

Ganzglass, M.R., THE PENAL CODE OF THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC. New Brunswick, N.J., Rutgers University Press, 1971. xxii, 647 p. \$19.50

This study of the Penal Code of the Somali Democratic Republic is the first comprehensive analysis to be published on the codified laws of Somali since the country's independence on July 1, 1960. It grows out of the author's experience during 1966-68 as a member of the United States Peace Corps, acting as Legal Adviser to the Somali National Police Force and Legal Assistant to the Ministry of Justice and Religious Affairs. The structured format of the treatise lends clarity and precision to the statutory analysis. Each Article of the Code is treated separately. First, the text is set forth in outline form for the purpose of isolating and emphasizing each operative element of the Article. Legal annotations follow, including an explanation of the Article's scope and significance and a set of one or more relevant examples. The examples are taken from reported cases of the Supreme Court of the Somali Democratic Republic, and where case law is not available, from simplified versions of actual police case histories. This scholarly work is not only useful for its interpretation of the Somali Penal Code, it provides an excellent resource for examining the confluence of forces which shaped the Code: Italian statutory law, Islam, and Somali customary legal principles.

Phyllis Kay Dryden

Student
Columbia Law School