Claude Boucher is a Catholic priest in the Society of Missionaries of Africa, or the “White Fathers”. He has spent over 40 years living and working amongst the people of Malawi, and as a natural anthropologist, he studied traditional practices of these cultures with which he had lived contact over the decades, notably the Chichewa. Boucher has written extensively about Malawi’s cultural heritage, and he has documented the details of the great dance in a special international collection of data from numerous interrelated, and through direct documentation, the great dance in photographs and video footage. Through photographic images and written form, Claude Boucher has been a strong advocate for the importance of recognizing the richness of African art and culture/religion/ethnography. In this book, the reader will find a lively interpretation of the great dance, which is a spectacle and spirituality that is the great dance. The book is a worthy tribute to the majesty, splendour and spirituality that is the great dance.

When Animals Sing and Spirits Dance: The Great Dance of the Chewa People of Malawi
Claude Boucher (Chisale)

Claude Boucher

When Animals Sing and Spirits Dance: the Great Dance of the Chewa People of Malawi
Additional text by Gary J. Morgan
Photographs by Arjen van de Merwe

The jacket illustration depicts a stylised scene of gule wamkulu with a traditional setting, where the dancers are seen as a fusion of nature and culture, and the dancers are in traditional costumes. The illustration is overlaid with an image of a moon, enhancing the mystical and spiritual aspects of the dance. The title and author details are clearly visible on the jacket, with the author's name in bold.

The jacket illustration is complemented by a photograph of Claude Boucher, the author of the book. The photograph is placed at the bottom of the jacket, adding a personal touch to the book's presentation.

The jacket also includes additional text by Gary J. Morgan, and photographs by Arjen van de Merwe, which are acknowledged on the jacket.

The jacket illustration and photograph are designed to catch the reader's attention, conveying the book's theme of the great dance and its cultural significance.

Additional text by Gary J. Morgan
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