



## Africa Uprising: Popular Protest and Political Change (African Arguments)

By Adam Branch, Zachariah Mampilly

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For a long time now, Africa's political landscape has been wracked by violence. In recent years, however, a more positive force has risen in response to that violence: popular protest. Countries throughout the continent, from Tunisia and Egypt to Uganda and Senegal, have witnessed uprisings by a wide variety of people—the young, the unemployed, organized laborers, civil society activists, writers, artists, and religious groups. What is driving this massive wave of popular protest in Africa?

Drawing on interviews with activists across a number of countries, Adam Branch and Zachariah Mampilly offer a penetrating assessment of contemporary African protests, situating current popular activism within a broader historical and continental context. The first book to put contemporary popular protest in a pan-African context, *Africa Uprising* critically examines Africa's incorporation into the global economy, the failure of African governments to democratize, the behavior of opposition forces, and the role of African popular culture in the movements. In doing so, the authors provide essential research and insight for understanding African politics at this key juncture in history.

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Review

“*Africa Uprising: Popular Protest and Political Change* is a highly welcome contribution to the field, opening up new and refreshing perspectives on the study of contentious politics. . . . *Africa Uprising* provides myriad questions and answers that are likely to spark substantial new research. Readers will find an accessibly written and well-researched book that elegantly combines specific case studies with general theory-building.”

(*Africa Spectrum*)

About the Author

**Adam Branch** is Associate Professor of political science at San Diego State University and a senior research fellow at the Makerere Institute of Social Research, in Kampala, Uganda. **Zachariah Mampilly** is Director of the Program in Africana Studies and Associate Professor of political science and international studies at Vassar College.

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