

**Karl Kumm: Last of the Livingstones; Pioneer Missionary Statesman.  
By Peter J. Spartalis. Bonn: Verlag fur Kultur und Wissenschaft, 1994.  
Pp. 116, paperback (no price indicated).**

The purpose of this publication is to remind Germans about an illustrious but almost forgotten son of theirs: Dr. Kumm (1874-1938), a missionary statesman of notable achievement.

Kumm rode the crest of the wave of his day in his passion about the evangelization of Sub-Saharan Africa, then known as the "Sudan." He explored the Sudan from West to East in Livingstone style. He was a determined visionary who spoke, wrote and drove himself with a passion.

In addition to exploring the Sudan when this was unknown territory to Westerners, he also traveled through many Western countries and their southern outposts in order to recruit missions to join the British-based Sudan United Mission (SUM), which sought to establish a chain of churches across Africa and to halt the march of Islam.

Kumm wrote several books about his African adventures. The passion and force in his speaking and writing ensured his success in establishing so many branches of the SUM in so many countries. He was the guest of many national leaders and a public hero. Today's vigorous churches from Nigeria's Middle Belt to modern Sudan are a living testimony to Kumm's heritage.

Spartalis and the publishers have done well to revive the memory of this admirable missionary. However, Spartalis has failed in his secondary motive--to prove my estimate of Kumm wrong. It stands, untouched and unscathed.

Spartalis is an Australian mission historian. He heads up the Department of Church History and Missions of the Nairobi Evangelical Graduate School of Theology.

Reviewer: Dr. Jan H. Boer--a Canadian, formerly of the Institute of Church & Society, Jos, Nigeria, but now a freelancer in Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA.