

2021 Mary Kingsley Zochonis Lecture Series

The ASAUK Council awarded the honour of giving Mary Kingsley Zochonis Lectures to two lecturers this year: Dr Gibson Ncube and Dr Neo Pule.

On 26th June, Dr Gibson Ncube gave his lecture, 'Queerness is Unafican?: The Complexity of Non-normative Sexual and Gender Identities in Africa'.

In Africa, politicians have pushed the idea that queer sexualities were foreign to Africa and were a decadent import from the West. At the same time, in the West, the queerphobic sentiments expressed by politicians have been used to view Africa as backward. These are some of the general (mis)conceptions that people have about queerness in Africa. This lecture examined what queerness looks like in Africa's past and present. It also looks at the changes that have taken place in the kinds of methods used to understand it. This change is marked by a turn from the seminal texts of scholars such Michel Foucault, David Halperin and Judith Butler to the work of African theorists like Zethu Mathebani, Stella Nyanzi and Keguro Macharia. In considering all these issues about queerness in Africa, Dr Ncube set out to explain the importance of grounding knowledge production on African queerness in African lived experiences as well as within African modes of thinking and being. This will be possible through forging inter-regional and intra-continental conversations that speak to the diverse socio-historical and cultural experiences of the continent. Such grounding in local experiences, Dr Ncube argued, is important in articulating African queer subjectivities in their multilayered complexities.

Dr Gibson Ncube is Associate Professor of French in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature at the University of Zimbabwe. His academic work is positioned at the intersections of literature, cultural studies, and gender/sexuality studies. In particular, he undertakes pioneering work in the field of queer African studies. His unique scholarly expertise allows him to broaden the scope of this emerging field, bringing in Francophone and North African perspectives. He also pushes its boundaries by explicitly engaging with questions of decolonising queer studies in contemporary Africa.

A widely published academic, alongside over 30 journal articles and book chapters, Gibson is the author of *La sexualité queer au Maghreb à travers la littérature* (L'Harmattan, 2018), and is currently completing a book titled *Queer Bodies in African Films*. At present, he serves as co-convenor of the Queer African Studies Association, a coordinate organisation of the African Studies Association, and holds a 2021 Virtual Research Fellowship with the University of Leeds.

Queer related subjects have a contested status in many countries on the African continent, both in the academy and beyond. Moreover, work in this area also remains rather marginal in African Studies at large. By inviting Dr Ncube to deliver one of the two 2021 Mary Kingsley Zochonis Lectures, ASUK recognises the critical importance of this field of research and its significance for broader conversations regarding African cultural subjectivities, social formations, political structures, and decolonial epistemologies.

On a Saturday in September 2021 (date to be confirmed), 5-6pm, Dr Neo Pule will present her Mary Kingsley Zochonis Lecture, 'Decolonising Research Methodologies in Psychology: Social Dream Drawing Studies of the Student Leadership Context in South Africa.'

Dr Neo Pule is a registered Counselling Psychologist with the Health Professions Council of South Africa and holds a doctorate in Consulting Psychology. Her work experience integrates Student Affairs, Counselling and Development, leadership consulting, academia and social dream drawing (SDD) research. In 2021, she launched 'The Agile Student Leader of the 21st century' project as a result of the National Research Foundation Black Academic Advancement Program award.

Through understanding student leadership experiences by means of social dream drawing, Dr Pule anticipates the South African student leadership competency framework which will enable scholarly based coherent student leadership development efforts in the country. Her belief that student leaders are leaders of the future is central to her drive towards the pursuit for well-grounded scholarly initiatives towards student leadership development. Dr Pule previously received awards from the British Academy in 2018 and currently the British Council Newton Fund Researcher Links Travel Grant. Other previous local and international awards include Award for Most Promising Young Researcher by National Student Development Association in 2015 and the Emerging Scholar Program hosted in Japan in 2016 during the International Psychology Congress.

Please check the ASUK webpage for details on how to register for Dr Pule's lecture: <https://www.asauk.net/2021-mary-kingsley-zochonis-lecture-series-by-dr-gibson-ncube-and-dr-neo-pule/>

Conferences Future...

INTERNATIONAL

'Re-inventing/Reconstructing Cosmopolitanism in Contested Spaces and Post-Conflict Zones', International Conference, University of Rijeka, Cres, Croatia, 25–27 May 2022. The aim of this international conference is to encourage a multi- and transdisciplinary discussion of one of the core analytical and normative problems of our troubled present: the challenge of cultivating inclusive civic and social spaces at a moment when difference is ubiquitously threatened by exclusionary ethno-nationalisms, the construction of material and symbolic walls of separation, spaces of conflict, and violence-laden representations of the essential alienness of cultural, political, and religious others.

Organised by the Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory (University of Belgrade), The Center for Advanced Studies Southeast Europe (University of Rijeka-Cres), The George and Irina Schaeffer Center for the Study of Genocide, Human Rights and Conflict Prevention, The American University of Paris (Paris), The Centre de Relations Internationales (SciencesPo-CERI) and The Faculty of Media and Communications (Belgrade), the conference welcomes critical examinations of this problem in various socio-spatial and temporal contexts – refugee flows and transnational migrations generated by poverty and war, civil conflicts and interactions in the world's border areas and megacities where 'North and South' and 'East and West' uneasily meet, post-conflict zones at the edges of and in the interstices of states and empire(s). The organisers aim to broaden the scope to reflections on the necessary rethinking/reinvention/reconstitution of cosmopolitan space(s) challenged by social conflicts, war and/or mass violence.

Topics for suggested papers include theoretical and philosophical foundations of cosmopolitanism; social science inquiry into the dynamics and precursors of social violence leading to disassembling of cosmopolitan space(s); historical examination of inclusive societies; their establishment and disassembling; innovative interventions and other forms of social activism designed to reconcile conflict and promote co-existence; memory controversies and efforts to address conflicting readings of the cosmopolitan past; cosmopolitan critiques of globalisation and problems of global justice; the crisis of hospitality and the sociohistory of the labels of 'othering' (refugees, immigrants, expatriots, asylees, displaced persons, internally displaced persons, stateless persons); and peace theory and cosmopolitanism.

The organisers very much hope this event can happen in person. As the epidemiological situation shifts, we will need to decide what is feasible by the end of 2021. If need be we are technically equipped and prepared to transition our event to an online hybrid format. Applicants should send a short bio and abstract up to 500 words by 15th September 2021 to cosmocres2022@gmail.com

Theses Recently Accepted at UK Universities

Jonathan Adeyemi (2021), 'Trending in the Margins: Contemporary Art from Nigeria in the Global Markets', Ph.D thesis, Queen's University Belfast. Supervisors: Dr David Robb and David Grant; <https://pure.qub.ac.uk/en/studentTheses/trending-in-the-margins>

Isiaka Ilori Ajani-Lawal (2021), 'Workplace Leadership Development for Young Professionals through Continuous, Inclusive and Low Cost Strategies: A Case Study of a Financial Institution in West Africa', D.B.A. thesis, University of Liverpool. Supervisors: Dr Hardy Pascale, Dr Victoria Hanna and Dr Lucia Morales; https://livrepository.liverpool.ac.uk/3118125/1/H00023732_Jan2021.pdf

Francis Kwame Appiah (2021), 'Enhancing Resilience to Drought and Ecosystem Change in Drylands: Assessing Principles of Building Social-ecological Resilience in Northern Ghana', Ph.D thesis, Open University. Supervisors: Professor Shonil Bhagwat and Professor Giles Mohan; <http://oro.open.ac.uk/75531/>

Ekpotuatin Charles Ariye (2021), 'Treaties as a Central Diplomatic Tool in the 'Legal' Pacification, and Colonisation of the Western Lower Niger, 1884-1914', Ph.D thesis, Keele University. Supervisor: Dr Rachel Bright; <https://eprints.keele.ac.uk/9275/>

Onoriode Reginald Aziza (2021), 'Securities Regulation, Enforcement and Market Integration in the Development of Sub-Saharan Africa's Capital Markets', D.Phil thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Professor Luca Enriques.

Talaso Dulacha Barako (2021), 'Exploring Antenatal Care Experiences Amongst Pastoralist Communities in Kenya: A Focused Ethnographic Study', Ph.D thesis, University of Nottingham. Supervisors: Professor Helen Spiby, Dr Catrin Evans and Dr Konstantinidis Stathis; <http://eprints.nottingham.ac.uk/64159/>

Mackson Sheyi Ejejigbe, (2021), 'Exploratory Study of Interventions and Challenges Faced by Indigenous NGOs Supporting Start-up Businesses (Established by Young Entrepreneurs) in Nigeria's Niger-Delta region', Ph.D thesis, University of Wales Trinity Saint David. Supervisors: Professor Jill Venus and Dr Okeoma John-Paul Okeke; <https://repository.uwtsd.ac.uk/id/eprint/1620/>

Daniel Fobi (2021), 'Role of Interpreting in the Inclusion of Deaf Students in Tertiary Education in Ghana', Ph.D thesis, University of Leeds. Supervisors: Professor Ruth Swanwick and Dr Jacqueline Salter; <https://etheses.whiterose.ac.uk/28816/>

Hannah M. Graff (2021), 'Talking About Sugar in South Africa: A Grounded Policy Reflection in the Context of NCDs and HIV', DrPH thesis, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London. Supervisors: Professor Janet Seeley and Dr Benjamin Hawkins; <https://researchonline.lshtm.ac.uk/id/eprint/4659917/>

Martha Suzanne Hurst (2021), 'The Faith Factor: A Study on the Responses of Neo-Pentecostal Churches during the 2014 Ebola Outbreak in Monrovia, Liberia', Ph.D thesis, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London. Supervisors: Professor Heidi Larson and Dr Hana Rohan; <https://researchonline.lshtm.ac.uk/id/eprint/4659847/>

Oluwabamidele Ibrahim Kogbe (2021), 'Rethinking Civil Society Regionalism in Africa: Critical Reflections on West Africa', Ph.D thesis, University of Dundee. Supervisors: Professor Cameron Ross and Professor Kurt Mills; <https://discovery.dundee.ac.uk/en/studentTheses/rethinking-civil-society-regionalism-in-africa>

John Wangwe Makokha (2021), 'Integrated Corporate Social Innovation: Unmasking a Values-based Corporate Sustainability Framework for the Management of Corporate Sustainability Tensions in Financial Institutions in Sub-Saharan Africa', Ph.D thesis, University of Kent. Supervisors: Dr Adolf Acquaye, Dr Eddy Hogg and Professor Martin Meyer; <https://kar.kent.ac.uk/88154/>

Deogratius J. Mhella (2021), 'From Financial Exclusion to Financial Inclusion: The Neoliberal Rolling Back-Rolling Out Paradox and the Growth of Mobile Money in Tanzania', Ph.D thesis, University of Bristol. Supervisors: Dr Egle Cesnulyte and Dr Adrian Flint; <https://research-information.bris.ac.uk/en/studentTheses/from-financial-exclusion-to-financial-inclusion>

Harriet Ruth Moore (2021), 'Quaternary Fire Activity in Northern Africa Reconstructed from Charcoal Records in Marine Sediments', Ph.D thesis, University of Southampton Supervisor: Professor Paul Wilson; <https://eprints.soton.ac.uk/447352/>

John Musau (2021), 'Land Cover Change Impacts on Water and Energy Balance in East Africa', Ph.D thesis, Bangor University. Supervisor: Dr Sopan Patil; [https://research.bangor.ac.uk/portal/en/theses/land-cover-change-impacts-on-water-and-energy-balance-in-east-africa\(8ae23e2e-bfe4-41d2-9408-faf669d220a8\).html](https://research.bangor.ac.uk/portal/en/theses/land-cover-change-impacts-on-water-and-energy-balance-in-east-africa(8ae23e2e-bfe4-41d2-9408-faf669d220a8).html)

Saumu Ibrahim Mwashia (2021), 'Livelihoods, Vulnerability, and Adaptation to Climate Change of Small-holder Farmers in Kilimanjaro, Tanzania', Ph.D thesis, Keele University. Supervisors: Dr Zoe Robinson, Professor Nigel Cassidy, Dr Sami Ullah and Dr Michael Musgrave; <https://eprints.keele.ac.uk/9273/>

Raqib Abu Salia (2021), 'Customary Land Tenure and Land Readjustment: Land Administration in Semi-arid Ghana', Ph.D thesis, University of Manchester. Supervisor: Dr Deljana Iossifova; [https://www.research.manchester.ac.uk/portal/en/theses/customary-land-tenure-and-land-readjustment-land-administration-in-semiarid-ghana\(e260bffd-6997-43d9-a87c-1123ca3720fd\).html](https://www.research.manchester.ac.uk/portal/en/theses/customary-land-tenure-and-land-readjustment-land-administration-in-semiarid-ghana(e260bffd-6997-43d9-a87c-1123ca3720fd).html)

Charlotte Searle (2021), 'Status and Ecology of Leopard (*Panthera Pardus*) in African Conservation Landscapes', D.Phil thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisors: Dr Andrew Loveridge, Professor David Macdonald and Dr Amelia Dickman.

Christopher Smith-Clarke (2021), 'Estimating Poverty Maps from Aggregated Mobile Communication Networks', [Senegal and Cote d'Ivoire], Ph.D thesis, University College London. Supervisors: Dr Licia Capra and Dr Paul Marshall; <https://discovery.ucl.ac.uk/id/eprint/10122237/>

Thomas Henry Vincent (2021), 'A Multi-proxy Palaeoenvironmental Reconstruction of the Homa Peninsula, Western Kenya', Ph.D thesis, Liverpool John Moores University. Supervisors: Dr Elizabeth Whitfield and Dr Jason Kirby; <https://doi.org/10.24377/LJMU.t.00014762>

James Wilson (2021), 'A Franc Appraisal: The Political Economy of Macroeconomic Policy in the CFA Zones', D.Phil thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Professor Chris Adam; <https://ora.ox.ac.uk/objects/uuid:859f983b-1f20-497f-99a6-560e52be1e92>

Recent Publications

Jeffrey S. Ahlman (2021), *Kwame Nkrumah: Visions of Liberation*. Ohio University Press, 218pp, 9780821424520, £12.99.

Cheikh Anta Babou (2021), *The Muridiyya on the Move: Islam, Migration, and Place Making*. Ohio University Press, 336pp, 9780821424377, £64.

Todd Cleveland (2021), *A History of Tourism in Africa: Exoticization, Exploitation, and Enrichment*. Ohio University Press, 216pp, 9780821424339, £22.99.

Alice Elliot (2021), *The Outside: Migration as Life in Morocco*. Indiana University Press, 204pp, 9780253054746, £18.99.

Andrea Mariko Grant and Yolana Pringle (eds) (2020), *Anxiety In and About Africa*. Ohio University Press, 248pp, 978-0-8214-2436-0, £34.

Allen F. Isaacman and Barbara S. Isaacman (2020), *Mozambique's Samora Machel: A Life Cut Short*. Ohio University Press, 258pp, 9780821424230, £13.99.

Melina C. Kalfelis and Kathrin Knodel (eds.) (2021) *NGOs and Lifeworlds in Africa: Transdisciplinary Perspectives*. Berghahn Books, 350pp, 978-1-80073-110-3 £107.

Ketu H. Katrak (2021), *Jay Pather, Performance, and Spatial Politics in South Africa*. Indiana University Press, 436pp, 9780253053688, £26.99.

Candace M. Keller (2021), *Imaging Culture: Photography in Mali, West Africa*. Indiana University Press, 392pp, 9780253025579, £19.99.

Hugh Macmillan (2021), *Chris Hani*. Ohio University Press, 152pp, 978-0821424544, £12.99.

Abena Dove Osseo-Asare (2019) *Atomic Junction: Nuclear Power in Africa after Independence*. Cambridge University Press, 296pp, 978-1108471244, £24.

Brian J. Peterson (2021), *Thomas Sankara: A Revolutionary in Cold War Africa*. Indiana University Press, 350pp, 9780253053763, £26.99.

Sharath Srinivasan (2021), *When Peace Kills Politics: International Intervention and Unending Wars in the Sudans*. Hurst, 400pp, 9781849048316, £25.

Christian Straube (2021) *After Corporate Paternalism: Material Renovation and Social Change in Times of Ruination [Zambia]*. Berghahn Books, 178pp, 978-1-80073-133-2 £89.

António Tomás (2021), *Amílcar Cabral: The Life of a Reluctant Nationalist*. Hurst, 272pp, 9781787381445, £30.

Call for Chapters: Colonial Aspects of Finnish-Namibian Relations (1870–1990)

The Black Lives Matter movement has spurred in Finland the public discussion about Finland's and Finns' relationship to colonialism. Already budding since the publication of the report *Whose History?* by Historians without Borders (2018), the discussion, the movement and the report have strengthened calls for more inclusive and transnational histories of Finland. The rapid growth of African diaspora communities in Finland calls for new perspectives on the legacy of colonialism. Prompted by the present-day needs, the editors call for contributions to a collection which re-examines the historical relationship between Finns/Finland and Owambo/Namibia in terms of colonialism and/or coloniality.

Namibia, and particularly the Owambo region in the north (formerly known as Ovamboland, "Ambomaa"), has a special place in Finnish history as the histories of the two societies have intersected on various occasions, starting from the mission work Finns began to implement in 1870. At that time, the area was inhabited by various groups of African people, mostly Owambos, and the Finns became the only people of European origin staying there. During the German colonial era, starting in 1884, the grip of colonial administration in this region was weak or even non-existent. Other colonial powers – South Africa, Britain, and Portugal – have also had a historical presence and have exerted their influence in the region but that has not changed the special role of Finns in the area.

Although Finland was not a sovereign state before 1917 and the Finns working in Owambo did not act in official colonial capacity but as missionaries, it can be argued that the Owambo region in some ways, for example, with regard to knowledge production, had a similar status to Finns as colonies to colonising powers. Finnish presence in Namibia had long-lasting effects on the Owambos, as Finns introduced Western modes of education, medicine, material culture and social practices, in particular the Evangelical Lutheran faith and a literary language. Consequently, the Finns actively participated in advancing the Western informal empires as they sought to transform the Owambos' ways of being in the world. Simultaneously, awareness of Namibia and Africa among Finnish people grew gradually in the course of several decades. The Finnish Missionary Society diligently distributed information about Ovamboland and the progress of the missionary work there to the supporters of the cause. Owambo has arguably had a central role in the Finnish imaginary and understanding of all matters African, as, for good and bad, the special relationship of Finns with Namibia continued for decades. Finns even had a noticeable role in the peace process and negotiations for independence of Namibia, with future Finnish President and Nobel Laureate Martti Ahtisaari as the UN Special Representative heading the UN Transition Assistance Group in 1989-1990.

This edited collection aims to broaden our understanding of how colonial worldviews were embedded in Finnish missionary and humanitarian practices in Namibia and how they affected the emerging relationship with local people. Furthermore, the editors seek papers that examine the spread and legacy of the Finnish (colonial) knowledge production concerning Owambo/Namibia and the continued presence of the latter in Finland (e.g. the naming of a square in Tampere after Rosa Emilia Clay). The volume will connect Finnish and Namibian points-of-view to examine the traces of colonialism and the different meanings they have had for different groups, as well as encourage co-operation between researchers from both countries to enable a two-way approach that illuminate their shared histories and to create and enforce dialogue between the past and present both in Finland and Namibia.

Thus far, the majority of existing research on the Finnish-Owambo relations has focused on the Finnish and/or Christian impact in Namibia. Possible themes for chapters include material culture (artefacts, museums, repatriation); language; art (literature, music, visual arts, theatre, dance, photography); media; education; children and childhood experiences; colonial politics and struggle for Namibian independence; identity formation and identity politics; diaspora politics and how Finnish-Namibian relations may become intertwined into the histories of the rapidly increasing African diaspora communities; and how historical knowledge of Finnish-Namibian relations surfaces in contemporary discussions

The book will be edited by Professor Leila Koivunen and Docent Raita Merivirta from the Department of European and World History at the University of Turku.

The editors welcome case studies as well as theoretical and methodological discussions. Article abstracts should include a description of the theme, source material and methodology. The edited collection will be peer-reviewed and hopefully published OA to make it widely available. Article abstracts of 500-800 words along with a short biographical statement should be sent by 1st September 2021 to Finnishcolonialencounters@gmail.com

Contributors will be notified of acceptance by the end of September 2021. Selected contributors will be invited to an online workshop to present their first draft in March 2022. Completed manuscripts (c.6,000 words) are due by 1st September 2022.

Call for Papers: Thinking Anti-Gender Movements in Africa

Anti-gender campaigns have been developing in Africa for around twenty years. As an analytical category, anti-gender embraces a diverse collection of social and political actors who believe in the existence of 'a gender theory' and have built it up into a public issue. This political task was originally taken up by the Vatican and observed in Europe, and is based on the delegitimisation of gender studies, which are accused of being ideological and non-scientific, and on the designation of gender as "an adversary bearing a denaturalised vision of the gender-related and sexual order". Many forms of expression are exploited by opponents of gender: individual positions and public scandalisation, lobbying campaigns and community mobilisations. The anti-gender movement develops discourse and actions in opposition to the concept of gender and gender studies, starting from the social, political and legal transformations secured by the struggles of feminist and sexual minorities that resulted from them. It is a multifaceted conservative rhetoric and backlash movement.

Examples of gender opposition have punctuated recent events on the African continent. While a large majority of states have ratified the Maputo Protocol, which recognises abortion rights under certain specific circumstances (Article 14), they have mostly been repressed, and they are the subject of divisive debates in society. A controversy arose in Kenya in 2018 around the closure of medical centres that admitted women who had suffered complications following illegal abortions. Feminists denounced the government's 'negligence' and its 'inability' to guarantee and promote sexual and reproductive health services. Despite the campaign led by religious lobbies, they succeed in having these health centres reopened. In many countries with a Muslim majority, it is the issue of the reform of family rights that has placed feminists and conservatives in opposition to each other over the course of many years. Although Morocco has succeeded in reforming its laws, other countries such as Senegal have opted for the status quo, or, under pressure from religious groups, have reversed previous gains, as has been the case in Mali. Elsewhere on the continent, tensions have focused on homosexuality. The 'schoolbooks affair' in Cameroon in 2018 led to a chapter of a

biology textbook that made reference to homosexuality being withdrawn. This outcry recalled the 'List of homosexuals of the Republic' affair (2006), which had resulted in a wave of homophobia. The criminal repression of homosexuals on the continent has given rise to high-profile cases during which the line between law and morals has been especially tenuous.

These few examples are sufficient to convince one of the urgency of making an empirical investment in these social phenomena. How should the rise in the power of anti-gender rhetoric and mobilisations be understood? What do they teach us about African societies and political spaces?

Edited by Patrick Awondo (University of Yaoundé 1- University College London), Emmanuelle Bouilly (Les Afriques dans le monde (LAM) Sciences Po Bordeaux) and Marième Ndiaye (Les Afriques dans le monde (LAM) Sciences Po Bordeaux), this edition has two main objectives. First of all, the construction of anti-gender reasoning and mobilisations in Africa will be documented in detail. Who are the actors involved? What discourse and modes of action do they employ? How does the movement from discourse to protest happen? What resources and networks do they have? Responding to these questions will make it possible to address certain scientific gaps. On the one hand, the anti-gender movement on the African continent has often only been studied indirectly, in particular as part of research dedicated to female or feminist movements or international gender mainstreaming programmes. The reactions of the anti-gender movement have been included in these analyses, but they are not the main purpose of the studies. On the other hand, works on anti-gender campaigns have essentially been confined to cases in Europe and North and South America. Only rarely has Africa found a place in studies dedicated to the Global South on this issue. The anti-gender movement has been studied above all from the point of view of homophobia and its transnational conservative Christian networks, and the ties to other conservative mobilisations such as masculinist or anti-feminist movements have not been fully grasped.

Anti-gender mobilisations in Africa then need to be envisaged as a privileged analyser of the ongoing process of nationalist expression and political construction. A number of studies have illustrated the intrinsic links between nationalism and questions of gender and sexuality, as accurately portrayed by the term "sexual nationalism" (Jaunait et al. 2013). We know that both colonial administrations and independence leaders placed women, the family and sexuality at the heart of their ideological matrix. Later, exploiting postcolonial tensions, the language that associated "gender ideology" with colonisation, imperialism and cultural imposition became a dominant strategy of conservative movement. The purpose of this contribution is to reactivate an analysis not only of the construction of nations at the dawn of the politicisation of gender and sexuality, but also of the processes of sexual and political subjectivation in Africa.

The expected contributions can be organised around the following four axes. Axis 1: Profile and mobilisation spaces of the anti-gender movements. This part will focus on the actors who produce the discourse and/or lead the anti-gender campaigns. Who are they, politically and socially? What is the role played by moral entrepreneurs (religious, 'traditional leaders, communities and the media)? How can the contours of a potentially very extensive conservative opposition – ranging from “community of thought” to the best-organised reactionary groups – be traced? Where do intellectuals stand in this societal debate? Do all the actors who are identified as or claimed to be anti-gender develop the same concept of the term, and do they occupy the same positions within national political and social spaces? How are the identities of these groups and any alliances they may form constructed? How can the variations observed across the continent be explained?

Axis 2: The organisations and repertoires of the anti-gender movement. It will be of interest to take account of the difference between 'reaction' and 'preventive' mobilisations in order to discuss the notion of 'counter-movement. History shows that counter-movements are more likely to be born following the success (whether already obtained or potential) of an initial movement crystallising a reaction and in a favourable context, especially as a result of a division of elites. What is the case in Africa? The anti-gender movement also assumes the vague contours of public debate and controversy without their necessarily being translated into an organised movement. This raises two questions: do these actions have a resonance or social roots that might translate into ordinary practice? The resilience, horizontality and informality of anti-gender actions then invite us to look into the question of how the move is made to collective action and how the “organisational repertoires” are chosen. What modes of action and strategies are used? Can tactical differences and/or innovations be found that can be compared with other anti-gender campaigns across the world?

Axis 3: Circulation and transnationalisation of the anti-gender movement. The way in which 'gender circulates' and a fortiori the anti-gender movement remains to be questioned. How do anti-gender manifestations become international and transnational? How are the ideological discourses and framings nourished from one space to another, and with what effects? This study makes it possible to discuss structuring conditions beyond the borders of campaigns and mobilisations. It is necessary to investigate the concepts and notions employed on the one hand, and the international division of militant work on the other. What is the local meaning of the concepts of 'gender ideology' or 'gender theory'? How do African actors use and reappropriate these terms? What emic categories have been developed on the continent? What relationship is there between local and imported terminology?

Axis 4: Repoliticising gender through the prism of the anti-gender movement. Finally, how do anti-gender campaigns participate in “repoliticising gender”

(Awondo, 2016), and what are the effects on the struggles led by feminists and the defenders of sexual minorities? How do these actors react to the war of values anti-gender proponents seek to impose? In terms of public action, does the politicisation of debates obstruct gender policies or not? Ultimately, what can we learn from the depoliticisation and (re)politicisation of the continuing processes of formation of national identities and political spaces in Africa? The critical discourses on gender have a long history: the question of sexual nationalism has already been mentioned. At another level, we might also mention the writings of female academics who reject the scientific relevance and heuristic dimension of the concept of gender to describe African societies. Are the contemporary anti-gender mobilisations the heirs to this militant and intellectual output, whether they claim to be or not? Here, it is a question of looking into the historicity of contemporary mobilisations in order to determine whether we are witnessing a new cycle.

Contributions may refer to one or more of these axes. They will offer original analyses of the plurality of the forms of expression of the anti-gender movement in Africa in both Christian and Muslim contexts. From a methodological standpoint, the contributions will be based on extensive empirical materials – ethnographic, historical or literary – that have been collected by using both qualitative and quantitative methods. Interdisciplinary approaches are encouraged.

Paper proposals (in English or French) by 10th September 2021 to Patrick Awondo: pawondo2005@yahoo.fr and Emmanuelle Bouilly: e.bouilly@sciencespobordeaux.fr and Marième N'Diaye: mariem.ndiaye@cnrs.fr Notification to authors of acceptance of their proposal by 20th September 2021; deadline for submission of articles is 7th January 2022.

Call for Paper: Special Journal Issue (*Matrix*, 3, 2, November 2022) on Warfare and Peacemaking among Matricultural Societies – African Submissions Welcome. The view that 'War is a game for men' has been declaimed with loud voices – yet the Kanien'kehá:ka (Mohawk) people, who have been described as the most fierce warriors of eastern North America, have a strong matriculture where the Clan Mothers nominate, install, and remove male Chiefs. Up to 6,000 Fon women, known as Mino or 'our mothers', fought in the army of Dahomey until the early twentieth century. The matriarchal Minangkabau of Indonesia militarily resisted Dutch colonization for almost fifteen years and, over a century later, launched a guerilla-based civil war against the Sukarno government. Scythian warriors of the Ancient period were women as well as men, since horse-riding largely negates the advantages of upper body strength. Clearly, these matricultural societies have not been strangers to war and violence, whether defensive or offensive, and many more examples could be provided. At the same

time, many scholars claim that matricultural societies are, by definition, cultures of peace.

What are the strategies, means, and types of warfare, in its broadest sense, in which a matricultural society might engage? What does the idea of peace mean and how is it achieved and/or strengthened? What are the means whereby matricultural societies resolve conflict (domestic or foreign) before it comes to violence, and what role do women and men play in those processes? Among matricultural societies, who makes the political decisions to engage in warfare, whether defensive or offensive? What have been the consequences of war for matricultures, including the enhancement or diminishment of status for women? The editor looks for submissions which address these questions and others related to the topic.

Matrix: A Journal for Matricultural Studies is an open access, peer-reviewed and refereed journal published by the International Network for Training, Education, and Research on Culture (Network on Culture), Canada. *Matrix* is published online biannually; for more information: www.networkonculture.ca/activities/matrix

Taking matriculture as a cultural system in the classical Geertzian sense of the term, this issue of *Matrix* will explore the institutions and customs around warfare and peace making among matricultural societies, including cultures where women go to war themselves (whether as warriors, soldiers, spies, or in another way), where women are central to peace-building traditions, where women exercise military authority over men (formally or informally), or exercise the political authority to declare war (and end it). We take it as a given that some cultures have a weakly defined matricultural system, while others, who have strong matricultural systems, express this strength in several ways – one of which is through designating women as authorities over or active participants in violent conflict or as builders of peace.

The editor invites articles which present, analyse, or contextualise historical or present-day warfare by or upon matricultures and any social institutions which are involved, as well as articles which deconstruct the meaning of war and peace among matricultural societies. We are interested in questions such as: What is the role for women in warfare when the the society/ies in conflict have a flourishing matricultural system? Do cultures with flourishing matricultures have unique means of achieving peace, or strengthening it? How do women contribute to the processes of warfare among matricultural societies? In what matricultures do women have the authority to declare war, to conduct warfare, or the freedom to become warriors if they so choose?

Possible papers may include styles of warfare as conducted by matricultural societies; means of preventing conflict used by matricultural societies; meaning of peace to matricultural societies and methods of achieving and/or

strengthening it; the meaning of warfare in matricultural societies; women warriors or soldiers, and/or women's warrior societies, historical or contemporary; political authority as exercised by women in matricultures; social institutions of matricultures where women exercise military power; the role of women in strategies of engaging and/or disengaging with external conflicts; the role of women in strategies of conflict resolution; the status of men and their relationships to women in martial matricultures. 300-word abstracts by 1st October 2021 to the Issue Editor, Linnéa Rowlatt: lrowlatt@networkonculture.ca

News

Winner of the American Library Association's Book of the Year Award – Scholarship. Congratulations to Dr Carli Coetzee, editor of the *Journal of African Cultural Studies* and ASAUK Vice-President for being conferred with this award for *Written under the Skin: Blood and Intergenerational Memory in South Africa*.

Carli uses the image of blood under the skin as a way of understanding cultural and literary forms in contemporary South Africa. Chapters deal with the bloodied histories of apartheid and blood as trope for talking about change. In this book the author argues that a younger generation of South Africans is developing important and innovative ways of understanding South African pasts, and that challenge the narratives that have over the last decades been informed by notions of forgiveness and reconciliation. Carli uses the image of history-rich blood to explore these approaches to intergenerational memory. Blood under the skin is a carrier of embodied and gendered histories and using this image, the chapters revisit older archives, as well as analyse contemporary South African cultural and literary forms.

The emphasis on blood challenges the privileged status skin has had as explanatory category in thinking about identity, and instead emphasises intergenerational transfer and continuity. The argument is that a younger generation is disputing and debating the terms through which to understand contemporary South Africa, as well as for interpreting the legacies of the past that remain under the visible layer of skin. The chapters each concern blood: Mandela's prison cell as laboratory for producing bloodless freedom; the kinship relations created and resisted in accounts of Eugene de Kock in prison; Ruth First's concern with information leaks in her accounts of her time in prison; the first human-to-human heart transplant and its relation to racialised attempts to salvage white identity; the #Fallist moment; Abantu book festival; and activist scholarship and creative art works that use blood as trope for thinking about change and continuity. The book can be purchased at: <https://boydellandbrewer.com/9781847012210/written-under-the-skin/>

***Canadian Journal of African Studies* seeks French Book Review Editor**

Applications are invited for the post of French Book Review Editor for *Canadian Journal of African Studies*. The role is for a three-year appointment, renewable.

The *Canadian Journal of African Studies (CJAS)/ Revue canadienne des études africaines (RCEA)* is the official publication of the Canadian Association of African Studies (CAAS). Launched in 1967, it is a bilingual multidisciplinary journal committed to facilitating the dissemination of research on Africa by scholars working in Canada, Africa and elsewhere.

CJAS publishes papers across a range of subject areas including anthropology, political science, history, sociology, literature, geography, and development. The book review and review essay section provides critiques of recent books and reports on Africa in general and on individual countries. For more information on the journal, visit: www.tandfonline.com/rcas

The French Book Review Editor will initially serve for three years, renewable by mutual consent for further terms at the discretion of the *CJAS* Board. The Book Review Editor will be supplied with a copy of the journal's guidelines for book reviews and access to a reviewer database. This is a volunteer position, but a modest annual allowance is made to the *CJAS* editorial team to cover any expenses. The greatest reward of this position is the chance to survey new French language books published on Africa.

The French Book Review Editor will:

- Identify new titles to be reviewed in the journal and contact publishers to obtain copies;
- Receive copies of books sent by publishers to the journal for review;
- Maintain a database of book reviewers and expand this as necessary, in terms of size, subject specialisms, and geographical representation, especially in African countries;
- Work with the Book Review Editor, Coordinating Editor, and Production Editor to process book reviews for the journal in a timely fashion;
- Ensure that all reviewers uphold the journal's code of publishing ethics;
- Send PDFs of/links to the published book reviews to the publishers concerned;
- Send an updated list of books available for review to CAAS for communicating via the CAAS mailing list, website, and social media platforms.

Applicants should have recognised expertise and an established record of published scholarship in African Studies, and they should be actively involved with scholarly networks within the field. Although much of the work will be conducted in French, working knowledge of English is an asset. Key qualities sought for the position of Book Review Editor include energy, enthusiasm,

organisational skills, and the ability to meet deadlines and work effectively within a team and with a major commercial publisher. Applicants should have clear employer or institutional support for this activity for the duration of the three-year appointment, including release time as necessary.

Interested candidates are requested to email a letter of interest and a full CV, including a list of published books and/or papers, by 30 August 2021 to Dr Jonathan Roberts, current Book Review Editor of the journal: jonathan.roberts@msvu.ca

Africa Bibliography, Research and Documentation

SCOLMA (the UK Libraries and Archives Group on Africa) and the International African Institute (IAI) have agreed to merge their journals, *African Research and Documentation* (ARD) and the Africa Bibliography (AB). The new publication will be called *Africa Bibliography, Research and Documentation* and will be published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) beginning in 2022.

There have been extensive discussions between SCOLMA, the IAI and CUP and it is believed that the merger will put both journals on a sound and sustainable financial footing and greatly increase their access and attractiveness, particularly through CUP's digital platforms and in Africa through CUP's participation in Research4Life. Back issues of ARD (from 1973) will be digitised thereby improving access to them and guaranteeing their future digital preservation. The bibliography will henceforth be published online only; articles and book reviews will be published in print once a year with some published earlier online. There will be a variety of subscription options and the opportunity to publish some articles Open Access.

The editor would be pleased to receive offers of articles and information on all aspects of library, archive and bibliographical matters relating to Africa and to African Studies. Editor: Terry Barringer: tabarringe@aol.com

Note to Contributors

Send items for inclusion in the October *Newsletter* by 15th September 2021 to Dr Simon Heap: effaheap@aol.com

Any opinions expressed are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the ASAUK. For all matters relating to membership of ASAUK/RAS contact: Melmarie Laccay, 21 Russell Square, SOAS, London, WC1B 5EA; +44 (0)20-3073-8336; rasmembership@soas.ac.uk

Check the website: www.asauk.net