



NEWSLETTER

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Blair's Commission for Africa

Prime Minister Blair established a Commission for Africa in May. There will be a round table discussion about the commission on 14 September at the ASUK Biennial conference in Goldsmith's college. The information below is extracted from the briefing pack distributed in April.

The Prime Minister has launched a new initiative – the Commission for Africa – to take a fresh look at the challenges Africa faces.

The Commission will set out the facts on Africa and its assessment of policy on Africa (both within Africa and internationally): where it has worked; where it has failed; where more could be done; and where more support is needed from the international community. The Commission will conclude its work and report next spring.

The Commission aims to generate increased support for the G8 Africa Action Plan, the New Partnership for African Development (NePAD) and other processes contributing to poverty reduction in Africa. NePAD is the African Union's own programme for poverty reduction and reform across Africa, and is already making a difference with the establishment of the Africa Peer Review Mechanism. The Commission will build on its analysis and galvanise support for it, and other positive initiatives within Africa and beyond, rather than cutting across them. The NePAD Secretariat supports the establishment of the Commission for Africa.

The Commissioners are seventeen politicians and opinion formers, drawn from developed countries and Africa [see list at end of article]. The Prime Minister will chair meetings of the Commission and will agree the final report. The International Development Secretary will oversee the ongoing work of the Commission on the Prime Minister's behalf.

The Commissioners, supported by a Secretariat, will consult a wide range of experts and thinkers on each issue. The process will be open with public seminars and meetings to discuss the themes and issues. We hope that many organisations will contribute to this work. Each Commissioner will host meetings, hold debates and call for papers on the theme he/she is leading. The full Commission will meet once or twice before the report is finalised to discuss and agree its overall direction.

Over the next 12 months the Commissioners will take forward discussions on the key challenges to Africa's development. The themes of the report will be decided at the first meeting of the Commission on 4 May, but are likely to include some or all of the following: the economy (including development finance, economic integration and trade); conflict resolution and peacebuilding; human development (including education and health); natural resources (including the environment, food security and agriculture); governance; and culture, heritage and participation. HIV/AIDS, gender and private sector participation are likely to be important cross-cutting issues.

Gordon Brown (UK Chancellor of the Exchequer), Trevor Manuel (South African Finance Minister) and Ralph Goodale (Canadian Finance Minister) will work together on the economy theme, but the allocation of all other Commissioners' responsibilities will be decided at the 4 May meeting.

The Commissioners' work will help inform the UK's agenda for Africa during its G8 and EU Presidencies next year.

For general enquiries about the work of the Secretariat, contact the following e-mail address: africa_secretariat@dfid.gov.uk.

The Secretariat will establish a Commission website in late May or early June. This will be an important tool for us to inform you and through which you will be able to contribute to the work of the Commission. Further details will be announced as soon as possible.

The Commission will be formally established and its themes confirmed at the first meeting on the Commission on 4 May. You will have an opportunity to contribute your ideas and initiatives after that date.

If you have any specific suggestions at this stage about our work in general or the particular themes, please don't hesitate to email us.

The commissioners are: K.Y. Amoaka (Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Africa, United Nations Under-Secretary-General, Ghana), Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP (Secretary of State for International Development, UK), Rt Hon Gordon Brown MP (Chancellor of the Exchequer, UK), Michel Camdessus (Africa Personal Representative, France), Bob Geldof (Musician, UK), Trevor Manuel (Minister of Finance, South Africa), Meles Zenawi (Prime Minister of Ethiopia), Nancy Landon Kassebaum Baker (Former Senator, US), Tidjane Thiam (Group Strategy and Development Director Aviva PLC, Côte D'Ivoire), Benjamin Mkapa (President of Tanzania), Hon Ralph Goodale P.C., MP (Minister of Finance, Canada), Anna Tibajuka (Executive Director of UN HABITAT, Tanzania), Dr. William S. Kalema (Chairman of the Uganda Manufacturers Association & Chairman of the Board of the Uganda Investment Authority, Uganda).

The commission's new website address is: <http://213.225.140.43>. It can be accessed for details of the Commission's goals, civil society consultations, job vacancies and other information.

British Museum Africa Project

In December 2003 during a visit to the British Museum, the Prime Minister of the UK, Tony Blair, announced a significant special budget to be provided through the Department of Culture, Media and Sport to help the British Museum develop a three-year programme of co-operation and collaboration with Africa. Since then the Prime Ministerial Commission on Africa has also been formed to explore economic and political issues (see above). The British Museum is currently in the midst of an exploratory series of discussions with institutions in Africa to determine what kinds of initiative will be the most useful and sustainable. It is possible that these discussions will culminate in four to five targeted projects in different parts of the continent of Africa which, it is hoped, will lead to further funding to widen the scope of these relationships to be spread over future years. Amongst the initiatives it is anticipated will be supported are training and institutional development in Africa itself, secondments and placements in the British Museum and other British institutions. The engagement of African artists, performers and curators in presenting their own cultural perspectives will begin with *Africa 2005* (see below). See the British Museum website at www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk.

Africa 2005

AFRICA 2005 will be a London-wide season of contemporary arts events beginning in February 2005. Events will include: At the British Museum a 3-day conference as well as live events and new acquisitions; *Africa Remix*, an exhibition of contemporary African art at the Hayward Gallery; an exhibition of West African photographers at the South London Gallery; exhibitions at the Camden Arts Centre, the Gasworks, the October Gallery and the Brunei Gallery (SOAS); two residencies at the Victoria and Albert Museum and the National Portrait Gallery; a season of live events at the Barbican, and a documentary film season at the Whitechapel. For information on these and additional events contact Nana Ofori Atta Ayim, Associate Co-ordinator *Africa 2005*, The British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1 3DG; tel: 0207 323 8509; e-mail: NOforiattaayim@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk. Notices of individual events will begin to appear in the *ASAIUK Newsletter* from October.

Oxford African Studies Take Off

African Studies has long been one of Oxford's best kept secrets. It sometimes seemed that news of its activities was circulated on a need-to-know basis (and if you had to ask, you didn't need to know). But there has been a steady shift of late (not so much tectonic plates as a Spring thaw), and things are set to take off. A University African Studies Centre based at St Antony's College was formally approved this year. A Masters degree in African Studies is to be launched in October 2005. An African Environments programme is to be launched in the School of Geography and the Environments. There is now a working (and accessible) website at: <http://www.sant.ox.ac.uk/areastudies/african.shtml>. Watch out for news of a formal opening which might – or might not – be announced in the *Newsletter*, and might – or might not – be posted on the website.

**African Studies Association of the UK
Biennial Conference
*Debating Africa?***

13 - 15 September 2004, Goldsmiths College, University of London. A provisional programme and booking form have been posted to all ASUK members. They can also be found, with updates, on the ASUK website, www.asauk.net. The conference convenor is Nici Nelson, Dept of Social Anthropology, Goldsmiths College, University of London, New Cross, London SE14 6NW; fax: 020 7919 7813; email: n.nelson@gold.ac.uk. The conference administrator is Agnes Kanya, Dept of Social Anthropology, Goldsmiths College, University of London, New Cross, London SE14 6NW; email: asa@soas.ac.uk marked 'Altn Agnes Kanya'. Conference bookings can be made through Lindsay Allan & Pat Jensen, African Studies Association of the UK, SOAS, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG; tel: 020 7898 4390; fax: 020 7898 4389; email: asa@soas.ac.uk, or the website: www.asauk.net.

Registration will be begin at 11 am, with lunch served at 1 pm. The first session will begin at 2 pm. The all-in conference package (inclusive of conference fee, accommodation and meals) is £170 for ASUK members and non-member paper-givers, £210 for waged non-members, £165 for student or unwaged non-members, with a £90 concessionary package offered to student ASUK members, unwaged paper-givers, and scholars resident in Africa. It pays to join ASUK.

There are seven sessions with from 5 to 6 panels for each session. Papers will be available at the conference at £1 each. The panel topics are: Writing, Self Realization and Identity; Justice, Truth and Reconciliation; Responses to Environmental Pressures on Land; Extraditions of Colonial Power in Sudan; Conflict and Order in a Changing Uganda; Refugees in Africa; Soyinka at Seventy: A Review; South African Book Development Education Trust; Modernising Citiscapes: Movement and Imaginary in Southern African Cities; The Control of Livestock Diseases in South Africa and Botswana: Their Impact on Local and National Economies; Diaspora, Community and Development; Ethnicity, Youth and Violence in Nigeria; Changing Land Policies; Beyond Prices: The Social Construction of Economic Life in Africa (two panels); The politics of Development in Tanzania; Clans and Conflict: Somalia and Ethiopia; Africa in International Relations; Strikes, Social Struggles and Labour Movements in Africa (1990-2004); Debating Development (in Kenya); Oil and the State in West and Central Africa; HIV/AIDS: Socio-economic Inequalities in Treatment (two panels); Child Soldiers in Africa; Debates in the Study of Religion in Africa; Post-Graduate Workshop; Post-Apartheid Security and The State, Private Security and Vigilantes; After Empire: Post-colonial Perspectives on Writing African History; Libraries, Archives and Constructing Knowledge; The Construction of the Person in East Africa; Round Table Discussion about Blair's Commission for Africa; Civil Society and Development in Africa: Debating The Role of The Churches; Ethnicity in Pre-colonial West Africa Coastal Communities; Peace Talks and Human Rights; Post-Graduate Workshop; Youth and Livelihood.

A reception will be held in the evening of 14 September, at which announcements will be made for the Distinguished Africanist Award and the Audrey Richards Dissertation prize. This will be followed by the conference dinner, after which 'entertainment' is promised. The conference will end with the Presidential address by Nici Nelson and the AGM on Wednesday, 15 September.

Agenda
Forty First Annual General Meeting
to be held at Goldsmiths College, University of London
on Wednesday 15 September

A full agenda has been posted to members of ASAUK. Below are the agenda headings:

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the Thirty-ninth Annual General Meeting
Held at the Wednesday 10 September 2003 at 5.30 pm Brunei Gallery,
SOAS, University of London
3. Matters Arising
4. Report by the Honorary Secretary
5. Report by the Honorary Treasurer
6. President's Report
7. Election of Officers & Council Members
8. Subscription: Increase from 2004 (as follows)
Special rates for members in resident in Africa
Special rates for retired members
9. ASAUK Newsletter
10. ASAUK Website
11. CUSA
12. UKCASA
13. Any Other Business

Obituary: Martin Le Quesne, KCMG

Martin Le Quesne KCMG died aged 86, in Jersey, his home, on 3 April 2004. After military service in World War 2, he entered the Foreign Service in 1946 and worked in the Middle East and Rome. But over two decades he became the pre-eminent Africanist in what was to become in the mid 1960s the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Martin was one of a small group of British diplomats who dealt with non-Commonwealth Africa. He headed the old Africa and General department, the only FO entity with responsibilities for sub-Saharan Africa. When Ministers decided to open up more posts in francophone Africa, Martin went to Mali from 1960-64, first as Chargé; and then as Ambassador. He made sure that he knew the whole country, not just Bamako, travelling widely in the mission's Humber which was still in use by a Malian Forest Officer in the late 1970s.

Martin's first senior post was Algeria from 1968-71. As usual he relished travel, this time on good roads, and he focused on expanding British trade interests. These were negligible at Independence, but the Algerian government was eager to industrialise and diversify its sources of supply beyond French dominance. Martin's success was acknowledged by promotion to Deputy Under-Secretary responsible for Africa, the Middle East and the UN. He wrestled with problems like Rhodesia, the Ghana debt and the sensitivities of relations with emerging nations.

In 1974 he was given one of the top rank of posts, Nigeria. At that time it was by far the UK's biggest market in Africa. Martin set about strengthening relations with top figures in the Federal Military Government of General Gowon. The Queen was scheduled to pay a State visit to Nigeria in 1975. This was postponed when Gowon was toppled in a coup d'état early that year and went into exile in Britain. As usual, all the senior people in government were changed and Martin lost his carefully nurtured contacts. On top of that he was suspect to the new Generals because of his close ties with Gowon. A counter coup was mounted by Col Dimka. His first action after radio broadcasts was to go to the British High Commission with his heavily armed bodyguards and demand an audience with the High Commissioner. He asked Martin to convey a message to Gowon in London. Martin very properly refused and reported the visit to the Nigerian Foreign Ministry. The coup failed and the plotters were arrested. Dimka was tried and shot on Bar Beach. But press and public opinion was roused by Dimka's visit and there were demonstrations in the streets. The only sensible course open to the British government was to recall their High Commissioner for consultations. This was done and Martin spent some time in the FCO before retiring two years early in 1976.

He served with his usual meticulous attention to detail on the States of Jersey as Deputy for his own parish, St Saviour's for twelve years. But he did not neglect Africa. He gave valuable advice to a charitable trust which helped young African refugees to gain further education. And he was an active member of the Royal African Society, becoming an Honorary Vice-President.

Martin was a classicist by discipline and kept his intellectual rigour as a diplomat. He rejoiced in all aspects of Africa, visiting Murchison Falls in Uganda in his 70s. He relished getting to know people in all walks of life. He liked to cultivate an exacting approach to his staff, questioning every assertion. But he was a joy to work with, direct, amusing and well informed on any topic. Above all he was a strong leader, never sparing his own energy and expecting the same from those who worked with him. (*Sir John Johnson*)

Meetings, Lectures and Events

21 June – 26 Sept: *'Congo journey: an exhibition of photographs and documents from Robert Hottot's expedition to Central Africa 1908-9'*, Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford.

5-9 July: *SOAS World Music Summer School, 2004: Zimbabwean Music and Dance.* This unique spiritual journey will take you into the world of the Zezuru people. The instruments feature the sacred Mbira, Deze [gourd] and Hosho [shakers for timing polyrhythmic feel] taught by internationally renowned Chartwell Dutirow and musicians from Spirit Talk Mbira band. There will be dance taught by Anna Mudeka and Mbira style guitar playing taught by Chris Morphetis. This insightful and entertaining week is designed to be informal, hands-on and enjoyable, providing people with an overview of Zimbabwean culture. Course fee: £100 (concessions £75). Who may attend: the course is open to all levels and ages, except for children under age 8 unless they have previous experience of Zimbabwe music or dance. What to bring: Mbiras will be provided but if you are taking the guitar classes please bring your own acoustic guitar. Where: SOAS, University of London, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG. When: 10am-4pm daily. To contact us or for more info: tel: 020-7898 4515; website: www.soas.ac.uk/summermusic; email: worldmusic@soas.ac.uk.

9 Sept – 9 Jan 2005: *'Kingdoms of the Nile: treasures from the National Museum, Sudan'*, British Museum, London.

Conferences Future. . .

Conference listings may appear twice: one short and one long, the second notice appearing in the nearest quarterly number prior to the conference date. Organizers are invited to keep the Newsletter up-to-date with any changes or additions to earlier notices.

UNITED KINGDOM

23-24 July: *'Post-conflict Sudan: economic challenges and prospects'*, organised by the Sudan Research Group, Bait Hall, Imperial College, London, UK. Contact: Gamal Ibrahim, tel: 0044115 8482433; email: Gamal.Ibrahim2@ntu.ac.uk.

10-12 Sept: *'Looking at South Africa 10 Years On'* (timed to precede the African Studies Association UK conference to be held on 13-15 September at Goldsmiths' College) will celebrate a decade of democracy in South Africa but also constructively and critically reflect on its achievements. The conference will be hosted by the Institute of Commonwealth Studies and the Centre of African Studies (University of London) based at the School of Oriental and African Studies, in collaboration with the Journal of Southern African Studies (JSAS), which is celebrating its 30th anniversary, the Review of African Political Economy (ROAPE) and the Journal of Contemporary African Studies (JCAS). The programme committee includes Shula Marks (SOAS); Tim Shaw, Paul Greedy, Brendan Vickers and Fiona White (all ICS); Steve Kibble (CIIR), Peter Lawrence (Keele) and Henning Melber (Nordic Africa Institute). The papers will be divided into panels on four broad subject areas: 'Looking back', 'Looking out', 'Looking in', and 'Looking forward'. Contact: Tim Shaw, email: tim.shaw@sas.ac.uk.

30 Sept – 1 Oct: *'Trees, rain and politics in Africa: the dynamics and politics of climatic and environmental change'*, at St Antony's College, Oxford. Fifty-three papers will be presented in twelve panels over two days. The panel topics will be: Thinking about long term environmental change, Examining environmental change, Controlling water, What does 'rain' mean?, Changing climates and vegetation, People and vegetation dynamics, Local knowledge systems and biodiversity, Hybridizing environmental knowledge, Seeing the forest for the trees, Science, plants and power, Stressful climates in Africa, and Political ecology and social justice. There is a registration fee of £40 for non-paper givers. For further information contact: Dan Brockington, email: dan.brockington@geog.ox.ac.uk.

3-5 Nov: *'Reaching the margins: the colonial and postcolonial lives of the Book, 1765-2005'*, conference organised by The Open University in association with the Institute of English Studies, Senate House, University of London. The primary focus will be on Asia, Africa and Australasia, although workshop papers are invited on any aspect of colonial and post-colonial publishing and reading history within the specified period. Highlighted themes will include: publishing and the colonial system; publishing Commonwealth literature; missionary publishing houses; censorship and copyright; distribution and the transport network; Imperial archives and current research; British publishers in the Empire; post-colonial publishing opportunities; local publishing, and

globalisation, print and the nation state. Further information may be obtained from ies@sas.ac.uk.

3 Dec: A workshop on 'Chewing', St Antony's College, Oxford. Contact Neil Carrier, email: neil.carrier@sant.ox.ac.uk.

24-25 June, 2005: 'Science, disease and livestock economies', St Antony's College, Oxford. Domesticated animals have been central to many rural economies and continue to be so, especially in many parts of the developing world. Disease has had significant impacts on pastoralism, livestock populations and species distribution. The cost of disease control is still an important economic and political issue as the recent foot and mouth outbreak in Britain demonstrated. Pastoralists and commercial farmers have long sought ways of overcoming environmental disadvantages and devised different coping mechanisms to sustain their flocks and herds. With the expansion of biomedical sciences in the 19th and 20th centuries and the concurrent evolution of bureaucracies in many parts of the world, control of livestock economies has to varying degrees shifted from the concern of individuals and communities to a specific function of the state. Western biomedicine has both challenged and become partly integrated with traditional systems of animal care. In Africa there was strong hostility towards state imposed veterinary regulations in the late 19th and 20th centuries. Broader ecological factors such as the presence of poisonous plants, grassland deterioration and water shortages have at times played a key role in livestock management and generated a plethora of adaptation strategies and scientific responses. In this vein, we welcome papers dealing with pastoral economies in all parts of the world as the basis for an interesting comparative approach to the development and application of veterinary medicine globally. Abstracts should be no more than 300 words long and also provide the name, e-mail address and current institutional affiliation of the participant. The deadline for sending in abstracts is the 15 December 2004 and we will advise applicants in January whether they have been accepted or not. We anticipate pre-circulating conference papers and are hoping to publish an edited volume from the proceedings. Please e-mail the abstracts, or send any queries to Karen.brown@wuhmo.ox.ac.uk.

INTERNATIONAL

29-30 Oct: 'African Christianity in the 21st Century', at the Nordic Africa Institute, Uppsala, Sweden. The conference will focus on various forms of contemporary religious phenomena in Africa with special emphasis on Christianity. Religion is understood here broadly to include various forms of Christianity together with its dynamics with other religions as well as with indigenous African practices. Religious beliefs provide not only ontological explanations for human existence but religious ideas and practices may also be symbolic constructions of the world and responses to the world. Religious beliefs, experience and participation may therefore reflect as well as influence social, economic and political currents in the society. One could regard such phenomena as ways of grappling with for example politics, ethnicity, tradition, modernity, morality, money and AIDS. The study of these phenomena could therefore mean examining ethnic, regional, class and gender conflicts in religious terms or examining religion as a social protest. It could mean examining how religious practices are connected to specific forms of sociality, power, historically motivated struggles and gender. It might be argued that it is for such reasons that Pentecostal and other charismatic churches and movements attract many followers in Africa today. Contemporary studies of religion are therefore engaged also in global processes and networks, in

transnationalism and localization. Contact: Paivi Hasu, Research Fellow, Nordic Africa Institute, P.O. Box 1703 751 47 Uppsala, Sweden; tel: +46-18-56 22 31 (direct); fax: +46-18- 56 22 90; email: Paivi.Hasu@nai.uu.se

17-19 Nov: 'Current problems of Africa and the Middle East', the Centre for Studies on Africa and the Middle East (CEAMO) will host, in the framework of the year of its XXV anniversary, the X international seminar which will bring together a forum of specialists at which contemporary developments in both regions, as well as their relevance the global context, will be discussed. Contact the PAAMO Organising Committee, CEAMO, Ave. 3ra., No. 1805 entre 18 y 20, Miramar, Playa, Ciudad de La Habana 1130, Cuba; e-mail: ceamo@cee.co.cu.

26-28 Nov: 'African Renewal, African Renaissance: New Perspectives on Africa's Past and Africa's Present', the 27th Annual and International Conference of The African Studies Association of Australasia and the Pacific (AFSAAP) to be held at the University of Western Australia, Perth, Western Australia. See the website, www.ssn.flinders.edu.au/global/afsaap for up-to-date information.

...Conferences Past

Political Economy of Kenya: Past & Present was convened at St Antony's College, Oxford, on 27-28 May. David Anderson convened this conference to commemorate the work of John Lonsdale who is about to retire from his post at Trinity College, Cambridge. About 120 people attended this gathering from all parts of the world, including some of Lonsdale's former doctoral students as well as a sizeable group from Kenya. Over the two days there were seven panels consisting of 28 papers. John Lonsdale himself gave the keynote speech, entitled 'Kenya and the Nation', at the Annual Oxford Africa Lecture in Rhodes House, which was also attended by other members of the University.

All the papers were well researched and well presented. The audience was engaged and enthusiastic. Fittingly, Bruce Berman, a close collaborator of Lonsdale and co-author of the celebrated text *Unhappy Valley*, opened the proceedings with a discussion on Lonsdale's work on 'ethnicity, culture and the state'. Berman introduced some key themes that ran throughout the conference: ethnicity versus nationalism; regionalism versus centralism; clientism versus democracy; the question of political legitimacy; the struggle over resources; the contradictions within capitalism as well as within the colonial and the post-colonial state.

The African Studies Association of the UK, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the Fund of the Rhodes Chair and the Oxford University African Studies Committee generously sponsored this conference. David Anderson concluded by proposing to publish the proceedings and recommended that there should be future workshops to provide a forum at which scholars could present their latest research on Kenya. (Karen Brown)

Researching Africa Day was held at St Antony's College, University of Oxford, on Friday, 11 June. The workshop is an annual event for students of African studies at Oxford, which provides an informal academic setting where they can meet with fellow researchers, exchange information and experiences and discuss research strategies and practices for fieldwork in Africa. This year over sixty

people attended the workshop, mainly graduate students from various UK universities. Thirteen postgraduate students who have recently conducted fieldwork in various African countries presented papers which were divided into three panels: Reflecting on Research Methodologies, Negotiating the Politics and Practicalities of Research and The Personal Side of Research.

In reflecting on research methodologies, a variety of methods were discussed from qualitative in-depth interviews with politicians as well as peasants to interpreting quantitative data which are often scarce and unreliable to evaluating the pros and cons of participant observation. One of the issues which came out during these discussions was the researcher's relationship with interviewees and the question of empathy versus detachment. The ethical question of protecting interviewees' identities was also debated. In the presentations on negotiating the politics during the fieldwork, the emphasis fell on making contacts, working with research assistants and dealing with informants' expectations. Presenters were very honest in talking about their often naïve experiences with research assistants, and we reaffirmed the importance of establishing trust between researchers and research assistants as well as informants. These themes were reinforced in the concluding panel. All presentations were followed by lively discussion and overall it was an enjoyable day. (Chizuko Sato & Lindsay Whitfield)

A one-day conference entitled *The Rwandan Genocide and Transitional Justice: Commemorating the 10th Anniversary of the Genocide*, held at St Antony's College, Oxford, on Saturday, 15 May 2004, brought together a range of academics and practitioners to discuss issues surrounding the events of the Rwandan genocide and the post-genocide situation in Rwanda, particularly those related to transitional justice. The ethos of the conference was that commemoration of the genocide should involve inevitably not only recounting and reinterpreting the events of 1994 but also asking what should be done now to bring perpetrators to justice, whether and how justice is compatible with national reconciliation and what can be done to aid the rebuilding of individual and communal lives in Rwanda.

The keynote address by Hassan Bubacar Jallow, Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR), was delivered in his absence by Richard Karegyesa, Senior Trial Attorney at the ICTR, and followed by a panel covering historical issues related to the Rwandan genocide and comprising presentations by Jean-Baptiste Kayigamba, a Rwandan journalist and genocide survivor, Alison Des Forges (Human Rights Watch) and Linda Melvern (independent journalist and author). Subsequent panels focused on issues of domestic justice and reconciliation in Rwanda (including papers by Martin Ngoga, Rwandan Deputy Attorney General and Jeremy Lester, Head of the European Union Delegation to Rwanda), issues of post-genocide international justice (including papers by Michael Johnson, former Acting Deputy Chief Prosecutor of the ICTR, and Maria Warren, Chief of Evidence of the ICTR), and issues of the ethics and politics of humanitarian intervention.

The conference generated lively discussions on a variety of themes, particularly the role of retributive justice in pursuing national reconciliation in Rwanda and the effectiveness of post-genocide responses by international bodies such as the ICTR. Many of the papers from the conference will be gathered in a proposed anthology to be edited by the conference organisers, Phil Clark and Zachary

Kaufman, both graduate students in the Department of Politics and International Relations at Oxford University, and hopefully published in 2005. (*Phil Clark*)

SCOLMA

The Standing Conference on Library Materials on Africa

SCOLMA is a UK-wide network of librarians with an Africa interest. It:

- provides a forum for librarians and others concerned with the provision of materials for African studies in libraries in the United Kingdom;
- monitors, co-ordinates and improves the acquisition of library materials on Africa, especially through its co-operative Area Specialisation Scheme for the acquisition of materials from Africa;
- sponsors bibliographical projects;
- publishes bibliographical works and a journal, African research and documentation;
- organises conferences and seminars on African bibliographical topics.

SCOLMA's activities include regular meetings and seminars, including international conferences. Under the Area Specialisation Scheme participating libraries specialise in the acquisition of materials from particular areas of Africa and act as information centres.

Further information on activities, publications, membership and committee contacts may be found at the SCOLMA website: <http://www.lse.ac.uk/library/scolma>. (*Barbara Turfan, Africa Librarian, SOAS, Hon. Seminar Organiser, SCOLMA*)

Theses Recently Accepted at UK Universities

The Newsletter depends on supervisors and successful candidates to supply us with details of new theses.

Maitseo Bolaane, 'Wildlife conservation and local management: the establishment of Moremi Park, Okavango, Botswana in the 1950s-1960s', D.Phil, History, University of Oxford.

Martin Evans, 'The Casamance, Senegal: "war economy" or business as usual?' PhD thesis, Department of Geography, King's College London, December 2003 (supervisor: Dr Debby Potts).

Sloan Mahone, 'The psychology of the tropics: conceptions of tropical danger and lunacy in British East Africa', D.Phil, History, University of Oxford (supervisors: Megan Vaughan and Mark Harrison).

Recent and Forthcoming Publications

Listings of recently published or forthcoming books by ASAU/RAS members. Members are invited to send in details, including number of pages, ISBN numbers, price and publication date (where known).

Alex J. Bellamy, Paul Williams, Stuart Griffin, *Understanding Peacekeeping* (Cambridge: Polity, 2004), xvii + 325pp. ISBN 0745630588 (paper) £17.99

Douglas H. Johnson, *The Root Causes of Sudan's Civil Wars* (Oxford: James Currey, 2002), 256pp. Updated edition to be released in September 2004. ISBN 0-85255-392-7 (paper) £12.95

Ian Taylor and Paul Williams (eds), *Africa in International Politics: External Involvement on the Continent* (London/New York: Routledge, 2004), 225pp. ISBN 0415318580 (cloth only) £60

Appointments, Academic Links and Exchanges

Cambridge University: Harri Englund, of the University of Helsinki, has been appointed to a Lectureship in African Anthropology.

Oxford University: The African Visiting Fellow for 2004-5 will be Dr Olutayo Adesina, University of Ibadan, Nigeria.

Awards, Prizes and Fellowships

ORISHA Studentship, Oxford University: Miles Tendi, from Zimbabwe has been awarded an ORISHA Studentship for research on Mugabe's use of history. A supplementary award was also made to Julian Brown of South Africa for a thesis on the limits of violence in the apartheid era. Judith Scheele is in the final year of her award for work on Women in Algeria.

Note to Contributors

The *Newsletter* solicits short reports (of around 2-300 words) on recent conferences, announcements of forthcoming conferences, symposia and workshops (giving topic, date, venue, and contact address), announcements of the awarding of grants, fellowships and prizes, news of appointments and visiting fellowships, recently completed theses, publication announcements of books by members, and brief articles or notices on matters of importance to Africanists in the UK. **Please do not send review copies of books.** All items for inclusion in the *Newsletter* should be sent to Simon Heap, Editor, ASAUK Newsletter, Plan International, Chobham House, Christchurch Way, Woking, Surrey GU21 6JG, UK; fax: +44 (0)1483-756505; email: simon.heap@plan-international.org. **Deadlines** are **15 December** (for the January Newsletter), **15 March** (for April), **15 June** (for July), and **15 September** (for October). Any opinions expressed are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the ASAUK.

For all matters relating to membership of either the ASAUK or RAS contact Lindsay Allan, RAS/ASAUK, SOAS, Thornhaugh St., Russell Sq., London WC1H 0XG; tel: +44 (0)20 7898 4390; fax: +44 (0)20 7898 4389; email: asa@soas.ac.uk, or ras@soas.ac.uk.

Keep up-to-date with ASAUK! Read the Newsletter and the website:
www.asauk.net