

The term break was a busy time for Dr. Laura Fair who was celebrating the publication of her new book, *Historia ya Jamii ya Zanzibar na Nyimbo za Siti binti Saad* (TWAWEZA 2013). The book was officially launched in Nairobi, Kenya on December 20, 2013. The event was organized by the publisher, Professor Kimani Njogu of TWAWEZA, and included a panel discussion with leading Kenyan academics from the University of Nairobi, Kenyatta University, and the Catholic University of East Africa.

Dr. Fair was then invited to launch the book in Zanzibar as part of the opening ceremonies of a new NGO bearing the name of the singer, Siti binti Saad, whose life, career and political struggles are at the center of Fair's book. This evening of celebration was attended by the President of Zanzibar: Dr. Ali Mohamed Shein, the former President of Tanzania: Ali Hassan Mwinyi (1985-1995), numerous other dignitaries and 300 select invited guests. The events were broadcast live on television in Zanzibar and the Tanzanian mainland. Pictures of the event can be found at <http://michuzi-matukio.blogspot.nl/2014/01/dkt-shein-katika-uzinduzi-wa-taasisi-ya.html>

The Department of History at the University of Dar es Salaam also organized a seminar about the book on January 9, 2014, which was attended by faculty and students from the departments of History, Development Studies, Literature, Kiswahili and Fine and Performing Arts.

Publication of the book was made possible by a MSU Humanities and Arts Research Program Production Grant supplemented with research funds provided by the Department of History. This generous financial support allowed Dr. Fair to distribute 200 free copies of the book to schools, libraries, archives and individuals in Zanzibar and mainland Tanzania. This funding also allowed the publisher to make the book available for purchase in East Africa at the affordable price of \$3.50. Libraries and individuals in the west will find it available through Africa Book Collective for nineteen pounds sterling.



Dr. Fair and key organizers of the events in Zanzibar, at a planning meeting with the former President of Tanzania, Ali Hassan Mwinyi, at his home.