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Abstract: After lagging for 500 years, Africa is now on the cusp of a brighter future and this presents challenges to leaders of African countries. Commencing with an introduction: For such a time as this: African leadership challenges by Charles R. Sith (Director of the African Presidential Archives and Research Center, Boston), the book contains thirteen essays by various retired African leaders: Burundi: on the precipice of pandemonium and peace (Pierre Buyoya); Dilemmas and challenges of service: presidential reflections (Kenneth Kaunda, Zambia); Challenges of African leadership in the 21st century (Ketumile Masire, Botswana); The challenge of democratization (Benjamin Mkapa, Tanzania); What leadership means relative to Africa's progress and development (Daniel Arap Moi, Kenya); Toward Africa's future: the role of African political leaders (António Monteiro, Cape Verde); Efforts in relation to the progress of the State (Bakili Muluzi, Malawi); Transforming Tanzania: leadership challenges (1985-1995) (Ali Hassan Mwinyi); From Bell village to the state house (Karl Auguste Offmann, Mauritius); A way out of no way: the Cape Verde story (Aristides Pereira); The economy is always the ultimate test (Navichandra Ramgoolam, Mauritius); Philosophical and practical thoughts on leadership (Jerry Rawlings, Ghana); and Les défis pour les dirigeants: a post-colonial vision for Francophone Africa (Nicéphore Soglo, Benin). [ASC Leiden abstract]