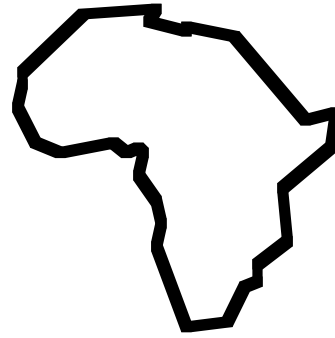


AFRICAN NEWS



Newsletter of the Centre of African Studies,
University of London

Number 55

January 2004

EVENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE CENTRE OF AFRICAN STUDIES

AEGIS* European Conference on African Studies London, June 29 to July 3, 2005

2ND CALL FOR PANELS

An initial call for panels at this conference filled well in excess of half our allocated panel sessions. While not excluding other subjects, we would now particularly welcome further proposals in the arts, history, gender, economics, development and sociology. Panels are expected to consist of four to five papers, with a chair and a discussant. Larger panels may be accommodated over more than one session. Initially, the Steering Committee invites potential panel organisers to provide a title and some of the names of participants to be considered for inclusion in the programme. A 50 word abstract and 250 word description should be included. If the panel can be accommodated, these materials – along with those from the first call for panels – will be posted on a conference website so as to issue a call for papers. Although proposals need not be wholly finalised yet, the materials should be in a form fit to be included in the call for papers. Panels may be organised in any EU language, however, plenary contributions will be in English or French. Translation facilities are not envisaged.

Graduate students interested in Africa are also encouraged by the Steering Committee to submit proposals for panels on subjects across the gamut of the humanities and social sciences applied to Africa.

The second call for panels closes 27 February 2004.

Panel proposals should be submitted to the Centre of African Studies (e-mail: cas@soas.ac.uk), Centre of African Studies, School of Oriental and African Studies, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG.

E-mail enquiries for further information sent to the Centre of African Studies will be forwarded to the appropriate member of the AEGIS Conference Steering Committee.

*AEGIS was founded in 1991 as a network of European Centres of African Studies. Its current membership is Barcelona, Basel, Bayreuth, Bordeaux, Brussels, Copenhagen, Edinburgh, Hamburg, Leiden, Leipzig, London, Naples and Uppsala. For further details see <http://www.aegis-eu.org>.

⌘ **The Africa Business Group** will be holding three meetings this term:

- **3 February**

BRANDING AFRICA: STATE AND NON-STATE LOGOS FOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Professor Tim Shaw, Professor of Commonwealth Governance and Development, and Director, Institute of Commonwealth Studies

Logos matter.....but students of and policy-makers for 'development' in Africa as elsewhere tend to disregard brands, yet the branding of NGOs as well as companies and countries is crucial. We need to transcend the artificial divide between business schools/advertising agencies and African/Development Studies; similarly, notions in traditional international relations of 'soft power' should be extended to include logos as well as other ideas/coalitions/networks. This presentation will constitute an experimental interdisciplinary foray into African 'brands' in the new millennium.

- **26 February**

AFRICA: SHOULD WE JUST GIVE UP?

Mr James Bevan, Africa Director, Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Africa has produced a lot of bad news over the last few years. And despite the West's good intentions, after 9/11 the international community's attention has focussed elsewhere. Some argue that Africa is now doomed or irrelevant or both. Are they right? James Bevan, the FCO's Director for Africa, provides his own view.

The Africa Business Group is a forum for the discussion of African affairs as they affect business, commerce, and finance across the continent. It brings together business people, journalists, diplomats and those in the NGOs with academics and scholars who share expertise on Africa. The ABG meets at least six times each academic year (September to June) and presentations at those meetings focus upon matters of topical interest and direct relevance to business. If you would like further information about membership of the ABG, please contact the Centre of African Studies.

- **11 March**

TITLE TO BE CONFIRMED

Professor Paul Collier, Centre for the Study of African Economies, Oxford University

⌘ **Meetings organised by the Anglo-Ethiopian Society:**

The Anglo-Ethiopian Society holds a number of meetings during the year. For information on these and either of the following meetings contact the Society at e-mail: secretary@anglo-ethiopian.org

Magdala Revisited: The Return of the Symbol of the Ark of the Covenant (11 February) at 19.00, Room B102, Brunei Gallery. An illustrated talk by Dr Ian McLennan. On 3 June 2003, Dr MacLennan, searching through objects in a large cardboard box, found something which totally astonished him and more importantly delighted many millions of Ethiopians at home and throughout the world. This is the story of the removal of a Tabot from Magdala in 1868 after the defeat of Emperor Teodros and its sojourn in Britain for the ensuing one hundred and thirty-five years. Hormuz Rassam (the de facto Ambassador of Queen Victoria to the Emperor) was one of its owners. He brought it to Britain and gave it to friends. What of the Holy Monk Aba Tekle Hawariat?; Was the secret tablet, the Tabot taken from his dead person? Was he the priest who owned the other objects in this cardboard box? And who was the slain warrior from whom the ivory anklets were taken?

Another Uproar (24 March) 19.00, Room G51, SOAS. A film and talk by Jeffery Boswall. Jeffery Boswall has agreed to try to repeat the success of his last (October 2001) talk to the Society. He has visited Ethiopia 27 times since 1965, and will show the best bits from the nine films he made in Ethiopia for the BBC.

⌘ Meetings organised by the Friends of Mali:

Friends of Mali-UK, launched in 2003, is an organisation that seeks to increase knowledge of Malian culture, promote good relations between Mali and Britain, create opportunities to learn about Malian arts, crafts and music, and facilitate trade and development activities. For further information about the organisation or meetings contact info@friendsofmali-uk.org /webpage: www.friendsofmali-uk.org/ or the Secretary of Friends of Mali, Dr Sarah Castle on e-mail: Sarah.Castle@lshtm.ac.uk

⌘ The Royal African Society (Room 475, SOAS, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC2 0XG) (tel: 020 7898 4390) announces the following meetings:

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| 21 January | <i>The Devil that Danced on the Water: Sierra Leone's Transition from Democracy to Dictatorship</i> by Aminatta Forna (Author, Broadcaster and Journalist) at 17.30 at Khalili Lecture Theatre, SOAS (jointly with CAS) |
| 23 January | <i>Economy Without State: Survival and Accumulation in Somalia</i> by Professor Peter Little (Chair of Anthropology, University of Kentucky) at 17.30 in Khalili Lecture Theatre, SOAS (jointly with CAS) |
| 19 February | <i>Reclaiming Egypt's Stolen Identity</i> by Adel Darwesh (Freelance Journalist; Writer on Foreign Affairs) at 17.30 in Khalili Lecture, SOAS (jointly with CAS) |
| 11 March | <i>Africa and International Drugs Control</i> by Dr David M Anderson (St Antony's College, Oxford) at 18.00 at the Commonwealth Club, 18 Northumberland Avenue, WC1 |
| 15 March | <i>The Gates of Africa</i> by Anthony Sattin (Author of the recently published book 'The Gates of Africa: Death, Discovery and the Quest for Timbuktu') at 17.30 in Khalili Lecture Theatre, SOAS (jointly with CAS) |
| 14 April | <i>South Africa: Ten years and Beyond</i> by HE Dr Lindiwe Mabuzu (High Commissioner for South Africa) as part of South Africa's 10 th anniversary of freedom) at 18.00 in the Commonwealth Club (address above) |
| 28 April | <i>No Enemies? Mandela's Foreign Policy in the 1990s</i> by Professor James Barber (Emeritus Professor of Politics, Durham University) (as part of South Africa's 10 th anniversary of freedom) at 18.00 in the Commonwealth Club (address above) |

Contact RAS London direct for information on additional meetings on e-mail: ras@soas.ac.uk / webpage:www.royalafricansociety.org. RAS contact Scotland: P.King@ed.ac.uk. RAS contact Bristol: alan.ryderbristol@bopenworld.com

Please confirm all meetings by telephone with RAS as, very occasionally, due to unforeseen

circumstances, they may be postponed. In the event of a cancellation or postponement a message will be left on the answerphone.

FORTHCOMING SEMINARS AND LECTURES

☞ At the **SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL AND AFRICAN STUDIES**, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG (tel: 020 7637 2388):

Anthropology Department (Faculty of Arts and Humanities) held on Wednesdays between 15.00 to 17.00 in G52.

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| 14 January | <i>Working the Borders to Beneficial Effect: The Not-So-Traditional Knowledge of Not-So-Traditional Healers of Northern Mozambique</i> by Harry West (SOAS) |
| 21 January | <i>From Prophecy to Pentecostalism: The Changing Face of Yoruba Christianity in London</i> by J D Y Peel (SOAS) |
| 28 January | <i>Post Imperial Identities? The Development of Anti-Apartheid Activism in 1950s Britain</i> by Rob Skinner (University of Sussex) |
| 4 February | <i>Mystical Migrants: Perspectives on Premodern and Modern Sufi Diasporas</i> by Nile Green (Oxford University) |
| 11 February | READING WEEK |
| 18 February | <i>Dishonesty as Political Capital: Cultural Intimacy and Multiple Politics in South Africa</i> by Thomas Blom Hansen (University of Edinburgh) |
| 25 February | <i>Hybridity and Diaspora</i> by John Hutnyk (Goldsmiths) |
| 3 March | <i>Diaspora and Mediated Identities: A Variety of Gazes</i> by Annabelle Sreberny (SOAS <i>Recasting the 'Black Venus' in the African Diaspora of the Global Age</i> by Jayne Ifekwunigwe (University of East London) |
| 10 March | <i>Recasting the 'Black Venus' in the African Diaspora of the Global Age</i> by Jayne Ifekwunigwe (University of East London) |
| 17 March | <i>Provincialising the Global City: From Bombay to Mumbai</i> by Rashmi Varma (University of Warwick) |

Convenor: Dr Paru Raman/e-mail: pr1@soas.ac.uk)

Anthropology Department (Faculty of Arts and Humanities) Anthropology of Development Seminar held on Wednesdays at 17.00 in G52.

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| 14 January | <i>The Birth of the Salon: Poverty, Modernisation and Dealing with Witchcraft in Southern Tanzania</i> by Maia Green (Manchester) |
| 21 January | <i>Anthropological Perspectives on Civil Society and NGOs in Development</i> by Armine Ishkanian (LSE) |

- 28 January *Title to be announced* by Celayne Heaton (SOAS)
- 4 February *Old and New Civil Society in Bangladesh* by David Lewis (LSE)
- 18 February *Gender and/in Development: The Femme de Keita, the Femmes du Sahel, and Women in the Ader Dutchi Majiya (Niger)* by Benedetta Rossi (LSE)
- 25 February *Combating HIV/AIDS in Africa: What Can Anthropologists Contribute? A Discussion* by Julia Cleves and Shirin Elahi (UNAIDS)
- 3 March *The Efficacy of Micro Finance: Initiatives for Poverty Alleviation* by Nici Nelson (Goldsmiths)
- 10 March *Title to be confirmed* by James Fairhead (Sussex)

Further information from Dr David Mosse/e-mail: dm21@soas.ac.uk

History Department (Faculty of Arts and Humanities)

African History Research Seminar

Enquiries to David Martin/e-mail: dm24@soas.ac.uk

Department of Economics and Development Studies (Faculty of Law and Social Sciences).

Enquiries to Dr Matthew McCartney/e-mail: mm80

Department of Music (Faculty of Arts and Humanities) will be holding various events covering a wide range of African and Asian cultures some of which will be open to all. Information on events may be obtained by e-mail: music@soas.ac.uk/tel: 020 7898 4010.

Department of Languages and Cultures of Africa (Faculty of Languages and Cultures)

Enquiries to Dr Lutz Marten/e-mail: lm5@soas.ac.uk.

AHRB Centre for Asian and African Literatures will be holding 2 meetings of interest to Africanists at **17.30**.

- 12 February *Hold you hen; me cock outside: Narratives on the shaping and performance of gender roles* by Merle Collins (Professor of English and Comparative Literature, University of Maryland) in Khalili Lecture Theatre, SOAS
- 23 February *Geopoetics and the 'Beyond' in Post-Colonial theory: Rereading Homi Bhabha's 'The Location of Culture'* Mpalive-Hangson Msiski (English and Humanities, Birkbeck College) in Room 219, Foster Court, UCL

For further information contact Gillian Hudson/tel: 020 7898 4267/e-mail: gh17@soas.ac.uk

For the last two years, the **AHRB** has organised a Poetry Translation Workshop that has looked at poems translated from a wide variety of languages including Assamese, Amharic, Gujarati, Japanese, Spanish, Urdu, Korean, Chinese, German, Gujarati, Turkish, Arabic, Farsi and Sylheti. The focus of the workshop is the delicate art of how best to produce translations which work successfully as poems in English whilst retaining a close relationship to the original poem. The first meeting will be held on 14 January from 16.00 to 19.30 in room 379 SOAS.

For further information contact Sarah Maguire e-mail: poet@soas.ac.uk

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⌘ At **INSTITUTE OF COMMONWEALTH STUDIES**, 28 Russell Square, London WC1B 5DS (tel: 020 7862 8844)

- 12 February *Ethiopian Development: The Politics of Emulation* by Christopher Clapham, (Cambridge) at 16.15 in Room 21
- 26 February *Land Reform and History in Africa* by Ambreena Manji (Warwick and Institute of Commonwealth Studies) at 16.15 in Room 21
- 4 March *The East African Railway Strike 1959-60* by David Hyde (East Anglia and Institute of Commonwealth Studies) at 17.00 in Room 21
- 9 March *Colonial Cyprus and Kenya Compared: A General Overview* by Theodore Natsoullas (Toledo) at 17.00 in Menzies Room
- 11 March *Legacies of Ethnic Identity Formation in Eastern and Southern Africa* by Joy Moncrieffe (ODI) at 16.15 in Menzies Room

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⌘ At **LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE AND TROPICAL MEDICINE**, Health Policy Unit, Keppel Street, London WC1 (tel: 020 7636 8636)

Medical Anthropology Seminars (provisional) held on **Tuesdays** from **17.30** to **19.00** in **Room 5, Keppel Street**

- 20 January *Nutrition and Cultural Learning in Central Africa* by Dr Robert Aunger (LSHTM)
- 27 January *Turning Points, in the Life Course: A Prospective Study of Sex Workers in London, 1986-2000* by Dr Sophie Day (Goldsmiths College)
- 10 February *Public Engagement with Vaccination Science in The Gambia* by Dr Melissa Leach, (University of Sussex)

READING WEEK

- 24 February *Wonders of the Exotic: Chinese Formula Medicines on the Swahili Coast* by Dr Elisabeth Hsu (Oxford University)
- 2 March *Desert Rats not Lab Rats: The Emergence and Construction of Gulf War Syndrome* by Dr Susan Kilshaw (University College London)
- 9 March *Going Home? Belonging and Burial in the Era of AIDS* by Professor Susan Whyte (Copenhagen University)
- 23 March *Expectations and Allocations: The Politics of Disability Grants in a South African Township* by Dr Hayley MacGregor (Brunel University)

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⌘ At **LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE**, Department of Economic History. Meetings at LSE, St Clement's Building, Room S421.

This term's programme includes two papers on African themes:

- 3 February *African Money and Credit, Colonial Debt and Imperial Finance* by Torbjörn Engdahl
- 16 March *A Question of Character: British Officials and the Economic Administration of Egypt, c1878-1914* by Peter Cain (Sheffield Hallam)

Enquiries to Gareth Austin (LSE) e-mail: g.m.Austin@lse.ac.uk

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EVENTS

⌘ **LONDON**

Special Seminar on Africa's Economic Prospects (14 January) (17.00-18.30) in Room 21, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, Russell Square. Further information can be obtained from Professor Tim Shaw, Director of the Institute/e-mail: tim.shaw@soas.ac.uk/tel: 020 7862 8844).

The Future of Aid, 2005-2010: Challenges and Choices. Series of lunchtime meetings organised by the Overseas Development Institute (January and February) beginning on 14 January. For further information contact Peter Gee at p.gee@odi.org.uk

Imperial Ghosts and Fantasies in the Contemporary Portuguese World (15 January) at the Institute of Romance Studies, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1. Seminar and Book launch. For further information contact Abdoolkarim A Vakil/e-mail: abdoolkarim.vakil@kcl.ac.uk

Letting them Die?: Preventing HIV/AIDS in South Africa (5 March) Speaker: Dr Catherine Campbell. Organised by Development Studies Institute (DESTIN), London School of Economics and Political Science at 16.00 in The Hong Kong Theatre, LSE, Ground Floor, Clement House, Aldwych.

Miliband Lecture on Culture in the Age of Global Communication. Late Modern Connections: Culture, Media and Globalisation (10 March) at 18.30 in Old Theatre, Old Building, London School of Economics and Political Science. Speaker: Professor Henrietta Moore, Chair: Professor David Held. In theory, culture is disrupted, fragmented and shattered by modernity. This process of disintegration supposedly gathers pace with globalisation feeding into a sense of identity crisis and the loss of shared horizons and experience. This lecture takes issue with this view and discusses how contemporary forms of globalisation exist as a series of specific locations and particularly communal identities. Media in all its forms perpetuates these particularities through the commodification of difference and the proliferation of incompatible forms of language and representations. Drawing on examples from Africa, Asia and Europe, Henrietta Moore, demonstrates that the only truly global cultures today are those which are uniquely local. For more information contact Conferences on 020 7955 6043 or visit www.lse.ac.uk/events.

Futures for Southern Africa (2-3 April) CIIR/NAI/ICS organised workshop at Institute of Commonwealth Studies (address above). For further information contact Helen Barratt at Helen.barratt@fish.co.uk.

The New Orders of Difference: The Cultural Discourses and Texts of Economic Migration (14-16 July) at Froebel College, Roehampton University of Surrey. An international workshop organised by the Globalization, Identity Politics and Social Conflict (GIPSC) Project in collaboration with The Ferguson Centre for African and Asian Studies, The Open University. Enquiries regarding any aspect of the workshop, academic or organisational, may be addressed either to Suman Gupta, principal Co-ordinator, GIPSC Project, Literature Department, The Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes MK7 6AA/e-mail: S.Gupta@open.ac.uk) or to David Richards, Director, The Ferguson Centre. The Open University (address as before)/e-mail: David.Richards@open.ac.uk.

Charles Boxer Centenary Conference. Creole Societies in the Portuguese and Dutch Colonial Empires (9-10 September) at King's College London. Born in 1904, Charles Boxer was probably the greatest historian of Portuguese and Dutch colonial history of the 20th century. After a military career held the Camões Chair of Portuguese at King's College London from 1947-1967. This conference seeks to commemorate Boxer's work and to build on it in a significant way. The post-colonial era has seen the emergence of plural societies and growing importance of the idea of multiple identities. This is reflected in studies of the ways in which the early colonial empires gave rise to 'mixed societies' which shared in the cultures of the colonised and the colonisers and which played a significant mediating role during the colonial era. This conference will focus on these 'mixed' or Creole societies, to understand the role they played in the colonial era and to trace their emergence as nations in their own right. (for example Cape

Verde). This will be the first of two conferences - the second is planned to be held in Mindelo in the Cape Verde Islands in April 2005.

Anyone interested in attending the conference or wishing to give a paper should contact: Professor Malyn Newitt, Department of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies, Kings College London/e-mail: malyn.newitt@kcl.ac.uk

Call for Panels and Papers. Debating Africa. 2004 Biennial ASUK Conference (11-13 September 2004) at Goldsmiths College, University of London. The overarching theme of this conference will be 'Debating Africa'. However, the presence of a theme does not preclude contributions on other topics or themes. Anyone interested in running a panel on a theme or to volunteer an individual paper should contact the ASUK President, Dr Nici Nelson, Anthropology Department, Goldsmiths College, University of London, SE14 6NW/tel: 020 7919 7806/e-mail: n.nelson@gold.ac.uk.

⌘ UK

The Letters Home Festival: South African Exiles and Émigrés Writing Abroad (5-6 March 2004) at School of Pythagoras, St John's College, University of Cambridge. The 'Letters from Home Festival' seeks to gather together a group of South African poets, writers and literary critics who live apart but not removed from the 'extravagance of Africa'; and is conceived both as a celebration and an interrogation of South African exile/émigré literary and artistic expression. As well as sparking debate about the history and future of South African cultural expression, the festival is designed to raise and provoke discussion on the condition of exile – as both an individual and global concern. In addition to readings, critical papers, interviews and discussion; there will be a photographic exhibition, film screening and a gala dinner. For further information browse www.thelettershomefestival.co.uk

The Political Economy of Kenya – Past and Present (27-28 May). Workshop at St Antony's College, Oxford. Research on all aspects of the political economy of Kenya has blossomed over the past decade, contributing to what is currently one of the most lively and stimulating bodies of scholarly work on any part of the African continent. The workshop aims to bring academics from Kenya, North America and Europe to join with British colleagues in a review of recent research and publication of Kenya's political economy. The emphasis of the workshop will be on discussion of key issues and the setting of new research agendas, hopefully fostering closer collaboration between scholars. The workshop is intended as a tribute to the career and scholarship of John Lonsdale who retires from his post at the University of Cambridge in September 2004, and whose pioneering work on Kenya's history and politics has been so influential over the past 40 years. During the workshop, Dr Lonsdale will deliver the annual Africa Lecture. For further information contact david.anderson@sant.ox.ac.uk

'Traditional' Accountability and 'Modern' Governance in Africa (5-7 July) at University of Durham. This conference aims to bring together a cross-disciplinary group of scholars to discuss the significance of 'traditional' accountability and its implications for 'modern' government. Its aim is to set 're-traditionalisation' in critical, historical and comparative context, with a view to making constructive interventions in the debate about governance in Africa.

Proposed Panels: Traditional Leaders 1: Kings, Chiefs and Elders; Traditional Leaders II: Gerontocrats, Patriarchs and Matriarchs; Cultures of Accountability I: Moral Ethnicity; Cultures of Accountability II: Bureaucrats and Developmentalists; The Spirituality of Accountability I: Politics

and the Occult; The Spirituality of Accountability II: Islam and Christianity. For further information contact: Dr Tim Kelsall (Tim.Kelsall@Newcastle.ac.uk) or Dr Justin Willis (Justin.Willis@Durham.ac.uk).

⌘ EUROPE

Centre d'Etudes Africaines, Leiden new seminar and CinemAfrica programme is available on website: <http://asc.leidenuniv.nl/events>

Memory and Identity in Asia and Africa (OGSAA) (late 2004/early 2005) at the University of Oslo, Norway. In recent humanities research, an increasing number of interests are grouped under the common heading of memory. From memories of the holocaust and of slavery, to memory as a narratological device which allows us to reconstruct lives, memory appears again and again: as a tool in quest for understanding, for justice, and for knowledge.

Inspired by this memory boom, Reiko Abe and Anne Thelle Backer (University of Oslo) plan to organise a project that will bring together various research topics which have 'memory and identity' as their focus. What is the role of memory in the creation of histories, and of communal belonging? How does memory shape the stories that are told and passed down? In what way are the memories of war narrated? The goal is to bring together scholars from a wide variety of fields (working on modern times) to a workshop to be held at University of Oslo late 2004/early 2005, which in turn will result in the publication of a conference volume. Examples of topics currently in mind are minority literature, historiography, narratives of nation-building etc. The conference will invite scholars to discuss set texts; present papers; and participate in a roundtable discussion over a three-day period.

If you have current or future research projects which would fit into this category, the University of Oslo would like to hear from you. Oslo plans to recruit scholars from other parts of Europe, the US, possibly Japan, alongside scholars from Oslo/Gøteborg.

For further information contact: Professor Reiko Abe Auestad (r.a.auestad@east.uio.no) or Anne Thelle Backer (a.t.backer@east.uio.no)

⌘ CANADA

Q-Squared in Practice: A Conference on Experiences of Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Poverty Appraisal (15-16 May 2004) at Centre for International Studies, University of Toronto. The last ten years have seen recognition of the strong complementarities between qualitative and quantitative methods in poverty appraisal. There is a growing consensus that both approaches have much to contribute to understanding te policy formulation. The question is no longer if the two methods should be combined, but how. This conference aims to bring together the very best in recent efforts in the "Q-Squared" tradition. The conference organisers are Ravi Kanbur, Cornell University/e-mail: sk145@cornell.edu and Paul Shaffer, University of Toronto.

⌘ THE AMERICAS

Perspectives on Yoruba History and Culture (26-28 March 2004) at University of Texas at Austin. This conference will be centered on the Yoruba to review the state of knowledge, the various advances already made, the connections with comparative and diaspora history, the critique of old and new sources, and the identification of new areas worthy of investigation. Papers will be welcome that raise

historical, cultural, methodological, and theoretical questions that address the strengths and voids by focusing on relevant issues and empty issues and empty spaces in Yoruba history and culture, as well as its global spread in the African diaspora. It is intended that this will be an all-embracing conference on Yoruba, broadly defined in their geographic and cultural scope. The conference will encompass a wide range of disciplines and perspectives, with participants being drawn from the US, Canada, Brazil, the Caribbean, and elsewhere, including European and African countries. Enquiries to Ms Ann Genova on annabell@mail.utexas.edu or by post to: Toyin Falola, Department of History, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Tx 78712.

African Art: Roots and Routes (31 March-3 April). 13th International Triennial Symposium on African Art, Cambridge, Boston, and Salem, Massachusetts, organised by the Art Council of the African Studies Association (ACASA) and hosted by the Department of African and African American Studies and the WEB Du Bois Institute for Afro-American Research at Harvard University. The theme of the conference will encourage participants to explore how African visual practices moved across cultures, places and time and how the exchange of ideas has fostered vibrant new forms of expression and interpretations in a global world. Contact: Christraud M Geary, Panels Chair, Curator of African and Oceanic Art, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston/e-mail: cgeary@mfa.org

CALL FOR PAPERS: VIII African and AfroAmerican International Culture Conference (12-16 April) in Santiago de Cuba. Workshops: Color and Form; Images; The Ancestral Rhythm. Languages: English, French and Spanish. **Deadline: 31 January.** Contacts: Dra Marta E Cordiés Jackson/e-mail: ccult.f.Ortiz@cultstgo.cult.cu), Dr Luis Beltrán/e-mail: luis.beltran@uah.es

The Black Body: Imagining, Writing, and (Re-Reading) (23-24 April) at DePaul University, Chicago. This conference will explore the ways in which the Black body has been constituted as a site for the construction and maintenance of social and political power. It will also explore the changing discourse on the Black body, its production, policing regulation, disfiguring, and how different disciplines have been deployed to map, project and inscribe different symbolic meanings. For further information contact: Center for Black Diaspora, De-Paul University, Conference on the Black Body, 2320 North Kenmore Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60614-3250/e-mail: blkbody@depaul.edu/ tel: 00-773 325 7512.

African and African American Relations in US, Americas and Africa (29 April-1 May) at California State University, Sacramento, organised by the Center for African Peace and Conflict Resolution in collaboration with The Pan African Studies Program. The convenors ask for papers/proposals that articulate new, innovative/creative and feasible options for resolution and relationship building among the Africans/diaspora-related to the conference. Contact: Professor Ernest E Uwazie, Director, Center for African Peace and Conflict Resolution, California State University, Sacramento, 6000 J Street, Sacramento CA 95819-6085/e-mail: uwaziee@csus.edu

8th Annual ALTA Conference (29 April-1 May) hosted by the National African Language Resource Center, University of Wisconsin, Madison (in conjunction with the annual conference of the National Council of Least Commonly Taught Languages (NCOLCTL) **Expanding our Vision for African Language Pedagogy: A Priority for the 21st Century**). Abstracts of 250-300 words related to the theme of the conference and any aspect of African Language teaching and learning to be sent by e-mail attachment to Alwiya Omar (aomar@Indiana.edu). **Deadline 15 January.**

Youth in the Age of Development (1920-.....) (20-22 June) in Bahia, Brazil. The Social Science Research Council (SSRC), and the Centro d'Estudos Afro-Orientais of the Federal University of Bahia will organise a collaborative workshop on the changing perceptions and roles of 'Youth' in the age of development. This workshop will focus both on perceptions and self-representations of youth. Youth can be seen as both a new generation carving out a place in the world for itself as well as a broader societal representation of desired change. A variety of stakeholders (including governments, social movements, NGOs and multinational corporations) are trying to impose their representations of youth to further their own agendas. On the other hand, it is this same contentious field, which offers youth an opportunity to express its collective social agency. It is precisely these dialectics the workshop will discuss. Applications and requests for more information should be sent to: Sephis Programme, International Institute of Social History, Cruquiusweg 31, 1019 AT Amsterdam, The Netherlands/e-mail: sephis@iisg.nl/tel: ++31-20-463-63-95.

Sin Fronteras: Women's Histories, Global Conversations. 13th Berkshire Conference on the History of Women (2-5 June 2005) at Scripps College, Claremont, California. The Program Committee welcomes proposals that cross geographical, cultural, and disciplinary borders and especially those which address the plurality of histories of transnational encounters and empires. For more information, and the call for papers, visit www.berksconference.org.

⌘ CENTRE OF AFRICAN STUDIES

⌘ AEGIS

From Violent Conflict to good Governance (27-28 May 2004) at NAI, Uppsala, Sweden. For further information about AEGIS contact www.aegis-eu.org

⌘ VISITING SCHOLARS TO THE CENTRE OF AFRICAN STUDIES

LEVENTIS RESEARCH CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME

The Leventis Foundation supports collaborative research between the Centre of African Studies (University of London) and colleagues in Nigerian universities. Successful applicant(s) will be attached to the Centre of African Studies, based at SOAS, for a period of three months. Applications should include a complete curriculum vitae, a 1000 word statement of current research interests and aims to be achieved during the research period in London. This programme is particularly suitable for younger academics, perhaps working up a PhD thesis into publishable form. **The deadline for the next round of applications is 1 May 2004.** Further information may be obtained from the CAS office or website.

VISITING SCHOLARSHIP FOR EASTERN AFRICAN ACADEMICS scholars based at the Centre of African Studies (January to March 2004):

Dr Moges Yigezu (Department of Linguistics, Institute of Language Studies, Addis Ababa University).

Research topic: **Resolving the Issue of Stress Pattern in Amharic Phonology**

Mr Everest Magoti Cornelli (Department of Political Science and Public Administration, Philosophy Unit, University of Dar es Salaam).

Research topic: **The Problem of Poverty in Nyerere's Epistemology: An Examination and Critical Appraisal of the Foundations of his Notion of Community and Progress in Africa.**

Mr William M Musyoka (Department of Commercial Law, Faculty of Law, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Nairobi).

Research topic: **The Law, the Poor and Access to Justice in Kenya: A Case for the Revitalisation of African Customary Law.**

The Visiting Scholarship for Eastern African Academics supports scholars from Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda. The successful applicant(s) will visit the Centre for a three month period in order to pursue research and/or course development in the broad field of African studies in the social sciences and humanities; preference will be given to academics at the early stage of their career. **The closing date for applications for a choice of either the Autumn term (mid-September to mid-December) 2004 or the Spring term (mid-January to mid-April 2005) is 30 April 2004.** The flyer can be found on the CAS webpage.

The Centre of African Studies gratefully acknowledges its collaboration with Goodenough College, which provides our visitors with accommodation.

☞ RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY MEMBERS OF CENTRE OF AFRICAN STUDIES

M Newitt, P Chabal, N Macqueen (eds) *Community & the State in Lusophone Africa* (Kings College London 2003)

C Githiora. *Diccionario Swahili-Espanol* 190pp. El Colegio de Mexico, Centro de Estudios de Asia y Africa (2002). The first bilingual dictionary of these two languages

C. Githiora. *Sheng: Peer Language, Swahili Dialect or Emerging Creole?* Journal of African Cultural Studies (JACS) University of London (SOAS), Vol 15 No. 2, 2003. pp. 159-183

We would like to include listings of recent books authored and edited by Centre of African Studies members as a regular feature of 'African News'. Please give Jackie Collis (CAS) details of books that will be published close to the deadline for the next newsletter.

⌘ MISCELLANEOUS

University of Natal (25 June -29 July) offers a five week International School at the campuses of Durban and Pietermaritzburg. **Applications close 15 April.** For further information contact Zandi Wanda by e-mail: IWS@nu.ac.za/tel: 27 31 260 2677/website: www.und.ac.za/und/is/index.html

Florida State University, African New World Studies, and the Broward County Libraries Division are looking for contributors to the new 'Encyclopedia of the African Diaspora'. For information or submission guidelines e-mail: floridablackstudies@yahoo.com or browse website: <http://floridablackstudies.com/encyclopedia.html>

Journal of Higher Education in Africa is a joint initiative between the Center for International Higher Education at Boston College, US, and the council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) in Dakar, Senegal. The JHEA strives to be a central element in the "invisible college" of researchers, policymakers, and others who have an interest in higher education, and also help to stimulate additional research on higher education in Africa. For further information contact: Dr Damtew Teferra on e-mail: jhea@bc.edu) or Professor Adebayo O Olukoshi on e-mail: jhea@codesria.sn).

African Visiting Fellowships (University of Oxford) Rhodes Chair of Race Relations and Islamic Studies Centre 2004-2005. The Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies and the Rhodes Chair of Race Relations are offering two African Visiting Research Fellowships for the academic year 2004-05. Applications are invited from scholars working in African universities or research institutions. The Fellowships will be awarded in the fields of Modern History or the Social Sciences, including Anthropology, Human Geography and Cultural Studies. The OCIS Fellowship will be awarded for the study of any aspect of Islam, or Muslim Societies, in Africa, including North Africa and South Africa. The Rhodes Chair Fellowship can focus on any aspect of African Studies, but will exclude scholars from North Africa or South Africa.

The purpose of the Fellowship is to provide an opportunity for scholars working in African universities to spend an extended research period at Oxford and to enrich the study of Africa at the University. Fellows will be expected to reside in Oxford during term, to give and contribute to seminars, and to participate in discussion with post-graduates, possibly through a limited amount of post-graduate seminar teaching. **Deadline 27 February.** Enquiries concerning the OCIS Fellowship should be addressed to Islamic.studies@oxcis.ac.uk and for the Rhodes Chair Fellowship to ulli.Parkinson@sant.ox.ac.uk

The South-South Exchange Programme for Research on the History of Development (SEPHIS) organise many conferences and workshops, in addition to which they run a Grants Programme. Information about Sephis can be obtained via the Sephis website: <http://www.sephis.org>

Announcement of the foundation of a new Association. The **Kanuri Studies Association** was founded during the 12th meeting of Mega Chad Association in Maiduguri, Nigeria in December 2003. the main aim of the association is to enhance and support the exchange of knowledge and information from and with Kanuri-speaking people and the European/American academic community. The association will firstly concentrate on creation of a website. The website will include the following sub-headings: Kanuri-studies so far; primary source of Kanuri-studies; Kanuri and their neighbours; bibliography of Kanuri-studies; news from Borno; notes from the Borno Museum newsletter, notes from the Borno music development programme and photo gallery.

If the association is registered, a call for membership will be circulated.

For further information contact: Editha Platte by e-mail Platte@em.uni-frankfurt.de or Bosoma Sheriff by e-mail B.sheriff@hotmail.com.

Dr Chege Githiora (SOAS) is looking for assistance for a group of local artists and writers in Kenya who need support (books, equipment and funds) for an ongoing collaborative effort to research, write and publish a “grassroots” history of their community, in their Gikuyu language. For details and information including a sample of their work in progress, please contact Dr Chege Githiora at SOAS at +44 (0)20 7898 4395/e-mail: cg17@soas.ac.uk

Call for Applications for Fellowships. Islam, Disengagement of the State, and Globalization in Sub-Saharan Africa. The African Studies Centre (ASC) Leiden and the Centre d’Etudes d’Afrique Noire (CEAN) Bordeaux, pending final budgetary approval, are launching a project to study the relationship between Islam, society and the state in sub-Saharan Africa that will culminate in an international conference to be held in the Spring of 2005. A number of fellowships are available for innovative field research projects in Africa. Although research projects will be considered in any country in sub-Saharan Africa, there is particular interest in projects in Chad, Côte d’Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. Proposals may focus on one or more countries or regions. The proposed research should make a significant contribution to the understanding of the dynamics of contemporary Islam in Sub-Saharan Africa, with particular reference to relations with the state, processes of political and economic reform/liberalization, globalization and transnationalism.

For more information contact: Ben Soares (ASC): Islaminafrica@fsw.leidenuniv.nl
René Otayek (CEAN) r.otayek@sciencespobordeaux.fr

The Threshold of Peace: Sudan Field Training Course 2004 (4-10 April) organised by the Rift Valley Institute at Athi River, outside Nairobi, Kenya. The Field Training Course is a high-level

residential programme offering a fast-track introduction to Sudan – north and south, past and present. The course is designed for aid-workers, peace-keepers, diplomats, business people, journalists and post-graduate researchers – those who are new to the country and those already in post. The Rift Valley Institute is an independent research, publishing and educational association, providing information services, training and technical consultancy for the African Rift Valley Region: North-East Africa, the Horn, the Great Lakes, East Africa, East Central and South Central Africa. For more information and a syllabus contact institute@riftvalley.net

CENTRE OF AFRICAN STUDIES

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AEGIS Website:	www.aegis-eu.org		

**The Centre of African Studies office is open on
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 11.00 am to 17.00.**

PLEASE NOTE that the copy date for the next newsletter will be 11 APRIL