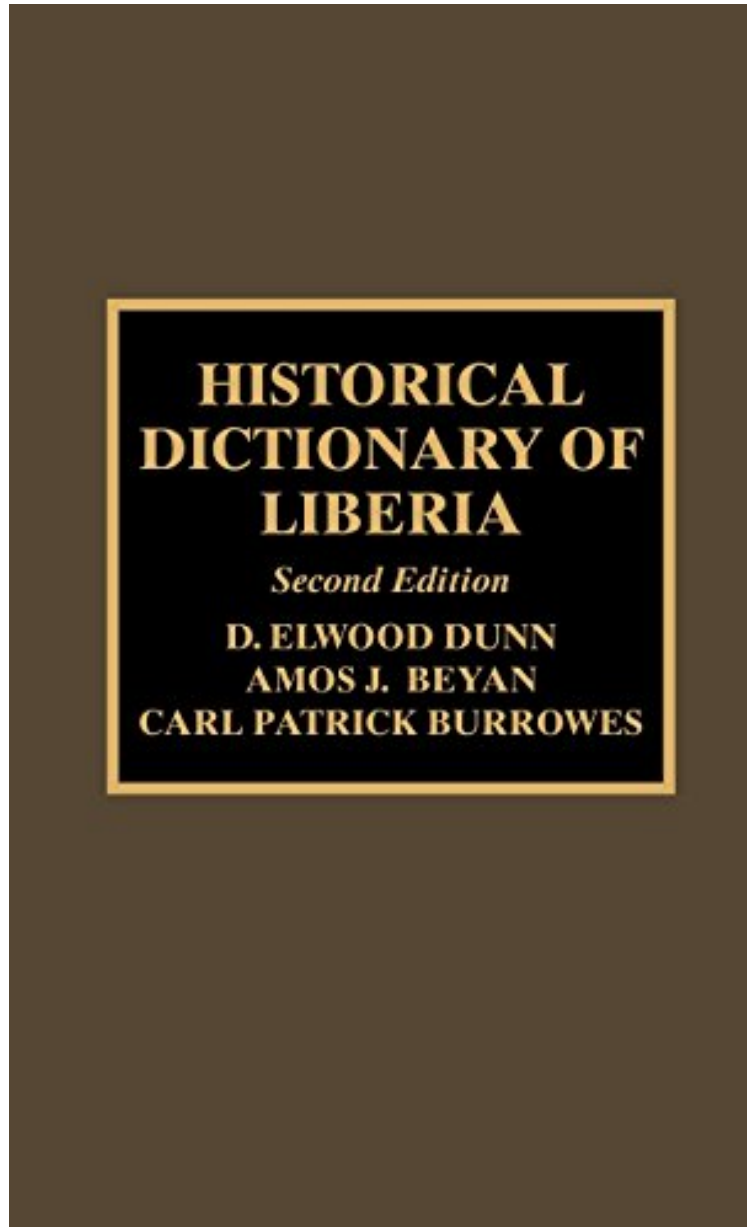


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Historical Dictionary of Liberia

Elwood D. Dunn, Amos J. Beyan, Carl Patrick Burrowes
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Originally formed to harbor freed slaves and Americans returning to Africa, Liberia once was a land of hope. That was shattered by a long Civil War that shook its very foundation. Today's Liberia is glimpsed in this second edition. Building on the first edition, this updated volume focuses on the personalities, from the founders of Liberia, to the soldiers who are responsible simultaneously for destruction and the hope of stability. Along with these people, various social and ethnic groups, political parties and labor movements, economic entities and natural resources are profiled in this updated work. A new chronology of Liberia is included, and a selected bibliography suggests further readings for the scholar.

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A rich and colorful mosaic of Liberia's past those seeking to understand Liberia's "present predicaments" (its civil war and warlordism, elections without democracy, and "privatization" of the state so that it no longer serves its people), and who are looking for "lessons" from its past that might be usefully applied to solving some of its current problems, will find that Dunn and his colleagues have produced a very good resource highly recommend for readers looking for a single source of background information on Liberia. (International Journal of African Historical Studies)
The dictionary exhaustively covers Liberian politics during the second half of the twentieth century. The biographical entries are rich in detail. The treatment of the economy is strong. But the best part of the book is probably the information it provides on the Liberian civil war. (Africa Today)...enlightening...deserve[s] a place not only in libraries but also among [the] general public both in Africa and the U.S. (Journal of Global South Studies, Spring 2003)
Dunn and his fellow compilers present both the larger and smaller pictures and are especially thorough regarding individuals. Recommended for all university and large public libraries, and for African studies programs. (CHOICE)
About the Author
D. Elwood Dunn is Professor and Departmental Chair of Political Science at the University of the South. He has taught at Seton Hall and Fordham Universities, Cuttington College, and the University of Liberia. He served in the government of his native Liberia (1974-1980), becoming a member of the cabinet. Dunn was editor of the Liberian Studies Journal, 1985-1995.
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