DONALD CRUMMEY

Personalia

In memoriam William Alfred Shack (1923–2000)

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Bill Shack died on March 31, 2000. His death marks the passing of an important stage in the development of Ethiopian Studies.


Shack was born in Chicago, on April 19, 1923. He served in the US Coast Guard during World War II and received his first degree, a BA, in 1955 from the Art Institute of Chicago, an institution internationally known for the training of artists. He then pursued an MA in anthropology at the University of Chicago and received his Ph.D. degree from the London School of Economics in 1961. Following appointments at the University of Chicago and the University of Illinois, in 1970 he joined the faculty
of the Department of Anthropology at the University of California at Berkeley, where he became a member of one of the strongest groups of Africanist anthropologists in North America.

Shack retired in 1991, receiving Berkeley’s highest commendation, the Berkeley Citation. In addition to his scholarship, he had also served the university as chair of its Anthropology Department, as faculty assistant to the vice-chancellor on affirmative action, and from 1979 to 1985 as Dean of the Graduate Division. His commitment to academic service was also testified to by his chairing, for ten years (1987–1996), the International African Institute in London, having previously (1979–1984) acted as a Consultant Editor to the institute’s journal *Africa*.

Shack was also honored by the French government and by his *alma mater*, the University of Chicago. The former named him a Chevalier de l’Ordre National du Mérite; while the Alumni Association of the latter awarded him its Distinguished Service Award.

The International African Institute is re-issuing *The Gurage* in its series “Classics in African Anthropology.” Also forthcoming is a monograph from the University of California Press, which reflects Shack’s interests in the arts and music: *Harlem in Montmartre: a Paris Jazz Story between the Great Wars*.

He is survived by his wife Dorothy and his son Hailu.

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In memoriam Tekle Tsadik Mekouria (1913–2000)

RITA PANKHURST

The Ethiopian historian, Tekle Tsadik Mekouria (Täklä Ṣadäq Mäkwärya), was born in Asagort, in the vicinity of Ankobär, Northern Ṣawa, on the first day of 1906 A.Mis. (11 September 1913), and died in Addis Ababa on 23 July 2000, at the age of eighty-seven after a long illness. He was buried at the Church of Qaranyo Mädhane ʿAläm, his funeral oration being delivered by Däggazmač Zawde Gábrä-Sällase. Tekle Tsadik played a significant part in