

House Crows in Tanzania (Samwel Moses Ntapanta)

Topics and Resources mentioned in this episode:

[00:00:54] [The Social Life of Crypto: How Digital Currencies Impact Informal Economies in the Global South](#)

Research project at Aarhus University.

[00:03:34] **Welcome to Sodom**

Krönes, C. & Weigensamer, F. (Directors). (2018). *Welcome to Sodom*. [Film]. Blackbox Film.

[00:09:24] [Interactive Minds in an Urban Ecology](#)

Seed Grant project at Aarhus University.

[00:16:23] [Crow Eradication Projects in Zanzibar](#)

Eradication projects from 1917 to present day.

See also:

- [The Wake of Crows](#). van Dooren, T. (2019). *The Wake of Crows: Living and Dying in Shared Worlds*. Columbia University Press.

Learn more about Samwel Moses Ntapanta and his research:

- [Research Page at Aarhus University](#)
- [His new book - *Gathering Electronic Waste in Tanzania: Labour, Value, and Toxicity*](#)

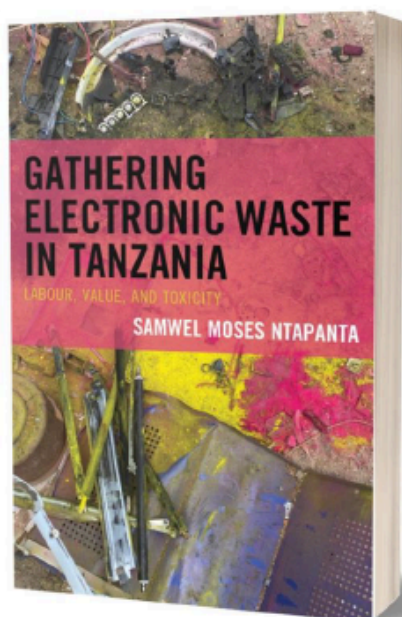
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GATHERING ELECTRONIC WASTE IN TANZANIA: LABOUR, VALUE, AND TOXICITY

By Samwel Moses Ntapanta



ABOUT THIS BOOK

Discussions of waste and electronic discard management often view micro-scale ingenious activities around unregulated recycling centers in the Global South only as a source of pollution. Using Tanzania as a case study, this book traces the lifecycle of electronic goods beyond their discard in the Global South to provide a deeper understanding of the informal sector's vital role in rethinking global discard circulations, labour, value, and toxicity.

"I highly endorse this book for its insightful exploration into Tanzanian culture through the lens of electronics' repair. Samwel Moses Ntapanta, an ethnographer, skillfully unveils the deep cultural significance of repair practices in Tanzania, illustrating how they reflect resilience and optimism for the future. This narrative not only enriches our understanding of local markets, but also sheds light on sustainable practices amid global techno-capitalism, making it essential reading for anyone interested in socio-cultural dynamics and environmental stewardship."

— Piotr Barczak, Circular Economy Program Manager, ACEN Foundation

"Grounded in long cooperation, mutual curiosity, and friendship, Ntapanta follows Tanzanians living and working with the detritus of global techno-consumerism—gathering discarded electrical appliances, extracting metals, and forging utensils from apparent waste in central Dar es Salaam. Avoiding the external observer's facile dystopianism, he provides the reader glimpses of urban everyday life in the 'downstream' regions of post-imperial techno-capitalism. Drawing on readings from Marx and thinkers of the Dar es Salaam school to contemporary anthropological theory, Ntapanta reconsiders seemingly marginal economic practices—eking out lives from residues at the end of the value chain—as central to century-long processes of value (re-)generation, extraction, and accumulation."

— Paul Wenzel Geissler, University of Oslo

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Samwel Moses Ntapanta is post-doctorate research fellow in the Department of Anthropology at Aarhus University.

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