RWANDA UNDER THE RPF:
Assessing Twenty Years of Post-Conflict Governance

Conference organised by the Journal of Eastern African Studies, the Department of Politics and International Studies (SOAS), the Centre of African Studies (SOAS) and the Royal African Society

4-5 October 2013
SOAS, University of London, Thornhaugh Street, London

Friday, 4 October (Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre, SOAS)

8:15-8:45am – Registration

8:45-9:00am - Introductions
Jason Mosley (Oxford) and Phil Clark (SOAS)

9:00-10:30am - Democracy, Autonomy and Authoritarianism

Rwanda’s Autonomous Rebirth
Jean Paul Kimonyo (Office of the President, Government of Rwanda)

The Consolidation of Authoritarianism under the Guise of Elections
Filip Reyntjens (Antwerp)

The RPF and Consensual Democracy in Rwanda: Understanding the Dynamics and Evolution of Political Governance
Anastase Shyaka (Rwanda Governance Board)

10:30am-11:00am – Coffee/Tea Break

11:00am-12:30pm – Decentralisation and State Reach

Rwanda under the RPF: A Unique Case of a ‘Strong’ African State?
Andrea Purdekova (Oxford)

Competing Dimensions of Centralisation and Decentralisation under RPF Rule
Benjamin Chemouni (LSE)

Understanding the Rwandan Defence Forces
Marco Jowell (SOAS)
12:30-1:30pm – Lunch

1:30-3:00pm - Rural Narratives

Veils of Disguise in Rural Rwanda: Public Obedience, Hidden Dissent
An Ansoms (Université Catholique de Louvain)

What’s on a Peasant’s Mind? Experiencing RPF Governance on Rwanda’s Hills (2000-2010)
Bert Ingelaere (Flanders)

Re-Examining Resistance in Post-Genocide Rwanda
Nicola Palmer (King’s College London)

3:00-3:30pm – Coffee/Tea Break

3:30-5:15pm - External Linkages

Exporting Governance? The RPF and its Burundian Neighbour
Devon Curtis (Cambridge)

Local Justice and Governance in Rwanda and Uganda: Resolving Conflicts under the RPF and NRM
Phil Clark (SOAS)

The Rwandan Patriotic Front vis-à-vis Rwanda’s Sixth Province: the Rwandan Diaspora(s)
Esther Marijnen (Free University of Brussels)

Contested Religious Space: The Rise of the Pentecostal Churches in Post-Genocide Rwanda
Andrea Grant (Oxford)

5:30-6:30pm – Drinks Reception

Saturday, 5 October (SOAS, Vernon Square Campus)

8:45am - Doors open, coffee/tea available

9:00-10:30am – Development and Peacebuilding

How the International System Hinders the Consolidation of Developmental Regimes in Africa: The Case of Rwanda
Frederick Golooba-Mutebi (Independent Researcher) and David Booth (Overseas Development Institute)
Is There a Developmental State in Rwanda? The Case of Tri-Star/Crystal Ventures Ltd
Julius Kiiza (Makerere)

Peacebuilding in the Aftermath of Mass Atrocity: Evaluating the Impact of the Peacebuilding Enterprise under the RPF
Gerald Gahima (Rwanda National Congress)

10:30am-12:00pm - Youth Politics

Promising Developments: Children, Youth and Post-Genocide Reconstruction under the RPF
Kirrily Pells (Oxford), Kirsten Pontalti (Oxford) and Timothy Williams (Bath)

Work, Youth and the Cult of a Leader in Rwanda
Haydée Bangerezako (Makerere)

Twenty Years After: Assessing the RPF’s Legacy through the Views of the Great Lakes Region’s New Generation
Denise Bentrovato (Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research)

12:00-12:15pm – Coffee/Tea Break

12:15-1:45pm - Land Policy

Not a Good Year for Us: Imaginary versus Living Ecologies in Rwanda
Giuseppe Davide Cioffo (Université Catholique de Louvain)

Land Registration and its Pitfalls in South-Eastern Rwanda
Margot Leegwater (Amsterdam)

Rwanda’s Urban Transition: the Politics of Land, Construction and Destruction under the RPF
Tom Goodfellow (Sheffield)

1:45-2:00pm – Conclusions and Way Forward
Jason Mosley and Phil Clark