



Map: Sandoa and other Franciscan mission posts in southwestern Katanga Province in the former Belgian Congo.

1985: figs. 60–61).<sup>7</sup> It is in the same region in Katanga that Belgian Franciscan missionaries were active.

#### Franciscan Missionaries among the Chokwe in Katanga

The Chokwe heartland is in northeastern Angola between the Kwango and Kasai Rivers. Chokwe history goes back to the 16th or the 15th century, when Lunda chiefs invaded present-day Angola and conquered the local people. The Chokwe gradually developed their own culture. It is believed that Chokwe art reached its peak when great chiefdoms with a centralized political authority developed in Angola during the 18th and 19th centuries. This political evolution was accompanied by the birth of a court style aimed at exalting the sovereign. In the second half of the 19th century, the Chokwe population grew enormously, and at the end of that century they had expanded into the Bandundu, Kasai, and Katanga Provinces in present-day Democratic Republic of the Congo. In the first decades of the 20th century, part of the

<sup>7</sup> Crowley also collected a number of objects during his field research, which are primarily at the Lowie Museum, University of California, Berkeley. The objects that Frobenius and Himmelheber collected are in both public and private collections (Zwernemann und Lohse 1985: fig. 167; Gardi 1986: 111). Another noteworthy old collection of Angolan Chokwe material culture and art is that gathered by Alfred Schachtzabel during a collecting expedition for the Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin, in 1913–14 (Schachtzabel 1923; see also Heintze 1995). In 1932–33 Théodore Delachaux assembled a Chokwe collection in Angola for the Musée d'ethnographie, Neuchâtel (Delachaux et Thiébaud 1934; Kaehr 1992; see also Falgayrettes 1988: 25, 32). A couple of masks collected by Delachaux were acquired by the Museum der Kulturen, Basel, in 1934 (Gardi 1986: 106 f., 109).