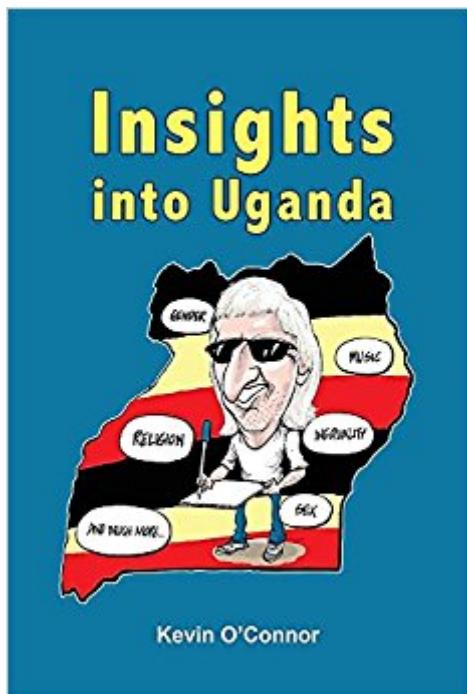


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# Insights Into Uganda



## Synopsis

This selection of newspaper articles by columnist Kevin O'Connor for the Sunday Monitor, are drawn almost entirely from 2007 to 2015. Divided into thirteen chapters ranging from sex to religion and from inequality to the environment, the 193 articles are always thoughtful, often provocative and sometimes humorous. The text is further enlivened by Moses Balagadde's cartoons. Kevin provides a multitude of insights into Ugandan society, which amply reflect both the title of his column, Roving Eye, and his catchphrase, "For the observer of human behaviour every scene has its interest."

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

There are over 150 short pieces, some originally featuring in a daily newspaper column, some written specially for the book. They're always presented with a light touch, cheeky, idiosyncratic, and sometimes a bit weird, with lots of surprises. There is much perception here too, often disguised under a cloak of prankster-ish tomfoolery. But then who was it who said "wise men learn more from fools than fools from the wise"? I must say I thoroughly enjoyed the book and had it by my bed for a while. Some of the pieces supported thoughts I'd had myself, others highlighted other funny little tropes I'd noticed but hardly taken in. I especially enjoyed the places where Kevin has a good rant: articles on why old buildings deserve respect; why people in Uganda drink beer through a straw; the status (or not) of the Kampala parks; the daftness of the Archbishop (on one particular day!); the reading culture in Uganda; the marathon; reflections on the impact of the Premier league on Uganda and its football culture; thoughts on the great Mike Mukula; the great revolving restaurant (closed now I gather); old and young in Kampala (that was an especially good one); Gaddafi in Uganda (nice to be reminded of the famous battle in Entebbe

when the armed bodyguards of the late lamented Colonel and M7 went at it hammer and tongs and there was a photo in the paper to prove it). So, don't be deterred by the cover. It's a fun book. Enjoy. I bet you Kevin is a good guy to share a story with over a beer. Even if you're not allowed to drink it through a straw

Having been lucky enough to visit Uganda few years ago I found this book a fascinating "insight" into its culture and people. Written with affection and knowledge by someone who obviously knows the country inside out. Having read Mr O'Connors previous book *Ugandan Society Observed*, which I bought on my return, I was unsure whether there could be any more to be said on the subject but indeed there is and it has left me wanting more! I must also mention the clever cartoons which I loved

Clearly written by someone who lives and works in a country that they have a great affection for, this is an interesting collection of stories, observations and anecdotes that one may dip into at random. A sort of cultural map of Uganda that delights at every turn.

This book is invaluable reading for anyone planning to visit Uganda or wishing to learn more about its culture. Kevin O'Connor has lived there for 20 years and writes with insight and humour about the way of life and customs of this fascinating country.

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