



# NEWSLETTER

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## ASAUK Conference, 2010

The ASAUK biennial conference was held at St Antony's College, Oxford, on the 16th-19th September 2010. There was a wonderful response to the ASAUK call for papers, with close on 450 abstracts and proposals submitted. We adopted an inclusive approach and tried to find space for as many contributions as possible and well over 300 papers were included in the final programme. The Conference brought together scholars from a variety of academic disciplines and from across the globe.

We tried to achieve some continuity and sequential debate by organising the conference around streams of papers on similar topics. There were particularly strong streams on: democratisation and elections; land and agriculture; literature; migration and diasporas, as well as smaller groups of panels on particular countries – notably South Africa, Zimbabwe, Sudan and Nigeria – and clusters on religion, environmental issues, small-scale mining, popular culture, heritage, urban livelihoods, development and a range of other themes. We would like to thank the many panel organisers who have helped to make this such an interesting conference, especially Oliver Bakewell, Gunvor Jonsson, Nic Cheeseman, Zoe Norridge, Charlotte Baker, Elleke Boehmer, Paul Nugent, Robin Palmer and Ian Scoones.

The conference had a series of six sub-plenary special lectures held each evening, including 'States Creation and the Crisis of Governance in Nigeria', by Professor Rufus Akinyele; 'Land Reform in South Africa', by Professor Lungisile Ntsebeza; 'The Zimbabwean Crisis and the Unresolved Conundrum of Race in the Post-colonial Period', by Dr James Muzondidya (Mary Kingsley Zochonis Lecturer); '(In)visibility in African Cultures' by Dr Veronique Tadjo; a special lecture by Johnnie Carson, US Assistant Secretary of State for Africa Affairs on 'the US and Africa'; and 'Asian Solutions to African Problems: What Can Africa Learn about Development from South-east Asia', by Dr Tim Kelsall.

The 47th ASAUK Annual General Meeting was held in the Nissan Lecture Theatre on the Friday evening. Professor Megan Vaughan of Cambridge University became President for the next two years, with Professor Stephanie Newell as Vice-President. Dr June Bam-Hutchison stepped down as Honorary Secretary and Dr Ben Knighton stepped down as Honorary Treasurer. Dr Nici Nelson of Goldsmiths was elected as Honorary Secretary, Dr Lynne Brydon of the University of Birmingham as Honorary Treasurer. Professor David Maxwell has also assumed the position of ASAUK Projects Officer.

A great number of Africanist publishers of both journals and monographs were present at the conference including Taylor and Francis/Routledge, Boydell and Brewer, The African Book Collective, Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, African Book Centre, Zed, Pathfinder, Pearson, Practical Action and Lynne Rienner.

Evenings were also filled with many other events. With their significant contributions to African studies fully recognised in glowing tributes, James Currey and Professor Robin Law received their ASAUK's Distinguished Africanist Awards for 2009 and 2010 respectively.

The Audrey Richards Prize for the best thesis completed at a British university in the past two years was awarded to Hassanali Sachedina for his Oxford University D.Phil thesis, 'Wildlife is Our Oil: Conservation, Livelihoods and NGOs in the Tarangire Ecosystem, Tanzania'.

George Bob-Milliar of the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana, was awarded the *African Affairs* author prize, but was unfortunately refused a visa to attend the conference.

Professor William Beinart gave a Presidential Address on development of ASAUK in the context of African Studies in the UK.

Professor Lionel Cliffe gave a personal appreciation of the life of the late Basil Davidson.

And the next ASAUK biennial conference for your diaries? Leeds, summer 2012.

Full reports on many of these summary highlights will be in the next newsletter and on the website.

**Professor William Beinart and David Kerr**

## **ASAUK Teaching Fellowships**

*The ASAUK Council has initiated a small programme of Teaching Fellowships for scholars trained in UK institutions to work in African universities. This idea has been discussed in a number of different contexts, including the UK-African partnerships in Nairobi. We believe that it will help to take forward some of the aims of the resulting Nairobi Report.*

The Teaching Fellowships, designed for those *who have recently finished, or are soon to finish, doctoral degrees on African topics in British universities*, have benefits for both parties. The fellows provide assistance to hard-pressed colleagues in African universities who often face heavy teaching loads. They help African students trained in British universities to return to an African teaching context and provide opportunities for others to work in an African institution. And they potential build routes through which research and coursework being done in the UK can be fed into African university courses – and over the longer term vice-versa.

Such fellowships provide opportunities for British graduates to develop long-term links in African universities, gain experience working in such a context, remain in contact with the field, and develop post-doctoral research projects specifically relating to African topics. This will help to support the next generation of academics and researchers, encourage them to stay engaged with African institutions and offer valuable experience to early career academics.

Justina Dugbazah (in Ghana), Izabela Orłowska (in Ethiopia), and Patricia Kingori (in Kenya) were the first tranche of teaching fellows selected by ASAUK for 2009-10. We also supported Marbre Stahly-Butts and Oliver Murphy as part of an annual programme where students teach part of the Oxford African Studies Master's methods course to students at Fort Hare, South Africa. Here is a report from Justina of her teaching fellowship.

**Professor William Beinart, Outgoing ASAUK President**

### **Report on ASAUK Teaching Fellowship for Teaching Research Methods at the University of Ghana, Legon**

The reason I chose to teach research methods at the University of Ghana are two-fold. Firstly, Legon, like most African Universities, is faced with conditions which make it difficult for staff to provide the required quality of teaching for students. The university operates within an environment of inadequate infrastructure, very large class sizes and a limited number of lecturers. This has resulted in a decline in the standard of education, particularly in relation to courses such as research methods. Secondly although given low priority in the university curriculum, ethnographic and sociological research methods are key tools in knowledge acquisition, and facilitate critical thinking by students. A key issue was the lack of lecturers who teach research skills (both theory and practice) across faculties in the University.

I recognized that the problem needs to be handled through effective collaboration between the University and other stakeholders. Colleagues at the University discussed the problem and we brainstormed the possibility of organizing a team of professors to teach various aspects of research methodology. Funding from ASAUK enabled me to initiate teaching and I drew in two colleagues from the Fayetteville State University, North Carolina (Professor Sam Adu-Mireku and Dr Roger Klomegah), as well as Dr Dan-Bright Dzorgbo from the University of Ghana. The teaching met the strategic objectives of the faculty of social sciences, and helped enhance the reputation of the ASAUK, the Universities of Birmingham, Ghana and Fayetteville.

The module, available to all graduate students in social sciences, had a strong focus on the practicalities of field research for final dissertations. The method of teaching was a co-ordinated approach involving theory and practice, research design, qualitative methods (including fieldwork focus groups and observation) and quantitative methods (including questionnaires).

During the teaching period, students developed research tools, reflected on questionnaires, undertook different interviewing techniques and the production of field notes. They formulated a research proposal and research questions on an agreed topic, selected a research site, carried out independent research, produced a research report and reflected on relevant sociological research. The module was structured to facilitate the engagement of students and local communities. Aspects of the course assessed ways in which specific types of data collection affected research findings.

### **Work Plan**

The teaching was undertaken by a team from May to August 2009. I convened and taught research design and qualitative research methodology; one colleague taught quantitative methods and another taught SPSS while the fourth person coordinated the programme. Over 12 weeks students attended one 3 hour session three times a week, in which a lecture was combined with exercises and seminar discussion. Readings or exercises were set for each week's discussion topic, and groups of students either prepared brief presentations on the assigned texts or reported on their exercises. The last two weeks of the fellowship were spent on conducting seminars on research methods, assisting graduate students with research and methodology chapters of their dissertations; giving motivational seminars in the evenings to educate students on setting personal goals and strategizing to achieve these goals. Building on this foundation, we offered career counselling on Saturdays and also discussed professional development with them.

## **Learning indicators and outcomes**

By the end of the course, students were able to:

- Gain a holistic understanding of research methodology
- Obtain practical experience in field research
- Reflect on and incorporate course readings and exercises and participate in the preparation and development of a research project.
- Carry out independent research under supervision and transform their observations, research findings and field notes into a written text, which reflects theoretical, practical and ethical concerns as well as the University's ethical guidelines.
- Participate collaboratively, responsively and constructively in an intellectual and research community.
- Gain better understanding of writing the research methodology chapter of their long essays and dissertations
- Understand the processing of data using SPSS
- Understand gender analysis in research

## **Evaluation and Impact**

The team taught research methodology to more than 750 graduate students over the three month period. About 550 of the students use qualitative research while 200 are interested in quantitative research methodology. We assisted in supervising the research methodology chapters of 225 students. We provided motivational seminars to 300 students in the evenings to educate students on goal setting and strategizing. We also offered career counselling on Saturdays to 400 students.

At the end of the teaching period team members administered a feedback or evaluation form to students in order to assess the impact of the teaching. The fellowship evaluation plan was in response to stated goals clearly reflected in the assessment instruments and in the timeline outlined. The evaluation form provided clear evidence of the link between teaching and learning outcomes, and student engagement. Generally we received very positive evaluation from students, like this one from Helen Mensah, an MA student from the Department of Sociology:

“I would like to commend the Universities of Birmingham and Fayetteville for such an exceptional teaching in research methodology. This is the first summer team teaching in which we have participated in Legon. The teaching team offered a high level of support and encouragement. The lectures and discussion that made up the course were informative and incredibly well structured, so that each student felt confident in their basic knowledge of the subject, and was able to prepare for their individual research projects. On the several occasions when we saw team members individually about our projects they were very engaged with our topic, offered helpful advice and support. They were also keen to receive feedback about their teaching methods and were respondent to suggestions

made by students. We have not yet had a learning experience at University that was so engaging and where we really felt like our work mattered to the lecturers. Both my fellow course mates and I feel extremely proud of the work we produced during the module and are confident that the skills we have learnt have given us an invaluable advantage for carrying out dissertation research.”

The ASAUK teaching fellowship has been a tremendous experience for me. It has offered me an international teaching experience within a multi-cultural team. I have worked well with colleagues to deliver on various objectives of the teaching. For example development of procedures for the teaching has required strong team work. I have also been fortunate that from time to time my colleagues have entrusted me to lead on various topics due to recognition of my skills and experience. One main challenge the team faced was the large number of students who wanted to participate in the research. We had not envisaged such a large number. Meanwhile in order to maintain high standards of teaching and supervision and good quality of writing from the students, we had to turn away some students from attending the classes. Thank you ASAUK for offering me such an excellent opportunity in gaining international experience in teaching and contributing to academic development in Ghana.

**Justina Dugbazah (Ph.D Gender and Development, University of Birmingham)  
Project Manager – Anglophone, Spanish Fund for African Women's Empowerment  
NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency; justinaD@nepad.org**

## **Conferences Future...**

### **UNITED KINGDOM**

**‘Nigeria: The Biggest and the Best? 50 Years of Independence’, St Mary’s Guildhall, Coventry, 10 November 2010.** Organised by the Coventry University African Studies Centre in association with Chatham House, London, speakers include Professor Jean Herskovits, Professor Bruce Baker, Dr Abdul Raufu Mustapha, Dr Eric Silla, Mutiu Sunmonu, Dr Lola Banjoko and Dr Moses Oketch. Cost £10 registration at the conference; free for students. Register by e-mail to: [lsx@coventry.ac.uk](mailto:lsx@coventry.ac.uk)

**‘Building States and Civil Societies in Africa: Liberal Interventions and Global Governmentality’, Department of International Politics, Aberystwyth University, 26–27 January 2011.** This workshop aims to bring together a wide, and sometimes disparate body of research on state-formation and civil society in a post-development context, and to ask whether civil society remains a meaningful term in attempting to understand social, political and economic practices in these societies.

The rise of civil society in global governance discourse has been well documented by both critics and proponents alike. Many African states in

particular have been subject to donor programmes which place great emphasis on the participation of national and international civil society actors in the formation and implementation of development policy. Donors often paint a contradictory picture, arguing that such actors provide either a counterweight to the over-extended and dictatorial state, or provide technical and service delivery functions in place of the enfeebled state. In countries which have emerged from long periods of various forms of dictatorship this has required the creation of a wide range of organisational types and issue groups which did not exist in a formalized sense prior to the early 1990s. A plethora of groups working on human rights, gender rights, agriculture, the environment, education, health and other areas have appeared with the financial and technical assistance of international and multilateral donors, with a range of political consequences.

The emergence of civil society organisations in these contexts is often used to support a narrative which suggests that an effective civil society was born with the involvement of international and multi-lateral donors in this area of African public life. It also suggests that this post-Cold War form of civil society is both autonomous from the post-colonial African state, as well as fundamental to the development of 'responsible' liberal democratic states in Africa. On the other hand, a number of studies have documented the emergence of non-state actors that may provide some form of institutional stability but challenge the clear-cut distinction between state and civil society. Examples include religious organisations, so-called social movements and informal associational practices.

This workshop takes as its starting point critical, postcolonial and governmentality derived insights on the limitations of the public/private, state/society, and domestic/international binaries for comprehending African politics and governance, as set out by scholars including Jean-François Bayart, Nelson Kasfir, John and Jean Comaroff, Achille Mbembe, James Ferguson, Rita Abrahamsen and others. Such perspectives have cast doubts on the usefulness of conceptualizing civil society as existing independently or distinct from the state. This workshop therefore seeks to continue in this critical tradition, problematising the assumptions made by Liberal internationalist scholars about the autonomy, efficacy and legitimacy of post-Cold War formalized civil society actors in Africa. The organizers invite papers which address any of these questions, as well as on other related issues: what kind of civil society is being constructed by international and multi-lateral donors in African states, and why? What forms and groups of civil society are excluded from these processes, and what are the ramifications of this for citizenship in African states? How do different forms of civil society interact with the state in African countries, and does this distinction serve any analytical usefulness in understanding African civil societies? How do African states mediate between local, national, transnational and global civil society groups? How does African politics extend and challenge our understanding and usage of the concept of civil society?

This workshop has been kindly sponsored by ASAUK and the *Journal for Intervention and State Building*. Papers presented at the workshop will be considered for a special issue of the journal in 2011/12. Participants are requested to produce a paper of 7-8,000 words, with Harvard referencing, a month prior to the workshop, and undertake to read and act as a discussant for one other paper, to facilitate a close engagement with the research presented, and to allow time for ten papers to be discussed. 200 word abstracts by 15 November 2010 to Clive Gabay: c.gabay@qmul.ac.uk or Carl Death: crd@aber.ac.uk

**'Women's Sport in Africa', Oxford University, 7 March 2011.** Despite the importance of sport in the lives of many women and men in Africa, women's sport is a relatively undeveloped area of research in African studies. The workshop presents an opportunity to shape our awareness of this largely unexplored topic and to interact with a number of other researchers actively investigating women's sport in Africa. The organisers invite papers that offer new accounts and interpretations about the way in which women's sport has emerged in Africa, and especially encourage authors to consider how women's sport might serve as a lens through which to explore other social and economic themes. Key questions include, but are not limited to: how may we try to explain the relative success or not of women's sport in different places? Were there any particular periods of expansion or of decline, and how can these be explained? How do national politics influence the development of women's sport? What is the role of the state, either in actively promoting the development of women's sport or in hindering it? How can we understand the historical development of women's sport in Africa in relation to other economic and social trends, and processes such as industrialisation, urbanisation, globalisation, and rising/falling living standards? What is the relationship between women's sports and men's sports? How has that relationship changed and how can we explain such a change? To what extent are international relationships in women's sport shaped by inequality, power, and colonial or post-colonial relations? How, and to what extent, are women's sports in Africa integrated into sport at the global level? Contact Michelle Sikes – Michelle.Sikes@lincoln.ox.ac.uk – with informal expressions of interest. 300 word abstracts by 31 December 2010 to Professor John Bale: jrbkeele@yahoo.co.uk

**'Empire and Development 1929-1962', University of York, 2 July 2011.** The global foreign aid budget, which has risen significantly in the first decade of the twenty-first century, is controversial. Although aid has the potential to facilitate capital formation and knowledge transfer, the development economics literature divides into optimists and pessimists, who argue that aid is allocated ineffectively with pernicious effects on long-term growth. Despite a voluminous literature on aid, dating back over half a century, historians have only made fleeting contributions to these debates. Historians of the British Empire, however, have access to excellent data that can provide useful insights.



British aid policy dates back to the 1929 Colonial Development Act (CDA), which set up a Colonial Development Fund (CDF) for development projects. Before then, infrastructure projects were financed using international loan finance supplemented by colonial public expenditure. In 1940, the CDA was succeeded by the Colonial Development and Welfare Act (CDWA), which included the development of social services and increased the sum in the CDF from £1 million to £5 million. Official accounts and specialist academic studies have confirmed that British policy was affected by geo-strategic and domestic macro-economic concerns and that its implementation was constrained by the contingencies imposed by post-war austerity. With some notable exceptions there have been far fewer studies of how aid was actually used within colonies.

This conference will extend the literature on colonialism and development by tracing the origins of British aid policy; exploring metropolitan and colonial political economies of aid policy during the epoch of decolonisation; considering the impact of aid in British dependent territories; and evaluating how aid policy affected the meanings given to 'development'. Proposals are sought on British colonies in Africa, Asia or the Caribbean that will consider one or more of the following questions. How did local bureaucrats, business and other social elites respond to the opportunities provided by an augmented aid budget? Did colonial elites collaborate or compete? How were colonial agendas set? How did financial-institutional constraints as administered by the British Treasury affect public capital formation in London and overseas? How did scarcities affecting international, British and colonial product markets, and discriminatory imperial commercial policies, affect the allocation and expenditure of aid? How was aid administered on the ground: by whom; for whom; and with what effects?

The organisers may offer a limited number of bursaries to assist postgraduate presenters with registration and travel costs. Those seeking a bursary should state so in their submission. 250 word abstracts and one page CV by 17 December 2010 to: Dr Henrice Altink: [ha501@york.ac.uk](mailto:ha501@york.ac.uk) or David Clayton: [dwc1@york.ac.uk](mailto:dwc1@york.ac.uk)

#### INTERNATIONAL

**'The End of the Portuguese Empire in a Comparative Perspective', Lisbon, Portugal, 20–21 June 2011.** In 1961, Portuguese rule in Africa came under severe stress. In its colony of Angola an attempt to release political detainees from the Luanda prisons by Angolan nationalists unleashed a wave of reprisals against the inhabitants of the *muceques*, thereby undermining the regime's cherished image of racial harmony. A few weeks later, an uprising in the Northern district of Congo triggered another cycle of violence which would soon evolve to a long and bloody counterinsurgency conflict. Later that year, with the annexation of Goa by Nehru's India, the Portuguese empire seemed on the verge of collapse.

But contrary to many expectations, the first of the European overseas empires would also be the last to be dismantled – a somewhat intriguing fact that continues to puzzle many students of decolonisation.

Convened by three of Portugal's leading research centres, the organizers invite papers on various aspects of the history of colonial empires and decolonization, with a special focus on the post-World War period, and the Asian and African context in particular. Panels and papers are welcome for any of the following general topics: from imperial to post-colonial polities and economies: elites, institutions and political regimes; imperial and anti-colonial ideologies and movements; colonial wars/ counterinsurgency campaigns: a comparative assessment of decolonisation and the international arena; and history and theory of decolonisation: problems, perspectives, and prospects. 200 word abstracts and brief CV by 31 December 2010 to: [claudia.almeida@ics.ul.pt](mailto:claudia.almeida@ics.ul.pt)

**'The Past and Its Possibilities: Perspectives of Southern Africa', Southern African Historical Society 23rd Biennial Conference, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa, 27–29 June 2011.** Recent conferences have seen a renewed sense of intellectual and professional commitment to historical scholarship in and about Southern Africa, with vigorous debates about the relevance of history and heritage, and of historians as public intellectuals and citizens of democratic countries. This will build on this momentum.

For from abalone, anger and archives through to xenophobia, zombies and zymurgy, the range of topics being researched by historians of Southern Africa is perhaps wider than ever before; and from the singing of revolutionary songs by politicians in the name of cultural history, to oral histories as an instrument of healing, to local histories in the service of grassroots politics and pay-to-order institutional histories, the utility of the past makes it of interest to many parties. New technologies and globalization are also challenging us to rethink how research and publishing can be enabled. The possibilities of the past are thus being explored in multiple ways in the 21st century, with significant implications for historical perspectives of Southern Africa.

Panels, papers, roundtables, discussions and commentaries may reflect on a broad range of perspectives and possibilities including: histories of: any topic of history with an emphasis on new perspectives or former topics revisited; histories to and from: considerations of inter-generational, cross-regional, transnational and global histories thought about and from Southern Africa; and histories to hurt or to heal: how can studies of the past speak truth to power, or resist pandering to it? The past and its publics, or "histories 'to-go'": in what ways is the past being commodified, ordered, contracted, and deployed for a variety of needs: public, nationalist, institutional, legal and commemorative? Histories and historians lost and found: What questions about the past are being asked and which are not? What are taboo, neglected, unfashionable, and/or

down-right dangerous historical perspectives and topics; what is current scholarship missing? Mediating the Past: film, documentary, art, exhibitions, poetry, news media, and song all draw on and represent perspectives of the past: we encourage discussions and displays from scholars and practitioners in the media, art and cultural sectors who have an interest in the dialogue between past, present and future. History's know-how: new information and technological tools; archives in crisis or better opportunities for collaborative projects? 250 word abstracts by 15 December 2010 to Dr Julie Parle: [parlej@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:parlej@ukzn.ac.za)

**'Saharan Crossroads: Views from the South', Niamey, Niger, 8–10 July 2011.** This conference is part of a series of conferences organised jointly by the West African Research Association (WARA) and the American Institute of Maghrib Studies (AIMS) to explore and reinforce cultural, artistic, and historical connections between populations living in and on both sides of the Sahara. This initiative was launched in 2004 and the first international conference took place in 2009 in Tangier. This second conference will focus on the intellectual and cultural production from south of the Sahara and its links with the north. Music, theatre, dance, literature, film, and the decorative arts form a common thread that brings people together and engages them in the collective creation, criticism, and celebration of life. The organisers encourage the submission of complete panels of papers. Panel Chairs should submit one page abstracts of their panels until 30 November 2010. The conference languages are English and French. Priority for acceptance and funding will be given to scholars from WARA and AIMS affiliate countries (Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, and the 18 countries of West Africa), and from USA. 200 word abstracts and short CV to: [aimswara@gmail.com](mailto:aimswara@gmail.com)

**'Food in Zones of Conflict', 32nd International Commission on the Anthropology of Food and Nutrition (ICAF) Conference, Leiden University College, The Hague, Netherlands, 19–21 August 2011.** ICAF and the Modern East Asia Research Centre (MEARC) at Leiden University invite proposals for papers exploring the theme of food, diet and food problems in places suffering conflicts in any geographic area of the world, regarding both the present day and the past. Possible topics might include food security in conflict affected areas, food aid and special nutritional needs of people in refugee camps, long-term consequences of warfare on food and diet, food as a weapon of choice in war, as well as geographic, ethnic and religious factors involved in access to food in times of conflict. The event aims to be truly cross-disciplinary, attracting social, cultural, biological and nutritional anthropologists, as well as archaeologists, historians, agriculturalists, sociologists, dieticians, geographers, representatives of aid agencies and others. The language of the conference will be English. The organizers will strive to provide meals and accommodation for paper presenters. 200-300 word abstracts and 150 word biodata [both in the email, not as

attachments, and with 'Abstract: Food in Zones of Conflict' in the subject line] by 15 November 2010 to info@mearc.eu

**'Colonial and Post-Colonial Connections in Dutch Literature', University of California, Berkeley, California, USA, 15–17 September 2011.** Dutch literature is more than just literature about a tiny piece of land at the estuary of the Rhine. From the Caribbean to South-Africa, from Southeast-Asia to Western Europe, the Dutch language forms a common bond in a literature that was and is deeply marked by intercultural connections. What were the cultural and literary networks between Batavia, Galle, Nagasaki, and the Cape Colony? How did the slave trade connect authors in Willemstad and Paramaribo with Gorée and Elmina at the African West Coast? And how did Amsterdam, Leiden or The Hague function as intellectual intermediaries between the Netherlands and the different colonies? This pluricentric perspective on Dutch literature remains relevant in modern times. After the colonial era ended, the Dutch language continued to produce literature that fostered intellectual bonds between South Africa, the Caribbean, Southeast Asia, and Western Europe. These intercontinental contacts were even intensified and grew in diversity when three centuries after the first Dutchmen ventured out into the wide world, the world came to the Netherlands. Inhabitants of the former colonies first, followed by immigrants and refugees, transformed the Dutch literary landscape to the point that an international perspective on Dutch literature has become a necessity. 500 word abstracts by 1 February 2011 to Jeroen Dewulf: jdewulf@berkeley.edu

### **Theses Recently Accepted at UK Universities**

Christiana Abonge (2010) 'Women's Microenterprise Development: An Effective Strategy for Poverty Reduction in the North West Province of Cameroon?', Ph.D thesis, University of Leeds. Supervisors: Professor Ruth Pearson and Dr Caroline Dyer.

Adesoji Oyedele Abimbola Adeniyi (2010) 'The Politics of Bitumen Development in Nigeria', Ph.D thesis, University of Leeds. Supervisors: Professor Raymond Bush and Dr David Hall-Matthews.

Joshua Olaniyi Alabi (2010) 'The Dynamics of Oil and Fiscal Federalism: Challenges to Governance and Development in Nigeria', Ph.D thesis, University of Leeds. Supervisors: Professor Raymond Bush and Mr Hugo Radice.

Caroline Barratt (2010) 'Netting the Benefits Now or Later? Exploring the Relationship between Risk and Sustainability in Lake Victoria Fisheries, Uganda', Ph.D thesis, University of East Anglia. Supervisors: Dr Edward Allison and Janet Seeley.

Oladiran Wasiu Bello (2010) 'The Roles of States' Elites in Intervention and Networked Resource Exploitation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) (1997-2006)', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Professor James Mayall.

Josiah Kyonnom Choms (2009) 'Corruption and Development NGOs in Northern Nigeria: Case Studies from Plateau State', Ph.D thesis, Oxford Centre for Mission Studies and University of Wales; [www.ocms.ac.uk/abstracts/pdf/2009\\_jchoms.pdf](http://www.ocms.ac.uk/abstracts/pdf/2009_jchoms.pdf)

John Wade Donaldson (2010) 'Marking Territory: Demarcation of the DRC-Zambia Boundary from 1894 to the Present Day', Ph.D thesis, University of Durham.

Emma Elder (2010) 'Grim Investigations: Reaping the Dead. A Comparison of the Late Pleistocene and Early Holocene Burials of North Africa and Western Europe', Ph.D thesis, University of Oxford.

Abier Elzein (2009) 'Genomic Patterns of Selection and Differentiation in African Populations and Implications for Mapping Disease Association', Ph.D thesis, Open University.

Dagmar Engelken (2010) 'The Labour Movement and the Chinese Labour Question in Britain and South Africa, 1900-1914', Ph.D thesis, University of Essex. Supervisor: Dr Jeremy Krikler.

Julia Gallagher (2009) 'The Good State: Britain and the Ethical Foreign Policy in Africa, 1997-2007', Ph.D thesis, SOAS, University of London. Supervisor: Professor Stephen Chan.

Carolyn Haggis (2009) 'The African Union and Intervention: The Origins and Implications of Article 4(h) of the 2001 Constitutive Act', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford.

James Omar Harries (2010) 'Pragmatic Theory Applied to Christian Mission in Africa: With Special Reference to Luo Responses to "Bad" in Gem, Kenya', Ph.D thesis, University of Birmingham. Supervisor: Professor Allan Anderson; <http://etheses.bham.ac.uk/15/>

Agatha Herman (2010) 'Ethics, Journeys and Wine: Investigating the Discourses of Fairtrade and Black Economic Empowerment Through Wine Networks from South Africa to the UK', Ph.D thesis, University of Exeter.

Elizabeth Alison Hull (2009) 'Status, Morality and the Politics of Transformation: An Ethnographic Account of Nurses in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa', Ph.D thesis, LSE, University of London. Supervisors: Professor Deborah James and Dr Matthew Engelke; <https://catalogue.lse.ac.uk/Record/1228722/Description>

William Jackson (2010) 'Poor Men and Loose Women: Colonial Kenya's Other Whites', Ph.D thesis, University of Leeds. Supervisors: Professor Andrew Thompson and Dr Shane Doyle.

Inga Jacobs (2010) 'Norms and Transboundary Co-operation in Africa: The Case of the Orange-Senqu and Nile Rivers'. Supervisor: Professor Ian Taylor.

Brian Keith Jennings (2010) 'Christian Virtue in a West African Context: A Study of the Interaction and Synthesis of the Methodist and Fanti Moral Traditions as a Model for the Contextualisation of Christian Ethics', Ph.D thesis, University of Birmingham.

Chris Kidd (2008) 'Development Discourse and the Batwa of South West Uganda: Representing the 'Other': Presenting the 'Self', Ph.D thesis, University of Glasgow.

Julie Elin MacArthur (2010) 'Mapping Political Community Among the Luyia of Western Kenya, 1930-63', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Dr Derek Peterson.

Kenani Abraham Njela Mwasomola (2010) 'Contemporary Christian Responses to Nyakyusa Rituals: Chiefs, Pastors and Purification', Ph.D thesis, Oxford Centre for Mission Studies and University of Wales; [www.ocms.ac.uk/abstracts/pdf/2010\\_kmwasomola.pdf](http://www.ocms.ac.uk/abstracts/pdf/2010_kmwasomola.pdf)

Omar Shahabudin McDoom (2009) 'The Micro-Politics of Mass Violence: Authority, Security and Opportunity in Rwanda's Genocide', Ph.D thesis, LSE, University of London. Supervisors: Dr David Keen and Dr Peter Uvin.

Boyson Henry Zondiwe Moyo (2008) 'The Use and Role of Indigenous Knowledge in Small-scale Agricultural Systems in Africa: The Case of Farmers in Northern Malawi', Ph.D thesis, University of Glasgow. Supervisors: Professor John Biggs and Dr Stella Lowder.

Nomfundo Xenia Ngwenya (2010) 'Blacks Without Borders: African-Americans and South Africa 1984-2007', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Professor James Mayall.

Elisabeth Oldfield (2010) 'Transgressing Boundaries: Gender, Identity, Culture, and 'Other' in Postcolonial Women's Narratives in Africa', Ph.D thesis, University of Derby. Supervisors: Professor Neil Campbell and Dr Sam Kasule.

Molefe Phirinyane (2010) 'Human Resource Management and Decentralization in Botswana and South Africa', Ph.D thesis, University of Birmingham. Supervisor: Dr A. Campbell.

Carin Runciman (2010) 'Rethinking Citizenship and Identity in South Africa', Ph.D thesis, University of Glasgow. Supervisor: Professor Satnam Virdee.

Hassanali Thomas Sachedina (2008) 'Wildlife is Our Oil: Conservation, Livelihoods and NGOs in the Tarangire Ecosystem, Tanzania', D.Phil thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisors: Dr Patricia Daley and Dr Dan Brockington [University of Manchester]; [www.african-environments.ouce.ox.ac.uk/pdf/sachedina\\_dphil.pdf](http://www.african-environments.ouce.ox.ac.uk/pdf/sachedina_dphil.pdf)

Megan Kate Shore (2010) 'The Role of Christianity in South Africa's Truth Reconciliation Commission: A Case Study in Religious Conflict Resolution', Ph.D thesis, University of Leeds.

Federica Sulas (2010) 'Environmental and Cultural Interplay in Highland Ethiopia: Geoarchaeology at Aksum', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Dr Charles French.

Flavie Vial (2010) 'Conservation Science for Common Ground: Developing the Necessary Tools to Manage Livestock Grazing Pressure in Bale Mountains National Park, Ethiopia', Ph.D thesis, University of Glasgow. Supervisor: Professor Dan Haydon.

Kristina Nell Weaver (2009) 'Sayling, Stories from the Mothership: Narrating Political Geographies of Nigerian Campus Cultism', Ph.D thesis, University of Glasgow. Supervisors: Professor Willy Maley and Dr Paul Routledge; <http://theses.gla.ac.uk/1512/01/2009weaverphd.pdf>

Timonthy C. Winegard (2010) 'All the King's Men: Indigenous Peoples of the Dominions and the First World War [South Africa as well as Australia, New Zealand and Canada]', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford, Supervisor: Professor Huw Strachan.

Tarek Ramadan Zenbou (2010) 'The Strategic Importance of Africa to Arab National Security from the Perspective of Libyan Foreign Policy', Ph.D thesis, University of Durham.

Jarad Jon Zimbler (2010) 'J. M. Coetzee's Bare Prose and the South African Literary Field, 1962-1986', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Professor Adrian Poole.

## Recent Publications

Tim Allen and Koen Vlassenroot (2010) *The Lord's Resistance Army: Myth and Reality*. London: Zed Books. 288 pages; hardback: 978-1848135628, £70.00; paperback: 978-1848135635, £19.99.

Elizabeth Bekers (2010) *African and African American Writing on Female Genital Excision, 1960-2000*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press. 360 pages; paperback: 978-0-299-23494-2, \$34.95; e-book: 978-0-299-23493-5, \$19.95.

Barbara Bompani and Maria Frahm-Arp (eds) (2010) *Development and Politics from Below: Exploring Religious Spaces in the African State*. London: Palgrave-Macmillan. 272 pages; hardback: 978-0230237759; £57.00.

Daniel Branch, Nic Cheeseman and Leigh Gardner (eds) *Our Turn to Eat: Politics in Kenya since 1950*. Berlin: Lit Verlag. 312 pages, 978-3-8258-9805-2, £25.00; [www.lit-verlag.de/london/](http://www.lit-verlag.de/london/)

Sokari Ekine (ed) (2010) *SMS Uprising: Mobile Activism in Africa*. Oxford: Fahamu Books/Pambazuka. 978-1-906387-35-8, e-book: £12.95; [www.pambazukapress.org](http://www.pambazukapress.org)

Elke Grawert (ed) (2010) *After the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in Sudan*. Boydell and Brewer, James Currey series, 311 pages, 978-1847010223, £40.00.

Erin Haney (2010) *Photography and Africa*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. 144 pages, 978-1861893826, £15.95.

Axel Harneit-Sievers, Stephen Marks and Sanusha Naidu (eds) (2010) *China in Africa: Chinese and African Perspectives*. Oxford: Pambazuka. 275 pages, 978-1906387334, £16.95.

Helen N. Mugambi and Tuzyline J. Allan (eds) (2010) *Masculinities in African Literary and Cultural Contexts*. Banbury: Ayebia Clarke Publishing. 272 pages, 978-0-9555079-5-3; £16.99.

Paul S. Landau (2010) *Popular Politics in the History of South Africa, 1400 to 1948*. Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press. 320 pages, hardback, 978-0521196031, £55.00; Adobe eBook Reader: 978-0511741166, \$72.00.

Ian Taylor (2010) *The International Relations of Sub-Saharan Africa*. New York: Continuum. 176 pages, 978-0826434012, paperback, £17.99.

Michael Vickers (2010) *A Nation Betrayed: Nigeria and the Minorities Commission of 1957*. London: Turnaround. 376 pages, 978-1592217335, paperback; £24.99; [www.turnaround-uk.com/nation-betrayed-nigeria-and-minorities-commission](http://www.turnaround-uk.com/nation-betrayed-nigeria-and-minorities-commission) or from: Trenton, New Jersey: Africa World Press. 376 pages, 1592217338, \$34.95; [www.africaworldpressbooks.com/servlet/Detail?no=495](http://www.africaworldpressbooks.com/servlet/Detail?no=495)



**Research in African Literatures: Special Issue on Re-Reading the Popular in Africa.** This special issue is conceived to mark the 25th anniversary of Karin Barber's seminal article, 'Popular Arts in Africa', which appeared in the *African Studies Review*, 30(3), 1987: 1-78. For this special issue, the editors invite contributors to re-read and reflect on Barber's essay in the light of subsequent scholarship (including Barber's own), and recent innovations in the field of African popular art forms and indeed the study of Africa in general. The idea is to think around and beyond what Barber's seminal essay meant and still means to African studies 25 years after its publication. To think beyond means to locate the very core of the argument which Barber's essay makes in the larger context of the study of popular arts and other forms of expression in Africa that may pass as creative engagements with the everyday. While this particular essay is at the heart of our project, the editors also recognize its complementary relationship with her other essays such as 'Preliminary Notes on Audiences of Africa' (*Africa*, 67(2), 1997: 347-361), 'Popular Reaction to Petro-Naira' (*Journal of Modern African Studies*, 20(3), 1982: 431-45), and 'Radical Conservatism in Yoruba Popular Plays' (*Bayreuth African Studies Series 7*, 1986: 5-12) in the study of African popular arts.

Contributors may wish to engage with the following themes: new technologies and popular culture, including blogging and internet art forms; the everyday and the formation of contemporary episteme in the African city in popular art; ways, means, and methods of transformation, transfigurations, and transmutation of the dreamed and concrete urban spaces in popular media; disciplines and theorizations: the ways in which disciplinary frameworks generate diverse perspectives on, and approaches towards, African popular cultures; the people: how this category is identified and interpolated by African culture-producers, politicians, religious leaders, and by 'the People' themselves-including the vocabulary used (the 'masses', the 'grassroots', notions of a shared culture); the 'popular': the extent to which there is a 'popular' that transcends national boundaries; form, structure, and the historicity of genres; archive and ephemera: debates about the archive in relation to popular and 'ephemeral' art forms; urban and youth cultures, and popular art forms; popular and elite: the ways that popular and official/elite repertoires interpenetrate, the ways individuals access culture at different levels, and the ways electronic media blur the popular/elite distinctions that might once have prevailed; popular sexualities: the treatment of gender and sexuality in African popular art forms, and debates about the content of particular genres; and beyond texts: the role of audiences and consumers of African popular art forms. Deadline for submission of articles: 1 August 2011 (for publication in 2012). Enquiries to the Guest Editors: Onookome Okome: [ookome@ualberta.ca](mailto:ookome@ualberta.ca) and Stephanie Newell: [s.newell@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:s.newell@sussex.ac.uk)

**Journal of Pan African Studies (JPAS): Special Issue on African/Black Dance.** Despite the importance of dance in the daily lives of African/Black people throughout the Diaspora and the inclusion of dance during the discipline's

inception; African/Black dance as a body of knowledge within Black Studies is one of the least developed areas of the discipline. Consequently, co-edited by Dr Aimee Glocke, Visiting Assistant Professor of African American and Diaspora Studies at the University of Wyoming, and Dr Lawrence Jackson, Assistant Professor of Dance at the University of Wyoming, and with accepted final papers due by the end of May 2011, this JPAS special issue seeks scholarly work on topics on African/Black dance, such as African-centred approaches to African/Black dance; the role of the African worldview in African/Black dance; the Black dancing body; pedagogical styles; theories and philosophies; methodologies in African/Black dance; the different genres or styles of movement: hip-hop, jazz, tap, modern, African; the various techniques in African/Black dance: Dunham, Ailey, Umfundalai; the presence of racism and white supremacy in the world of dance; the contributions of specific dancers and/or dance companies; the relationship of African/Black music to African/Black dance; the future of dance; book/film reviews; review articles on dance resources; interviews with dancers, choreographers; annotated bibliographies on dance sources and citations; and narrative photo essays. 250 word abstracts by 1 December 2010 to Dr Aimee Glocke: [aglocke@uwyo.edu](mailto:aglocke@uwyo.edu)

### *Itupale Online Journal of African Studies*

Itupale was launched by Cambridge to Africa in March 2008. The primary aim of the journal is to provide an international publishing platform for African academics residing in sub-Saharan Africa. *Itupale* has recently been registered by the Charity Commission in the United Kingdom under the objective of 'the promotion of equality and diversity for the public benefit by providing an open publishing platform for African scholars via the *Itupale Online Journal of African Studies*'. The journal particularly welcomes submissions from African scholars in the early stages of their career and/or affiliated to lesser known universities in sub-Saharan Africa. Co-authored articles with academics based outside the region are also encouraged. For details about the journal: [www.cambridgetoafrika.org/itupale.htm](http://www.cambridgetoafrika.org/itupale.htm)

The *Itupale Online Journal of African Studies* is calling for papers that address the theme of technology as a social inclusion device within African contexts for Volume III edition to be published in 2011. The journal is particularly interested in the role of mobile phone technologies, online virtual learning environments and other web based technologies that encourage the integration of otherwise marginalised groups. 'Social inclusion' is defined to include gender differences, disability, health (HIV, malaria), governance, socioeconomic and education factors, although the journal welcomes any additions to this theme that relate to the African continent. A further goal of the volume is to foster research between academics and practitioners working in technology, and publish novel solutions to social integration within developing contexts. 300 word abstracts by 30 October 2010 to Sacha DeVelle, Editor-in-Chief: [itupale@cambridgetoafrika.org](mailto:itupale@cambridgetoafrika.org)

### ***Africa* – special offer/*Africa Bibliography* online**

ASAUK and RAS members benefit from discounts on key journals in the field. The quarterly journal *Africa*, Journal of the International African Institute, is available to members for £20 for both print issues and online access. If you would like to take out a 2011 personal subscription at this discounted rate, simply email [journals@cambridge.org](mailto:journals@cambridge.org) or ring +44 (0)1223 32 6070 to place your order. The 2011 volume opens with a special issue on 'Indian Ocean Print Cultures', guest edited by Isabel Hofmeyr and Preben Kaarsholm. In addition to receiving the 2011 volume, subscribers to *Africa* will also enjoy free access to earlier volumes back to volume 70 (2000).

The International African Institute is also delighted to announce that the *Africa Bibliography* will be published online in January 2011 as a searchable database. For more information and to register for free trials, visit [www.journals.cambridge.org/afb](http://www.journals.cambridge.org/afb)

### **New Teachers' Resources from the British Museum**

Started in September, the British Museum is launching *The Wealth of Africa*, a free set of new educational resources for teaching the history of the continent. Sixteen sets of case studies, including nine on African civilisations, five on colonialism, and two thematic sections on slavery and money in Africa, will be available to download. They each include teachers' notes, a presentation, and students' worksheets. Although primarily aimed at Key Stage 3 modules – the teaching of the history of Africa and the history of the British Empire – they can be utilised to teach different stages and age groups on a broad range of topics, including Diversity and Black History. Download for free at [www.britishmuseum.org](http://www.britishmuseum.org)

## **News**

### **Nominations for Mary Kingsley Zochonis Lecturer, 2011**

ASAUK seeks nominations for the Mary Kingsley Zochonis lecturer. The Mary Kingsley Zochonis lecture will be delivered at an ASAUK event in 2011. 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, and the content of the lecture should be non-scientific, non-technical and on an African subject. Zimbabwean, Ugandan, South African, Ethiopian, Nigerian and Kenyan academics have delivered the lecture 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 a colleague; no self-nominations please. CV and a short statement on the topic of the proposed lecture by 28 February 2011 to both David Kerr: [dkerr@bham.ac.uk](mailto:dkerr@bham.ac.uk) and Nici Nelson: [n.nelson@gold.ac.uk](mailto:n.nelson@gold.ac.uk)

**'Africa in Motion', Filmhouse Cinema, Edinburgh African Film Festival, Edinburgh, 21 October–5 November 2010.** This award-winning festival is in its fifth year and is devoted to celebrations of fifty years of independence of 17 African countries. Dozens of film screenings will be shown, complemented by workshops, seminars, master classes, children's afternoons, poetry readings, music and dance. For more information: [www.africa-in-motion.org.uk](http://www.africa-in-motion.org.uk)

### **British Academy International Partnerships for Africa Awards**

With many excellent proposals received, three grants were awarded holders under the scheme this year.

Professor Jane Plastow, University of Leeds, for 'Developing East African Theatre for Development for the 21st Century', with Dr Patrick Mangeni of Makerere University, Uganda); £28,390.

Professor Jon Silverman, University of Bedfordshire, for 'Role of the Media in Transitional Justice', with Mrs Bernadette Cole of the University of Sierra Leone, Sierra Leone; £25,100.

Dr Maggie Wykes of the University of Sheffield for 'Prosecuting Sexual Violence: A Comparative Study of England and South Africa', with Dr Lillian Artz of the University of Cape Town, South Africa; £27,200.

The dates for the next round are not yet confirmed but information will be posted on the British Academy's website – [www.britac.ac.uk/funding/guide/intl/ip.cfm](http://www.britac.ac.uk/funding/guide/intl/ip.cfm) - as soon as it is available, and people are also advised to sign up for the British Academy's bulletin – [www.britac.ac.uk/news/bulletin/](http://www.britac.ac.uk/news/bulletin/) - to receive up to date notifications.

### **Dr Ben Knighton**

OCMS PhD Stage Leader Dr Ben Knighton has been awarded a prestigious Leverhulme Research Fellowship to enable him to conduct research on 'Gikuyu Dual Allegiances: Church and Oath'. Starting in January 2011, Dr Knighton project is due for completion in early 2012. Given this major award, he has decided not to seek re-election as ASAUK Treasurer. He will take seriously the religious features of belonging, rather than sensationalize continually the consequent violence perpetrated or suffered, which mostly serves to demean both Africans and British. Why did only a few thousand Agĩkũyũ subscribe to political associations, while the great majority took the oath of unity? What was involved in the battle for hearts and minds, not only in the forests, but in the confessions and conversions in the detention camps and the villages? It is a communal story waiting to be told, but has been overwritten by the selected archives that remain, and by the difficulty entrusting their real stories, hidden even from their children, to academics.

Competition for Leverhulme Fellowships is stiff as the awards are open to academics from different disciplines across the UK. Dr Knighton is an academic authority on the Karamojong of East Africa and has been gathering material on Gikuyu religious history for five years in between his tasks at OCMS. His most recent publication, *Religion and Politics in Kenya: Essays in Honor of a Meddlesome Priest* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2009) is available to order from Palgrave. A paperback edition is at the press. Dr Knighton is a Fellow of the Royal Anthropological Institute.

### **News from *African Affairs***

At the ASAUK conference, *African Affairs* awarded its first African Author Prize. The prize went to George Bob-Milliar for the article 'Chieftaincy, diaspora and development: the institution of Nkosuohene in Ghana', published in October 2009. The runner up was Lephophotho Mashike, awarded for his article, 'Age of despair: the unintegrated forces of South Africa', published in July 2008. As a celebration of their achievement, the two articles are available for free to download from: [www.oxfordjournals.org/our\\_journals/afrafj/authorprize.html](http://www.oxfordjournals.org/our_journals/afrafj/authorprize.html)

The Prize is awarded for the best article published in *African Affairs* over a two year period by an author based in an African institution, or an African PhD student based in an overseas university. The prize is in recognition of excellent African scholarship, which often does not reach audiences outside the African continent. To the extent possible, the prize committee prioritizes scholars at the beginning of their career. The members of the committee were Richard Dowden (Director of RAS), William Beinart (President of ASAUK), Rufus Akinyele (Member of the Editorial Board), and the editors of *African Affairs*.

The next African Author Prize will be awarded at the ASAUK conference in 2012, for articles published in the two year period from 2010-2011. The editors encourage contributions from eligible authors.

*African Affairs* is also pleased to announce that its ranking in the ISS citation index has increased yet again: According to the 2009 citation index, *African Affairs'* impact factor has increased from 1.264 to 1.660. *African Affairs* thus remains the top ranked African Studies journal. For the first time this year, *African Affairs* was also included in the Political Science category, and was ranked 10th out of 112 journals.

## Obituaries

**Basil Davidson** (9 November 1914 – 9 July 2010)

No permission to reprint electronically.

Victoria Brittain, *The Guardian*, 9 July 2010  
Copyright Guardian News & Media Ltd 2010

**Sir Marrack Goulding** (2 September 1936 – 9 July 2010)

No permission to reprint electronically.

Paul Lewis, *The Guardian*, 15 July 2010  
Copyright Guardian News & Media Ltd 2010

### Note to Contributors

Send items for inclusion in the next *Newsletter* by 15 December 2010 to Dr Simon Heap, Editor, ASAUK Newsletter, Plan, Chobham House, Christchurch Way, Woking, Surrey, GU21 6JG, UK or [effaheap@aol.com](mailto:effaheap@aol.com)

Any opinions expressed are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the ASAUK.

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