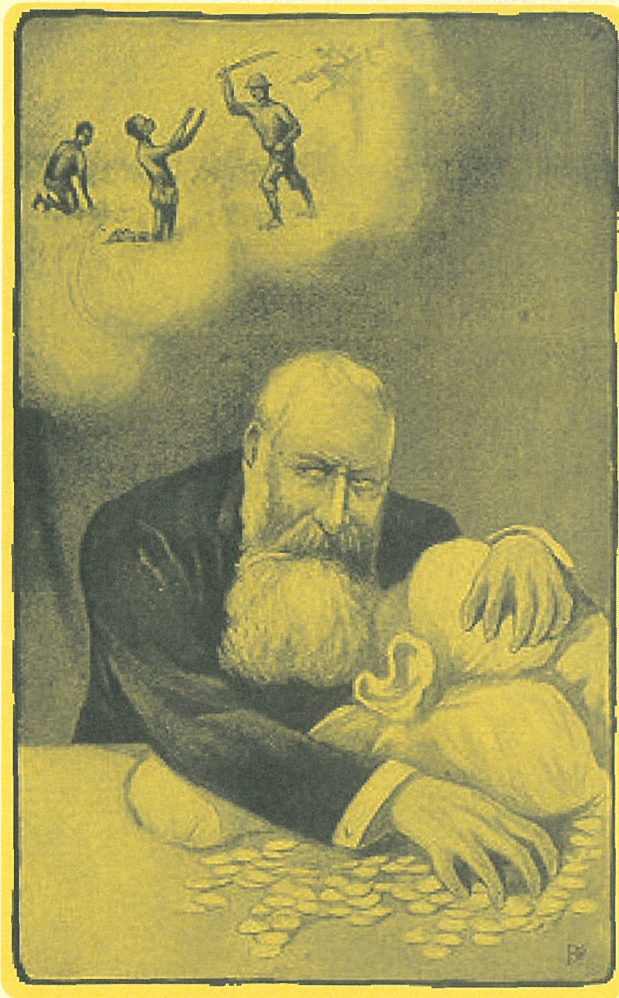


This lecture is held in conjunction with conference on "Reclaiming the Congo and Its Potential for Africa." For more information contact African Studies 333-6335 or www.afrst.uiuc.edu.

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Background to Catastrophe



King Leopold II and the Conquest of the Congo

While casually reading a book on an airplane, Adam Hochschild noticed a reference to Mark Twain's involvement in a worldwide movement protesting atrocities in the Congo, events that had taken five to eight million lives. The savagery of Belgium's King Leopold II, the incredible human tragedies and heroism in Africa, as well as the emergence of what appears to be the first worldwide human rights movement in the 20th century are histories that had not been told in the U.S. since these events.

For background information, please consult www.cas.uiuc.edu or the CAS Events Line, 333-1119.

Adam Hochschild

Journalist and author King Leopold's Ghost: A Story of Greed, Terror, and Heroism in Colonial Africa

**October 11, 2001
Thursday 4:00 pm**

Third Floor, Levis Faculty Center
919 West Illinois Street, Urbana
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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Illustration: Printed in *King Leopold's Soliloquy: A Defense of His Congo Rule* by Mark Twain, second edition 1905