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Open Access Publishing of a UDC: Maynooth University's Ken Saro-Wiwa Archive

Helen Fallon

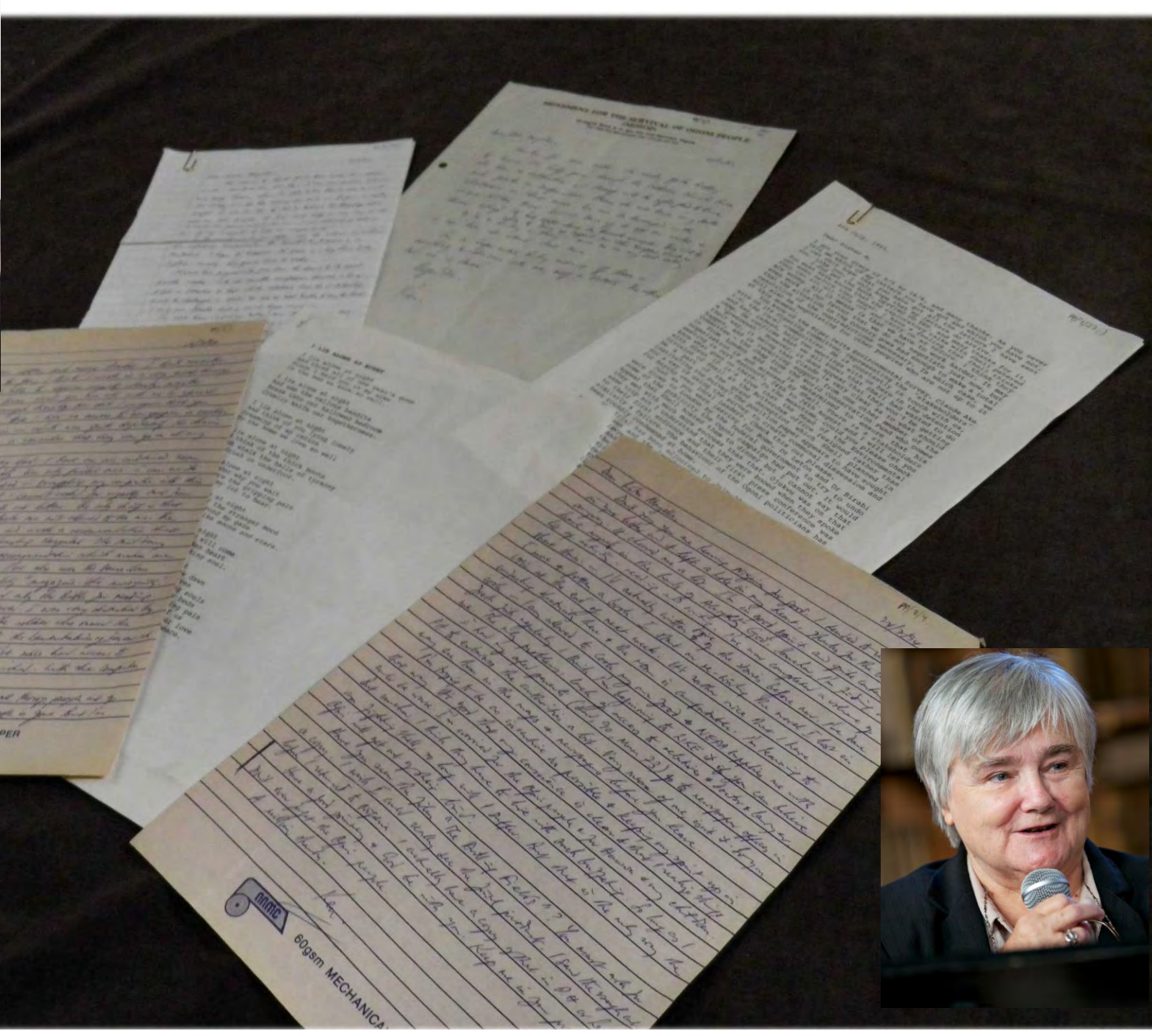
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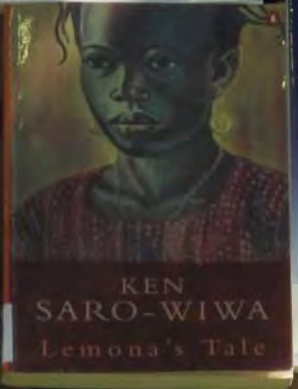
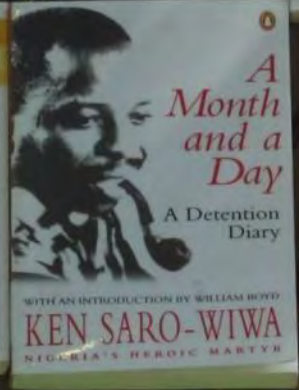
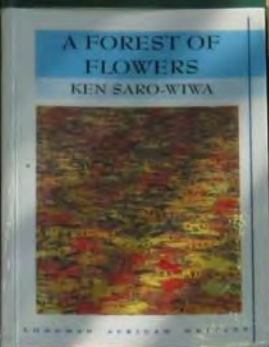
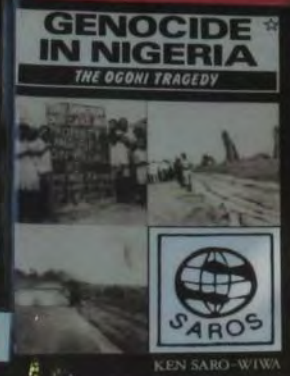
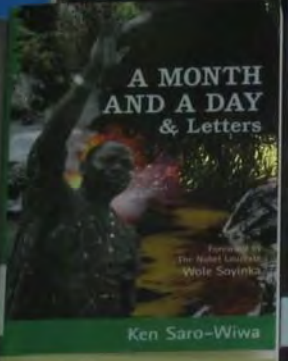
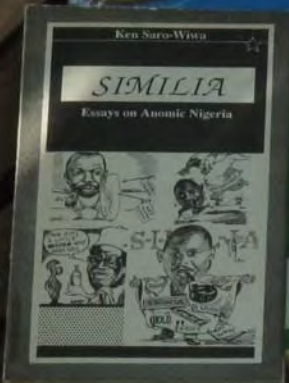
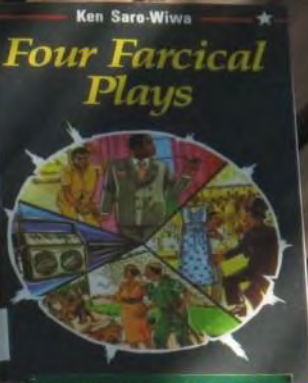
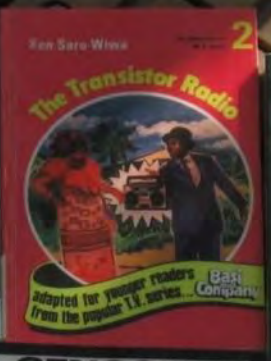


**Leading
Nigerian Writer
Businessman
Activist**



Map 1. The Niger Delta, showing Ogoniland













A typical spill site within Ogoniland, many of which remain unaddressed for long periods of time



**Destruction of Ogoni settlement,
Port Harcourt**

80 1 2





13/7/94

Dear Ashtu,

I got your letter, and many thanks. I don't remember what I wrote to you, I think I wrote in a very great hurry and so was not able to express myself clearly, maybe.

Of course, I know that you are all with me in spirit and am very encouraged thereby. Nor did I imagine that you were doing nothing. But I had no access to newspapers or radio, and I was in chains — which was quite depressing. The chains hang on my table, a reminder that they can go on at any time.

My condition is not very bad. I have an air-conditioned room to myself, and the electricity has only failed once. I can write and only yesterday succeeded in smuggling my computer into this place. I can cook (though I cannot cook) for myself and from time to time, I can smuggle out letters. The only thing is that family members, lawyers and doctors are not allowed to see me. The military doctor came just once and wrote a recommendation that I be sent to the University Teaching Hospital. The military Administrator has ignored the recommendation which makes me believe that he wants me dead. I've also seen the Sanctions things he's said about me in "Quality" magazine. It's annoying!

In my first month here, I had only the Bible for reading. I decided to read it from cover to cover. I was very disturbed by the violence in the Book of Joshua. The soldier who owned the Bible has taken it away. I had gotten to the Lamentations of Jeremiah. Of course, the Bible is a great book. I've since had access to other books and my mind is well-nourished. With the computer now here, I think I'll be quite busy.

My worry, as ever, is the Gyanis people. With all the money people out of the way, the production which we offered the people is gone. But I'm



PP/7/1.

10. F. Con
Jan.

**MOVEMENT FOR THE SURVIVAL OF Ogoni PEOPLE
(MOSOP)**

24 Aggrey Road, P. O. Box 193, Port Harcourt, Nigeria
Tel: 084-331763/335658 Fax: 234-84-331763

20/10/93

Dear Ashu Manjella,

Thanks for your note. I'm really quite happy to have EC help pass through the Catholic Church. You've all been so supportive and Mosop will be right glad to have such friends or supervisors. Please do not have any doubts whatsoever on that score. We are so swamped with responsibilities that having some of it off our necks is sheer relief. I'll tell UNPO about the Brussels connection. They will be able to drum up support from other European countries.

4:30 on Sunday is okay - more so as my last rally is at Bori at about that time.

I'm in Lagos until Friday morning. If there is anything to discuss with me, ring on 837955. The other tel. no is dead.

Regards -

Ken.



FROM
KEN
1974

MOSOP

OGONI MUST SURVIVE

Publisher

- Daraja Press
- Daraja - KiSwahili word for bridge
- not-for-profit international publishing collective
- seeks to build bridges and highlight oppression, environmental issues and resources globally
- endeavour to make books available on open access, while also having print copies for sale



**Ollscoil
Mhá Nuad**

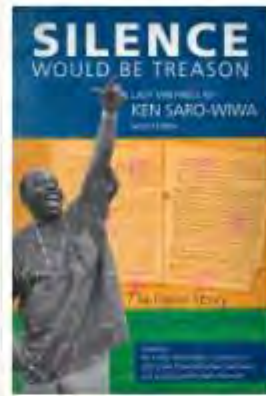
Ollscoil na hÉireann
Má Nuad

FEATURED BOOKS



The Enduring Relevance of Walter Rodney's 'How Europe Underdeveloped Africa'

By [Karim Hirji](#)



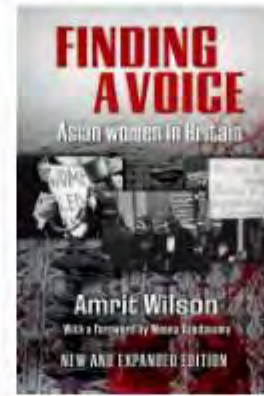
Silence Would Be Treason: Last writings of Ken Saro-Wiwa (Expanded 2nd Edition)

By [Helen Fallon](#), [Ide Corley](#), [Ken Saro-Wiwa](#), [Laurence Poirer](#)



Jackson Rising: The Struggle for Economic Democracy and Black Self-Determination in Jackson, Mississippi

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By [Tariq Mehmood](#)



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The Travails of a Tanzanian Teacher

By [Karim Hirji](#)

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October 25, 2018



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January 18, 2019

The legacy of Ken Saro-Wiwa at

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Working for a just world.

Trócaire felt it was important to support this project with a mini-grant because of its strong business and human rights approach, and also because it was part of Trócaire's own history as the organisation was actively involved in the Ogoni Nine campaign in the 1990s

Patricia Groves,

Telling the Ogoni Story



**Ollscoil
Mhá Nuad**

Ollscoil na hÉireann
Má Nuad

Silence Would Be Treason Last writings of Ken Saro-Wiwa (2nd Edition)

Corley, Ide and Fallon, Helen and Cox, Laurence (2018) *Silence Would Be Treason Last writings of Ken Saro-Wiwa (2nd Edition)*. Daraja Press. ISBN 78-1-988832-04-3



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Abstract

THESE LETTERS AND POEMS are invaluable fragments of a living conversation that portrays the indomitable power in humans to stay alive in the face of certain death — to stay alive even in death. Reading through the treasure trove of the letters and poems compiled here as *The Last Writings of Ken Saro-Wiwa* evoked such intense memories of his resolute struggles against an oil behemoth and a deaf autocratic government. His crusade frames one of the most tumultuous periods of Nigeria's history; his tragic story evokes anger and demands action to resolve the crises that first led the Ogoni people to demand that Shell clean up Ogoni or clear out of the territory. It was his leadership, in great part, that forced Shell out of Ogoni in January 1993. These letters are a testament of hope. Being one side of robust conversations between two persons that many would find unlikely as close friends, we learn the lessons that indeed 'friends love at all times and brothers (and sisters) are born for adversity', as a proverb in the Bible states. This is where we must applaud Sister Majella McCarron for preserving and making public these letters that Ken Saro-Wiwa wrote to her between 20 October 1993 and 14 September 1995.

Item Type: Book

Keywords: Ken Saro-Wiwa; Sister Majella McCarron; Ogoni; MOSOP; Niger Delta; Shell; Royal Dutch Shell; MOSOP; oil; Nigeria; Graham Kay; Anne O'Brien; Mark Dummett; Noo Saro-Wiwa; Ken Saro-Wiwa Audio Archive; Ken Saro-Wiwa Bursary;

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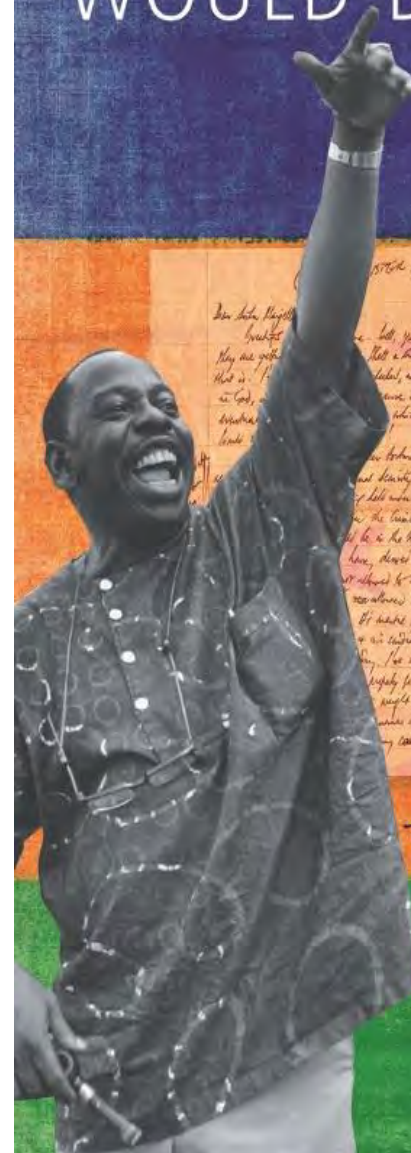
LAST WRITINGS OF
KEN SARO-WIWA

Edited by
Íde Corley • Helen Fallon • Laurence Cox
with a foreword by *Nnimmo Bassey*

SILENCE WOULD BE TREASON

LAST WRITINGS OF
KEN SARO-WIWA

2nd Revised Edition



*The Ogoni story
will have to be told!*

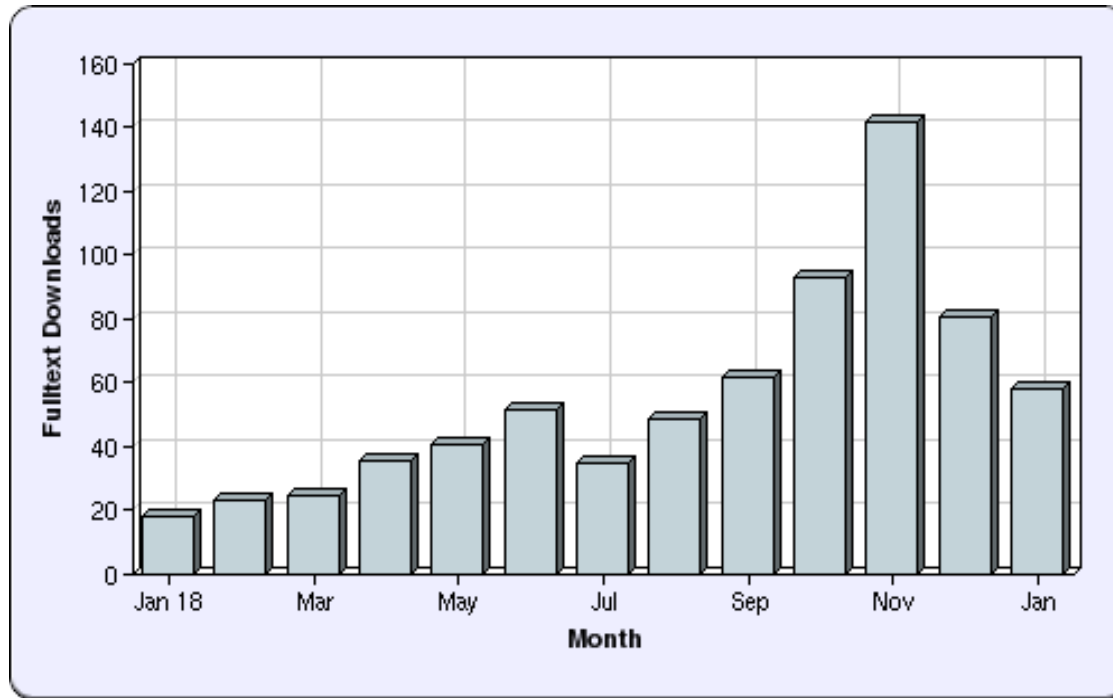
Edited by
Íde Corley, Helen Fallon, Laurence Cox
with a new foreword by *Noo Saro-Wiwa*
and an afterword by *Mark Dummett*



Book Launch Abuja, Nigeria

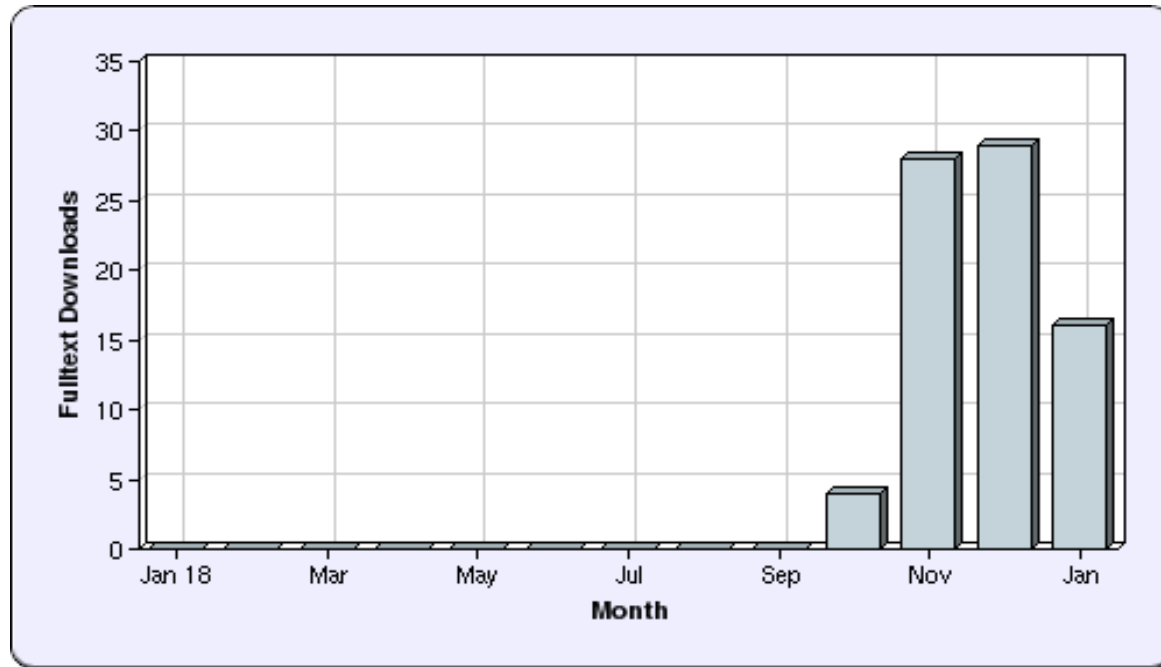


1st edition downloads in 2018 – 700 approx.

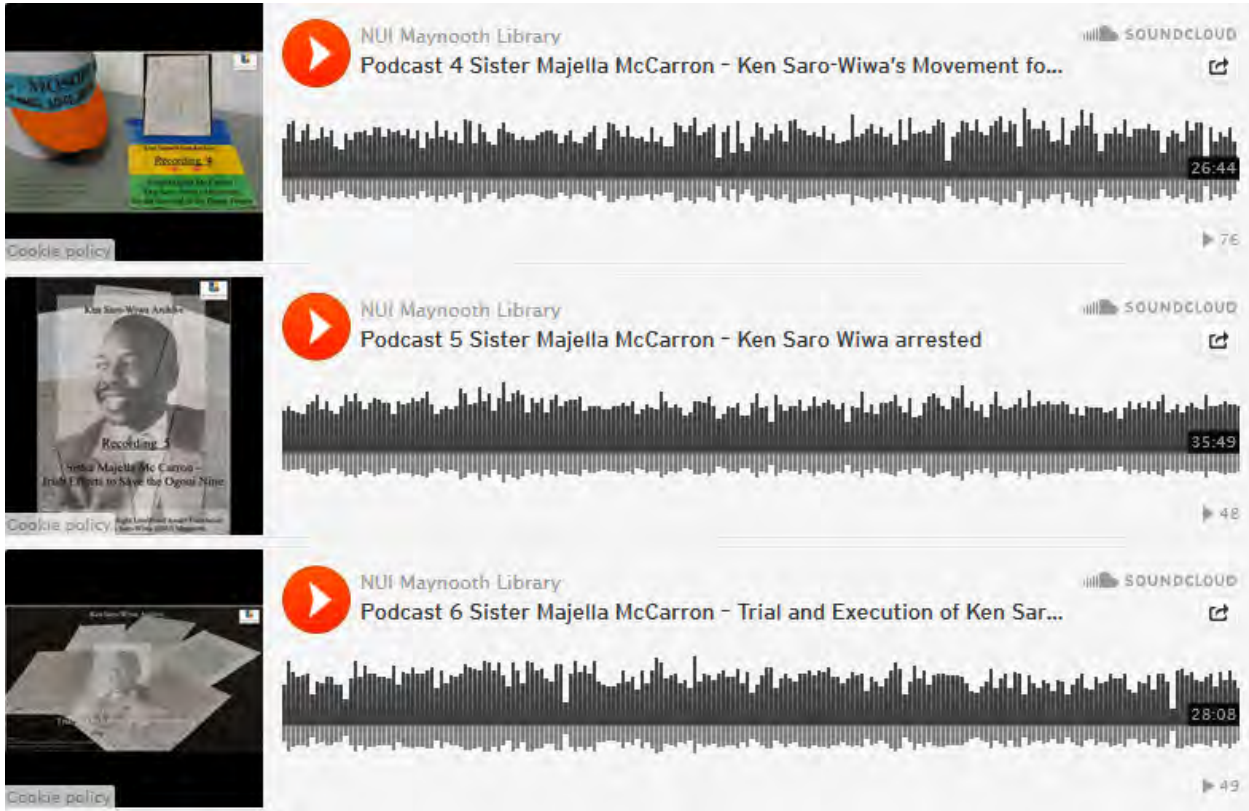


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Launched 14 November 2018



The Ken Saro-Wiwa Audio Archive



The image shows three SoundCloud audio player thumbnails arranged vertically. Each thumbnail includes a play button icon, the uploader 'NUI Maynooth Library', the podcast title, a waveform, the duration, and a share icon. The first thumbnail is for 'Podcast 4 Sister Majella McCarron - Ken Saro-Wiwa's Movement fo...' with a duration of 26:44 and 76 plays. The second is for 'Podcast 5 Sister Majella McCarron - Ken Saro Wiwa arrested' with a duration of 35:49 and 48 plays. The third is for 'Podcast 6 Sister Majella McCarron - Trial and Execution of Ken Sar...' with a duration of 28:08 and 49 plays. Each thumbnail also features a small thumbnail image on the left: a recording sign for the first, a portrait of Ken Saro-Wiwa for the second, and a newspaper clipping for the third.

NUI Maynooth Library
Podcast 4 Sister Majella McCarron - Ken Saro-Wiwa's Movement fo...
26:44
76

NUI Maynooth Library
Podcast 5 Sister Majella McCarron - Ken Saro Wiwa arrested
35:49
48

NUI Maynooth Library
Podcast 6 Sister Majella McCarron - Trial and Execution of Ken Sar...
28:08
49

Kairos Communications & MU Library

Series of recorded interviews of people connected with Ken Saro-Wiwa



Challenges, successes, learning

- Finding a reputable publisher
- The Legal Framework – book, movie
- Ethics
- Making the book available worldwide free of charge
- Building relationships – Sister Majella, Saro-Wiwa family, co-editors, publisher, Trocáire, new communities in Ireland
- Team Effort – different expertise
- Belief, enthusiasm & effort
- Be brave!
- Librarians can transform lives/Open Access can transform lives



**Ollscoil
Mhá Nuad**

Ollscoil na hÉireann
Má Nuad

Sister Marijella,

I read your notes with great pleasure. I'm sorry to hear about the illness of your mum. I hope she recovers. Please keep putting your thoughts on paper. Who knows how we can use them in Jubilee. The Opini story will have to be told!