



# NEWSLETTER

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## ASAUK 2008

### **'The Presence of the Past? Africa in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century', ASAUK Biennial Conference, University of Central Lancashire, Preston, 11-13 September 2008**

The biennial ASAUK Conference brought together scholars from a variety of academic disciplines and from across the globe, with participants from Nigeria, Ghana, South Africa, Kenya, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, USA, Canada, Denmark, The Netherlands, Italy, Portugal, Germany, Ireland, Slovakia, Switzerland, Belgium, Sweden, Japan, Australia and New Zealand. It was particularly gratifying to see a great number of the next generation of researchers presenting papers at the conference as well as established scholars and representatives from NGOs and museums. Over 110 papers were presented; the abstracts are on the ASAUK website: [www.asauk.net](http://www.asauk.net)

There were many familiar faces at the ASAUK Conference including former Presidents and a large number of new faces. The ASAUK Conference provides an excellent opportunity for academic discussion across disciplines with colleagues from a variety of institutions around the world. A meal kindly provided by the University of Central Lancashire on the first evening and the Conference dinner on the second evening provided excellent opportunities for socialising and networking.

A great number of Africanist publishers of both journals and monographs were present at the conference. *Africa*, the journal of the International African Institute, held a presentation about their new strand on local intellectuals and the developments in the online journal. *Africa* is available at significant discount to ASAUK members at only £20 [see later in the newsletter].

The conference had two special lectures. Professor Fantu Cheru of the Nordic Africa Institute delivered a plenary lecture entitled 'The African "National Project", the "Social Project" and the Need for "Policy Space"', while Professor Tunde Zack-Williams gave his Presidential Address on the topic of 'African Studies from the Periphery: Reflections on the Developmental State'.

Several notable events took place during ASAUK 2008.

### **The Audrey Richards Prize**

ASAUK Vice-President Professor William Beinart, supported by ASAUK Council members Karen Brown and Diane Frost, read 17 theses submitted for the prize. Having read approximately 1.7 million words the Audrey Richards Prize was jointly awarded as a first prize to Dr Fraser McNeil (LSE) for 'An Ethnographic Analysis of HIV/AIDS in the Venda Region of South Africa: Politics Peer Education and Music' and Dr Ruth Marshall (Oxford) for 'The Politics of Pentecostalism in Nigeria, 1975-2000'. ASAUK is grateful to the following sponsors who contributed hundreds of pounds worth of books and journals which make up the prize: Oxford University Press, the Royal African Society, Taylor and Francis, James Currey Publishing and the International African Institute.

### **The Distinguished Africanist Awards**

**Professor George Shepperson**, whose engagement with Africa started during the Second World War when he served with the Kenyan African Rifles in both Kenya and Tanganyika. This engagement with Africa was strengthened when he was joined at Edinburgh University by Julius Nyerere in 1949 and a long friendship started. Professor Shepperson was an important figure in the establishment of the African Studies Centre in Edinburgh and has remained a key supporter of the centre and African Studies in Scotland in the subsequent years. In 1962, he initiated the annual International African Studies Conference organised by the Edinburgh Centre of African Studies; it still bears the hallmark of his interdisciplinary and pan-African approach to African Studies. *Independent African: John Chilembwe and the Origins, Setting and Significance of the Nyasaland Native Rising of 1915* was published in 1958 and it is fitting that the Distinguished Africanist Award is conferred on George Shepperson fifty years following its publication. *Independent African* has been printed in Malawi and remains a seminal work on the Nyasaland Rising of 1915. It is therefore with great affection and high esteem that the ASAUK confers George Shepperson with the Distinguished Africanist Award for 2007.

**Professor John McCracken** has for forty years contributed to African Studies both in the UK and in Africa teaching and researching at the University College of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, University College of Dar es Salaam and is currently Professor at Chancellor College, University of Malawi. He has played a full part in the development of African Studies in the UK through his role as ASAUK Vice-President 1989-90 and President from 1990-92 as well as holding positions for the Royal African Society, Coordinating Council on Area Studies and Board of the Institute of Commonwealth Studies. At the University of Stirling his courtesy, kindness and humour have been greatly appreciated by generations of students both undergraduate and postgraduate. The contribution of John McCracken to the understanding of Malawi's history through the publication of

articles and monographs, not least *Politics and Christianity in Malawi, 1875-1940*, has been exceptional. It is therefore with great affection and high esteem that the ASAUK confers John McCracken with the Distinguished Africanist Award for 2008.

### **The Mary Kingsley Zochnonis Lecture**

Dr Garnette Oluoch-Olunya, a Lecturer at the Department of Literature at Kenyatta University, Nairobi, gave the lecture entitled, 'Letter of James to the People of Limuru'. In summary, Kenya has recently emerged from an unprecedented orgy of violence following a flawed general election. This paper is a reading of Ngugi wa Thiong'o's interventions regarding the elections, with particular focus on his endorsement of the incumbent, Mwai Kibaki. For Ngugi, resident in the United States, "the last five years of Kibaki's rule, 2002-2007, have been the finest in Kenya's history". Notwithstanding the audacious betrayal of a Memorandum of Understanding with coalition partners that has cast a shadow over Kibaki's tenure, Ngugi urged his people unequivocally to vote for Kibaki. Underpinning his call with reference to the Bible, and using the metaphor employed in *Matigari* (1987), he exhorted them to send this "master builder... people of good character" to work with. The paper explored what appears to be a fundamental shift in the position long held by Ngugi on the ethical or moral consequences of public enactment, and accountability of the political class to the citizenry.

### **AGM Elects New ASAUK Officers**

The ASAUK held its 45<sup>th</sup> AGM, and, amongst others matters, there were changes the officer holders of ASAUK. Professor William Beinart of Oxford University became President for the next two years, with Professor Megan Vaughan of Cambridge University as Vice-President. Dr Insa Nolte of Birmingham University stepped down as Honorary Secretary after several years of diligent work. Her last duty was to present an annual report at the AGM, when her responsibilities were handed over to the new postholder, Dr June Bam-Hutchison of the Museum of London. In fact, the AGM elected Insa to the ASAUK Council, along with Dr Debbie Potts of SOAS. The AGM also saw Professor Richard Hodder-Williams of Bristol University step down as Honorary Treasurer after many years sterling service to the association. His last duty was to report to the AGM on the healthy finances of the association, the subscription rates and the excellent relationship between ASAUK and RAS. Dr Ben Knighton of the Oxford Centre for Mission Studies has succeeded him in the role. Full minutes of the ASAUK AGM will appear in January's newsletter.

Personal and formal thanks were given to the organisers, especially Professor Zack-Williams, local conference administrator Emma Kelly, ASAUK Research Administrator David Kerr and the Honorary Secretary of ASAUK, Dr Insa Nolte. Next ASAUK biennial conference for your diaries: Oxford 2010.

David Kerr: [d.kerr@bham.ac.uk](mailto:d.kerr@bham.ac.uk)

## Conferences Future...

### UNITED KINGDOM

**'An International Conference on Local, Regional and National Dimensions of Identity in Sudan', St Antony's College, Oxford, 14 February 2009.** The Sudan Programme based at St Antony's, in collaboration with the Danish Institute for International Studies, Copenhagen, hosts this conference. The participation of the Danish Institute for International Studies is through the Paths to Peace Research Network, a multi-year initiative in collaboration and support of Sudanese academics and students on issues related to the peace process in Sudan. The conference programme will be available later in the year. Capacity is limited so to reserve a place contact Dr Ahmed Al-Shahi: [ahmed.al-shahi@sant.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ahmed.al-shahi@sant.ox.ac.uk)

**'Africa in Scotland, Scotland in Africa', Centre of African Studies, University of Edinburgh, Annual International Conference, 29 April–1 May 2009.** The Scots were uniquely central to the British imperial experience, an enterprise that also contributed to the development of Scottish nationalism and their sense of self. While the Empire's role in, and impact on, Scottish history may remain contested, the Act of Union provided a window of opportunity for Scotland to assume a 'big player' in the nascent British Empire. Following the 'Scottish Enlightenment' and Industrial Revolution, Scotland became a commercial, intellectual and industrial powerhouse of Europe. Paradoxically, while Scotland helped forge the Empire, Scots were nevertheless engaged in negotiating their identity in relation to Empire, thus evoking a sense of victimhood that Scotland shares with Africa. Devolution has the potential for being inward-looking, referring to Scotland's renewal and rejuvenation of her economy, social and cultural life; but it can also be outward-looking in terms of 'expanding horizons and increasing impact'. How does a devolved Scotland support global players in tackling poverty and disease, in Africa and elsewhere? What implication has Scotland's International Development Strategy for meeting the Millennium Development Goals, particularly in its responsibility to support Africa on the path towards achieving sustainable development, capacity building and systems of good governance with greater transparency and accountability'?

This conference aims to provide a scholarly, interdisciplinary forum for investigating and analysing the historical and contemporary relationships, links and networks between Scotland, African and the African diaspora; and to exploring ways of strengthening existing ties between Scotland and Africa, and creating new channels of understanding and cooperation. By undertaking a critical historical excursion, we can contrast this connexion via historical, political, colonial-postcolonial, economic, religious, diplomatic, strategic and cultural trajectories. Such a multidisciplinary reflection will enable us to explore the mutual implications for past, present and future relationships. 200-word abstracts by 30 November 2008 to: [african.studies@ed.ac.uk](mailto:african.studies@ed.ac.uk)

**'Brokers of Change: Atlantic Commerce and Cultures in Pre-colonial "Guinea of Cape Verde"', Centre of West African Studies, University of Birmingham, 11–13 June 2009.** The region known in the early modern period as the "Guinea of Cape Verde" stretches between the river Gambia and Sierra Leone. This was one of the first locales in which strategies of brokerage and exchange were employed by both Africans and Europeans in the construction of Atlantic trading systems. It was in this region that Europeans settled for the first time in Africa, adopting African customs and also sharing their own customs with African peoples. This was, moreover, the centre of the trans-Atlantic slave trade during the first century of that trade's operation.

Yet in spite of the historical significance of the region, the historiography of the region is notably sparse. In spite of notable works by Brooks, Havik, Hawthorne, Lopes, Mark, Nafafé and Rodney, an overarching synthesis of the place of the region in the wider Atlantic world and of its significance in the construction of that world remains lacking. Partly sponsored by the British Academy, this conference seeks to redress this balance, bringing into focus the region's connection to the wider Atlantic world and also inter-regional connections to the Cape Verde Islands. The organisers are particularly interested in the themes of Creolization or Africanization; slavery in the rivers of Guinea; gender and power; the rivers of Guinea, Cape Verde and the Atlantic world; hegemony and brokerage; and culture and religion. 200-word abstracts by 20 November 2008 to both Dr José Lingna Nafafé: [j.lingnanafafe@bham.ac.uk](mailto:j.lingnanafafe@bham.ac.uk) and Dr Toby Green [T.O.Green@bham.ac.uk](mailto:T.O.Green@bham.ac.uk)

#### INTERNATIONAL

**'Territorial Origins of African Civil Conflict', Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda, 28–29 January 2009.** The Center for African Studies at Ohio State University and The Refugee Law Project of Makerere University will host a conference on the territorial origins of African civil conflict and conflict-alleviating institutions that integrate localities into national political and economic development processes. The conference examines the extent of contemporary sub-national regional inequality, assesses the extent to which sub-national regional disparities play a role in armed conflicts, reviews the extent to which African systems of governance currently address and redress territorial differences and grievances, and analyzes peace accords in Africa in which decentralization, civic engagement, and citizen empowerment play a role. The conference focus on sub-national regional disparities distinguishes it from approaches to conflict that focus primarily on class, ethnic, or religious disparities in the study of civil war. Many of the recent civil wars are struggles over natural resources, while others arise from regional grievances regarding central government decisions, often involving claims on central government resources. Many regional conflicts have their origin in colonial policies where

some regions were favoured over others. Abstracts by 31 October 2008 to Dr David Kraybill: cas@osu.edu

**'Africa Visited and Revisited: the History of Africa Revealed through Indexing and Bibliography', Association of Southern African Indexers and Bibliographers (ASAIB) Conference and International Triennial Meeting, Maropeng near Magaliesburg, South Africa, 9–10 March 2009.** Organised with the Society for Indexers of the UK, this conference is being held at the Official Visitor Centre for the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site. The programme consists of four sessions: 'Windows to the past', 'Africa is seldom what it seems', 'Something new out of Africa' and a session dedicated to reports of the international representatives. The ASAIB 2009 Award for best index or bibliography will be made at the conference. Abstracts by 31 October 2008 to Marlene Burger: burgem@unisa.ac.za

**'Trafficking Women and Children after the End of Slavery: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives from Africa and Beyond', Stanford University, California, USA, 19–21 March 2009.** Women and children have been bartered, pawned, bought, and sold within and beyond Africa for longer than records have existed. The organisers are interested in examining the changing modalities of the traffic in women and children in the aftermath of 'the end of slavery' in late 19th and early 20th centuries. Slavery and the many forms of bondage and subordination that have operated in Africa in the past are often juxtaposed with the nature of trafficking once slavery was made illegal. The formal end of the slave trade and slavery did not end the demand for servile women and children. The contemporary 'traffic' in women is increasingly conflated with prostitution; descriptions of child trafficking often blur the boundaries with critiques of child labour practices. The organisers seek papers that identify modes of exchange of subordinate women and children, explorations of the formal and informal legal regimes that underpin subordination, and examinations of efforts to end such trafficking from the international to the local levels. 300-word abstracts and short CVs by 30 October 2008 to Richard Roberts: rroberts@stanford.edu

**'Religion and Missionaries in the French Empire', French Colonial Historical Society (FCHS) Conference, San Francisco State University, San Francisco, California, USA, 28–30 May 2009.** The 35th annual meeting of the FCHS will take place at San Francisco State University, at its downtown (Market Street) campus. The program will feature papers on all aspects of French colonial history, though there will be several sessions devoted specifically to the missionary theme. FCHS is a private society dependent on membership dues, so all conference participants must be, or become, members at the time of acceptance (1 January 2009) – details at: [www.frenchcolonial.org](http://www.frenchcolonial.org) 200-word abstracts for papers or panels by 1 November 2008 [special extension for ASAUK members] to all the

Programme Committee: Sue Peabody: [speabody@vancouver.wsu.edu](mailto:speabody@vancouver.wsu.edu) and Jennifer Sessions: [jennifer-sessions@uiowa.edu](mailto:jennifer-sessions@uiowa.edu) and Sarah Curtis: [scurtis@sfsu.edu](mailto:scurtis@sfsu.edu)

**'Documentary Heritage Management in the Digital Age: Beauty and the Beast', 20th Biannual East and Southern Africa Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives (ESARBICA) General Conference, National Archives of Namibia, Windhoek, Namibia, 21–26 June 2009.** The conference highlights some of the challenges faced by archives, libraries, museums, historical societies and other repositories in the ESARBICA region in dealing with digital information which was ushered in by the advent of information and communication technologies and the knowledge economy. The conference themes are: guidelines to safeguard the digital information; standards that support key preservation services, such as metadata and persistent identifier schemes; challenges to digitizing the African heritage; software and hardware for safeguarding digital information (new technologies and digital preservation); intellectual property (cyberspace and copyrights of digital information); digital archives legislation; ethical issues; lessons learnt from digitization projects; legal deposit in the digital age; website preservation; accessibility of digital material that is saved in libraries, archives and museum; identification of incentives for institutions to undertake preservation; cooperative collecting agreements with libraries, archives, and other collecting institutions in the public and private sectors; and preservation infrastructure. 400-word abstracts and short CV by 18 November 2008 to Professor Patrick Ngulube: [ngulup@unisa.ac.za](mailto:ngulup@unisa.ac.za)

**'Tapping Local Resources for Sustainable Education through Art', Department of General Arts and Art Education, College of Arts and Social Sciences Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana, 31 July–14 August 2009.** The symposium is a collaboration between African Community of Arts Educators (AfriCOAE) and KNUST's Department of General Arts and Art Education, as a follow-up to AfriCOAE's 2008 'Project Earth to Art: Tapping Local Natural Resources for Sustainable Art Education Development' at Accra. The symposium will deal with the issue of sustainability in the 21st century to enable visual arts education developments in Ghana and perhaps similar settings. The organisers seek contributions addressing art education practice, studio practice, curatorial/museum/ community arts practice, art history/criticism, and arts administration/ management/marketing practice. Abstracts, with brief CV, for individual papers, plenary sessions and practical workshops by 17 January 2009 to: [africoae@gmail.com](mailto:africoae@gmail.com)

**'African Linguistics for Understanding and Progress', 6th World Congress of African Linguistics (WOCAL6), Cologne, Germany 17–21 August 2009.** Papers on topics relating to all aspects of the study of African languages (including African sign languages) will be considered: language contact; morpho-syntax; language documentation; phonetics and phonology; typology; semantics;

sociolinguistics; language technology; and language and development. The congress language is English. Papers can be presented in any other language, but abstracts of all papers must be submitted in English. 300-word abstracts by 20 December 2008 to: WOCAL6@uni-koeln.de

### ...Conferences Past

**'Reporting and Recording Zimbabwe', The Annual Britain-Zimbabwe Society (BZS) Research Day, St Antony's College, Oxford, 28 June 2008.** The day explored how the Zimbabwe story has been 'reported and recorded' both prior and post independence. The day was attended by 80 BZS member and non-members, many of whom were former Zimbabwean journalists.

The first panel provided an historical overview of mass media and politics in Zimbabwe. Professor Terence Ranger (St Antony's, Oxford) shared his fascination for newspapers such as the *Bantu Mirror* and the *Bulawayo Home News* because of the intriguing way in which these papers reported on urban culture in 1940s and 1950s Southern Rhodesia. Veteran journalist and editor Bill Saidi acknowledged that he found it challenging to report on the nationalist cause during colonial times in Rhodesia but confessed that he suffered much more in his career as a journalist in post-independent Zimbabwe.

The second panel evaluated Western media coverage of Zimbabwe. Wendy Willems (SOAS) argued that the Zimbabwean government has justified the implementation of repressive media legislation by referring to the threats that the rise of the opposition party MDC and the 'terrorism' of foreign media and governments posed to national security and public order. Ish Mafundikwa (Voice of America) noted how the Western media have for a long time portrayed Mugabe as a beacon of hope on the African continent. For them, things only went wrong in 2000 which completely ignores the massacres which were carried out in Matabeleland only two years after independence.

The third panel explored whether new media have resulted in a 'cyberdemocracy', and have in this way posed an alternative to the undemocratic, state-controlled media. Admore Tshuma (University of Bristol) demonstrated how government media in Zimbabwe have often been considered property of the state and news coverage has been used by politically appointed editors to serve the interests of government. Clayton Peel (University of Wales) argued that communities which have been perceived by both home and host countries as insignificant have been able to find a place to express themselves on the internet. The transnational websites that have emerged could inform an alternative narrative to the government's authoritarian nationalism. While blogger and former editor of *The Sunday Mirror*, Innocent Chofambo Sithole, acknowledged that the internet has increasingly come to function as a public sphere, he expressed concern about the poor observance of journalistic ethics on



websites, poor content of online news websites and limited internet access within Zimbabwe.

The fourth panel discussed the political, commercial and legal pressures on journalists. Rashweat Mukundu (Media Institute of Southern Africa) described the repressive legislation and adverse political environment in which media in Zimbabwe operated in the 2000s and how these measures reversed the gains made in the 1990s during which Zimbabwe liberalised its media climate to a significant extent. Alex Magaisa (University of Kent) discussed the impact of legal constraints on the practice of journalism in Zimbabwe, and how these have affected the way in which stories have been covered by both local and international media. Sandra Nyaira urged all journalists based in the diaspora to come together through the UK-based Association for Zimbabwe Journalists (AZJ) in order to claim back their profession. Brilliant Mhlanga (University of Westminster) advocated for a more critical assessment of the opposition by Zimbabwe's private media which according to him have to some extent self-censored themselves. Mduduzi Mathuthu shared the secret behind the success of the popular NewZimbabwe website which was set up as a platform from which to challenge the former Minister of Information and Publicity, Jonathan Moyo.

The Britain-Zimbabwe Society is most grateful to ASAUK for supporting the visit of Rashweat Mukundu and to the African Studies Committee, Oxford University for supporting the visit of Bill Saidi. A full report of the day is available in *Britain Zimbabwe Society Review*, Issue 08/3 August 2008.

Wendy Willems, Centre for Media and Film Studies, SOAS: [wendywillems@soas.ac.uk](mailto:wendywillems@soas.ac.uk)

**The Emergence of Hausa Identity: History and Religion Research network, April 2008–March 2009.** An international and interdisciplinary research network considering the emergence and transformations of Hausa identity has been convened by Dr Anne Haour (University of East Anglia) and Dr Benedetta Rossi (University of Liverpool). This collaboration is part of a series of events organised under the aegis of the AHRC/ESRC five-year Religion and Society Research Programme, with additional funding from ASAUK and the Sainsbury Research Unit (UEA).

Today, Hausa people number 24 million in Niger and Nigeria, with a further 15 million throughout West Africa speaking Hausa as a second language. Historically attested from an early date, Hausa society is best known for its wide-ranging trade networks, the imposing architecture of the 'birni', and its complex links to the Islamic world. Yet, in spite of its regional prominence, Hausa history remains deeply disputed. Drawing from new research findings, the present network aims at contributing to the advancement of Hausa studies. It starts from two fundamental premises: due to the scarcity of written records on the early history of the Hausa, new work must rely on an interdisciplinary approach; and

religion functions as a key axis for self-definition, and is crucial to understanding the evolution of 'Hausaness'.

While today a central feature of 'being Hausa' involves 'being Muslim', different Hausa constituencies manifest diverse forms of religious belief and expression. The internal variety of customs and traditions challenges ideas of Hausa cultural boundedness and uniformity, raising broader comparative questions on how West African ethnicity should be conceptualized. Structured around these questions, this network includes scholars from a broad range of disciplines, whose contributions explore different domains, such as: archaeological findings; new research in the fields of history and economic history; evidence from historical linguistics; exegeses of the available corpus of documents, archival material, oral narratives, ritual and religious texts; studies of material culture, architecture, art, and the media; and anthropological studies of changing religious, political and economic practices.

Participants in the research network include Aliyu Bunza, Barbara Cooper, Patrick Darling, Graham Furniss, Detlef Gronenborn, Philip Jaggar, Zachary Kingdon, David Heathcote, Adam Higazi, Olivier du Lac, Dierk Lange, Murray Last, Addo Mahamane, Adeline Masquelier, Joseph McIntyre, Hauwa Mahdi, Gerd Spittler, Abubakar Sani Sule and John Sutton.

The research network already met for a very successful two days workshop at the Sainsbury Research Unit, University of East Anglia, 11-12 July 2008. The second meeting, which has ASAUK funding, will be held 7-8 November 2008 at the University of Liverpool. It will include keynote presentations, round table discussions, and a private view of the World Museum Liverpool Hausa collections. The outcome of these workshops will be the subject of a designated volume co-edited by Haour and Rossi. Further information on this project, programmes of events and paper abstracts can be found at: [www.liv.ac.uk/history/research/Hausa\\_identity/](http://www.liv.ac.uk/history/research/Hausa_identity/)

**Dr Anne Haour and Dr Benedetta Rossi: [hausa.network@gmail.com](mailto:hausa.network@gmail.com)**

### Theses Recently Accepted at UK Universities

Richard Barltrop (2007) 'Help or Hindrance?: Mediation and Relief in Sudan's Civil War, 1983-2004', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr Ahmed Al-Shahi.

Danielle Beswick (2008) 'Aid and Statehood in Post-genocide Rwanda: The Politics of a Donor Darling', Ph.D thesis, Manchester University. Supervisor: Professor Rosaleen Duffy.

Lucie Dale Cluver (2008) 'Risk and Protective Factors for the Psychological Well-being of Children Orphaned by AIDS in Cape Town, South Africa', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr Frances Gardner.

Stephanie Goins (2008) 'The Role of Forgiveness in the Reintegration of Child Soldiers', Ph.D thesis, conducted at the Oxford Centre for Mission Studies, with degree awarded by the Open University. Supervisors: Professor Haddon Willmer and Dr Jo Boyden.

Gernot Klantschnig (2008) 'The Making of Nigeria's War on Drugs: International Cooperation and the Politics of Illicit Substance Control, D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Professor David Anderson.

Yvonne Malan (2008) 'The Spectre of Justice: The Problematic Legacy of the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission', D.Phil thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Professor David Anderson.

Lorraine Moore (2008) 'Regulating the Environment: The Political Ecology of Elephant Conservation from the Global Arena to Namibia', Ph.D thesis, University of Lancaster. Supervisor: Professor Rosaleen Duffy.

Lascellas Newman (2007) 'Mission from the Margin: A Critical Analysis of the Participation of West Indians as Agents of the Western Missionary Enterprise in Africa in the 19th Century, with Special Reference to their Conception of Christian Mission', Ph.D thesis conducted at Oxford Centre for Mission Studies, with degree awarded at the University of Wales. Supervisors: Professor Terence Ranger and Professor Horace Russell.

Murray Charles Simpson (2008) 'The Impacts of Community Benefit Tourism on Rural Livelihoods and Poverty Reduction [Africa]', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr Tony Lemon.

Julie J. Taylor (2008) 'Naming the Land: Identity, Authority and Environment in Namibia's West Caprivi', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr Jocelyn Alexander.

### Recent and Forthcoming Publications

Elleke Boehmer (2008) *Nelson Mandela: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: University Press. 144 pages, 978-0-19-280301-6, £7.99; [www.oup.com/uk/vsi](http://www.oup.com/uk/vsi)

Patricia O. Daley (2008) *Gender and Genocide in Burundi: The Search for Spaces of Peace in the Great Lakes Region*. Oxford: James Currey. 256 pages, 978-1847013064, £12.95; [www.jamescurrey.co.uk](http://www.jamescurrey.co.uk)

Arnold Hughes and David Perfect (2008) *Historical Dictionary of The Gambia*. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 4th edition. 376 pages, 978-0-8108-5825-1, £56.00; [www.scarecrowpress.com](http://www.scarecrowpress.com)

Sarah Ladipo Mayika (2008) *In Dependence*. London: Legend Press. 288 pages, 978-1906558062, £7.99; [tomchalmers@legendpress.co.uk](mailto:tomchalmers@legendpress.co.uk)

Claire Mercer, Ben Page and Martin Evans (2008) *Development and the African Diaspora: Place and the Politics of Home*. London: Zed Books. 256 pages; hardback: 9781842779002, £60; paperback: 978-1-84277-901-9, £18.99; [www.zedbooks.co.uk](http://www.zedbooks.co.uk)

Tom Porteous (2008) *Britain in Africa*. London: Zed Books. 160 pages; hardback: 978-1-84277-975-0, £40; paper: 978-1-84277-976-7, £12.99; [www.zedbooks.co.uk](http://www.zedbooks.co.uk)

John S. Saul (2008) *Decolonization and Empire: Contesting the Rhetoric and Reality of Resubordination in Southern Africa and Beyond*. London: Merlin Press. 196 pages, 978-0-85036-592-4, £11.95; [www.merlinpress.co.uk](http://www.merlinpress.co.uk)

A. B. Zack-Williams (ed.) (2008) *The Quest for Sustainable Development and Peace: The 2007 Sierra Leone Elections*. Uppsala: The Nordic Africa Institute, 978-91-7106-619-0; Free: [www.nai.uu.se/publications/electronic\\_publ/978-91-7106-619-0-1.pdf](http://www.nai.uu.se/publications/electronic_publ/978-91-7106-619-0-1.pdf)

Hans M. Zell (2008) *Publishing, Books and Reading in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Critical Bibliography*. Lochcarron: Hans Zell Publishing, 2<sup>nd</sup> completely revised and expanded edition. Print and online (online access bundled with print; online access can be via IP address recognition). 672 pages, 978-0-9541029-5-1, £130.00. Contact: [www.hanszell.co.uk](http://www.hanszell.co.uk)

### **Africa. Journal of the International African Institute**

*Africa* is the leading international African studies journal publishing on the whole of Africa, in all disciplines, the humanities, social and environmental sciences. Its focus is on local intellectual production of knowledge, African thinkers and writers, and social and cultural trends. Each issue contains five or six major articles and extensive review essays and book reviews, with a special issue published annually. It is published electronically through Edinburgh University Press: [www.eupjournals.com/afr](http://www.eupjournals.com/afr)

There is free electronic access for libraries, non-profit research and educational institutions in African countries; and free printed copies by arrangement with Book Aid International. The International African Institute and Edinburgh University Press are pleased to announce that the journal is available (print and online access) by arrangement with ASAUK and the Royal African Society at a special discounted rate of £20 to members of both organisations. For further information and to subscribe, contact: [journals@eup.ed.ac.uk](mailto:journals@eup.ed.ac.uk)

Edinburgh University Press are also happy to offer all ASAUK members free online access until 7 November 2008 and there are two simple steps to activate free online access to *Africa* from 2000 to the current issue:

1. Register with the website: [www.eupjournals.com](http://www.eupjournals.com)
2. Enter the following URL to activate the free access:  
<http://www.eupjournals.com/token/ASA+UK+2008/default+domain>

### **Islam in Africa**

The *American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences* is preparing a special issue on the theme 'Islam in Africa', guest-edited by Professors Seifudein Adem and Ali A. Mazrui of State University of New York at Binghamton. The guest-editors are especially interested in the expansion of Islam in Africa, its revival in ritual and traditions, and its recent politicization in some situations. However, papers on other aspects of Africa's Islamic experience will also be considered. Completed double-spaced manuscripts of 15-20 pages in length by 15 April 2009. Initial enquiries should be made to Kathy Bullock: [editor@iiit.org](mailto:editor@iiit.org) and Seifudein Adem: [adems@binghamton.edu](mailto:adems@binghamton.edu) and Ali A. Mazrui: [amazrui@binghamton.edu](mailto:amazrui@binghamton.edu)

### Appointments, Academic Links and Exchanges

#### **New Chair of AEGIS**

With effect from June 2008, Professor Paul Nugent (University of Edinburgh) became the chair of AEGIS in succession to Professor Patrick Chabal (Kings College London). Patrick has stepped down from the Board after many years of dedicated service to the cause of inter-European cooperation in African Studies.

#### **James Currey Publishers**

James Currey Ltd is pleased to announce that the James Currey imprint has joined Boydell & Brewer Ltd. This move is part of a new and exciting arrangement for the long term expansion of the James Currey list whereby Boydell & Brewer Ltd will manage the forward publishing programme as well as the James Currey backlist. This will enable forthcoming James Currey titles to be marketed directly into North America through Boydell & Brewer Inc., who also distribute University of Rochester Press. University of Rochester Press have a growing list of African Studies monographs, and the combination of these two lists will be one of the strongest in this subject area anywhere in the world.

Boydell & Brewer Ltd specialise in academic monographs and record publications, and also have a trade list in music and medieval history. Their websites are: [www.boydell.co.uk](http://www.boydell.co.uk) and [www.boydellandbrewer.com](http://www.boydellandbrewer.com) Production and accounts will be handled by Boydell & Brewer Ltd, PO Box 9, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP12 1SY. Trade orders should still be sent to Marston Book Services, PO Box 269, Abingdon, OX14 4YN; tel: +44 (0)1235 465521; fax: +44 (0)1235 465555; [trade.orders@marston.co.uk](mailto:trade.orders@marston.co.uk) Douglas H. Johnson and Lynn Taylor will continue the editorial direction of the James Currey list, and can be contacted at Box 242, 266 Banbury Road, Oxford, OX2 7DL or 01865-559200 or [douglas.johnson@jamescurrey.co.uk](mailto:douglas.johnson@jamescurrey.co.uk) and [lynn.taylor@jamescurrey.co.uk](mailto:lynn.taylor@jamescurrey.co.uk)

#### **Access to the British Library**

Earlier this year an eminent African scholar, who, for the best part of forty years, has been using libraries and archives in the UK including the British Library, was

refused access to the latter institution since he was unable to provide proof of his address. Fortunately he was able to obtain a temporary card thanks to the intervention of a staff member who could vouch for him personally, but this is not an option for many scholars from Africa, or indeed, from elsewhere.

This is not the first time that this has happened, and the issue is particularly relevant to researchers from Africa and Asia. The British Library requires identification bearing the applicant's full address, but, as formal addresses (in their European form of street name and number, town) rarely exist in many African states, the address (often just a quarter or village) as it appears on most African (and, presumably, Asian) identity cards is not acceptable for the purposes of obtaining a British Library Reader Pass. The British Library are aware of the problem and are in the process of drawing up a list of countries for whose residents proof of a postal address (such as a PO Box) is acceptable. This is yet to be formalised, but they have informed me that they are currently accepting ORIGINAL documents bearing a postal address. For most people from most African and many Asian countries this probably means a bank statement. Anyone in doubt should contact the library directly. For full details of the BL admissions policy, see [www.bl.uk/services/reading/admissions.html#ident](http://www.bl.uk/services/reading/admissions.html#ident)

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### **Istituto Italiano per l'Africa e l'Oriente Threatened with Closure**

The Istituto Italiano per l'Africa e l'Oriente in Rome may close very soon following one of the several decrees of Berlusconi's government that foresees the closure of all institutions with less than thirty employees. The Istituto, one of the very few in Italy specializing on Asia and Africa, has a very large collection of materials (pictures, maps and primary sources). Its closure may also affect some members of staff and postgraduate students at British universities. You are invited you to sign a petition, which has over 11,300 signatories already, at: [www.giuseppetucci.isiao.it](http://www.giuseppetucci.isiao.it)

## Awards, Prizes and Fellowships

### **British Academy's UK-Africa Academic Partnership Scheme Award**

The Public Procurement Research Group (PPRG) in the School of Law at the University of Nottingham has received a British Academy award of £29,762 to support a research project on African procurement. The British Academy's UK-Africa Academic Partnerships Scheme provides grants of up to £10,000 per year for up to three years are available to support the development of ongoing links between the UK and African research centres and institutions.

The Principal Investigator is the PPRG Director, Professor Sue Arrowsmith. The project will be undertaken in collaboration with Dr Geo Quinot of the University of the Stellenbosch and Professor Phoebe Bolton of the University of the Western

Cape, South Africa, and will also involve the participation of Sope Williams and Dr Annamaria La Chimia of the PPRG at Nottingham.

The three-year project will examine the current state of procurement regulation in Southern Africa by reference to key themes in which regulation can play an important role. These will include: procurement methods; use of procurement to promote socio-economic objectives; supplier complaint (remedy) systems; use of regulatory techniques to address corruption; impact of development aid on procurement regulation and policy; and issues affecting participation in trade agreements (including the impact of tied aid). The project will consider several different national regimes in Southern Africa by way of case studies, embracing countries in differing stages of the reform process and with different legal traditions (common law and civil law).

It is intended that the project will provide information and awareness of issues facing Africa in the public procurement field both for scholars and policy makers. The project will also lay the foundations for future joint research between the partner institutions and create the capacity for African scholars to develop research and teaching capacity in the field. In these latter respects the project will build on the work in developing public procurement regulation as a university-level subject that has already been done under the European Commission-funded Asia Link project on public procurement, which is also led by the PPRG.

Professor Sue Arrowsmith: [Sue.Arrowsmith@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:Sue.Arrowsmith@nottingham.ac.uk)

### **Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) Award**

Who owns heritage, and who has the right to manage it? Is cultural heritage a human right? What are the uses of memory in the construction of history, heritage and identity? These are questions of vital concern to citizens all over the world. In Africa they have particular urgency, since they connect to larger questions of livelihoods, democratization, truth telling, peace building and nationhood, which a new research project on Kenya aims to address.

The three-year collaborative interdisciplinary project, 'Managing Heritage, Building Peace: Museums, Memory and Memorialisation in Kenya,' is led by Dr Lotte Hughes of the Open University, who has won major funding from the AHRC. It will run in parallel with a similar project funded by the British Academy, which places special emphasis on UK-Africa partnerships. The study involves scholars in the UK, Kenya and Sweden, as well as Kenyan museologists, non-professional community heritage actors and NGOs.

National museums across Africa are struggling to cast off colonial legacies, and National Museums of Kenya is no exception. It traditionally focused on the preservation of material culture, fauna and flora, with an over-emphasis on archaeology and palaeontology which reflected the influence of the Leakey family. Now it is undergoing a major makeover, and aims to broaden its public

appeal. But at community level, ordinary citizens – many of whom have never visited a state museum in their lives – have other ideas about heritage. They are setting up their own small museums and sites of memory to conserve cultural and environmental heritage, build peace between communities, and commemorate past events and the heroes they hold dear. Community-driven heritage initiatives are a relatively new phenomenon in the region, and appear to signify a renaissance of civil society activism around new forms of struggle. The multi-sited project will use select case studies to monitor and document these parallel developments at state and non-state level. For more information, contact Lotte Hughes at: [l.hughes@open.ac.uk](mailto:l.hughes@open.ac.uk)

### **The Leverhulme Trust's Fellowships and Studentships**

The Leverhulme Trust invites applications for its new round of grants in the social sciences, in the humanities and, to a lesser extent, in the sciences. Three specific grants are listed here.

*100 Research Fellowships* are open to experienced researchers, particularly those who are or have been prevented by routine duties from completing a programme of original research. There are no restrictions on academic discipline, and awards are not limited to those holding appointments in higher education. Applicants must be resident in the UK at the time of application, be able to demonstrate experience and academic background sufficient to confirm their ability to complete the proposed programme of research, and may not be registered for a degree, for doctoral studies, or for profession or vocational qualifications. Worth up to £45,000, the awards provide research expenses over and above normal living costs and/or provide a contribution towards reasonable replacement costs or loss of earnings. Fellowships of 3 to 24 months must commence between June 2009 and May 2010. Applications by 10 November 2008 via: [www.leverhulme.ac.uk/grants\\_awards/grants/research\\_fellowships/](http://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/grants_awards/grants/research_fellowships/)

*15 Study Abroad Fellowships* are designed to support a period overseas in a stimulating academic environment. These differ from Research Fellowships in that the awards support a range of activities other than straight-forward research (the exchange of ideas, the development of new lines of research and collaborative ventures). Applicants must be resident in the UK, should have held an established full-time post in a UK institution of higher education, or in a museum, art gallery or comparable institution for at least five years, and may not be registered for a degree or for professional or vocational qualifications. The maximum value of a Fellowship is £22,000. Eligible costs include replacement cover whilst the Fellow is overseas; travel to and within the overseas country/countries; a maintenance grant to meet the increased expense of living overseas; and essential research costs. Fellowships of 3 to 12 months must commence between June 2009 and May 2010. Applications by 10 November 2008 via: [www.leverhulme.ac.uk/grants\\_awards/grants/study\\_abroad\\_fellowships/](http://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/grants_awards/grants/study_abroad_fellowships/)



*20 Study Abroad Studentships* support an extended period of advanced study or research at a centre of learning in any overseas country, with the exception of the USA. Applicants must have been resident in the UK for at least five years at the time of application and must hold a British undergraduate degree. Applicants should be under age 30 or, if older, make a strong and appropriate case for special consideration, and should be able to demonstrate how their work would benefit from being conducted overseas rather than in the UK. The Studentships comprise a basic annual maintenance allowance of £17,000; a partner allowance of £6,000 if a Student is accompanied by a dependent partner; a return air fare; and a baggage allowance. Further allowances are payable at the Trust's discretion, for example, assistance with overseas tuition fees and essential research costs. Studentships of 12 to 24 months must commence between June 2009 and May 2010. Applications by 8 January 2009 via: [www.leverhulme.ac.uk/grants\\_awards/grants/study\\_abroad\\_fellowships/](http://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/grants_awards/grants/study_abroad_fellowships/)

## Obituaries

**Professor William (“Bill”) Frank Gutteridge, MBE (mil) (21 September 1919 – 22 May 2008)**



**The Rev Dr Andrew Ross (19 May 1931 – 26 July 2008)**, who has died aged 77, was a well-known historian and former principal of New College, the School of Divinity of the University of Edinburgh.

Born into a Lothian mining family that was in part Presbyterian and in part Roman Catholic, Andrew Ross was a life-long ecumenist and a tireless fighter for human justice. After education at Dalkeith High School and the University of Edinburgh, where he studied history, Ross did national service in the RAF and then returned to the university as a ministerial candidate, now married to his fellow history student, Joyce. A further year in New York combined study at Union Theological Seminary with student ministry in the deprived black neighbourhood of East Harlem Protestant Parish.

Ordained by the Church of Scotland in 1958, he ministered for seven years in the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian in Nyasaland/Malawi. Immersing himself in African culture and its distinctive Christianity, identifying himself with his new neighbours and their struggles, and becoming fluent in their language, he served both the church and the nation of his adoption. He chaired both the Lands Tribunal and the National Tenders Board.

However, his Malawian patriotism, which made him an active supporter of the country's independence, later led him to resist the growing oppressiveness of its first president, Hastings Banda, whose regime forced his early departure in 1965. Back in Scotland, a year's Senior Studentship in Edinburgh University's Department of History led quickly to his appointment in 1966 in the Faculty of Divinity's Department of Ecclesiastical History as the first designated lecturer in the United Kingdom in the history of missions. Thus he became part, with Professor Alec Cheyne, David Wright and later Dr Peter Matheson, of the famous "Cheyne Gang", who transformed teaching and research in church history in Scotland, with a highly professional emphasis on close work with documents, sound historical methodology and a global perspective.

From the start and throughout the following 32 years till his retirement in 1988 (indeed the 42 years till his death) he was a "freeman" of the whole university. This relatively new lecturer went on to be, from 1971 to 1974, a member of the University Court (at that time chaired by his friend, Gordon Brown), and later became Dean of Divinity and principal of New College from 1978 to 1984, as well as convener or member of several key university committees.

His teaching was informed both by painstaking research and rich personal experience around the world. He told his students to stop taking notes and listen, as education was not about passing exams but about enlarging minds, inspiring lives and trying to change the world.

Many remember his long-running courses on *The Church in the Modern World* and *Christianity, Race and Slavery, 1800-1860*. His teaching was broad. While his heart

was in central Africa (where he was an adopted member of the Ngoni tribe), his scholarly interest in North America and East Asia was no less strong; he was a visiting lecturer in many lands and his global knowledge was recognised in his appointment as Deputy Director of the Centre for the Study of Christianity in the Non-Western World from 1986 to 1998.

In addition to many other writings, he wrote four major books. His first, *John Philip (1775-1851): Missions, Race and Politics in South Africa* (Aberdeen University Press, 1986), is a minor classic, an engaging account of the working-class Fifer who, as a missionary with the London Missionary Society, played a leading role in ending slavery and bringing legal equality to the peoples of the British Cape Colony. His most recently published book, *David Livingstone: Mission and Empire* (London: Hambleton, 2002), is reckoned to be the best biography of the celebrated missionary and explorer, paying close attention to his Scottish roots.

It was while watching his beloved university football team that he first suffered the effects of the disease that was to end his very full life. He is survived by his wife Joyce and their four sons, Gavin, Malcolm, Diarmid and Alistair. A colleague summed him up thus: "A Scot and a Malawian, who was thoroughly at home in both; a citizen of the world, who was loyal to his nearest neighbours; an academic and an activist, for whom history and the contemporary world belonged together; a Christian and a radical, whose passion for justice, born with him among coalmines, was nurtured by both John Calvin and the Labour movement; an orator and teacher, researcher and writer, politician and pastor, administrator and footballer, who scored in all those fields."

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**The death of Professor Christopher Fyfe**, formerly of the University of Edinburgh, has been announced – a full obituary in the next newsletter.

Note to Contributors

Send items for inclusion in the next *Newsletter* by 15 December 2008 to Dr Simon Heap, Editor, ASAUK Newsletter, Plan International, Chobham House, Christchurch Way, Woking, Surrey, GU21 6JG, UK or [simon.heap@plan-international.org](mailto:simon.heap@plan-international.org) or [effaheap@aol.com](mailto:effaheap@aol.com)

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Check the website: [www.asauk.net](http://www.asauk.net)