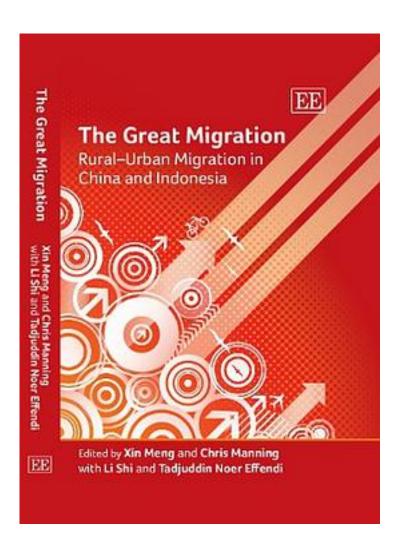
The Great Migration



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The suroival of our wildlife is a matter of grave concern to all of u; in Ah-ica. 1-hess, wdd
br>creatures amid the wild places they inhabit are not only important as a ;ource

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and inspiration but are an integral part of our natural resources and of our {\ltturi\4\C hv~ hhi\4\C .~i\4\Ci\4\C!\4\br > and well-being.\left\right\ri >MWALIMU JULIUS K. NYEREREϼŒ FIRST PRESIDENT OF TANZANIA
 Two tawny ears were all that were visible of the lioness crouched among the smooth-surfaced rocks of the granite outcrop. She gazed into the distance "4" ~harp
spes narrowed to golden slitsi¼Œ her attention riveted on the column of black speck*
 >emerging out of the dawn on the eastern horizon. Every so often she shook her
 >grizzled headi¼Œ temporarily dislodging the horde of bothersome flies that clung t~
tthe edges of her ragged ears. Even at that great distance she recognised the
 >approaching animals as wildebeest. They were one of her most favoured pre,,
old as she was, she was still quite capable of killing for herself.
 The rocky island which hid the watching liones's rose like some medieval
fortress among the vastness of the Serengeti plain. Besides lionsii/4Œ such outcropii¼Œ
or kopjes harbour an extraordinary variety of creaturesii¼Œ some of which spend
their entire lives cloistered within these secret environs. No single group ~t
kopjes is quite the same as another. Eachi¼Œ in its own wayi¼Œ acts like a stone ark

ark/br/>
anchored in a sea of grass.

br > Distinctive clusters of kopjes bear names bestowed on them long ago by

br >nomadic tribesmen and adventurers of an earlier era: Masai pastoralistsi¼Œ trophy
huntersi¼Œ game wardens. To the west are the Moru Kopjesi¼Œ a sprawling complex

of rock shrouded by thick vegetation where plains and woodlands merge. Here br > each year a pair of Verreaux s eagles build their huge stick nest on a pedestal of
rockii¼Œ soaring overhead on long black wings in daily search of an unwary hvra~.
To the east stand the low flung Gols, gaunt, lonely shapes set among the ,hort
grass plains, where cheetahs often hunt. Near the centre of the park within < br > sight of Seronera Lodge - the Masai Kopjes attract bus-loads of tourists who
gather expectantly each morning and evening in the hope of catching a glimpse-br > of the leopard and her two boisterous cubs which have temporarily taken up

br >residence there. And i¼Œ close to the main road between Naabi Hill and Seronera,
are the Simba Kopjes, jutting from the earth thirty metres high in one place, and
named for the lions that are so often found therei¼Œ keeping watch over the plains
from some cool place of concealment.
 The wildebeest moved steadily closer 4 breaking into a gallop as they shied away
from a small pack of muddy-coated hyaenas, whose thick hair)i¼Œ necks were
matted red with the blood of last night s kill. But the predators hardly seemed to < br > notice the passing herdi¼Œ content for the moment to slumber full-bellied in their
favourite wallow. The wildebeest had spent the night feeding on the higher
br >ground to the south. Now they were head ed towards a pool of sparkling blue-br >water where zebra had already gathered to drink in the shadow of the Simba

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