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# **ASAUK Conference 2016**

The ASAUK biennial conference will be held at Robinson College, University of Cambridge, from Wednesday afternoon on 7th September to Friday afternoon on 9th September 2016. With purpose-built conference rooms and set in beautiful gardens, Robinson College will be an excellent venue for our event.

ASAUK 2016 also coincides with the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Cambridge Centre for African Studies. There will be a reception in Robinson College's new Wordsworth Building sponsored by Cambridge University Press to celebrate the Centre's 50th anniversary on the first night of our conference.

ASAUK 2016 will also include many notable events: the presentation of two Distinguished Africanist Awards, the granting of the inaugural Fage-Oliver Monograph Prize, the presentation of the Audrey Richards Prize for the best doctoral thesis, a keynote lecture, a special conference dinner, as well as the ASAUK AGM and Presidential Lecture. The major Africanist book publishers will also run a lively fair.

The last ASAUK conference at Sussex University attracted 600 participants. A great many personal and academic friendships were started and renewed. The indisputable value of such networking cannot be underestimated.

Registration will commence very soon. Given the large numbers of participants expected it is advisable to register early. Late-comers will be offered accommodation in colleges surrounding Robinson rather than in the conference venue itself, while the number of places for the conference dinner will be limited.

The ASAUK website will keep you informed with the latest information, while Dorian Addison, the conference administrator, can be contacted directly: conference2016.cambridge@gmail.com

We really look forward to seeing you there!

#### **Conferences Future...**

#### UNITED KINGDOM

'Africa within a Global Context', LSE Africa Summit, London, 22–23 April 2016. Registration is open for the 2016 LSE Africa Summit. The Research Conference on 22nd April, subtitled 'Challenging Conventions', will feature panel discussions on Law and Illicit Financial Flows, the Politics of Knowledge, and the importance of Social Media as a Space for Agency. During a break out session in the afternoon, established and upcoming researchers will present papers on China-Africa relations, the 'global' land grab and global responses to gendered realities.

The Business Conference on 23rd April, featuring African leaders in business and policy from more than a dozen countries, will focus on how companies can 'Think beyond Investment' in Africa. This dynamic event will feature four key panels with prominent speakers from Africa, discussing the role of leadership, Financing Africa's Growth, energy, the importance of investing in Human Capital and Technology and Telecommunication Industries on the continent.

The LSE Africa Centre will also be launched at the 2016 Summit. For more information contact: africasummit@lse.ac.uk or visit: www.lseafricasummit.com

'Health and Politics in Zimbabwe and the Diasporas', Britain Zimbabwe Society Research Day 2016, St Antony's College, University of Oxford, 18 June 2016. In partnership with the Oxford African Studies Centre and Zimbabwe Health Training Support, there will be a keynote address and discussion on Health Policy and Provision in Zimbabwe, as well as panels on epidemic diseases, mental health, and health and the Zimbabwean diaspora. Registration enquiries to Margaret Ling: margaret.ling@geo2.poptel.org.uk

'African Medicine Matters: Documenting Encounters in Medical Practice and Healthcare', SCOLMA (the UK Libraries and Archives Group on Africa) Annual Conference, Alison Richard Building, University of Cambridge, 6 September 2016. This conference will explore aspects of medicine and healthcare, traditional and western, historic and contemporary and their traces in the documentary and digital records in all regions of Africa. Researchers, archivists and librarians are invited to submit abstracts for consideration for this conference on the following subjects: medicine and indigenous knowledge; the revival and regulation of traditional medicine; the introduction of Western medicine; medicine and the missionary movement; the documentation of HIV and AIDS and Ebola; medical research in Africa; and access to medical information and research in and from Africa. Abstracts of up to 500 words by 30 April 2016 to Terry Barringer: tabarringe@aol.com

'New Approaches to African Economic History: History, Methods and Interdisciplinarity', Sixth Annual Meeting of the African Economic History Network', University of Sussex, Brighton, 21–22 October 2016. How can different disciplines and methodological approaches contribute to our understanding of long-term African economic development? Traditionally, the historiography of Africa's social and economic past has been shaped and enriched by a cross-fertilization of disciplines. Due to the lack of written records and the paucity of reliable quantitative evidence for a considerable part of the continent's history, African economic historians engage in productive dialogue with historians, anthropologists, sociologists and economists. The conference will devote particular emphasis to papers and contributions that bring issues of methodology and interdisciplinarity to the fore. The keynote speaker is Professor Paul Lovejoy of York University, Canada.

The organisers seek papers presenting frontier research in the field of African Economic History, with particular attention to innovative methods for evaluating Africa's social and economic development in historical and comparative perspectives, both at the micro and macro level. The organisers solicit both individual papers and proposals for sessions consisting of 3-4 papers. Session organisers and prospective chairs should send session titles along with the names and contact details of presenters, and titles and abstracts for each of the proposed papers.

For more information on the conference see: http://www.sussex.ac.uk/economics/newsandevents/events/aehn2016 500 word abstracts and biodata by 15 May 2016 to aehn2016@sussex.ac.uk

'Baraza II: Swahili Conference', SOAS, University of London, London, 29 October 2016. This conference is organised by the Department of the Languages and Cultures of Africa in collaboration with the Centre of African Studies, School of Oriental and African Studies. Abstracts are invited for short presentations at the second Swahili conference at SOAS addressing any aspect of the language, literature, translation, culture, philosophy or diaspora of the Swahili speaking peoples of the world. The aim of the conference is to foster academic interaction and exchange about new or emerging research, developing ideas and interests for mutual benefit among Swahili scholars and students. Abstracts of 250-300 words (in English or Swahili) by 1 September 2016 to Dr Chege Githiora: cg17@soas.ac.uk or Dr Ida Hadjivayanis: ih11@soas.ac.uk

#### INTERNATIONAL

'Jews in Colonial and Postcolonial Africa', University of Cape Town, South Africa, 22–24 August 2016. Research into the experience of Jews in Africa has traditionally been divided by geographic region and national boundary. This conference seeks, for the first time, to address the Jewish experience on the continent as a whole in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The Dahan Centre at Bar-Ilan University, the Ashkelon Academic College, and the Kaplan Centre for Jewish Studies at the University of Cape Town welcome proposals for papers and panels on all topics relating to Jews in Africa during this period, but particularly welcome proposals that address the following themes: Orientalism and African Jews; encounters with colonial rule and varieties of colonial experience; migration, trade, and exchange; religious and cultural expression; varieties of Jewish social organisation; the Jews in postcolonial Africa; African Jews and the Land of Israel. Papers may be presented in either English or Hebrew. 250 word abstracts and short biodata by 30 April 2016 to the Dahan Center: dahan.center@mail.biu.ac.il

'Legacies of the Tricontinental Conference', Centre for Social Studies, University of Coimbra, Portugal, 22–24 September 2016. The 1966 Solidarity Conference of the Peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America, or Tricontinental Conference as it is better known, remains one of the largest gatherings of anti-imperialists in the world. More than 500 representatives from the national liberation movements, guerrillas and independent governments of some 82 countries gathered in Havana, Cuba to discuss the burning strategic questions confronting the anti-imperialist movement of the day. Amongst the delegates were some of the most important figures in the anti-imperialist movement including Fidel Castro, Che Guevara, Salvador Allende and Amílcar Cabral.

Building on the earlier 1955 Bandung Conference and 1964 UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Tricontinental represented the extension into the Americas of Afro-Asian solidarity begun at Bandung. As such, the Tricontinental marked a highpoint in the emergence of a non-aligned movement and the construction of a Third World anti-imperialist project. At the same time, the Tricontinental represented a break with those earlier efforts. Whereas Bandung was a relatively modest affair, in which the various political currents in the Third World came together to articulate a minimum programme, the Tricontinental was avowedly more radical, explicitly attempting to align anti-imperialism with a wider challenge to capitalism. In the words of Mehdi Ben Barka, Moroccan socialist leader and organiser of the Conference, the Tricontinental aimed to 'blend the two great currents of world revolution: that which was born in 1917 with the Russian Revolution, and that which represents the anti-imperialist and national liberation movements of today'. Indeed, the

Conference featured leftist guerrillas who were busy fighting against their own Third World governments.

In keeping with this radical orientation, the Conference condemned imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, declaring its solidarity with the Vietnamese struggle against the United States. The Conference called more widely for solidarity amongst the radical currents in the Third World and debated what role they would take in relation to the United Nations. In so doing, the Conference created much controversy in the developed world, becoming the target of numerous attempts at subversion.

The Tricontinental was a large influence on the Non-Aligned Movement. In fact, its legacy includes a whole host of developments. On the legal front, General Assembly Resolutions such as the Friendly Relations Declaration and the Declaration of the New International Economic Order flowed directly from the Conference. Similarly, the ideas of military solidarity which animated the Conference bore fruit in events such as Cuba's 1973 intervention in Angola against Portuguese colonialism. However, despite this importance, the Tricontinental has received very little attention. Scholarship has tended to focus on the relatively modest demands of the Bandung Conference, and neglected the political cleavage represented by the Tricontinental. This has been especially true in international legal scholarship. Thus, whilst the Third World Approaches to International Law movement has paid close attention to the legal arguments of the Third World during the anti-colonial movement, the Tricontinental has not figured heavily in this account. This is representative of a wider erasure of the radical wing of the Third World movement from international legal histories. Yet this means that a key element of the Third World story has been missed. Indeed, the rich heterodox theoretical and political perspectives put forward by the Tricontinental remain lost to us.

The conference aims to reflect on the Tricontinental's enduring political, legal and economic importance, while also bringing together academics and activists to reflect on broader issues of imperialism and anti-imperial resistance. The organisers welcome papers on the history and significance of the Tricontinental; theoretical and historical legacies of the Tricontinental and 'tricontinentalism': Third World Marxisms, Third World Approaches to International Law, post-colonialism, global subalternity; anti-imperialist struggle then and now; imperialism and international law; theorists and activists of the Third World: Cabral, Ben Barka, Guevara, Castro, and Fanon; the nonaligned movement and the New International Economic Order; Black Power and the Third World; race, racism and international relations; Feminism and the Third World; theories of imperialism; South-South cooperation and solidarity; human rights, international criminal law and imperialism; neoliberalism and imperialism; imperial violence and revolutionary violence; and democracy after decolonisation. Abstracts of up to 250 words by 1 May 2016 to: tricontinental50@gmail.com

### ...Conferences Past

#### 'Art and Collaboration', SOAS, London, 11th October 2015

The event received good coverage in the press, for example here and was well attended, with a full capacity guest-list and approximately 180 delegates over the course of the day. We were very fortunate to have a solid line-up of very articulate and well-respected artists, and were particularly happy to welcome Peterson Kamwathi and Jacob Jari to London.

The Symposium featured Joy Gregory in conversation with Peterson Kamwathi, introduced by Touria El Glaoui, Founding Director 1:54, as well as Sonia Boyce in conversation with Samson Kambalu. The format of the event allowed for stimulating discussion between speakers and the audience, and the feedback from visitors and speakers after the event was very positive.

The day ended with an evening reception and book launch of *Making Art in Africa*, 1960-2010 edited by Polly Savage, by Lund Humphries. The book documents and archives moments in art making in Africa since independence and brings together perspectives from 69 artists and curators across the continent.

Due to the success of the symposium, the School of Arts are considering establishing it as an annual event. Without the support of ASAUK this event could not have gone ahead – many thanks again for your backing.

## Theses Recently Accepted at UK Universities

Samer Abdelnour (2015), 'Actorhood and Institutions: Three Studies of Social Intervention in the Sudan', Ph.D thesis, LSE, University of London. Supervisor: Professor Jannis Kallinikos; http://etheses.lse.ac.uk/3143/

Emily Anderson (2014), 'States of Extraction: Impacts of Taxation on Statebuilding in Angola and Mozambique, 1975-2013', Ph.D thesis, LSE, University of London. Supervisor: Professor Chris Alden; http://etheses.lse.ac.uk/3071/

Teferi Degeneh Bijiga (2015), 'The Development of Oromo Writing System', Ph.D thesis, University of Kent. Supervisors: Professor Richard Hayward, Dr David Hornsby and Professor Mike Fischer; http://kar.kent.ac.uk/52387/

Lindelwa Ncedisa Dalamba (2014), 'Passports to Jazz: The Social and Musical Dynamics of South African Jazz in Britain, 1961-1973', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge.

Simone Datzberger (2014), 'Peacebuilding and the Depoliticisation of Civil Society: Sierra Leone [2002–2013]', Ph.D thesis, LSE, University of London. Supervisor: Mark Hoffman; http://etheses.lse.ac.uk/1037/

Victoria de Menil (2014), 'Under-cover in Kenya: The Contribution of Non-State Actors to Mental Health Coverage', Ph.D thesis, LSE, University of London. Supervisors: Professor Martin Knapp and David McDaid; http://etheses.lse.ac.uk/1017/

Alex Free (2015), 'Workplace Selves, Interactive Service Work and Outsourcing: Labour in Kenya's Call Centres', Ph.D thesis, LSE, University of London. Supervisor: Professor Robin Mansell; http://etheses.lse.ac.uk/3135/

Sellah Rose Jaranthowa Gondwe (2015), 'Determinants of Flow of Formal Credit to Small and Medium Enterprises: A Case of Social Capital and Savings Mobilisation for Malawi', Ph.D thesis, Aberystwyth University. Supervisors: Professor Peter Midmore and Professor Michael Christie; http://hdl.handle.net/2160/30568

Sasha Jesperson (2014), 'Inhibiting Integration? Tensions in the Security Development Nexus in Sierra Leone and Bosnia Herzegovina', Ph.D thesis, LSE, University of London. Supervisors: Dr Denisa Kostovicova and Dr Mary Martin; http://etheses.lse.ac.uk/3147/

Mark Kersten (2014), 'Justice in Conflict: The ICC in Libya and Northern Uganda', Ph.D thesis, LSE, University of London. Supervisors: Mark Hoffman and Dr Kirsten Ainley; http://etheses.lse.ac.uk/3147/

Allen Kiconco (2015), 'Understanding Former "Girl Soldiers": Central Themes in the Lives of Formerly Abducted Girls in Post-Conflict Northern Uganda', Ph.D thesis, University of Birmingham. Supervisor: Dr Reg Cline-Cole; http://etheses.bham.ac.uk/6420/

Kazuo Kobayashi (2016), 'Indian Cotton Textiles and the Senegal River Valley in a Globalising World: Production, Trade and Consumption, 1750-1850', Ph.D thesis, LSE, University of London. Supervisors: Professor Tirthankar Roy and Dr Leigh Gardner; http://etheses.lse.ac.uk/3265/

Verena Kroth (2014), 'Essays in Political Economy: Elections, Public Finance and Service Delivery in South Africa', Ph.D thesis, LSE, University of London. Supervisor: Dr Joachim Wehner; http://etheses.lse.ac.uk/976/

Emma Lochery (2015), 'Generating Power: Electricity Provision and State Formation in Somaliland', D.Phil thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Professor Jonny Steinberg.

Janna Miletzki (2014), 'Waiting for Citizenship: Pragmatics of Belonging of Burundian Refugees in Protracted Exile. The Case of Ulyankulu Settlement, Tanzania', Ph.D thesis, LSE, University of London. Supervisor: Dr Claire Mercer; http://etheses.lse.ac.uk/3151/

Jamie Magnus Miller (2014), 'South Africa in the Cold War, 1974-1976', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge.

Philipa Mladovsky (2014), 'Social Capital and Enrolment in Community-based Health Insurance in Senegal', Ph.D thesis, LSE, University of London. Supervisors: Professor David Lewis and Professor Elias Mossialos; http://etheses.lse.ac.uk/928/

Oliver Michael Murphy (2013), 'Race, Violence, and Nation: African Nationalism and Popular Politics in South Africa's Eastern Cape, 1948-1970', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisors: Professor William Beinart and Professor Colin Bundy.

Anneke Newman (2016), 'Faith, Identity, Status and Schooling: An Ethnography of Educational Decision-making in Northern Senegal', Ph.D thesis, University of Sussex. Supervisors: Dr Elizabeth Harrison and Professor Filippo Osella.

Fiona Wairimu Ngarachu (2015), 'Why Not Ask the Children?: Understanding Young People's Perspectives on Ethnicity and Politics in Kenya', Ph.D thesis, University of Southampton. Supervisors: Dr John Glenn, Professor David Owen and Dr Bindi Shah; http://eprints.soton.ac.uk/383995/

Emmanuel Omolaja Oluwadare (2015), 'Influence of Culture and Accounting Infrastructure on Nigeria Public Financial Accountability', Ph.D thesis, Leeds Beckett University.

Jonathan David Paul (2014), 'Dynamic Topography and Drainage of Africa and Madagascar', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge.

Adeline Pelletier (2014), 'Essays on Performance, Corporate Financial Strategy and Organization of Multinational Banks in Africa', Ph.D thesis, LSE, University of London. Supervisor: Professor Saul Estrin; http://etheses.lse.ac.uk/1061/

Laura Ryseck (2014), 'The Search for National Identity in Post-colonial, Multi-communal States: The Cases of Eritrea and Lebanon, 1941-1991', Ph.D thesis, LSE, University of London. Supervisor: Dr Kirsten Schulze; http://etheses.lse.ac.uk/1046/

Ibiyemi Omotayo Salami (2015), 'The Architecture of the Public Works Department (PWD) in Nigeria during the Early to Mid-Twentieth Century', Ph.D thesis, University of Liverpool. Supervisor: Dr Iain Jackson.

Ibrahim Sani (2015), 'Electoral Governance: Understanding the Democratic Quality of Elections in Nigeria', Ph.D thesis, University of Edinburgh. Supervisors: Professor Ailsa Henderson and Dr Sara Dorman; http://hdl.handle.net/1842/14163

Fredrick Derek Sekindi (2015), 'A Critical Analysis of the Legal Construction of the Presidency in Post-1995 Uganda', Ph.D thesis, Brunel University. Supervisors: Professor Manisuli Ssenyonjo, Professor Ben Chigara and Professor Koos Malan; http://bura.brunel.ac.uk/handle/2438/11589

Sharon Shochat (2014), 'Oil and Women's Political Participation: A Sub-National Assessment of the Role of Protests and NGOs in Nigeria', Ph.D thesis, LSE, University of London. Supervisors: Dr Joachim Wehner and Professor David Held; http://etheses.lse.ac.uk/1029/

Alyson Smith (2014), 'Post-conflict Reconstruction in Rwanda: Uncovering Hidden Factors in the Gender Policy Context', Ph.D thesis, LSE, University of London. Supervisor: Dr Kate Meagher; http://etheses.lse.ac.uk/3056/

Elizabeth Vale (2015), 'Of Blood and Belonging: The Practice of Antiretroviral Treatment among HIV-Positive Youth in South Africa's Eastern Cape', D.Phil, University of Oxford. Supervisors: Professor Lucie Cluver and Professor Jonny Steinberg.

Julianne Weis (2015), 'Women and Childbirth in Haile Selassie's Ethiopia', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr Sloan Mahone.

Di Wu (2014), 'The Everyday Life of Chinese Migrants in Zambia: Emotion, Sociality and Moral Interaction', Ph.D thesis, LSE, University of London. Supervisors: Professor Charles Stafford and Professor Stephan Feuchtwang; http://etheses.lse.ac.uk/1018/

## **Recent Publications**

Maxim Bolt (2015), Zimbabwe's Migrants and South Africa's Border Farms: The Roots of Impermanence. Cambridge University Press, 270pp, 978-1107111226, £64.99.

Dominic Burbidge (2015), The Shadow of Kenyan Democracy: Widespread Expectations of Widespread Corruption. Routledge, 166pp, 978-1472467683, £60.

Patrick Chabal and Toby Green (eds) (2016), Guinea-Bissau: Micro-State to 'Narco-State. Hurst Publishers, 288pp, 978-1849045216, £25.

John McCracken (2015), *Voices from the Chilembwe Rising: Witness Testimonies made to the Nyasaland Rising Commission of Inquiry, 1915* (Fontes Historiae Africanae). Oxford University Press for the British Academy, 623pp, 978-0197265925, £110.

Jesse Salah Ovadia (2016), The Petro-Developmental State in Africa: Making Oil Work in Angola, Nigeria and the Gulf of Guinea. Hurst, 288pp, 978-1849044769, £40.

Justin Pearce (2015), *Political Identity and Conflict in Central Angola*, 1975–2002. Cambridge University Press, 204pp, 978-1107438934, £16.

Benedetta Rossi (2015), From Slavery to Aid: Politics, Labour, and Ecology in the Nigerien Sahel, 1800-2000. Cambridge University Press, 399pp, 978-1107119055, £64.99.

David H. Shinn (2015), *Hizmet in Africa: The Activities and Significance of the Gülen Movement*. Tsehai Publishers, 180pp, 978-1-59-907121-3, £17.50.

Kate Skinner (2015), *The Fruits of Freedom in British Togoland: Literacy, Politics and Nationalism*, 1914-2014. Cambridge University Press, 320pp, 978-1107074637, £60.

#### News

## African Digital Research Repositories

Institutional and subject repositories are an increasingly significant component in the provision of academic publication and information resources. They are being developed throughout the world as a consequence of the availability of scholarly resources in digital formats, and in response to Open Access policies and mandates. The International African Institute has compiled a list of known repositories within the African continent as a service to African studies research and scholarship in line with our remit to promote the dissemination of from and Africa. This be viewed knowledge on can at http://www.internationalafricaninstitute.org/repositories.html

This list is being published as a preliminary resource consolidating existing, known repositories in Africa. It is not yet possible to search across the entire list of repositories from this site. Therefore for the moment, interested researchers will need to consult individual university repositories by following the available links.

We envisage that this may form part of a larger future project to enable and support more sophisticated search of existing repositories, as well as the further digitisation and online publication of doctoral and Masters' level theses from the African continent, commonly identified as representing a crucial resource for research and knowledge exchange.

We have set up an 'Expert Advisory Panel' to guide the initiative, with representation from the Association of Commonwealth Universities; the International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications; the Association of African Universities; African Studies Centre, Leiden; CODESRIA;

the National Research Foundation, South Africa and several Africana librarians (see: http://www.internationalafricaninstitute.org/repositories/experts.html). Research and surveys of the known repositories are being conducted together with the Centre of African Studies at SOAS. A report will be available in the summer.

We would be glad for feedback, and to hear about or from any institutional repositories. Email Stephanie Kitchen, Managing Editor, International African Institute: sk111@soas.ac.uk

#### The Political Economy of Democracy Promotion Research Project

The Political Economy of Democracy Promotion research project runs from October 2015 until September 2016 and is an exciting collaboration between the Department of Politics and International Relations of Oxford University and the Westminster Foundation for Democracy, which is the main democracy promotion organization of the UK, funded by the Department for International Development (DFID) and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) of the UK government. Over the past twenty years, the WFD has engaged in important legislative strengthening programmes and party building initiatives in countries in Africa, Europe and Central Asia, and the Middle East. More information is available at: http://www.wfd.org/

The project is designed to draw on the analytical strengths of the DPIR and the experience of the WFD over the last ten years to identify key lessons regarding the conditions under which democracy promotion activities are successful, and how such interventions can be improved. It is hoped that the project will result in a host of policy relevant publications that will enable practitioners to improve their interventions, and the formation of new avenues of communication between academic working on democratization and the policy community in this area.

Dr Nic Cheeseman is the lead investigator for the Political Economy of Democracy Promotion project on the Oxford side. Nic is Associate Professor of African Politics at Oxford University, where he was recently the Director of the African Studies Centre, and researches a broad range of other topics related to democratization in Africa, including political parties, legislatures and presidentialism. Susan Dodsworth has joined the project as the first Political Economy of Democracy Promotion Post-Doctoral Fellow. She arrives fresh from reading for a doctorate in Political Science at McGill University, where she researched the political impact of the provision of budget support by international donors to governments in sub-Saharan Africa, conducting fieldwork in Malawi, Uganda and Zambia.

For more information, go to: http://www.politics.ox.ac.uk/research-projects/the-political-economy-of-democracy-promotion-project-in-collaboration-with-the-westminster-foundation-for-democracy.html

#### **Oxfam Catalogues Online**

The second phase of the four-and-a-half year 'Making the Oxfam archive accessible' project that started in January 2013 at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, has now been completed. A fifth catalogue, describing records of Oxfam's appeals and fundraising activities, is now available on the Bodleian's website: http://www.bodley.ox.ac.uk/dept/scwmss/wmss/online/modern/oxfam/oxfam-apl.html In addition, a second, expanded edition of the programme policy and management catalogue has been published: http://www.bodley.ox.ac.uk/dept/scwmss/wmss/online/modern/oxfam/oxfam-prg.html The second edition of the file catalogue relating to grants made by Oxfam ('project files') will appear soon.

Materials newly released reflect the evolution of Oxfam's approach to fundraising, including its often controversial use of advertising. They also include papers of the Policy Director and staff relating to Oxfam's role in advocacy on behalf of poor people, and records of the Gender and Development Unit and its successors, revealing the path towards mainstreaming gender in the programme.

Along with the programme, campaigns and communications materials previously released, these substantial additions mean that researchers now have available to them an extremely wide and rich resource for study. The third phase of the project will make available in mid-2017 catalogues of materials relating to governance and corporate management, and development education and Fair Trade activities. The archive continues to be extremely popular with academic visitors in our Reading Rooms. Visit our blog: http://blogs.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/archivesandmanuscripts/

Our funder, the Wellcome Trust, is currently offering Research Bursaries for small and medium-scale projects by experienced researchers, based on archive collections they support. For further information please see: http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/Funding/Humanities-and-social-science/funding-schemes/research-resources-awards/research-bursaries/index.htm

#### **Obituaries**

The British-born Kenyan writer **Marjorie Oludhe Macgoye**, who has died aged 87, told the story of her adopted country through novels about its downtrodden and dispossessed. Despite the challenges facing a postcolonial nation, she believed that the transformations it had to go through could be faced boldly, and equilibrium restored.

Murder in Majengo (1972), ostensibly a detective mystery cum political thriller, exposes the plight of poor young girls in the urban centres of newly independent Kenya, with its deepening inequality and injustice. It was republished with its sequel, Victoria, in 1993. Coming to Birth (1986) merges the development of a raw

peasant girl into a mature, self-reliant woman with the evolution of the Kenyan nation through the painful experiences of the state of emergency, the heady days of independence and the subsequent power struggle and political violence. It won the Sinclair Prize, an award funded in the 1980s by the British inventor Sir Clive Sinclair.

The Present Moment (1987) and Homing In (1994), both of which employ characters' reminiscences, reconstruct personal pasts and a national history that ranges from the early years of the 20th century to the moment of writing. Street Life (1987) focuses on Nairobi's street children, especially those with physical disabilities. Through the shifting perspectives of a range of characters, delivered as monologues, the reader gains a full view not only of the deprivation, but also of the humanity and optimism of those abandoned by society. Marjorie personally helped street children on numerous occasions, and donated proceeds from the book to an organisation supporting them.

In *Chira* (1997), Marjorie detailed the scourge of HIV and AIDS in Kenya. Ignorant of the facts about *chira* (the Luo term for a "wasting disease", also applied to AIDS), people run the risk of being wiped out. However, "chira" here also refers to the moral affliction threatening Kenyan society: in Marjorie's view there is hope of overcoming both. *A Farm Called Kishinev* (2005), awarded the Jomo Kenyatta prize by the Kenya Publishers Association, unearths the history of Kenya's Jewish community in Kenya, and *Rebmann: A Novel* (2014) concerns a 19th-century German missionary to the Kenya coast.

Marjorie also bore in mind George Eliot's question: "How can the life of nations be understood without the inward life of poetry – that is, of emotion blending with thought?" Her answer came in *Song of Nyarloka and Other Poems* (1977) and *Make It Sing and Other Poems* (1998), steeped in Kenya's long history as well as the reality of its present. Her aim in even the most personalised utterances was to alert the reader to the erosion of ideals that heroes of the past had stood for, and thus to appeal for a re-examination of conscience. Mathenge, from *Make It Sing*, was inspired by Stanley Mathenge, one of the military commanders of the fight against British colonialism, who disappeared without trace. In it, Marjorie visualises him reproaching his fellow freedom fighters, and people in general, for deferring to the "sky-shout", the hypocritical, loud-mouthed manner of those governing them now:

Look for me in the silence.
I creep among you, putting to shame your conceit.
You, whose attention is turned to the sky-shout
you do not see the chameleon mocking your fear.
If you still seek me, turn your heart to the silence,
alert to the forest.

Marjorie's living was communal. She created a public place out of her humble flat on the Ngara estate, Nairobi. Relatives, friends, acquaintances, aspiring writers and people from the street came in daily to exchange stories and listen to her words.

One of the most read and loved Kenyan writers, she also produced essays on social, ethical and literary topics, children's books, and historical studies and works of literary scholarship. Her widely anthologised poem *Freedom Song* has been a set text in Kenyan schools. It tells of the slave-like treatment of a young rural girl taken as a domestic help by her urban relatives, who, through their cruel treatment of her, become responsible for her early death and for the prospect her child has: "Fifty-fifty it may live / to repeat the life she had." *Coming to Birth* has also been a set text, and, along with *The Present Moment*, gained a wider international readership when republished by the Feminist Press at the City University of New York.

A native of Southampton, Marjorie was an only child. Her father, Richard King, started work as a 13-year-old apprentice at the city's Vosper Thornycroft shipyard. Her mother, Phyllis (*nee* Woolcott), was a teacher. Marjorie completed her secondary education in 1945 and went to Royal Holloway College, University of London, to study English. After graduating, she worked at Foyles bookshop in London. In 1953 she gained a Master's in English at Birkbeck College, University of London.

A job application to the Church Missionary Society resulted in the offer of a job running the CMS bookshop in Nairobi. She arrived in 1954, at the height of colonial conflict and during the state of emergency. Besides managing the bookshop, she participated in literacy projects for Africans.

At Remand Prison in Nairobi, where she frequently went to give out Christian literature to the female prisoners, she met Daniel Oludhe Macgoye, the medical officer there, and in 1960 they married. They then moved to Alupe Leprosy Mission hospital near the Kenya-Uganda border. Their children – Phyllis, George, Francis and Lawrence – were born between 1961 and 1966. The family spent the later part of the 1960s in Kisumu, where Marjorie took up teaching. Living in western Kenya allowed her to immerse herself in the life of her husband's extended family and the Luo community to which he belonged, and she learned the language, history and traditions of the people. In recognition, they bestowed on her the title Min Gem – "mother of Gem" (the region of Daniel's clan).

In 1971, Marjorie accepted a job running the university bookshop in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, where she moved with her children, while her husband remained in Kenya. On her return to Kenya in 1975 she became the manager of the SJ Moore Bookshop. While there, she organised literary readings and

workshops for Kenyan and east African writers such as Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o, Okot p' Bitek, Taban lo Liyong, Ibrahim Hussein and Jonathan Kariara.

After 1983, she concentrated entirely on writing. Throughout, she remained committed to social activism and participated – her voice resolute and clear – in national debates in Kenya on issues that ranged from abortion to constitution making.

Daniel died in 1990. Marjorie is survived by her four children and seven grandchildren.

Courtesy of Guardian News & Media Ltd

### A Tribute to Sam Moyo – A Giant of Agrarian Studies

Professor Sam Moyo, director of the African Institute of Agrarian Studies, and a giant of agrarian studies has died tragically as a result of a car accident in New Delhi. This is a terrible loss for Zimbabwe, Africa and the world. Sam had a massive intellect and a deep knowledge of agrarian issues, especially in Zimbabwe. He argued strongly for land reform throughout his career and was always an advocate for radical alternatives that challenged oppression and exploitation in whatever form.

I first got to know Sam in the 1980s, when he was working at the Zimbabwe Institute for Development Studies, then a think tank linked to the President's office. As a Ph.D student interested in similar themes, he was always welcoming and encouraging, as he has been to so many others. Over the years we have had many, many conversations: always challenging, always inspiring. We did not always agree, but I have always massively respected his commitment, integrity and intellectual depth.

Certainly in the last 15 years, as the debate around Zimbabwe's controversial land reform has continued, Sam's contributions – and those of his colleagues at AIAS – have been essential. Their district level study published in 2009 preceded our book, and set the stage for a more mature, empirically-informed debate that (sometimes) has followed. Sam has often been inaccurately pigeon-holed as being on one 'side' or another. But his scholarship is far more sophisticated than this. In Zimbabwe's land debate nearly everyone at different times disagreed with him, but they all listened. Whether inside the state and party, among opposition groups or with the World Bank and other donors, no one could ignore what Sam had to say. And his influence in seeking a more sensible line has been enormous.

But Sam's scholar activism was not just focused on Zimbabwe. He was frequently invited by governments, social movements and others around the world, and particularly in southern Africa. His experiences in Nigeria, teaching at Calabar and Port Harcourt universities, were influential too, giving him a wider perspective than many. His on-going contributions to South Africa's land debates have been important also, as he shared Zimbabwe's lessons. More

broadly still, he was central to a wider engagement with agrarian studies from the global South, offering a challenge to those who argued that the classical agrarian question is dead. From the perspective of peasants, social movements and struggles across the global South, it certainly is not. Together with Paris Yeros in Brazil and Praveen Jha in India, and as part of a wider collective of Southern scholars linked to the journal Agrarian South, he has made the case for revived agrarian studies, in the context of land grabs and intensifying capitalist exploitation across rural areas.

Sam's intellectual leadership has inspired many. He was recently president of Codesria, the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa, and was a director of the Southern African Regional Institute for Policy Studies (SARIPS) for a period. Since being established in 2002, AIAS in Harare has become a centre for training and research, with the annual summer schools attracting researchers, activists and others from across Africa. Earlier he was involved with ZERO, the Harare-based regional environment organisation, together with Yemi Katerere; another organisation that attracted young researchers who established their careers under Sam's guidance. Like all the organisations he has been involved with, ZERO was ahead of the game, set up when few were thinking about the connections between environment and development. And, as with AIAS, Codesria, SARIPS and ZIDS, it mixed solid research, with a deep political commitment to social justice and equality.

With the passing of Sam we have lost a giant. I will miss our intense conversations on his veranda in Borrowdale, as we tested out our ideas and findings on each other, and he smoked furiously. I was always a few steps behind Sam, and it took me days to digest the content of our lengthy exchanges. But they have always been important and formative, even when we disagreed. This is a terribly sad moment and this tribute has been difficult to write. Professor Issa Shivji summed up many people's feelings well in a post on Sunday: "We have lost one of our great comrades: utterly committed, a most unassuming scholar and an absolutely decent human being". So thanks Sam for your friendship, inspiration and commitment. You will be very sorely missed.

Professor Ian Scoones, University of Sussex This appreciation first appeared on Zimbabweland: <a href="https://zimbabweland.wordpress.com/">https://zimbabweland.wordpress.com/</a>

#### **Note to Contributors**

Send items for inclusion in the July 2016 *Newsletter* by 15 June 2016 to Dr Simon Heap: effaheap@aol.com

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