



## **Culture and Conflicts in Sierra Leone Mining**

Strangers, Aliens, Spirits By Fenda Akiwumi

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## Highlights how culture, history, environment, and society intertwine in mineral resource conflicts in Africa, using Sierra Leone as a case study.

In Culture and Conflicts in Sierra Leone Mining: Strangers, Aliens, Spirits, the author uses Sierra Leone as a case study to contribute to the debates on the causes and nature of mineral resource conflicts in Africa. Unlike many works that focus on the political economy and political ecology of large-scale diamond mining conflicts, this book's goal is to add to the limited literature on the persistent discord in mining areas. In so doing, the book integrates cultural conflict dimensions in analyzing the mineral commodity chain, primarily the clash between the centuries-old customary landlord-stranger land governance institution and state mining laws with colonial vestiges. It shows that these cultural conflicts challenge the effective development of the mining sector, including establishing artisanal mining as a viable complementary livelihood to farming for rural populations.

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Chapter 1, Introduction – Culture in Commodity Chains; Chapter 2, Sierra Leone's Global Incorporation through Mining; Chapter 3, Strangers and Policy, and Legislative Dilemmas; Chapter 4, Local Cosmology and Global Capital; Sacred Places, Environment and Livelihoods; Chapter 5, Race, Ethnicity, Class, and Gender Dynamics in Mining; Chapter 6, Conventions, Charters, and Visions: Culture and African Resource Governance Challenges

## About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Fenda A. Akiwumi is an environmental and social geographer whose research is at the intersection of the sciences, social sciences, and the humanities, with an applied, policy, and community-engaged focus. Using an interdisciplinary, holistic approach, she interrogates the relationship between resource conflicts, cultural heritage, and sustainable mining development in Africa.

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