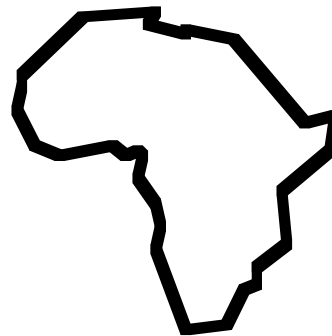


AFRICAN NEWS



Newsletter of the Centre of African Studies,
University of London

Number 52

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January 2003

EVENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE CENTRE OF AFRICAN STUDIES

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE CENTRE OF AFRICAN STUDIES MAY BE FOUND ON THE LAST PAGE OF AFRICAN NEWS. PREVIOUS VISITORS MAY LIKE TO NOTE THAT OUR OFFICE HAS MOVED ONE DOOR ALONG THE CORRIDOR TO ROOM 472

⌘ The **Africa Business Group**, run by the Centre of African Studies in association with *Africa Confidential*, is holding three meetings this term:

- **Wednesday 22 January:**

High Risk – High Returns? Practical Risk Management in Sub-Saharan Africa
Tara O'Connor (Director, Africa Team. Control Risks Group Ltd)

- **Wednesday 12 February:**

Social and Environmental Litigation Against Foreign Firms in Africa

Dr Jedrez George Frynas (International Management and Organisation, Birmingham Business School, University of Birmingham)

Cape plc and RTZ have been sued in British Courts for environmental damage and for breach of employment rights in Africa. Companies, which sold products to South Africa's former apartheid regime such as Fujitsu, UBS and IBM, are now being sued in US courts. Shell and Chevron are being sued in US courts for human rights abuses in Nigeria. At the same time, foreign firms have been successfully sued in African courts for social and environmental damage. This talk will assess the extent of this litigation and the likely impact on foreign firms in Africa.

- **Wednesday 26 February:**

Preventing the Proliferation of Arms in Africa – Is It Possible?

Brian Wood (Campaign Co-ordinator, Amnesty International)

Brian Wood has since 1991 worked on reports and action relating to international transfers of arms and security equipment used for human rights abuse. He is the co-author of *The Arms Fixers*, a study of international arms brokering and trafficking, and *Small Arms and Policing*, an examination of the role of police and small arms abuse. Recently, he assisted a group of Nobel Peace Laureates in an initiative to establish an international arms trade treaty.

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.

Open Discussion on British Aid to Tanzania. Lessons from the Air Traffic Control Saga and Earlier Aid Policies (23 January) at 18.30 in Main School Lecture Theatre (SOAS) organised by the Britain Tanzania Society in association with the Centre of African Studies and the Royal African Society. “Lessons should be learnt from this experience.....” stated Secretary of State for Overseas Development, Claire Short, speaking in Tanzania in July 2002 following her discussions with President Benjamin Mkapa on the air traffic control system provided by BAE and on the future British aid to the country. Panel of speakers expected to include: Stephen O’Brien MP (Cons) Chairman of the House of Commons All Party Group on Tanzania; Norman Lamb MP (Lib Dem) Spokesman on Treasury Affairs, and Richard Dowden (Executive Director, Royal African Society). For further information contact Roy Galbraith, e-mail: Roygal@aol.com

Ogres, Kings and the Hyena Woman – Folk Stories, Myths and Legends in Ethiopia (4 February) at 19.00 in Room G3 (SOAS). Organised by the Anglo-Ethiopian Society and the Centre of African Studies. The speaker, Elizabeth Laird, has recently travelled to every region of Ethiopia collecting traditional stories, some of which she has re-told for children in a collection entitled ‘When the World Began’, published by Oxford University Press. The storytellers included an Afar camel trader, a priest in Bah Dar, a prison governor in Gambella, a Harar cloth merchant, farmers, nuns, school children, teachers, and the young descendant of the bards to the kings of Bonga. The stories are rich, fascinating, varied – and wholly unexpected. Enquiries regarding this meeting and the Anglo-Ethiopian Society generally should be directed The Anglo-Ethiopian Society, c/o The Honorary Secretary, 4 Gloucester Road London SW7 4RB/tel & fax: 020 7584 6934; e-mail: anglo-ethiopian@talk21.co.uk

Additional Anglo-Ethiopian Society meetings are being arranged for 8 May (at 19.00), 30 June and another date to be confirmed in late March/early April.

Orality and Literacy in the Horn of Africa: Emerging Themes (16-18 July 2003). This two-day workshop will explore the history and modern relevance of relations between orality and literacy in the Horn of Africa. Discussions will be inclusive of all the cultures of the region. Participants, drawn from from Eritrea, Ethiopia and the Somali-lands, and from institutions in the UK, Europe, and the USA will include Professor Alessandro Triulzi (Italy) Dr Ali Jimale Ahmed (USA/Somalia), Professor Donald Crummey (USA), Professor Irma Taddia (Italy), Dr Uoldelul Chelati Dirar (Eritrea), Dr Getie Gelaye (Germany/Ethiopia), Professor Neil Sobania (USA), Professor I. M. Lewis (UK). For further information contact Dr Cedric Barnes (convener)/e-mail: cb62@soas.ac.uk/tel: 020 7898 4093 Participation by invitation.

FORTHCOMING SEMINARS AND LECTURES
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☞ At the **SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL AND AFRICAN STUDIES**, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG (tel: +44 020 7637 2388):

Anthropology Department (Faculty of Arts and Humanities), jointly with Media Studies
at **15.00** in **Main School Lecture Theatre**.

Several lectures in the Anthropology Department will be run jointly with the Media Studies seminar, some of which may be of interest to Africanists, see below:

- 26 February *Global Mass Media as Resources for Creating Modernities among Hausa of Niger* by Scott M Youngstedt (Associate Professor of Anthropology, Saginaw Valley State University).
- 12 March *Media, Practices of Mediation and Anthropology. On Visual Technology and Pentecostalism in Ghana* by Birgit Meyer (Research Centre Religion and Society, Department of Sociology and Cultural Anthropology, University of Amsterdam).

Enquiries to Stephen Hughes, Anthropology and Sociology Department.e-mail: sphughes37@hotmail.com

History Department (Faculty of Arts and Humanities)

African History Research Seminar held on Wednesdays at 17.00 in Room B102

Summaries of papers will usually be sent electronically to those who have signed up to attend the seminar. A few copies will be available from the Faculty of Arts and Humanities office approximately a week before the papers are read.

- 15 January *Tongnaab and the Anthropologists: Gods, Knowledge and the Making of Colonial Taleland, 1928-1937* by John Parker (SOAS)
- 22 January *Afrikaner Unity: The National Party and the Afrikaner Nationalist Right in Stellenbosch, 1934-1948* by Jo Duffey
- 5 February *Matrilineality and Islam in 20th Century South-Eastern Tanzania* by Felicitas Becker (SOAS)
- 12 February *TBA* by Lotte Hughes (Oxford)
- 19 February Reading Week
- 26 February *TBA*
- 5 March *Personal vs Public Writing: Berber and Arabic Inscriptions in the mediaeval Sahel* by Paulo Farias (CWAS, University of Birmingham)
- 12 March *What is Left of the Groundnut Scheme? Colonial Disaster and Local Accumulation in Nachingwea District, Tanganyika, 1947-61* by Matteo Rizzo (SOAS)
- 19 March *The Commission for Technical Co-operation: Co-ordination and Conflict in Late Colonial Africa* by Ed Stanley (SOAS)
- 26 March *Cartoons and the Nigerian Press, 1945-1965* by Mark Smith (SOAS)

Enquiries to David Martin at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, History Department, SOAS/tel: 020 7898 4027/e-mail: dm24@soas.ac.uk.

Standing Conference on Library Materials (SCOLMA)

- 15 January *Hogarth Representation: A New Phase in the Acquisition of Books from Africa* by Oleg Semikhnenko (Room E11, Library, SOAS)
- 14 May AGM and Annual Conference. *Developing Africa: NGOs and Information for Change*, time to be confirmed (Brunei Gallery, SOAS)

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

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⌘ At **UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON**, Department of Anthropology, Torrington Place, London WC1E (tel: 020 7387 7050)

West Africa Seminar held on Fridays at 16.30 in the Anthropology Laboratory, UCL

- 17 January *The Hudood (Shari'a) punishment in Northern Nigeria: A Muslim Criticism* by Lamid Sanusi (United Bank for Africa, Lagos)
- 24 January *Taking Football Seriously: The Game in Post-War Liberia* by Gary Armstrong (Brunel University)
- 31 January *Developing Côte d'Ivoire: Political Economy, Poverty and Aid – Francophone Perspectives* by Alice-Nicole Sindzingre (CNRS, Paris)
- 7 February *Is There Such a Thing as an African Writer?* by Buchi Emecheta
- 14 February *Plastic Pots and Enamel Wares: The Re-Contextualisation of Mass Products in Northern Nigerian Women's Rooms* by Editha Platte (University of Frankfurt)
- 21 February *Rubber and Cannibalism: Germans, Maka and the Rubber Boom, 1900-1910* by Peter Geschiere (University of Amsterdam)
- 28 February *Creating Modernity Through Hira "Conversation" Groups: The Everyday Worlds of Hausa Migrants in Niamey (Niger)* by Scott Youngstedt (Saginaw Valley State University, Michigan)
- 7 March *On Land Sales: Money, Ritual and the Politics of Belonging in Burkina Faso* by Sten Hagberg (University of Uppsala)
- 14 March *On Burial and the After-Life in the Isiokpo Villages (Nigeria)* (provisional) by George Tasié (University of Port Harcourt)
- 21 March *"Indisciplined Pathways to Citizenship": The Romanticism of Criminal Lifestyles in a Yoruba Urban Youth Scene* by Sadie King (UCL)
- 28 March TBA

Enquiries and suggestions to Professor Murray Last, Department of Anthropology/tel: 020 7679 2446/fax: 020 7380 7728/e-mail: m.last@ucl.ac.uk

⌘ At the **LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE**, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AR (tel: 020 7405 7686).

Comparative Economic History of Africa, Asia and Latin America Seminar (Department of Economic History) on alternate Tuesdays from 17.15-19.00 in room S421. The theme for this term's five meetings is 'The State and Economic Development in the Twentieth-Century "Third World": Reconsiderations'. One paper of this seminar will be specifically devoted to Africa.

18 February *The State and Economic Development in Africa: Reconsiderations* by Dr Gareth Austin (LSE)

For further information contact Dr Gareth Austin e-mail: G.M.Austin@lse.ac.uk

⌘ **The Royal African Society** (Room 472, SOAS, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC2 0XG) (tel: 020 7898 4390) announces the following meetings:

16 January *Libya in Africa: Constructive Partners or a Problem for NEPAD* by Professor George Joffe (Visiting Professor of Geography, King's College, London; Research Fellow, Centre of International Studies, Cambridge) in room G2 (SOAS) at 17.30 (held jointly with CAS)

21 January *South Africa's Transition to Democracy: The US Role* by The Hon Princeton Lyman (Director, Global Interdependence Initiative, Aspen Institute; Former Ambassador to South Africa) at Chatham House, 10 St James's Square, London SW1 at 17.30 (held jointly with RIIA)

23 January *Somalia and Terrorism: Arts, Eldoret and the Road Ahead* by Professor Abdi Samatar (Professor of Geography and Political Economy, University of Minneapolis) in room G2 (SOAS) at 17.30 (held jointly with CAS)

27 January *The Ethiopia/Eritrea Border: Unresolved Questions* by Martin Plaut (BBC African Editor, Bush House) in room G2 (SOAS) at 18.00 (held jointly with CAS)

30 January *Ashanti Today: Tourism and History* by Professor Tom McCaskie (Centre of West African Studies, University of Birmingham; author of 'Ashanti Identities') in room G2 at 17.30 (held jointly with CAS)

12 February *Are NGOs Now Governmental Organisations?* by Dave Waller (ACORD) and Dr Gavin Williams (Fellow of St Peter's College, Oxford) in the Main School Lecture Theatre, SOAS at 17.30 (held jointly with CAS)

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.

Royal African Society (Scotland Branch) meetings are held in Faculty Room South, David Hulme Tower, George Square, Edinburgh. To obtain a list of meetings contact Pravina King/tel: 0131 650 3878/e-mail: P.King@ed.ac.uk

Royal African Society (Bristol Branch) meetings are held at Clifton Hill House, Lower Clifton Hill, Bristol. For details contact Professor Alan Ryder/tel: 0117 973 3870

EVENTS

⌘ LONDON

The Institute of Commonwealth Studies organises seminar series covering **Black and Asian Studies, Canadian Studies, Caribbean Societies, Commonwealth History, Human Rights**. For further information contact tel: 020 7862 8844/fax: 020 7862 8820/e-mail: ics@sas.ac.uk/website: <http://www.sas.ac.uk/commonwealthstudies>

Future Business – The African Way. Opportunities for the European Private Sector in Africa (20 January) at Institute of Directors, 116 Pall Mall, London is part of the European Nepad Conference organised by Omega Investment Research (Pty) Ltd in association with National Federated Chamber of Commerce (NAFCOC) and supported by the Commonwealth Business Council and Trade Partners UK. Additional conferences will be held on 22 January (Zurich) and 24 January (Berlin). The objectives of the London conference will be to set out an appropriate model of private-public sector partnership in African development and to identify specific projects across the continent suggested by the private sector but requiring funding. Contact: Mark Kempster/tel: 024 7641 3121/e-mail: omegainvest@btconnect.com.

Evidence Sessions. The Humanitarian Crisis in Southern Africa (23 January) (14.30) at the Palace of Westminster organised by the International Development Committee, House of Commons. The International Development Committee agreed to conduct an inquiry on the humanitarian crisis in southern Africa. The first evidence session was held on 14 January, the second being held on 23 January. The witnesses will be The Rt Hon Clare Short MP (Secretary of State for International Development) and DFID officials. Those wishing to attend the evidence sessions should contact the Committee Office Information Line on 020 7219 2033 to confirm the venue the day before the hearing. Detailed enquiries to Dr Alan Hudson, Committee Specialist on 020 7219 1522/website: www.parliament.uk/commons/selcom/indhome.htm

At Royal Institute of International Affairs, Chatham House, 10 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4LE/tel: 020 7957 5733/fax: 020 7957 5710/e-mail: Manuel.Paulo@riia.org (British-Angola Forum meetings and Africa Programme) or liz.horn@riia.org (Africa Programme)

Unita: Prospects for Lasting Peace and National Reconciliation in Angola (23 January) (17.30-19.30) at Royal Institute of International Affairs and organised by the British-Angola Forum. The meeting will be chaired by Alex Vine. Speakers will include General Paulo Lukamba 'Gato' (Secretary General and Co-ordinator of the Political Commission) and Mr Alcides Sakala (Secretary for Foreign Affairs, UNITA). To register and for further information contact Manuel Paulo, British-Angola Forum, Royal Institute of International Affairs, 10 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4LE/tel: 020 7957 5733/fax: 020 7957 5710/e-mail: Manuel.Paulo@riia.org.

Africa Programme Elections in Africa Series:

The Past 10 Years – An Assessment (28 January) (14.30-18.00) at Royal Institute of International Affairs. This workshop will launch the programme's 'elections in Africa Series' and will consist of two sessions. The first will critically explore elections in Africa over the past 10 years with a panel comprising of Christopher Charles of the Commonwealth Secretariat, Professor Jorgen Elkit of the University of Aarhus in Denmark and Dr David Kramer of the International Republican Institute. The second sessions will highlight the findings of two pre-election briefing papers on Kenya and Nigeria that have been commissioned by the Africa Programme.

Oil and the Political Economy in São Tomé e Príncipe (29 January) (09.00-13.00) at Royal Institute of International Affairs. As part of the Africa Programme's Gulf of Guinea series this workshop will explore the growing oil market and provide an in-depth analysis of current political instability. Speakers will include Professor Malyn Newitt (King's College London), Gerhard Seibert (Centre of African and Asian Studies, Institute for Tropical Scientific Research, Portugal), and George Frynas (University of Birmingham).

Themes in the Archaeology of the Coptic Church: Towards an African Context (30 January) (18.30) at Egyptian Cultural Bureau, 4 Chesterfield Gardens, London W1. Lecture by Dr Niall Finneran, Department of Art and Archaeology (SOAS). Enquiries: 020 7491 7720/e-mail: egypt.culture@ukonline.co.uk

Literature and the South Asian Communities of East Africa (21 March) BG05 (SOAS). Organised by the AHRB Centre for Asian and African Literatures (SOAS and UCL) and the Centre for South Asian Studies (SOAS). This workshop will gather together creative writers and scholars working in Britain and engaged with literature written by and about the Asian communities in East Africa. Speakers will include: Yasmin Alibhai-Brown, Stephanie Jones, Parita Mukta, Farouk Topan. Abdulrazak Gurnah (author of 'Paradise', 'Admiring Silence', and 'Beside the Sea') will give a keynote reading at 17.30 in the Main School Lecture Theatre. For further information contact Stephanie Jones/tel: 020 7898 4266/e-mail: sj22@soas.ac.uk. Information about the workshop will be regularly updated at www.soas.ac.uk/liteatures/Events/SouthAsianEastAfrican.html

Black Economic Empowerment Conference (26 March) (opening dinner on 25 March) at South Africa House. Organised by The Southern Africa Business Association in association with the South African High Commission, London. Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) has crucial implications for foreign companies doing business in South Africa; private companies have a collective responsibility to assist government in achieving development goals. BEE is a route to business development and expansion in partnership with South Africans, which is rapidly becoming essential for foreign investors. Few companies will be able to ignore the impact of BEE on their earnings in this growing market. Invited speakers include: Patrice Motsepe (President, NAFCO/Black Business Council), Tokyo Sexwale (Chairman, Mvelaphanda Holdings), Phumzile Malambo-Ngcuka (Minister of Minerals and Energy), Nolitha Fakude (Managing Director, Black Management Forum), Futhi Mtoba (President, Association of Black Accountants of South Africa), Bongani Khumalo (Chairman, Transet), and Cyril Ramaphosa (Chairman, Rebserve). The cost of attending the conference (including opening dinner) is £250 plus VAT (£200 plus VAT for SABA members). For further information contact meetings@saba.co.uk

African Business and Development in the Global Economy (9-12 April) hosted by Westminster Business School, University of Westminster, 35 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5LS. 4th Annual International Conference of the International Academy of African Business and Development (IAABD). The conference will feature paper sessions, plenary presentations, case studies, research-in-progress and panel discussions with the primary goal of providing a unique international forum to facilitate the exchange of leading-edge ideas for effective advancement of knowledge in African business and development. For further information browse www.iaabd.org

Annual Conference of Art Historians (10-13 April) at Birkbeck College, 44 Gordon Square, London WC1. Dr Annie Coombes (Birkbeck College) will be running a session entitled 'The Topography of Slavery: Re-Membering Metropolitan Space'. Speakers will include: James Walvin, Simon Schaffer, Joy Gregory, Tony Tibbles and Nigel Worden. For further information on this sessions contact Dr Annie Coombes/e-mail: a.coombes@hist-art.bbk.ac.uk.

⌘ UK

Land and Identity in the Caribbean: Past and Present (22 March) at University of the West of England, Bristol, St Matthias Campus, Oldbury Court Road, Fishponds, Bristol BS16 2JP. Organised by the Faculty of Humanities, Languages and Social Sciences, UWE. Themes will include: Land ownership and slavery in the Caribbean; identity politics since emancipation; governance; literature and identity; education, and spiritual identity in the Caribbean and the diaspora. Invited keynote speakers include: Professor Catherine Hall (University College London); Professor Gad Heuman (Warwick); Ernest Pépin (writer, Guadeloupe), and Dr Morgan Dalphinis (University, Reading) For further information contact Lorraine Kirby by e-mail: Lorraine.Kirby@uwe.ac.uk

University of Oxford (St Antony's College) has organised the following seminar series for this term:

Southern African Texts and Contexts

Environment and Empire, Seventeenth to Nineteenth Centuries

Poverty and Researching Poverty in Africa

Elections and Democratisation in Contemporary Africa

Information on all of the above meetings can be obtained from ulli.parkinson@sant.ox.ac.uk

⌘ EUROPE

The African Studies Centre, Leiden, The Netherlands, invites you to attend its seminars which are open to everyone. For further information contact the African Studies Centre secretariat tel: +(0)71 5273372 2276/e-mail: asc@fsw.leidenuniv.nl/website: www.asc.leidenuniv.nl.

Youth and the Politics of Generational Conflict in Africa (24-25 April) organised by The African Studies Centre, Leiden. There are good reasons to reconsider African politics and social movements in the light of generational conflict: African youth, while forming a numerical majority, often feel excluded from power and are marginalized in socio-economic terms. This makes for a politically volatile situation in many African countries. This international conference will discuss this problematic on the basis of empirical research contributions and comparative analyses. Papers will be presented by an invited group of leading scholars from various disciplines (political science, history, anthropology and sociology). This conference is open to anyone interested and the programme will be available on the ASC's website as soon as it has been finalised: www.asc/leidenuniv.nl

Inequality, Poverty and Human Well-Being (30-31 May) Helsinki, Finland. Organised by the World Institute for Development Economics Research (WIDER). This conference will provide an opportunity to review recent advances in analytical concepts and methods and identify ways in which research on inequality, poverty and human well-being can make best use of these advances. WIDER is a leading research centre of the United Nations University (UNU) based in Helsinki. It conducts advanced research in development economics which is expected to meet the highest technical standards and to be relevant to the public concerns of the developing and transition countries. For further information about the Institute's activities contact Mr Ara Kazandjian/e-mail: ara@wider.unu.edu/website: www.wider.unu.edu

Urban Governance in Africa (AEGIS Conference) (October) organised by CEAN, University of Bordeaux. For further information contact Dominique Darbon by e-mail: d.darbon@cean.u-bordeaux.fr

Hierarchy and Power in the History of Civilisations (18-21 June 2004) in Moscow, Russia. Organised by the Center for Civilisations and Regional Studies in co-operation with the Institute for African Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences. Working languages will be Russian and English. For further information contact Professor Dmitri M Bondarenko, Dr Igor L Alexeev or Mr Oleg I Kavykin by e-mail: conf2004@hotmail.com or

by post at the Center for Civilisational and Regional Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences. 30/1 Spiridonovka Street, 123001 Moscow, Russia.

⌘ AFRICA

Migration and Health in Southern Africa (27-29 January) at Breakwater Lodge, University of Cape Town, Waterfront Campus, Cape Town. A conference for researchers and policy makers jointly organised by the Southern African Migration project, Queens University, the Transnational Communities Programme, University of Oxford, and the Faculty of Humanities, University of Cape Town. Cross-border and within country migration have generated complex and challenging difficulties for the provision of health care. Not only do migrant populations often require specialist treatment for unfamiliar conditions, the numbers involved and the distances traversed often change long-held epidemiological assumptions made about the local population.

For further information contact the Conference organisers as follows: *participants from outside Southern Africa*: Emma Newcombe, Transnational Communities Programme, University of Oxford/tel: +44 (0) 1865 274711/e-mail: emma.newcombe@anthropology.oxford.ac.uk; *participants from Southern African Region*: Carla Owen, Executive Assistant to Dean of Humanities, University of Cape Town/tel: +27 (0) 21 650 3059/fax: +27 (0) 21 686 9840/e-mail: Owen@humanities.uct.ac.za; *participants from North America*: Christina Decarie, Project Administrator, Southern African Migration Project/tel: 613 533 6963/fax: 613 533 2171/e-mail: samp@post.queensu.ca

African Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Conference: Prosperity Through Empowerment (4-7 February) in Johannesburg, South Africa organised by AMANITARE. AMANITARE, the African Partnership for Sexual and Reproductive Health and rights of Women and Girls, is a Pan-African ten-year initiative of RAINBO (Research, Action, and Information Network for the Bodily Integrity of Women). Its main aim is to build an influential social movement to institutionalise the recognition of African women's and girls' sexual and reproductive health and rights as fundamental to their civil and human rights.

The aim of the conference is to create a unique forum for debate and creative strategising around gender and health in Africa by bringing together African women's health and rights movement activists with policy makers, researchers, health care providers, youth representatives, and the media from all sub-regions of the African continent. For information visit <http://www.amanitare.org>/e-mail: conference@amanitare.org

Images of 'Motherhood' – African and Nordic Perspectives (February) in Dakar, Senegal. Issues of reproduction range from issues of 'motherhood' to 'sexual and reproductive rights' and 'population policies'. This important area of social and personal life has been conceptualised by moral philosophers, demographers and development theorists – but only sporadically in contexts of gender and feminist theory. For further information contact Signe Arnfred, The Nordic Africa Institute/tel: 46 18 56 22 00/46 18 56 22 41 (direct)/e-mail: signe.arnfred@nai.uu.se

Anthropology and the Contemporary Global Trends (29 June-4 July) 13th Annual Conference of the Pan African Anthropologist Association will be held at University of Port Elizabeth, South Africa. Sub-themes: Indigenous knowledge systems; Aids/HIV and health inequalities in Africa; gender and development issues; sport, culture and tourism; teaching of anthropology and its future in the 21st century; ethnicity and racism issues; perspectives on NEPAD and AU; poverty and human rights; research ethics and methodologies. For further information contact the Pan African Anthropological Association (PAAA), University of Port Elizabeth, PO Box 1600, Port Elizabeth 6000, South Africa/e-mail: ANADLB@upe.ac.za

☞ CANADA

Canadian Association of African Studies Conference (2-5 June) at Dalhousie University. For further information e-mail: s.dansereau@stmarys.ca or philip.zachernuk@dal.ca/website: www.hssfca.ca

☞ USA

African Union and the New Pan-Africanism: Rushing to Organize or Timely Shift? (21-22 February) at Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Texas Southern University, Houston, Texas. Organised by The Institute for International and Immigration Law (IIL) at The Thurgood Marshall School of Law in association with the Program on International Law, Policy and Africa (PILPA) at DePaul University College of Law and the Africa Interest Group, American Society of International Law. For further information contact Craig Jackson on e-mail: cjackson@TSULAW.EDU

OTHER NEWS

☞ CENTRE OF AFRICAN STUDIES

☞ AEGIS

AEGIS representatives met the board of the African Studies Association at their Washington conference and are exploring the promotion of bilateral ties. A major European conference is planned for 2005 in Bordeaux.

Further information on AEGIS can be obtained from its website <http://aegis.eu.org>

☞ NEW MEMBER OF CAS

Dr Carlos Oya, Lecturer in Political Economy of Development, Department of Development Studies, SOAS. Study of the political economy of agricultural liberalisation in contexts of rural inequality and differentiation, focusing on the impact of reforms on different social groups and their responses to crisis and adjustment. Currently working on a research project on rural labour markets and poverty in Mozambique, with a particular focus on casual and seasonal agricultural labour, rural non-agricultural labour, poverty and gender. •Senegal, Mozambique, Francophone West Africa, and Lusophone Africa

☞ VISITING SCHOLAR TO THE CENTRE OF AFRICAN STUDIES

(contactable through the Centre office)

The following **Leventis Research Co-operation Programme** scholar will be based at the Centre of African Studies (January to March):

Dr George Tasie (Department of Religious Studies, Faculty of Humanities, University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria) will be carrying out research on the traditional heritage of beliefs and practices relating to death, burial and the after-life in the Isiokpo village-group. He will be presenting his work at the West Africa Seminar.

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 2003.** Further information may be obtained from the CAS office or website.

EASTERN AFRICAN VISITING SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

The East African Visiting Scholarship has been extended to include scholars from the Horn of Africa (Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia). This scheme is now aimed at academics from Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somalia. 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) 2003 or the Spring term (mid-January to mid-April 2004) is 30 April 2003.** Further information may be obtained from the CAS office or website.

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

⌘ NGO INFO

SOS SAHEL UK by Duncan Fulton, Executive Director.

SOS Sahel UK works to help rural communities in the dryland zone south of the Sahara to achieve self-sufficiency and lasting peace, through actions enabling equitable local management of their environmental resources. The agency is linked with SOS Sahel International, which has member associations in seven African and three European countries.

Our current programmes are in Mali, Niger, Ethiopia, Sudan and Kenya. Over nearly 20 years our staff in the region have built up expertise in the local environment: its ecology, and its complex mix of cultures. Wherever possible, we build on local mechanisms for natural resource management and conflict resolution.

Through building and accompanying grassroots organisations, we try to equip people with the authority, skills and methods they need to conserve and manage the natural resources upon which their lives depend.

We aim to make an impact in three ways:

- Innovative projects using outside and local expert knowledge to focus on practical problems at the grass roots. In Mali, revitalised traditional groups known as the *Alamodiou* have resumed management of local woodlands.
- High quality and accessible research on thematic issues, such as methods of including mobile pastoralists in natural resource management – promoted in our Shared Management programme, carried out with IIED, and with DFID and Comic Relief funding.
- Constructive engagement in policy dialogue with governments and aid agencies, applying the lessons of practical experience. In the Ethiopian highlands, we lobbied local government for changes in law and policy to allow communities usufruct rights over hillsides they choose to protect. Dramatic increase in natural regeneration has led to the adoption of this strategy as a regional policy.

There is a tide in policy in favour of decentralisation of authority from State bureaucracies. Governments are beginning to take steps to create a reformed legal framework, recognising rights to property, such as woodlands, held in common. These reforms are building on lessons from the field in projects like ours, but much remains to be done. Commitment to devolution is often rhetorical; practical work needs to be done to transform it into real engagement and conviction. Many innovative schemes are short lived because they fail to ensure ownership by those intended to benefit. There is very little experience in donor, government or local organisations of what community level management might look like and how it can be helped to evolve. SOS Sahel's work across the Sahel is striving to make it real and effective.

For further information please contact us at 1 Tolpuddle Street, London N1 0XT / tel: +44 (0)20 7837 9129 / fax: +44 (0)20 7837 0856 / email: mail@sahel.org.uk

⌘ SUBMISSIONS TO PUBLICATIONS

Call for papers. International Review of Politics and Development (IRPAD), a publication of the Department of Political Science and Sociology, Babcock University, Nigeria, welcomes significant and original research in politics, development and related disciplines. The objective of IRPAD is to launch fresh insight into the exploration of development issues from the IFL, political, economic, sociological and other perspectives. IRPAD is published in January and June. Articles should normally be written in English covering about 15-20 pages. For further information contact The Editor, International Review of Politics and Development, Department of Political Science, Babcock University, PMB 21244, Ikeja, Lagos, Nigeria/e-mail: adaina@infoweb.abs.net or mbimboogunbanjo@yahoo.com

The New 'Afrika-Studiecentrum Series'. The African Studies Centre, Leiden, is starting a new series entitled the *Afrika-Studiecentrum Series*. The series hopes to present the best Africanists' work in the field of social sciences in the Netherlands. Publication in the series is open to all authors attached to a Dutch scientific institution and also to Africanists who are temporarily connected to such an institute. For further information please contact Marieke van Winden, African Studies Centre, PO Box 9555, NL-2300 RB Leiden, Netherlands.tel: +31 71 527 3358/e-mail: winden@fsw.leidenuniv.nl

⌘ MISCELLANEOUS

The University of London is offering one or two-year Post-graduate Trust Studentships (2003/2004) and 2004/2005) to graduates of the University of London wishing to undertake MPhil/PhD studies in the following subject areas: Stern Studentship in Modern Languages or Linguistics; Thomas Smythe Hughes Studentship in Medicine, Science or Engineering; Britt Studentship in Social Sciences. **Closing date: 1 February 2003.** Further details and application forms for the above awards may be obtained from the Secretary to the Academic Trust Funds Committee, University of London, Senate House, Room 230, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU/tel: 020 7862 8041/fax: 020 7862 8032/e-mail: L.West@academic.lon.ac.uk

Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, African Visiting Fellowships 2003-04

The Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies and the Rhodes Chair of Race Relations are offering two African Visiting Research Fellowships for the academic year 2003-04. 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. The Rhodes Chair Fellowship can focus on any aspect of African Studies, but will exclude scholars from North Africa.

The successful Fellows will receive a maintenance and accommodation grant of £1,000 a month, for up to nine months. Travel costs will be paid up to £800. The grant will also cover the cost of affiliation of the Rhodes Chair Fellowship to St Antony's College and of the OCIS Fellowship to the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies.

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.

Applications for both Fellowships should be sent to the Academic Secretary, Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, George Street, Oxford OX1 2AR by **28th February**. These should include a full CV with details of publications, and a short research proposal of 500 words. E-mail applications are welcome to islamic.studies@oxcis.ac.uk. 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 Caine Prize For African Writing. The prize (US\$15,000) is for a short story (indicative length 3000-15,000 words) by an African writer, published in English anywhere in the world. The date of the first publication should be within five years of the closing date for entries (**31 January**). Works translated into English are accepted providing they have been published in English and were first published in their original language within the five-year limit. There is no application form. Publishers should send twelve copies of the work for entry to Nick Elam, Administrator, The Caine Prize, 2 Drayson Mews, London W8 4LY. Any enquiries about the conditions for entry or the eligibility of a particular work should be addressed to Nick Elam/tel: +44 (0)20 7376 0440/fax: +44 (0)20 7938/e-mail: caineprize@jftaylor.com

EURESCO Conferences. Since 1990 the European Science Foundation (ESF) has been running the Programme of European Research Conferences (EURESCO) consisting of top-level scientific discussion meetings in all areas of research, from mathematics and natural sciences to engineering sciences, social sciences and humanities. This Programme promotes series of meetings, devoted to the same general subject, normally taking place about every other year. In the past most conferences have been supported by the European Commission, on a case by case basis, as Euroconferences. Close to 450 conferences have been organised by EURESCO up to the end of 2002. Further details about the profile of EURESCO meetings, the list of conference series established so far and Guidelines for Proposals can be found on the EURESCO web page at <http://www.esf.org/euresco>.

International Summer Study Programme on Southern Africa (23 June–25 July 2003) is being launched by the University of North West, South Africa. This programme is aimed at students involved in international studies, especially African studies, to live, learn and study in South Africa. **Deadline for applications 15 February.** For information and details on how to apply: <http://www.uniwest.ac.za/iss/index.html> or contact Professor H O Kaya, Head, Department of Applied Social Studies, Faculty of Human and Sciences, University of North West, Private Bag X2046, Mmabatho 2735, South Africa/ e-mail: kayah@unw001.uniwest.ac.za/tel: +27-18 3892453/fax: +27-183815817

The University of Natal is holding a study abroad programme (**23 June-1 August**). For details of the courses held at the Durban Centre contact Dr C Ndinda/e-mail: IWS@nu.ac.za. For those held at the Pietermaritzburg Centre contact Professor R Nicolson/e-mail: nicolson@nu.ac.za. For details of this year's fees and programme dates visit website <http://www.und.ac.za/und/is/index.html>.

CENTRE OF AFRICAN STUDIES

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African News Website:	www.soas.ac.uk/cas/AfricanNews		

**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