ALEXANDER MECKELBURG, Universität Hamburg

Review

VOLKER MATTHIES, The Siege of Magdala. The British Empire against the Emperor of Ethiopia

Aethiopica 15 (2012), 301
ISSN: 2194–4024

Edited in the Asien-Afrika-Institut
Hiob Ludolf Zentrum für Äthiopistik
der Universität Hamburg
Abteilung für Afrikanistik und Äthiopistik

by Alessandro Bausi
in cooperation with
Bairu Tafla, Ulrich Braukämper, Ludwig Gerhardt,
Hilke Meyer-Bahlburg and Siegbert Uhlig
Reviews


The German version of the same book was already reviewed in the last volume of *Aethiopica*. This review closed with the remark, that Matthies’ book “is the first ever full account of the Mäqdäla campaign in German and thus, seen from a German point of view, one wishes the book a wide readership, hoping for a better understanding of the *savage wars of peace* among the German-reading audience.” Thanks to the efforts of the Princeton-based publishing house and the careful translation of Professor Steven Rendall, the German view, on a largely British-studied topic has now been made available in English for a wider audience. Added to the translation is a foreword by the distinguished Ethiopianist scholar Prof. Dr. Richard Pankhurst (pp. xv–xvii).

The outline of the book has been slightly reformed, which has some advantages. The richly illustrated book has received a more handy overview on the illustrations used (ix–xiii; page, caption and source are given in the chronological order of their appearance). Regrettably though, the archival treasures from the “Wallraf-Richartz-Museum” (Köln), whose original photographs of the Napier-expedition formed a large part of the illustrative content of the German version has not been used for the English edition.


Alexander Meckelburg, Universität Hamburg