

ASAUK 2018 Conference report

The 27th biennial conference of the African Studies Association of the UK took place at the University of Birmingham on 11-13th September 2018. With over 800 delegates and 15 exhibitors, contributing to 40 streams and 166 panels, 16 roundtables, and seven book launches, this was the Association's largest and most diverse conference yet.

A conference organizing committee made decisions about bursaries and abstracts outside of pre-organised streams and panels. The conference organisers advertised, awarded, and administered over 50 conference bursaries for African scholars, including 19 bursaries funded by the ASAUK and the College of Arts and Law at the University of Birmingham, 13 Visiting Fellowships from the Cadbury endowment also at the University of Birmingham, 16 bursaries by the Guggenheim Foundation, and 4 bursaries by the British Academy. They also supported additional bursary processes funded by the Universities of Cardiff and Warwick and by the International African Institute where required. Such great support helped a record number of academics from Africa to participate in the conference. The conference organisers also gratefully recognize the significant contributions of material and other resources by many other contributors to the conference's bursary programme.

The conference was opened with a welcome address by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Birmingham, Professor Sir David Eastwood. Professor Grace Musila from the University of the Witwatersrand gave the conference keynote address on 'MAKHUMALO'S SPAZA SHOP || LENA MOI'S DANCE'.

At the conference dinner, the Distinguished Africanist Awards for 2017 and 2018 were awarded to Professor Paulo Fernando de Moraes Farias, FBA, and Professor Karin Barber, FBA. The Audrey Richards Prize for the best dissertation in African Studies defended in 2016-17 was awarded to Dr Simukai Chigudu, with runners-up Dr Nicki Kindersley and Dr Clara Devlieger. The Fage and Oliver Prize for the best monograph in African Studies published or distributed in the UK in

2016-17 was awarded to Francis Nyamnjoh for #RhodesMustFall: Nibbling at Resilient Colonialism in South Africa.

On the final day, Outgoing ASAUK President Insa Nolte gave the Presidential Address on the topic 'The future of African Studies: What we should do to keep Africa at the heart of our discipline'.

The book fair proved a popular area for browsing, buying and bargain hunting, as well as a venue for authors to firm up their prospective publications in the months and years ahead.

The administrative work surrounding the conference was carried out under the overall direction of Elisa Tuijnder [E.Tuijnder.2@bham.ac.uk]. Before the conference, in July, she was joined by Maud van Merrienboer, ASAUK's first ERASMUS intern. Both of whom often went far beyond the call of duty to ensure that delegates had a good conference experience. Elisa will continue to be based at the University of Birmingham until the end of the year to oversee the collection of conference feedback. The immediate feedback on social media (#ASAUK18) was overwhelmingly positive, with many comments on the high quality and timeliness of presentations and discussions.

Thanks are also due to the many professional colleagues in the College of Arts and Law who supported the conference. The Association also thanks the delegates and stream organisers whose time, efforts, and dedication contributed to the conference and made it the positive and friendly experience it was. We are particularly grateful to our delegates and stream organisers from African Universities. For many of them, coming to Birmingham has involved significant travel time and expense, and we understand too that the visa process at British Embassies and High Commissions has been challenging for many. Thanks to everyone for joining us and contributing to a wonderful conference!

See you in Cardiff in 2020!

ASAUK 2020, Cardiff University, 8–10 September 2020

ASAUK 2020 conference will be hosted by Cardiff University between 8th and 10th September 2020. The university's Centre for Law and Global Justice (housed in the School of Law and Politics) looks forward to welcoming colleagues to our next biennial conference.

The Centre hosts an annual series of conferences and lectures with leading international scholars. With a particular focus on the global south and informed by post and anti-colonial perspectives, the Centre fosters high quality research in law, justice and globalization.

The Centre for Law and Global Justice supports a lively research programme, including an international doctoral studies cohort, and delivers teaching on law and development and global justice.

The Centre is home to a path-breaking Transnational Pro-Bono Law Clinic working with human rights law firms and NGOs in the UK, India and East Africa. We have worked on legal cases in Tanzania and Kenya and we provide students with the opportunity of fully funded law placements with litigators and the judiciary in Nairobi and Delhi.

The Centre launched its Socio-Legal Journals Global South Initiative in 2018, with writing workshops for early career legal scholars hosted by our partner Law Schools in Accra (Ghana), Nairobi (Kenya), Recife (Brazil) and Bangalore (India). It also hosts the African Feminist Judgments project which aims to draft and disseminate alternative judgments for African landmark cases on a range of legal issues and so to contribute to African jurisprudence, legal practice and judicial decision-making.

Keep a check on future *ASAUK newsletters* for calls for streams, panels and papers.

Audrey Richards Prize for the best British doctoral thesis in African Studies, 2016-17.

Dr Audrey Richards, CBE (1899–1984) was a pioneering British social anthropologist who worked mainly in sub-Saharan Africa, notably Zambia, South Africa and Uganda. She held lectureships and directorships at LSE, Witwatersrand, Makerere, and Cambridge. She was also the Second President of ASAUK.

The Audrey Richards Prize is awarded biennially for the best doctoral thesis in African Studies which has been successfully examined in a British institute of higher education during the two calendar years immediately preceding the ASAUK Conference. So this prize was for theses examined between 1 January 2016 and 31 December 2017.

The prize is something which enhances any graduate's CV and is accompanied by a certificate and an attractive package of book and journal vouchers from the generosity of our publisher donors. ASAUK wants to thank the following publishers for contributing to the book prizes: Hurst & Co, James Currey and Boydell & Brewer, the International African Institute, Routledge, and Zed Books.

The ASAUK panel of judges were Dr Madhu Krishnan and Dr Neil Carrier (both Bristol University), and Professor John Harrington and Professor Ambreena Manji (both Cardiff University).

The judging panel received 22 submissions, which they express grateful thanks to all those who submitted their doctoral work for our consideration. We shortlisted five: Dr Simukai Chigudu, Dr Ini Dele-Adedeji, Dr Clara Devlieger, Dr Nicki Kindersley and Dr George Roberts.

Two runners-up were Dr Nicki Kindersley, *'The Fifth Column? The Political Organization of Southern Sudanese Migrants in Khartoum, 1969-2005*, Department of History, Durham University (April 2016), and Dr Clara Devlieger, *'People Who Need Rights'? Disability and the Pursuit of Value in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo*, Department of Social Anthropology, University of Cambridge (May 2017).

The winner was Dr Simukai Chigudu *'State of Emergency': The Politics of Zimbabwe's Cholera Outbreak, 2008-2009*, Department of International Development, University of Oxford (December 2017).

Statement by Professor Francis Nyamnjoh, winner of ASUK's 2018 Fage and Oliver Prize

Let me start by thanking the organisers of ASUK 2018 – Dr Insa Nolte and her team at the University of Birmingham, as well as the members of the committee for the Fage & Oliver Prize for 2018. I felt truly honoured and inspired by the Fage & Oliver Prize for my 2016 monograph, *#RhodesMustFall: Nibbling at Resilient Colonialism in South Africa*. I accepted the award in recognition of the pioneering emphasis by John Donnelly Fage and Roland Oliver on rich ethnographic accounts of a dynamic Africa in conversation with a nimble-footed world of unequal encounters. In light of the challenges highlighted by the RhodesMustFall student movement at the University of Cape Town, across South Africa, and in Oxford and beyond, I see the award as an emphatic encouragement for me to continue to research and encourage research on the challenges and need to bring into productive conversations of different traditions of knowing and knowledge production in our quest to understand Africa and Africans in their nuanced complexities. In this regard, the need to invest in critical intergenerational conversations on the meaning of Africa in historical perspective that is sensitive to the multiple sensibilities of being and becoming African cannot be overstated. Doing justice to such a weighty imperative requires an alertness to the normalcy of the humility of incompleteness and the universality of mobility.

Lastly, I see the award as a recognition for the study of interconnections. Among many an ordinary African in many a community in rural and urban Africa, the belief in interconnections and in inclusivity is deep and strong. Individuals are actively encouraged to stay connected in and with their humanity, whatever their personal achievements, and whatever the challenges or predicaments confronting them. African students and scholars interested in rethinking African social sciences and humanities could maximise and capitalise upon the currency

of conviviality in popular African ideas of reality and social action. Conviviality invites us to celebrate and preserve incompleteness and mitigate delusions of grandeur that come with ambitions and claims of perfection. As I have argued in #RhodesMustFall, nothing short of convivial scholarship would do justice to the legitimate quest for a reconfiguration of African universities and disciplines of knowledge championed by the student movements of 2015.

A truly convivial scholarship doesn't seek the way Cecil Rhodes and Paul Kruger did, to define and confine Africans into particular territories or geographies, racial and ethnic categories, classes, genders, generations, religions or whatever other identity marker is in vogue. Convivial scholarship confronts and humbles the challenge of over-prescription, over-standardisation and over-prediction. It is critical and evidence-based, just as it is critical of the sources of evidence. It is a scholarship that sees the local in the global and the global in the local. It brings them into informed conversations, conscious of the hierarchies and power relations at play at both the micro and macro levels of being and becoming. Convivial scholarship challenges us – however grounded we may be in our disciplines and their logics of practice – to cultivate the disposition to be present everywhere at the same time. It's a scholarship that cautions disciplines, their borders and gatekeepers to open up and embrace differences. With convivial scholarship, there are no final answers, only permanent questions and ever exciting new angles of questioning.

I dedicate this award to all the students of the #RhodesMustFall Movement, whose words and actions provided much ethnographic food for thought.

Professor Francis Nyamnjoh

Nominations for Mary Kingsley Zochonis Lecturer, 2019

ASAUK seeks nominations for the Mary Kingsley Zochonis lecturer. The Mary Kingsley Zochonis lecture will be delivered at an ASAUK event in the autumn of 2019. The lectureship award's purpose is to encourage and support a young African scholar at an African university. The candidate should be at the beginning of their career in an African institution, and the content of the lecture should be non-scientific, non-technical and on an African subject. Zimbabwean, Ugandan, South African, Ethiopian, Nigerian, Kenyan and Sierra Leonean academics have delivered a diverse series of lectures in recent years.

The allowances include an economy return air fare to London, a prize of £500, accommodation and food expenses up to £500 and additionally, up to £250 for travel expenses to allow the lecturer to travel to other centres of African studies in the UK. The proposed lecturer should be nominated by an academic colleague; no self-nominations please. The nomination should include a concise statement of support from the academic nominator, a two page CV and a title and one page

statement on the topic of the proposed lecture. Please send nominations by 30 March 2019 to Nici Nelson, Honorary Secretary, ASAUK: n.nelson@gold.ac.uk and to Lizzie Orekoya, RAS/ASAUK Administrator: ras@soas.ac.uk

Call for Applications for ASAUK Teaching Fellowship Scheme, 2019

ASAUK is offering up to £9,000 to support a teaching fellowship in the Social Sciences or Humanities for a UK-based academic to work in an African university.

We are looking for applications from early career academics who have finished doctoral degrees on African topics in British universities in the past five years. The award is open to applicants of any nationality who have graduated from a British university. The award is designed to cover 3-5 months' subsistence with additional travel expenses provided for one international airfare.

Past fellows have included Dr Marie Gibert at Cheikh Anta Diop University, Senegal, Dr Winnie Eckhardt at the National University of Rwanda, and Justina Dugbazah at the University of Ghana. The most recent fellowships were held by Dr Machiko Tsubura at the University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, Dr Styliannos Moshona at the University of Lubumbashi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Thembi Mutch (university of Sussex) visiting Faculty of arts, Eduardo Mondlane University, Maputo

ASAUK has a flexible approach to the award and would be keen to support co-funding or exchange arrangements to sustain a longer placement period. In addition to their agreed teaching duties, the successful candidate will be encouraged to organise an ASAUK Writing Workshop. If such a workshop is accepted for funding by ASAUK, fellows will be paid an additional sum to cover their additional time and administrative work.

In applying for a teaching fellowship, applicants should submit: a two page CV; a two page description of research plans, teaching experience, evidence of a partner in the host institution, teaching plans, and any co-funding or partnership arrangement; a letter of support from a sponsor in an African institution; a letter of support from a supervisor or other referee in the UK.

For a description of the Teaching Fellowship scheme and a report on a recent fellowship, check: www.asauk.net/teaching.shtml Applications by 30 March 2019 to Nici Nelson, Honorary Secretary, ASAUK: n.nelson@gold.ac.uk and to Lizzie Orekoya, RAS/ASAUK Administrator: ras@soas.ac.uk

Conferences Future...

INTERNATIONAL

Third Mboka Festival of Arts, Culture and Sport, The Gambia, 5–28 January 2019. Mboka means 'One Family' in Wolof and the organisers have created a festival that celebrates Gambian cultural heritage alongside African diasporic cultural heritage. The festival includes three one day conferences and a literary event:

- 11 January 2019: Questioning the "logic of the system" : a critical look at Southern perspectives – Convenor – Dr Momodou Sallah
- 18 January 2019 International Igbo 'pop-up' Conference – Co-Convenor – Dr Louisa Echum Egbunike,
- Sustainable Tourism in West Africa – Convenor - Mr Adama Bah (tbc)
- 21-28 January 2019 - Mboka/Sable LitMag Literary Festival headlined by Professor Ama Ata Aidoo – Literary Festival Organiser – Kadija George

See the website for details: www.mbokafestival.org and for queries to: mbokafestival@gmail.com

'Identities', 19th Annual Africa Conference at The University of Texas at Austin, USA, 29–31 March 2019. Africa's intertwined historical trajectories signal at the imbricated nature of identities in the continent. At the same time, politicization of different identities for the mobilization of diverse population groups adds another dimension to this complex terrain. This conference intends to critically examine the highly intricate and contested processes of identity formation and its significance for African societies. Furthermore, the conference will engage with discussions on identities that are intimately linked to notions of African diaspora across the Atlantic, the Mediterranean, and the Indian Ocean. The primary aim is to reflect on the varying and varied forms of social practices and processes through which identities are constructed, contested, negotiated, and reconfigured in relation to one another. Simultaneously, the conference intends to create an intellectual space for examining the politics of identity that systematically marginalizes, excludes, disempowers, and denudes certain social groups.

Scholars are invited to examine diverse aspects of identity formation in Africa or within African communities. The conference intends to address core questions such as what constitutes the different practices of making and unmaking of identities, why various social groups resort to identity politics of different sorts, what are the larger implications of identity politics in African social formations, and how socially marginalized and excluded groups invest in identity politics to endorse right-based social movements. Parallel to that, the conference invites inquiries about how transnational and global currents inform the discursive formations of various identities among Africans and the African diaspora.

The organisers seek papers on the theoretical inflections on identities; ethnic identity politics in Africa; nationalist formations and Africa's past and present; citizenship, nationality, and migrant workers in Africa; religious identities and Africa's pluriversalism; Islam and religious symbolism in Africa; minoritarian nationalism in Africa; migration, xenophobia, and politics of identity in Africa; sexual identities and gendered spaces; miscegenation and racial identities in Africa; politics of place, space, and identity in Africa; conflicts, refugees, and national identities in Africa; borderlands, migration, and citizenship in Africa; creative expressions and performance of identity in Africa; creative pasts and historical manifestations of identity politics; everyday worldly practices; linguistic identities and the nation-state in Africa; African material cultures and performance of identity; exploration of diasporic dissonance or diasporic collaboration; cosmopolitanism, hybridity, and African pluriversalism; and Globalization, Afropolitanism, and African futures.

200 word abstracts, with 3-5 keywords or 250 word proposals for panels (3-5 presenters), each with 200 word abstract on each paper via the conference website: <http://www.utexas.edu/cola/africa-conference/>

'Lagos in the World and the World in Lagos', Fourth Annual Lagos Studies Association Conference, Lagos, Nigeria, 27–29 June 2019. For centuries, Lagos has responded to significant changes in the core structures of its economic, social, and political order. A combination of internal transformation shaped external changes, and vice versa, have created monumental impacts in the city. Scholars working with diverse discursive tools have examined the contributions of Lagos to African and global transformation from the pre-colonial era to the present. From the story of internal migrations leading to the creation of communities to how the transatlantic slave trade integrated the port city into the vortex of world capitalism, Lagos as a phenomenon and an imagination manifests in the interplay of complex local and global processes. Lagos is both a beneficiary and contributor to the making of modern global cultures.

Constant population movement, new ideals of community and local power, Atlantic and cultural exchange, social media and new identities, and regional political ideas that emphasize urban renewal, among other dynamics pose serious questions for engaging the continuous re-making of Lagos. To this end, the organisers invite proposals for panels, roundtables, and workshops from academic and non-academic practitioners of Lagos Studies across fields and disciplines. Proposals from scholars working on other African and Nigerian cities in order to better place the intersections of the local and the global in regional and pan-African perspectives are also encouraged. Subthemes include: architecture and urban renewal; business, culture, and market economy; capitalism and neoliberalism; children and youth culture; decolonisation, education, and university culture; diaspora and Atlantic cultural exchange;

digital humanities; disease and wellness; environmental ethics and sustainability; everyday life; global capital; humanities and development; inter-group relations; language and literature; mobility and migration; neighbourhoods, land, and housing policies; official and unofficial narratives; politics and democracy; security and investment; social class, subjectivities, and inequality; social media, musical culture, and identity formation; space and urbanisation; Sustainable Development Goals; tourism and leisure; and women, gender, and sexuality. 250 word abstracts and short bio for individual proposals, and 250 word summary and contact details of all participants for panels and roundtables, by 15 December 2018 to: lagosstudiesassociation@gmail.com

...Conferences Past

African Architecture Writing Workshop, Accra, Ghana, 6–8th July 2018

We ran an intensive weekend writing workshop funded through the ASAUK-British Academy workshop grants scheme. Hosted in collaboration with Dr Irene Appeaning-Addo, University of Legon, Ghana, in collaboration with Professor Ola Uduku, Manchester School of Architecture, the weekend workshop was based at the KNUST Accra Guest House. The objective was to encourage young students to observe buildings and begin to develop critical writing through the use of blogs about four publicly accessible historic and contemporary urban landmarks in Accra. An online invitation was sent out to architecture schools in Ghana and through social media. The student team comprised eighteen candidates, from undergraduate to doctoral level, from Universities in Ghana, England and America, from a range of architecture and urban related backgrounds.

Students were led by mentors, Dr G. O Frimpong (Asheshi University, Ghana) Victoria Okoye and Kuukuwa Manful (both Ph.D students at the Universities of Sheffield and SOAS respectively), who are all members of the West African Rapid Urbanism and Heritage Conservation Network (waruh.wordpress.com). The all weekend programme involved students working in teams to provide critical appraisals of four buildings in Accra, the Balme Library, University of Ghana, Franklin House, Jamestown, One Airport Square, and Eko Bank both in Accra's financial district. These have been reviewed and edited online by senior academics from Johannesburg, Edinburgh and Liverpool. The finalised edited pieces are been compiled as 'blog' write-ups by the mentoring team on a weblog. We will also be seeking to have a version of the workshop essays published in an academic journal. The student team have also gone on to independently set up their own website and intend to mentor and encourage future students to become part of this writing programme model. The mentor, Victoria Okoye's reflection can be viewed on: <http://africanurbanism.net/arch-writing-workshop-reflection/>

Professor Ola Uduku, Manchester Metropolitan University

Theses Recently Accepted at UK Universities

Aneshimode Leslie Adogame (2018) 'An Exploration of the Implementation of Global REDD+ Policy in Nigeria's Neopatrimonial Context: Implications for Sustainable Development', Ph.D thesis, University of St Andrews. Supervisors: Dr Mike Kesby and Professor Ian Taylor.

Ishmael Ayanoore (2018), 'Oil Governance in Ghana: Exploring the Politics of Elite Commitment to Local Participation', Ph.D thesis, University of Manchester. Supervisors: Professor Samuel Hickey and Dr Tomas Frederiksen.

Stephanie A. Bell (2016), 'Knowing Politics: Knowledge and Democratic Citizenship in South Africa's Education System', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr Jocelyn Alexander.

James Cockfield (2016), 'Land, Settlement and Narratives of History in Northern Bushbuckridge, c.1890-1970', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Professor William Beinart.

Paula Cristina Roque (2018), 'The Rebel Governance of the SPLM/A and UNITA: A Comparative Study on Parallel States in Angola and South Sudan', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisors: Late Dr Abdul Raufu Mustapha and Dr Ricardo Soares de Oliveira.

James G.R. Simpson (2017), 'Monitoring Marange: Human Rights Surveillance, The Kimberley Process, and Zimbabwe's Blood Diamonds', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr Jocelyn Alexander.

Idrissa Mamoud Tarawallie (2018), 'Public Services and Social Cohesion at Risk?: The Political Economy of Democratic Decentralisation in Post-War Sierra Leone (2004-2014)', Ph.D thesis, SOAS, University of London. Supervisor: Dr Zoë Marriage; <http://eprints.soas.ac.uk/26185/>

Recent Publications

Olayiwola Abegunrin and Sabella Abidde (eds), (2018), *African Intellectuals and the State of the Continent: Essays in Honor of Professor Sulayman S. Nyang*, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 329pp, 9781527511156, £64.99.

Abimbola Adelokun and Toyin Falola (eds) (2018), *Art, Creativity and Politics in Africa and the Diaspora*. Palgrave Macmillan, 352pp, 978-3319913094, £90.

Adeshina Afolayan (2018), *Philosophy and National Development in Nigeria: Towards a Tradition of Nigerian Philosophy*. Routledge, 192pp, 9781138583535 hardback: £92; e-Book: 9780429506529, £33.50.

Stanley B. Alpern (2018), *Abson & Company: Slave Traders in Eighteenth-Century West Africa*. Hurst, 224pp, 978-1849049627, £40.

Zhangxi Cheng and Ian Taylor (2017), *China's Aid to Africa: Does Friendship Really Matter?* Routledge, 176pp, 9781138630390, £105.

Finn Fuglestad (2018), *Slave Traders by Invitation: West Africa's Slave Coast in the Precolonial Era*. Hurst, 500pp, 9781849049061, £55.

Toby Green and Benedetta Rossi (eds) (2018), *Landscapes, Sources and Intellectual Projects of the West African Past: Essays in Honour of Paulo Fernando de Moraes Farias*. Brill, 522pp, 978-9004348837, £72.

Kathryn Wysocki Gunsch (2017), *The Benin Plaques: A 16th Century Imperial Monument*. Routledge Research in Art History Series, 245pp, 978-1-4724-5155-2, £115.

Ray Hartley (2018), *Cyril Ramaphosa: The Path to Power in South Africa*. Hurst, 280pp, 978-1787380158, £16.99.

Danell Jones (2018), *An African in Imperial London: The Indomitable Life of A. B. C. Merriman-Labor*. Hurst, 320pp, 978-1849049603, £25.

Anne Kelk Mager and Phiko Jeffrey Velelo (2018), *The House of Tshatshu: Power, Politics and Chiefs North-West of the Great Kei River, c.1818-2018*. University of Cape Town Press, 180pp, 978-1775822257, £28.50.

Peter Martell (2018), *First Raise a Flag: How South Sudan Won the Longest War But Lost the Peace*. Hurst, 320pp, 978-1849049597, £19.99.

Emilia Onyema (2018), *Rethinking the Role of African National Courts in Arbitration*. Kluwer Law International, 448pp, 978-9041190420, £167.

Joel Christian Reed (2018), *Landscapes of Activism: Civil Society, HIV and AIDS Care in Northern Mozambique*. Rutgers University Press, 227pp, 978-0813596693, £28.50.

Ian Taylor (2018), *African Politics: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press. 152pp, 9780198806578, £7.99.

Amanda Villepastour (2018), *The Yorùbá God of Drumming: Transatlantic Perspectives on the Wood that Talks*. University Press of Mississippi, 288pp, 978-1496818348, £26.95.

Rob Weighill and Florence Gaub (2018), *The Cauldron: NATO's Campaign in Libya*. Hurst, 240pp, 978-1849048828, £40.

Susan Williams (2018), *Spies in the Congo: The Race for the Ore that Built the Atomic Bomb*. Hurst, 400pp, 978-1849049528, £12.99.

New Free History Textbook for West African High School Students

<https://wasscehistorytextbook.com/> This website hosts a textbook aimed at West African students taking West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE) History Paper 1, "West Africa and the Wider World from Earliest Times to 2000". This free resource covers the entire current syllabus, as well as including two chapters (11. Women, Gender and Political Authority; 12. The Environment in West African History) which – it is hoped – might be later added. The authors hope that this content will allow secondary school students to gain a good overview of West African history as their syllabus defines it, and at the same time contribute to new debates.

This textbook has been designed by matching up expertise and relevance of authors, geographical coverage for countries sitting the WASSCE exams, and ability to engage in collective work. Historians based in Ghana, Sierra Leone and The Gambia work here with Nigerian scholars in the diaspora. Together with this team are two colleagues selected for their particular expertise, from King's College London.

Vincent Hiribarren, King's College London

Journal of African Military History (JAMH)

JAMH is an international, peer-reviewed journal that publishes historical scholarship on war and society in Africa. The journal is particularly interested in exploring the issues of conflict, military and society relations, and social histories of the human experience during wartime. JAMH presents a new outlet in the study of military matters in Africa and the connections between military matters in Africa and the diaspora. Begun in 2017, this journal is an important new forum for historical researchers to connect their work to the broader fields of African history and military history.

Published by Brill, the editors of JAMH are Roy Doron of Winston-Salem State University, USA and Charles G. Thomas, US Air Command and Staff College, Montgomery, Alabama, USA. They welcome submissions from all disciplines that situate the study of the African military experience within a historical context. The themes of these submissions may include (but are not limited to): the social construction of the military and warfare in Africa and the diaspora; the historical arc of colonial and post-colonial militaries in Africa; the military strategies and tactics of African states and societies; comparative construction of militaries in pre-colonial, colonial, and post-colonial Africa; conscription and compulsory military service in the African context, including the historicisation of child soldiers; gender, militarization, and warfare; the construction of militarized identities and military service within African societies; warfare and technology in sub-Saharan Africa; political, economic, and ideological causes and effects of warfare in Africa and the diaspora; comparative African military service and slavery in the Atlantic, Trans-Saharan, and Indian Ocean contexts;

African military resistance to colonisation; the African experience in global conflicts; global, continental, and regional military exchange in the age of African decolonisation; the historicisation of militarized humanitarianism as it applies to the African continent; and the psychological effects, memories, legacies, and representations of African conflicts. JAMH also welcomes submissions for thematic special issues. Online submission of articles for publication can be submitted via: <http://www.editorialmanager.com/jamh/default.aspx> For more information, see: <https://brill.com/view/journals/jamh/jamh-overview.xml>

Politics, Religion and Personality Cult in Postcolonial Africa

The Department of Fine and Applied Arts at the University of Nigeria Nsukka invite papers for the anthology titled 'Politics, Religion and Personality Cult in Postcolonial Africa', with a view to tracing the history and social dynamics and dimensions of personality cult as it manifests and operates within the realms of religion and politics in postcolonial Africa. 250 word abstracts by 30th October 2018 to the editors: michael.ugwueze@unn.edu.ng and nche.george@unn.edu.ng Full papers based on selected abstracted are to be submitted by 30th December 2018.

News

Fire at National Museum, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

The African Studies Association of the United Kingdom wishes to extend its unconditional support and solidarity to the academic and museological community of Brazil, in the wake of the fire which destroyed the National Museum in Rio de Janeiro on 2nd September 2018.

The ASAUK is aware that the devastating incineration of this priceless collection will take decades to recover from in terms of the lost intellectual capital of the country -- if indeed such a recovery is ever possible.

We also note with great sadness the destruction of hundreds of priceless African artefacts, including the early 19th century throne of King Adandozan of Dahomey, and 19th century ivory carvings from Kongo. And we can only be but painfully aware that this is just the tip of the iceberg of such a monumental loss as Brazil has experienced.

The ASAUK is also deeply aware that this loss forms part of a wider governmental programme of austerity and cultural evisceration which has been deliberately targeted at the poorest and most disadvantaged communities of Brazil. In the context of Brazilian history, this government action has over and undertones which is anathema to everything that the ASAUK and progressive scholars stand for.

The ASAUK is aware that the Museum's collections formed an important research body for fields ranging from the Human and Social Sciences to Botany and Medicine. Consequently, the ASAUK is keen to work as closely as possible with colleagues in Brazil, to assist in any way that may be relevant. We hope for instance to support and work with the Museum to source digital copies of any relevant Africa-related material which can be accessed through our own networks, and which might help with the creation of a post fire collection. We also note that a group of concerned activists and scholars are considering next steps, and urge those interested to contact them at: falecomdiretor@mn.ufrj.br

Inaugural Lecture

Professor Ola Uduku's inaugural lecture titled: *Schools, Heritage, Urbanism and Development in Africa: Past Histories and Future Perspectives*, will take place on Monday 19th November 2018, at 5.30pm at Manchester Metropolitan University, it will be preceded by a book launch of her monograph *Learning Spaces in Africa*, (Routledge, 2018). For more information contact Professor Uduku: o.uduku@mmu.ac.uk

New Director of the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, Washington DC, USA

Since February 2018, cultural historian Gus Casely-Hayford has been the new Director of the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art in Washington, DC, USA. "Gus brings an impressive combination of knowledge, experience, communication skills and passion to the National Museum of African Art. His presence at the museum will boost its already prestigious programs and compelling exhibitions and inspire more people across the nation and around the world to explore the rich cultural heritage of African art," said Smithsonian Secretary David Skorton.

He has collaborated on numerous broadcasts as well as written and lectured extensively on the arts and cultures of Africa. "It is such an exciting time to be joining the team at the National Museum of African Art," said Casely-Hayford. "African art is at another fascinating juncture as artists reconfigure our understanding of the medium, helping us to chart courses through the big issues of our time while reminding us of the complex and long historical tradition upon which they stand. I want to build upon the exemplary institutional history of the National Museum of African Art and continue to deliver the very best of historical and contemporary African art to new and existing audiences alike. I cannot wait to get to work."

Born in London, Casely-Hayford was educated at the SOAS at the University of London, where he received his doctorate in African history and was later awarded an honorary fellowship. Casely-Hayford succeeds Johnnetta Betsch Cole, who served as director from March 2009 through March 2017.

Reproduced from Smithsonian National Museum of African Art: <https://africa.si.edu/news/>

Obituaries and Appreciations

Anthony Hamilton Millard Kirk-Greene (1925-2018)

Anthony Kirk-Greene was born in Tunbridge Wells into a relatively privileged family and served as a Captain in the Indian Army from 1943 to 1947. Sadly, his Africanist friends know little about this period of his life. Returning to the UK, he graduated from Cambridge, then joined the Colonial Service and discovered Nigeria, rising to the rank of Senior District Commissioner. He remained in Nigeria after independence, training his administrative successors, as a Senior Lecturer at Ahmadu Bello University. He was a fine linguist and soon mastered Hausa.

In 1967 he came to St Antony's Oxford, his congenial academic home for the rest of his life. He married Helen (who had never experienced Africa) and together they created a home in Davenant Road, a place of welcome and hospitality for visiting students and their families, and especially Africans and Africanists. I have a vivid memory of visiting one day when Tony, then in his late eighties, treated me to reminiscences and references to support my own work on the Colonial Service and Helen plied me with very good chocolate cake. They both confessed to a surprising addiction to *Coronation Street*.

Tony was a teacher and scholar, with over 30 books and many articles to his credit. His bestseller, written with C.H. Kraft was *Teach Yourself Hausa* (1973). It is hard to know what to single out. My own favourites have to be *Symbol of Authority: The British District Officer in Africa* (2006), a socio-historical study of District Officers in Africa between 1932 and 1966, which draws heavily on published and unpublished memoirs, and articles in the *Overseas Pensioner*, featuring inter alia the District Officer in the novel, poetry written by colonial officers and a study of their second careers. To Tony I also owe my introduction to *Sanders of the River* and the redoubtable Margery Perham. He was active in OSPA (the Overseas Service Pensioners' Association) and a keen supporter of the OSPA Research Project based at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London. The relationship between former colonial officers and academics was often uneasy, characterised by mutual suspicion. Tony was, perhaps uniquely, respected and honoured by both sides. To the former he was one of their own, who knew the challenges and pressures on colonial administration from inside. The academics recognised the depth and integrity of his scholarship.

He played a full part in the life of his college and in African Studies in and beyond Oxford. He was a friend and supporter of the Royal Commonwealth Society Library in Northumberland Avenue serving on its Library Committee for many years. When the Library was transferred from London to Cambridge he sent a succession of students from Oxford to the other place to consult it and kept up a delightful and informative correspondence (always handwritten but well

worth the effort needed to decipher) and personal friendship with its librarian. He was President of the African Studies Association of the UK from 1988 to 1990 and received its Distinguished Africanist Award in 2005. He was a Vice-President of the Royal African Society. From 1998 to 2004 he was a much valued advisory editor for the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* on twentieth century African and colonial subjects, with a particular focus on colonial administrators. He wrote 18 entries himself, including a substantial piece on Lord Lugard. He was a long serving member of the Scolma (UK Libraries and Archives Group on Africa) committee, which profited from his wit and wisdom, his generous spirit and his extensive networks. He was delighted to become an Honorary Member of Scolma, a loyal reader and occasional contributor to its journal.

Tony was awarded the MBE in 1963 and CMG in 2001.

He will be remembered as a great scholar and gentleman, ever generous with his time, his knowledge and his friendship. He was almost the last of his generation of Africanist scholars and will be much missed.

Terry Barringer

For other obituaries see:

- <https://www.politics.ox.ac.uk/news/rememering-a.h.m.-kirk-greene.html>
(by Gavin Williams)
- <https://www.dailytrust.com.ng/prof-anthony-kirk-greene-a-tribute-to-baturen-kirki-264048.html>
- <https://www.independent.co.uk/author/anthony-kirk-greene>

Anthony Kirk-Greene: An Appreciation

I first met Tony in the academic year 1992-93, sometime between starting an M. St. with Colin Newbury and commencing doctoral studies with Terence Ranger. From the first, Tony was a paragon of kindness and generosity. Though I wasn't 'his' student, he offered help and mentorship and just showed an interest, investing that most precious of resources, time. When Terry went for a prolonged visit to Zimbabwe, Tony acted as caretaker supervisor: nothing in it for him, he was just being kind. I once received by pigeon post a lever arch file containing a draft of my thesis. 'I have spent fourteen hours free reading your dissertation', he had written on the first page, ahead of a procession of blue-inked suggestions and corrections on the enormous document I'd Heath Robinsoned in the New College computer room. I remember the many times we'd meet somewhere in Oxford, the athletic manner in which he'd swing off his bicycle, undo his helmet and straighten his tweed jacket. Sometimes he would be brandishing a plastic bag of books or documents he was loaning or giving me. I remember lunches and dinners with Tony, and sometimes Helen and my wife Andrea, at St Antony's, Davenant Road, Mansfield, and the King's Arms in Summertown (before it became the Dancing Dragon). Also, the many random postcards and letters

written on St Antony's notepaper, and the thoughtfully sent off-prints of journal articles.

In 2001 I accompanied Tony, Helen, and his brother to the Palace when he received his CMG, adding to the MBE acquired during Nigerian days. I still have the cut-price Jaeger suit bought for the occasion, now sadly shrunk. Tony's honour for services to colonial and African studies was sandwiched in between the usual slew of gongs for civil servants and military personnel. The usual 'unusual' ones, too, and I recall Tony's amusement at sharing the day with people receiving awards for services to judo and something to do with incontinence. After that, the four of us repaired to the Ritz for lunch before returning to Oxford. What a day – a fitting culmination to a range of interrelated and long-standing activities that were coming to a crescendo. There had been the landmark Westminster Abbey service formally marking the winding up of HMOCS and the Corona Club (I still occasionally wear the club tie he gave me), and the publication of the accompanying *On Crown Service*, both in 1999. This was soon followed by *Britain's Imperial Administrators* (2000) and *Glimpses of Empire: A Corona Anthology* (2001). *Aspects of Empire: A New Corona Anthology*, followed a decade later. Previous landmarks in a field he had pioneered included the symposium publication resulting from the extraordinary 1979 gathering of former colonial administrators and politicians at St Antony's and important prosopographical studies such as *A Bibliography of the British Colonial Service* and *A Biographical Dictionary of the British Colonial Governor*. There was then, of course, the splendid Radcliffe Press series of colonial memoirs that he edited, and a range of other important books in a field that he very clearly led. I once asked him if he intended to write an autobiography. He said probably not, but that works such as *Symbol of Authority: The British District Officer in Africa* were very close to his experience.

Soldier of empire, professional scholar, colonial administrator, few could claim successful careers in these three fields in the 1990s, never mind now. Above all, Tony was an enormously kind man. Stylish, patrician, free with his advice and guidance, always keen to connect people to others sharing similar interests, it is no wonder that he was such an important figure in the lives of so many people.

Ashley Jackson, King's College London

Professor Peter Morton-Williams (1923-2018)

Like most of you, I have known Peter for a long time. He has been a good friend and neighbour. So it is a privilege, albeit a sad one, to pay tribute to him today and look back on his life.

Professor Peter Morton-Williams had a distinguished academic career. He was a former Pro-Vice Chancellor of Ulster University in Coleraine in Northern Ireland and he was head of the university's sociology department. He was an eminent

social anthropologist and a leading authority on West African culture. And he was a respected researcher, lecturer and academic author. Quite a CV!

Peter was born 95 years ago in Sandbach, Cheshire. His father was a Church of England vicar; his mother was a schoolteacher. Although his father died when Peter was fairly young, he spent an otherwise happy childhood in various parts of the country with his mother and his two younger sisters, Roma and Jean. Roma died in 2006 and Jean passed away three years ago.

He was educated at St Edmund's School in Canterbury and from there he won a place at University College, London. But World War 2 intervened and studies had to be put on hold. Peter served throughout the war but there are few details of his service – which might suggest he was engaged on secret work. All we know is that he was based at The Admiralty in London and at one stage was parachuted into occupied France on a special mission.

The war over, he returned to university where he graduated in 1949 with a Bachelor of Science degree in anthropology. He then went to Selwyn College, Cambridge, where he was awarded a Doctor of Philosophy degree.

After a spell at London University, Peter embarked on the most memorable chapter of his blossoming career - working for a number of years in Nigeria and Ghana where he researched and lectured on West African social anthropology. He became a leading authority on the Yoruba people of Nigeria and wrote many academic papers and several books on his specialist subject, including *An Outline of the Cosmology and Cult Organization of the Oyo Yoruba* (1964).

Even long into his retirement, he was frequently consulted by students, academics and various institutions, including the British Museum and a number of top auction houses keen to seek his advice and expertise on African artefacts.

In Ghana he lectured at Ghana University and at Cape Coast University and was a Research Fellow at the Institute of African Studies.

It was in Ghana that Peter met his wife, Mercy, and they married there in 1963. And it wasn't just Peter with an interesting job – as a young woman, Mercy was a dressmaker in her mother's dress shop, then worked at a local garage as a car paint sprayer and after that she made history when she became the first licensed woman taxi driver in the capital, Accra. Taxis are still Mercy's favourite form of transport, but these days purely as a passenger!

Peter and Mercy left Ghana in 1977 and flew straight to Northern Ireland where Peter took up his post as Head of Sociology and Social Anthropology at the University of Ulster, in Coleraine, and where he later became pro-vice chancellor. They spent ten happy years in Coleraine before Peter retired in 1987 and they moved back to England.

Regardless of his very successful career Peter remained a modest and unassuming man. He was kind and caring and he enjoyed being with people – which is not perhaps surprising for a social anthropologist. He always managed to find time to help others, be it colleagues and academic institutions or young students just starting out on their studies. He always kept a good sense of humour and he had a dry wit, invariably delivered with a twinkle in his eye.

One of Peter's great pleasures in his long retirement was meeting up with friends at his local pub – at one time, *The Builder's Arms*, and more recently at The Railway Bell. There was always plenty of lively conversation and much pitting of wits over The Guardian's daily crossword puzzle. Peter was a wizard at crossword puzzles. He twice won Guardian crossword prizes.

Peter and Mercy had their home in New Barnet for nearly 40 years and they were a familiar sight walking up Somerset Road, Peter in his distinctive fedora style hat in the winter and a straw Panama in the summer. And for parties and special occasions Peter would often don one of his highly coloured snazzy Ghanaian shirts.

Peter liked his food and he and Mercy often experimented with quite adventurous dishes. African pepper soup was one of his favourites – and for Christmas dinner, while the rest of us were tucking into traditional turkey – he would opt for goat soup with wild duck or guinea fowl or venison.

Throughout their 55 years of happy marriage, Peter always appreciated Mercy's support and encouragement and was especially grateful for her help in recent years as his health and mobility declined.

Mercy told me only a few weeks ago that throughout their marriage they had never had an angry word (Peter was always too busy, she said!) That's a pretty amazing claim and one that few couples can make. But I guess it's yet another achievement in what has been a lifetime of achievements for Peter Morton-Williams.

Peter. We are remembering you today with great affection as we say a fond farewell. May you rest in peace.

Tony Hosier

Colin Arthur Baker, MBE, BA, LLB, MPhil, PhD, DLitt

Colin Arthur Baker was born on his mother's 27th birthday, 3rd August 1929, at Beccles, Suffolk, the third child and eldest son of Arthur, a Master Printer, and Doris (née Ward).

His primary education was at the local Council School and his secondary education was at the Sir John Leman Grammar School, where he played first XI cricket and soccer for five years, was twice athletics champion, won the annual

cross-country race six consecutive years, was athletics captain, house captain and a prefect. He did his National Service, passing out top of his RAF initial training intake and was assigned to the Provost Marshal's Branch.

From 1950 he read Geography at Birmingham University, graduating 3 years later. He spent the following year reading African Studies and the Chinyanja language at the University of London. In August 1954 he sailed for Cape Town and then drove to Nyasaland. There he spent the following seventeen years in the Colonial Administrative Service, becoming District Commissioner of the Fort Manning District, then Under Secretary in the Cabinet Office, and finally founder Principal of the University of Malawi's Institute of Public Administration. In 1971 he was appointed Director of the post-graduate Institute of Administration in the University of Ife, Nigeria. In 1974 he joined the staff of the University of Glamorgan. Here he was appointed Professor, founder Director of the University Business School, Dean of the Faculty of Professional Studies and Assistant Director of the University.

He retired from these concurrent posts in 1995 and devoted the rest of his life to research and writing, focusing on Nyasaland-Malawi and using biography as the medium for exploring political and social history. As his eyesight deteriorated, he turned from archival research to collecting, editing and publishing personal and family histories of people who lived and worked in Nyasaland-Malawi.

He published 24 books and over 100 articles.

He met his wife, Shirley, on their first day at University and there began a lifelong close and devoted partnership of profound affection, deep caring and unwavering support, each the discrete confidant of the other, until Shirley died in 2012. They were married in Nyasaland in 1956. Their first child, Christopher, died of leukaemia in Malawi, aged 4 months. Their son, Daryll was born in 1960 and their daughter, Lynette, in 1962. They have three grandchildren: Charlotte, William and Edward.

David Stuart-Mogg, Hon Editor,
Society of Malawi Journal (Historical & Scientific).

Note to Contributors

Send items for inclusion in the January 2019 *Newsletter* by 15 December 2018 to Dr Simon Heap, c/o Academic Office, Buckley 1.08, Oxford Brookes University, Gypsy Lane, Oxford, OX3 0BP or effaheap@aol.com

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