



NEWSLETTER

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ASAUK activities

The ASAUK Council has not met since my last report, but plans are finalised for the next meeting on 8th October at the British Academy in London. This is also the date set for the AGM and the Mary Kingsley Zochonis lecture. The lecture is to be given by Dr Kasaija Phillip Apuuli, Department of Political Science, Makerere University, on the International Criminal Court and Conflicts in North-east Africa. The Mary Kingsley Zochonis fund enables the RAS and ASAUK to bring a young academic from an African university to the UK for a series of lectures. We call for nominations annually. In addition to this talk, Dr Apuuli will be giving seminars at Sussex, Oxford and University College, London.

The ASAUK office holders have been involved in pursuing further some of our key initiatives. The next round of teaching fellowships has been advertised, and we have received another good response with 13 applicants and many more enquiries. This time, funding will allow at least six months at an African university. Decisions will be made at our next Council meeting so that the fellows can arrange their teaching for 2010. A couple of our first group of fellows have completed their attachments. Reports will be published in the newsletter as they come through. We have not yet secured significant funding for this programme and would welcome suggestions from any members.

We have started a fruitful interaction with the Africa Unit, an outgrowth of the Commission for Africa in 2005, and linked to the Association of Commonwealth Universities. This has a number of shared aims, particularly in respect of developing strong academic linkages with African institutions, and also in establishing a network of scholars within the UK who have such links. ASAUK will be represented on their proposed committee. Information about the Unit appears later in this newsletter.

Planning is going ahead for the writing workshop in Cambridge in which *African Affairs*, *Journal of Modern African Studies*, *Journal of Southern African Studies*, *ROAPE*, and *Itupale* (a new Cambridge-based on line African Studies journal), will participate. Over 40 abstracts were submitted and we are completing the difficult process of choosing 15 for presentation.

I was involved in an interesting writing workshop at the South African Historical Society conference in Pretoria in June. The conference was well attended by academics and especially doctoral students from a number of countries in the region, and ASAUK was able to facilitate postgraduate participation by helping to sponsor the workshop. The organisers, Jane Carruthers and Nick Southey, devoted a conference session to journal publication, which doubled as the first session of the workshop. There has been a proliferation of journals in South Africa, generally focussing on South and southern Africa. But gradual internationalisation (mostly via Taylor and Francis) is giving some of them a broader profile, and South African journals are becoming a major outlet for work not only on the region but beyond. We are exploring the possibility of further workshops in African countries, possibly at the British Institute for East Africa or at a conference with a strong postgraduate presence. Suggestions are welcome. We have initiated discussion with the Oxford-based charity INASP (International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications), which runs an Author Aid project. Linked with the ACU, SIDA, DFID and others, this project shares some of the aims of the writing workshops.

We have now sent out the call for papers for the 2010 ASAUK biennial conference to be held in Oxford, 16-19th September 2010. David Kerr has set up a system of online submission for papers and panels. We are not attempting to give one single theme to an inevitably disparate conference but are seeking to focus on a number of themes which might run through all or part of the conference so that sequential discussion and possible publications can be developed. At present, we are likely to run streams around: elections and democratisation; land and agrarian issues; environmental history and political ecology; images of Africa and Africans – photography and film. Others are being discussed. A few journals, including *African Affairs*, *ROAPE*, and *JSAS* are considering convening a series of panels. This event is going to absorb a good deal of energy over the next year. Calls will be made to all members to nominate senior colleagues for the Distinguished Africanist Award, and to all supervisors to nominate doctoral theses for the Audrey Richards prize. These will both be awarded at the conference. The 2010 AGM and another Mary Kingsley Zochonis lecture will also be delivered there.

Together with the RAS, ASAUK will be launching a membership drive over the next few months. We hope especially to expand our base of student members, but not them alone. Membership overall has risen from 595 in 2005 to 1,071 in 2008. Student membership, however, which peaked in 2007, dropped back to 2005 levels in 2008. June Hutchison-Bam will lead ASAUK's participation. We are also gearing up for the resubmission to the British Academy. Reports on conferences to which ASAUK has contributed will be included in this and subsequent newsletters.

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Conferences Future...

UNITED KINGDOM

'South African Migration to the UK: Exploring Dynamics, Identities and Prospects', University of Loughborough, Loughborough, 22–23 April 2010. This two-day seminar is being co-organised by Daniel Conway (Loughborough) and Charlotte Lemanski (UCL) with financial support from Centre for the Study of International Governance (CSIG) at Loughborough University. The organisers invite the submission of abstracts for papers to be presented at the seminar. Papers should address South African migration to the UK and might include issues such as: whiteness, diaspora, space and identity. As this is a relatively under-researched area, this seminar is intended to serve as an initial space to share ideas and research findings, develop a network of researchers and identify future research agendas. 150-200 word abstracts by 1 December 2009 to Charlotte Lemanski: c.lemanski@ucl.ac.uk

'ASAUK 2010', African Studies Association of the UK Biennial Conference, University of Oxford, Oxford, 16–19 September 2010. ASAUK are not attempting to give the conference a single theme. However, the organisers are encouraging journals, Centres, networks and individuals to offer panels, or series of panels, on particular topics so that there can be sequential debate through the conference. The organisers hope in this way to attract linked papers that will facilitate discussion and which may form the basis for a variety of conference publications. To submit a paper or panel for the conference please follow the link below. The deadline for paper and panel abstracts is 30 April 2010. If you would like to suggest a series of panels or theme, contact David Kerr: d.kerr@bham.ac.uk Registration for the conference will use the same online system and be available from January 2010: <https://asauk.conference-services.net/authorlogin.asp?conferenceID=1897&language=en-uk>

INTERNATIONAL

'Women, Gender and Sexualities in Africa', 10th Annual Africa Conference, University of Texas at Austin, USA, 26–28 March 2010. Academic discourses on women, gender and sexualities in Africa have increased by leaps and bounds since the 1980s when they began to establish root as fields of professional, systematic and academic endeavour. New directions have emerged in response to a variety of stimuli, which include but not limited to the politics of the 'public' and politics of production of knowledge. Old ideas have been challenged, repackaged and redelivered in a multiplicity of manners. While some researchers and scholars see women, gender and sexuality as three distinct subjects of inquiry, others emphasize interconnectivity and seek to put them into a single, coherent and all embracing dialogue. Yet, none of these two methods of inquiry

is faulty. The centrality of issues around women, gender and sexualities to African experience will continue to configure and reconfigure discourses.

The organizers invite papers dealing with the following themes: gendered space: private/public, official/unofficial, rural/urban; education and human resources; governance and politics; sexualities, religion and spirituality; sexualities and the African body; neo-slavery and human trafficking; identity politics and power relations; tradition and modernity; gender and colonialisms; gendered violence; sisterhood and motherhood; queer theories; men and masculinities; gender and the visual arts; matriarchy-patriarchy dialogues/contestations; matrimony/patrimony debates; ethnicity and nationalism; crime, social order and delinquency; power, visibility and agency; motherhood and mothering; politics of production of knowledge and representation; cultural heritage, indigenous ideas and knowledge; migration, displacement and mobility; conflict and wars; African homosexualities; law and authority; diasporas and transnationalism; gender and globalization; political and grassroot mobilization; endangered genders and sexualities; life histories, autobiography and biography; womanism and feminisms; NGOs; media, literature and popular culture; health, illness and medical issues; environment and science; and Western images of African women. 250-word abstracts by 1 November 2009 to Saheed Aderinto: africaconference2010@yahoo.com and Toyin Falola: toyinfalola@mail.utexas.edu

'Legal Structures and Localised Practices of Slavery from the Fourteenth to the Nineteenth Century (Europe – Africa – Americas)', Cheik Anta Diop University, Dakar, Senegal, 13–15 April 2010. This international conference, organised by the EURESCL project (Slave Trade, Slavery, Abolitions and their Legacies in European Histories and Identities) 7th PCRD, and the Pôle d'Excellence Régional sur les Esclavages et les Traites of Cheik Anta Diop University, analyses the role played by slavery and the slave trade in the construction of a collective European identity, defined through its relationships with other countries. Slavery was a pervasive influence on societal organisation from the Middle Ages to the nineteenth century, and was progressively integrated into the frameworks applied elaborated and codified by European state powers. The colonial states of these powers applied administrative and legal norms to varying extents within different geographical areas involved in slavery and slave trade.

The conference aims to contribute to the identification, evaluation and comparison of the legal texts produced by slave-owning powers and societies within and outside Europe, as well as the practices that developed out of these texts. In effect, specific local practices influenced by local regulations; jurisprudence; and common judiciary and administrative practice existed alongside, or sometimes even in contradiction with, the national legal texts that developed out of the colonial context.

There are three sub-themes. First, the regulation and codification of slavery and the slave trade: a comparative approach to legal systems. A comparison between different legal norms and their applications seems essential in order to understand not only the place of slavery in the colonial system itself, but also the place of colonial slavery and the slave trade in developing European legal systems and, eventually, any residual effects on the construction of modern Europe. Second, the conditions and legal status of slaves: the legal definitions of what constitutes a slave, and particularly of concepts and definitions of slavery in different countries. Third, the legal powers and oblique influences upon systems of slavery. The acknowledgment of responsibilities and respective influences in both the adoption of current legislation, and its adaptation and evolution (or indeed ineffectiveness) in local contexts is essential in understanding different legal systems. There is a need to look at various incidences of colonialism based on the laws of slavery, and particularly at the importance of negotiation and compromise in both the elaboration and the application of legal texts. There is a further need to examine the respective roles of central government; representatives of local government; local judiciary powers (governors, judges, notaries); and other local influences on the law, in determining how legal strategies that dealt with the slave trade, on the one hand, and slavery, on the other, were elaborated. The organisers invite interested researchers to submit proposals for papers relating to the three themes from colleagues based within and/or working on African, European and American spaces. Papers in English or French. Abstracts up to two pages and short CV by 30 October 2009 to Annie Fitte-Duval: afitduv@neuf.fr and Rokhaya Fall-Sokhna: sokhnadaba@gmail.com

‘The Impact of the Atlantic World on the “Old Worlds” in Europe and Africa from the Fifteenth to the Nineteenth Centuries’, Université de Nantes, Nantes, France, 7–9 June 2010. The Atlantic world, formed between the fifteenth and the nineteenth centuries, maintained tight relations with the Mediterranean, the Indian Ocean, and the Pacific. Its specificity, however, lay in the conjunction of three interrelated phenomena whose entangled effects were not found elsewhere: European colonization, the slave trade, and racialized slavery. This symbiosis led to the formation of original new societies in the Americas, which differed from the European, African, and Native societies from which they were born. Moreover, the societies of origin in the ‘Old Worlds’, from which large numbers of people left for the Americas, were also changed forever in return.

If the new Atlantic history has benefited from an enthusiastic reception, it has also given rise to intense debate. One of the numerous criticisms, as voiced by Alison Games, is that the new historiographical current risks offering only ‘an expanded history of the colonial Americas’. In order to verify the relevance of the Atlantic paradigm, this conference seeks to reverse viewpoints by focusing on the transformations in Europe and Africa that resulted from their integration in trans-Atlantic dynamics. While the new Atlantic history has mostly been

investigated by historians of the 'New World', and while specialists of North America clearly dominate the field, this conference seeks to reach out to historians of Africa and Europe in order to enlarge and enrich a still unexplored question. The goal is thus to gather together the whole community of historians potentially concerned with Atlantic history.

The comparison of the impact of the Atlantic world on Europe and on Africa will be one of the main questions of this conference. Which Europe and Africa were affected by these transformations? Who was concerned by and who cared about the Atlantic world? Was the Atlantic world part of the social imagination of European and African populations and societies? Who had knowledge of it; what was the quality of that information; how did they acquire it? Who were the individuals and groups that had imperial and Atlantic interests?

The conference also does not wish *a priori* to put aside old debates, such as the demographic impact of European and African migrations on areas of departure, the role of the slave trade and colonial trade in the launching of the industrial revolution, the effects of the slave trade on African economies, or the transformations of consumption in Europe and Africa, if they are renewed with original perspectives, through, for example, the comparison between Europe and Africa. In regard to the impact of trans-Atlantic exchanges on European and African economies, several gateways are conceivable, such as the conditions and effects of the marketing of one product (European or American in Africa/ American or African in Europe), the complexity of trade circulations and networks through various scales of analysis, the interlope on European coasts, and the rivalries between African states and European powers on African coasts.

Finally, the conference will explore the nature of social and political relations linking Europe and Africa to the rest of the Atlantic world. Papers could reconsider, concepts of domination, empire, and the 'colonial situation', or trace the evolution over time of these political forms and systems, before, during, and after the era of revolutions. Since the emphasis is on the 'Old Worlds', particular attention should be paid to imperial institutions, colonial lobbies, debates related to the colonies, slave trade, and slavery, and to the abolitionist movements in metropolises. The role of imperialism in the development of modern states in Europe and the transformations of African kingdoms with their integration in trans-Atlantic dynamics will also be of interest. Abstracts up to 2,000 characters and short CV in English, French or Spanish by 31 October 2009 to Guy Saupin: guy.saupin@univ-nantes.fr and Cécile Vidal: cecile.vidal@ehess.fr

'Education and Empire', Sixth Galway Conference on Colonialism, Galway, Ireland, 24–26 June 2010. This interdisciplinary conference aims to explore the role of education in shaping, promoting, and challenging imperial and colonial ideologies, institutions and processes throughout the modern world. The organisers invite papers that address the following themes: the role of

educational institutions, ranging from primary schools to institutions of higher education such as universities, missionary colleges, engineering and medical schools, and so on, in shaping imperial, colonial and global processes; the relationship between imperialism, colonialism and the development of modern knowledge systems, including new disciplines and new techniques of rule, particularly in areas such as science; the development of curriculum innovation to meet the needs of empire; education about imperial history (during and after empire); education and imperial and (post-)colonial models of childhood; education and the creation of professional diasporas; types and patterns of knowledge transfer within the framework of empire, including publications and broadcasting relating to education, science, technology, health and government, both between metropolises and colonies and within and between colonies; the insecurities or failures of imperial and colonial educational and knowledge practices, as well as of resistances to these practices; and transitions in educational practice, either from pre-colonial to colonial or colonial to post-colonial eras.

Since this conference is being in part funded through a grant provided by the Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences to an inter-university group to explore the relationship between empire and higher education in Ireland, papers are especially invited for a strand exploring the particularity of Irish institutions of higher education in shaping the above processes, and of the role of higher education in shaping Ireland's ambiguous coloniality. 300 word abstracts by 31 January 2010 to Fiona Bateman *and* Muireann O'Cinneide via www.conference.ie

'Milestones: Commemorating Southern African History', Historical Association of South Africa (HASA) Biennial Conference, North-West University, Potchefstroom, South Africa, 7–9 July 2010. In 2010 historians commemorate a series of milestone events that happened 50 or a 100 years ago. In 1910 the Union of South Africa came into existence as a white-ruled state under the British Crown. Fifty years later the fate of the Union was sealed when the Verwoerd government decided to leave the Commonwealth and white voters in a referendum gave the go-ahead for the establishment of the Republic of South Africa. 1960 was also the year in which a series of other memorable events occurred: Harold Macmillan's 'winds of change' speech, the first attempt on Verwoerd's life, the anti-pass campaign and the Sharpeville shooting, and the banning of the liberation movements. 1960 is also called 'The Year of Africa' because many African states obtained their independence from colonial rule in that year.

Participants are encouraged to consider the formation of panels focusing on a reappraisal of the events of 1910 and 1960 within their particular historical contexts around the following theme: Commemorating 50 years of Union and 50

years beyond, 1910 – 1960 – 2010. This, however, does not preclude the submission of papers on any other topic of significance for Southern African history. Possibilities include who commemorates what and why, as well as commemorating milestones in various aspects of history, such as environmental history, agrarian history, land, inter-group relations, mission and religion, gender history, minority groups, migration, and sporting history. 300-word abstracts by 30 November 2009 to Professor Kobus du Pisani: kobus.dupisani@nwu.ac.za The conference website, with a registration form, can be located at: www.nwu.ac.za/conference/2010/HASA

'Independence and future prospects in Sub-Sahara Africa, Houphouet-Boigny Foundation, Yamoussoukro, Cote d'Ivoire, 1–4 August 2010. The conference which is part of the festivities marking the fiftieth anniversary of Cote d'Ivoire's independence has chosen to celebrate this anniversary by focusing on its long-term understanding without shying away from the attempt to look forward. This call for presentations is based on several axes. The first objective of the colloquium is to stimulate research on independent Sub-Sahara Africa since 1960 through a wide range of sources: photographs, news articles, objects, cinematographic news; radio reports, signs, slogans, artistic productions (painting, sculpture); direct or indirect testimonies whether oral or written; emblems (anthems, flags), contemporary or monuments of the past; song and dance repertoires, clothing; international treaties and agreements; statements by political stakeholders or parties; and various economic data.

Its second objective is to confront the scientific approaches of all the social science specialists (history, geography, sociology, political philosophy, law, political science, economics, and literature) who have focused their analyses on the post-1960's area and tried to shed light on the weakness of African states as well as on their assets for the future.

For the time being, in official statements, 1960 is considered as a time of splendour for the return of the freedom of peoples building new states with their specific attributes (flags, national anthems, constitutions). Is it the case for all the current official or anonymous stakeholders? Half a century after 1960, have the dreams of building freer political communities and more harmonious and just societies come true? When have these dreams become blurred to make room to the harsh realities of building communities in control of their destiny and why? On the other end of the reflection, basing ourselves on specific or similar paths of the fifty years of independence, how have each one of the states or all of them have taken advantage of their assets, constraints, and limits. What has been achieved or not over the past fifty years of the freedom of our peoples and what will happen or where we will stand in the coming fifty years, especially at the pace the new forms of globalization is going? Abstracts and short CV in French or English by 30 December 2009 to: park1fr@yahoo.fr

'Portugal and Africa: Accounts, Connections, Identities (15-18th centuries)', Centre d'Études des Mondes Africain-Paris, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris, France, 21-22 October 2010. For a long time historians have dealt mostly with the so-called 'Discoveries' (from the end of the fifteenth century to the early sixteenth century), seen then as a glorious moment in Iberian expansion. Scholars tended to pay much less attention to the *longue durée* and consequently fostered the idea of a rapid decline of the Portuguese empire. First, it appears necessary to question the interactions between the 'Portuguese' and Africa over the *longue durée* and to avoid periodisations that rely solely on the logic of the Portuguese Empire. Second, it seems essential to do away with two major tendencies: on the one hand, a lusocentric approach which often leads to the writing a 'history of the Portuguese in Africa'; on the other hand, an Africa-centred orientation which frequently uses Portuguese evidences less than critically and tends to overestimate or, conversely, underestimate the Portuguese 'factor'.

To avoid binary interpretations and compartmentalisations, one needs to question and to integrate these different historiographies. It is also necessary to go beyond an essentialist approach to Portuguese, African, or even Luso-African and Afro-Portuguese, societies, as well as to the Portuguese empire. It is fundamental to take into account their heterogeneity and their internal divisions and to re-insert the historical actors in both space and time. Such a position further invites in depth examination of categories and concepts usually employed, such as 'Portuguese', 'Luso-Africans', 'métissage', 'connections', 'empire' and 'colony. Finally, this re-thinking requires historians to go back to the circumstances in which both European and African accounts of this period were produced, so as to consider these accounts as social products: chronicles, missionary works, travel accounts, administrative documentation and local traditions. In this manner, through the study of the 'modes of interactions' between the 'Portuguese' and the 'Africans', the organisers seek to shed more precise light on Portuguese societies overseas, as well as those African societies which they encountered. Interested scholars are encouraged to propose case studies and place Africa within global interactions (Europe, Asia and America).

The organisers seek papers on the following themes: individual itineraries, empire's margins and interstitial positions, urban mixing and hinterland's fiefdoms; circulation of men and women, items and ideas; acculturations, solidarities and hierarchies; depiction of Portuguese, Africans, Luso-Africans and Afro-Portuguese in European and African accounts. In addition, the conference is open to papers that consider Luso-African experiences (Asia, America) in a comparative perspective. Conference languages are French and English. 300 word abstracts and short CV by 15 November 2009 to Hervé Pennec: pennec@msh.univ-aix.fr and Thomas Vernet: thomas.vernet@univ-paris1.fr

...Conferences Past

'Respacing Africa', 3rd European Conference on African Studies (ECAS), Leipzig, 4–7 June 2009. Scholars of African Studies met in Leipzig, Germany, recently at the biannual European Conference on African Studies to discuss approaches to the 'Respacing Africa'. The conference was organised by the Africa-Europe Group for Interdisciplinary Studies (AEGIS). Researchers were invited to present, among others, new studies on processes of deterritorialisation (migration, globalisation, urbanisation etc.) and of reterritorialisation (regional integration, new forms of statehood etc.) on the African continent. About 1,200 people followed the call and made ECAS 3 the biggest such conference in Europe.

In the opening keynote lecture, 'Knowledge for Tomorrow: Africa, Europe, and the Way Ahead', Wilhelm Krull, Secretary-General of Volkswagen Foundation, posed the question on how European institutions could help to strengthen research in African countries. He concluded by emphasising the necessity for symmetric partnerships between African and European research institutions and the need for longer perspectives of research cooperation.

In the Lugard Lecture on 'Pan-Africanism in the Age of Obama', again sponsored by the London-based International Africa Institute, Paul Tiyambe Zeleza praised the new US president. Zeleza, currently president of the US African Studies Association, found confident words for, what he called, the "new advocate for African interests" in the White House.

The numerous panel sessions included a wide range of themes from economics, politics and history to anthropology and culture. One such panel, *Re-imagining and re-configuring the nation*, for instance explored the interrelations between social structure, social identities, institution building and public discourses on reconciliation of countries emerging from intense mass conflict and their impact on national transition processes. Another panel, *Beijing-Consensus" versus "Post-Washington Consensus?*, on China's Impact on Africa's socio-economic spaces discussed the possible benefits and drawbacks as well as the general impact of Chinese policies on Africa's socio-economic spaces. The situation of children in Africa was also an issue discussed at ECAS. The panel *Children's Rights in Ghana: Rhetoric or Reality?* investigated the compliance of Ghana's policies with the Convention on the Rights of the Child from 1989. Back then Ghana was the first country to ratify the convention but until today the reality of children's lives in the country remains dismal.

All in all ECAS brought together 1,200 people from diverse academic backgrounds who contributed to a total of 142 thematic panels, five round tables, three book presentations, and a full day of cinema sessions with recent documentaries on Africa. Over 13% of the participants came from African

institutions and more than 40% were young scholars (students, Ph.D candidates) – a success that the organisers hope to carry on at AEGIS's next conference in Uppsala in June 2011. Details of all the panels and paper abstracts can be found on the conference website: www.uni-leipzig.de/~ecas2009

'Brokers of Change: Atlantic Commerce and Cultures in Pre-colonial "Guinea of Cape Verde"', Centre of West African Studies, University of Birmingham, 11–13 June 2009. This conference was convened in June at the University of Birmingham. As with all conferences there were teething organizational problems. One of the major problems was with regard to securing visas for the two senior Capeverdean historians who were scheduled to attend, Antonio Correia e Silva and Zelinda Cohen. Capeverdeans are required to fly to Dakar, deposit their passports for 10 days, and then return for an interview at the British Embassy in order to secure visas for the UK – a costly and impossible procedure for very busy scholars such as these. One of the immediate outcomes of the conference has, thus, been a letter to the Foreign Office urging a reconsideration of this ludicrous and prejudicial situation for Capeverdeans visiting the UK, especially given the increasing links between the two countries.

In spite of these problems, the conference was a great success. Participants visited from universities in Cape Verde, Senegal, the Netherlands, Portugal, Germany and the USA. The focus of the conference was on pre-colonial exchanges in the Guinea of Cape Verde but there were comparative sessions also dealing with events on the Gold Coast and important new findings relating to archaeological digs on the Cape Verde islands. One of the outcomes of the conference was a proposal to start a H-Upper Guinea list through H-NET, which was testament to the high quality of the scholarship and the engaged discussion which characterized the conference throughout.

The first day of the conference had a 'Dutch Atlantic' theme. There was much discussion of African-European relationships and the connection to the Atlantic world. Natalie Everts (Leiden) and Michel Doormont (Groningen) presented stimulating papers on the nature of exchanges between Akan and Dutch on the Gold Coast and the incorporation of Akan-Dutch children into Akan lineages. Important new research on the trans-Atlantic relationship of Kriolu (Cabo Verde) and Papiamentu (Curaçao) was presented by Bart Jacobs (Munich). This related to papers on the linguistic and cultural characteristics of Cabo Verde and the Guinea-Bissau region presented by Gerhard Seibert (ISCTE, Lisbon) and an important presentation of new archaeological finds at Cidade Velha, Cabo Verde, recently made a UNESCO world heritage site, by Konstantin Richter (Jean Piaget University, Cabo Verde) and Marie-Louise Sorensen (Cambridge).

The second day of the conference was characterised by engagement with trade and Atlantic slavery from the 15th to the 19th centuries. One of the most important papers was presented by António de Almeida Mendes (Nantes),

whose groundbreaking research will encourage a complete rethinking of early Jolof-Portuguese relationships from the 15th century. We await his book with enthusiasm! Ibrahima Seck (Dakar) added continuity to this theme by analysing the Diaspora of Senegambian peoples in Louisiana in the 18th century and looking at aspects of linguistics of Jolof to hypothesise on other African-European contacts in the pre-colonial world. Important papers on 17th-century Atlantic trade were also presented by Linda Newson (King's College) and José Horta (Lisbon) and Peter Mark (Wesleyan). For the 18th century, Walter Hawthorne (Michigan State University) and Judith Spicksley (Hull) provided important new research; Hawthorne argued that his research showed that in the late 18th and early 19th centuries slaves from the Guinea-Bissau region going to Brazil still came predominantly from the coast, and not from the interior. There was some discussion as to what this said of the relationships between Mandinka from Kaabu and Pullo from Fouta Djallon, and the last paper by Green (Birmingham) dealt with the Kaabu polity in the pre-colonial era and presented new material to help understand its formation.

The last day continued with the high quality, even though Abdoulaye Bathily (Dakar) had to cancel at the last minute. Mike Tuck (North-Eastern Illinois University) gave an innovative new paper on wax as a means of providing alternative access to Atlantic goods. The nature of African-European relationships was provocatively analysed from a sociological viewpoint by José Nafafé (Birmingham), who asked, "What would Hegel make of the *lançados*?". The final panel was chaired by Tom McCaskie (SOAS) and featured three excellent papers by George Brooks (Indiana), Philip Havik (IICT-Lisbon) and Marika Sherwood (Institute of Commonwealth Studies) on the transition to "legitimate trade". There then followed a last discussion shared by Paulo Farias (Birmingham).

The conference was characterised throughout by an excellent, sociable and scholarly atmosphere. There was a genuine sense of sharing of ideas and data, which was helped by the roundtable format and the conviviality of the presenters. By the end everyone left saying that they were going home with much work to do, and things to think through. Many of those presenting are in the final stages of drafts of new books, and it is likely that the pre-colonial history of this region of Africa is a field that will see important new publications in the next few years. This was the first time that a conference had been convened in which all the experts in the field could meet and discuss the common ideas and challenges of the field, and as such it was a great success. There was much talk of another such event in a few years time.

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Theses Recently Accepted at UK Universities

Charles K. Cater (2008) 'Corporations, Resources and War: Angola 1992-2002', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr David G. Williams.

Rebecca Hodes (2009) 'Siyayinqoba/Beat It!: HIV/AIDS on South African Television c.1999-2006', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Professor William Beinart.

Anna Lindley (2007) 'The Dynamics and Effects of Migrants' Remittances in Insecure Settings: The Somali Case', D. Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr Nick Van Hear.

Clayton Peel (2009) 'Diaspora Ethnicity and Politics in the Electronic Media: Case Studies of United Kingdom-based Zimbabwean Internet Websites and their Associations', Ph.D thesis, Oxford Centre for Mission Studies/University of Wales. Supervisors: Professor Juan Rogers and Professor Terence Ranger.

Ruth A. Marshall (2006) 'The Politics of Pentecostalism in Nigeria, 1975-2000', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Gavin Williams.

Chidi Aselm Odinkalu (2008) 'Regional Integration and Human Rights in Africa', Ph.D thesis, LSE, London. Supervisor: Dr Chaloka Beyani.

Recent Publications

Akanmu G. Adebayo and Olutayo C. Adesina (eds) (2009) *Globalization and Transnational Migrations: Africa and Africans in the Contemporary Global System*. Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Publishing. 380 pages, 978-1-4438-0535-3; £44.99; orders@c-s-p.org

Duncan Brown (ed) (2009) *Religion and Spirituality in South Africa – New Perspectives*. University of Kwazulu-Natal Press. 320 pages, 978-1-86914-167-7; www.ukznpress.co.za

Lindiwe Dovey (2009) *African Film and Literature: Adapting Violence to the Screen*. New York: Columbia University Press. 360 pages, Cloth, 978-0-231-14754-5: £52.50; paper, 978-0-231-14755-2, £19.00; www. cup.columbia.edu/book/978-0-231-14754-5/african-film-and-literature

Toyin Falola and Ann Genova (2009) *Historical Dictionary of Nigeria*. Historical Dictionaries of Africa series no. 111. Lanham, MD, USA: Scarecrow Press. 466 pages, 978-0-8108-5615-8, £75.00; custserv@rowman.com

Ben Knighton (ed) (2009) *Religion and Politics in Kenya: Essays in Honor of a Troublesome Priest*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan. 316 pages, 978-0-230-61487-1 hardback, £55.00; www.palgrave.com/products/title.aspx?PID=347730

Andrew Nash (2009) *The Dialectical Tradition in South Africa*. New York: Routledge. 264 pages, 978-0-415-97530-8, £60.00.

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Elizabeth E. Watson (2009) *Living Terraces in Ethiopia Konso Landscape, Culture and Development*. Oxford: James Currey, 256 pages, 978-1847010056, £45.00; www.boydell.co.uk

Journal of Occupational and Organizational Psychology (JOOP) special issue

JOOP announces a special issue focusing on African leadership and management, to be published in September 2011's issue. The issue seeks to bring together a compendium of papers that begin to advance a science of leadership and management in the African context with the goal of examining what is unique, what generalizes, and what doesn't generalize from the West and East to Africa, as well as within different regions of Africa itself. The editors are calling for a broad and indeed innovative approach to studying leadership and management that includes a better understanding of leaders, followers, peers and the emergent influences of groups, teams and organizations. Papers that address the following topics are encouraged. The historical context in which African leadership/organizations are embedded, including the economic, social and political forces shaping leadership and management in Africa; leadership, ethics and corruption in Africa; cultural differences compared to Western and Eastern societies; within-African cultural differences impacting leadership and management; strategies, models, and methods for developing leaders in Africa; unique philosophical frameworks shaping African leadership (*Ubuntu*); globalization's impact on African leadership values, norms, behaviours and expectations; generational differences in African leaders and followers; and NGOs and African leadership models. Manuscripts by 1 February 2010. Questions about possible papers to guest editors: Sam Aryee: s.aryee@aston.ac.uk or Fred Walumbwa: Fred.Walumbwa@asu.edu or Bruce Avolio: bavolio@u.washington.edu

Sudan's Wars and Peace Agreements

The Sudan has suffered from chronic conflict since its independence in 1956, with only eleven years of relative peace between 1972 and 1983. Sudan is home to diverse communities whose traditions, beliefs and preferred modes of livelihood differ one from another. It enjoys one of the world's oldest recorded histories, over the course of which the terms of peaceful co-existence among its constituent communities have repeatedly become strained to the breaking point. Although serious conflict is one of the major themes in Sudanese history, so is the countervailing theme of settlement through compromise and accommodation. The patterns of conflict and settlement deeply rooted in history have rarely been as conspicuous as they are today in Sudan's recent history of wars and peace agreements since 1983, and after the al-Bashir regime seized power in 1989. In addition to difficulties and opportunities generated through indigenous processes, the contemporary Sudan must also respond to economic, political and cultural influences that derive from its participation in an increasingly complex wider world, especially its unpopular allies, such as Iran and its vulnerable friends, such as Egypt.

The Sudan Studies Association (founded in 1981) dedicated its 2008 annual conference in Tallahassee to examination of the 'Sudan's Wars and Peace Agreements' from both historical and contemporary analytical perspectives. The papers read at the conference itself inspired a new round of studies offered in supportive elaboration and critical response. Given the timeliness and exceptional quality of the discussion these studies cumulatively bear, the Sudan Studies Association leadership has assembled an editorial team to organize them and offer them to the world of scholarship within a sensitive and appropriate interpretive setting. Chapter-length studies pertinent to the theme of the volume may be submitted to up to 30 January 2010 to Professor Stephanie Beswick, President, Sudan Studies Association: sfbeswick@bsu.edu

Appointments, Academic Links and Exchanges

Philip Allison's collection at Rhodes House, Oxford

Rhodes House recently received Philip Allison's collection relating to his ethnographic work in West Africa. After working for the Nigerian government forestry department from 1931 to 1959 Philip Allison (1907-91) joined the Nigerian Department of Antiquities at the invitation of its director, Bernard Fagg. The collection (18 boxes in total) contains notebooks, photographs, negatives and slides from his work there. Particularly important are the photographs and notes relating to the monolithic sculptures in the forests of the Cross River region which he surveyed and published on. The collection is not yet catalogued but those interested can contact the Archivist, Lucy McCann, to access it: lucy.mccann@bodley.ox.ac.uk

Africa Unit

The Africa Unit is based at the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) in the UK. It is funded by the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), previously the Department of Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS). It aims to promote, facilitate and enhance partnerships between African and UK Higher and Further education institutions (HE/FE). The Unit supports educational institutions both in Africa and the UK create new partnerships and strengthen existing partnerships by providing information, advice and support. Visit the new Africa Unit Website at: www.ukafricapartnerships.org

African Economic Outlook online platform

www.AfricanEconomicOutlook.org is an online tool that puts rigorous economic data, information and research on Africa at your fingertips. Comprehensive analyses of African economies, placed in their social and political contexts, are now just a few clicks away. In addition to country profiles, this platform provides ongoing research by partner institutions (African Development Bank and UN Economic Commission for Africa) and African think tanks, trends and analysis of sectors critical for development. Whether you are interested in macroeconomic developments, structural issues, governance, human development or just the raw figures, it is all here. AfricanEconomicOutlook.org data, analyses and forecasts are displayed in a user-friendly manner, while remaining accessible through lower-band or mobile connections. Developed using Open Source software, AfricanEconomicOutlook.org databases can be searched, GIS-mapped, downloaded, plotted and printed.

New focus on Africa as LSE creates first chair in African development

An idea first planted by Nelson Mandela has borne fruit with the appointment of a leading African scholar to a new Chair in African Development at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). Professor Thandika Mkandawire, currently Director of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, took up the post in September 2009. Of Malawian origin, he is an economist with particular expertise on development issues. He was formerly Director of the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA), a Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Development Research in Copenhagen and has taught at the Universities of Stockholm and Zimbabwe.

The Chair in African Development is a new position which will be situated in LSE's Development Studies Institute (DESTIN). It is being funded initially not only by DESTIN but by generous contributors to LSE's Annual Fund, many of them alumni. Its creation follows a powerful speech made by Nelson Mandela at LSE in 2000, in which he recognised the connections between LSE and Africa and pointed to the potential for education to help deliver a renaissance on the continent. The new post will play an integral role in LSE's African Initiative, a

programme designed not only to reinvigorate African research at LSE but to put Africa at the centre of the social sciences and in the global public spotlight.

Professor Mkandawire said: 'To my mind there is a big hole in our knowledge of Africa, one that African scholars are seeking to fill. By placing the chair in DESTIN, the holder is in a strong position to work with partners in Africa and around the world to increase the visibility of Africa within teaching and research across the social sciences and within the global political and policy arenas.'

It is expected the new post will open the way for more Africa-based scholars to bring their expertise to LSE to help broaden and sharpen its research into the region. LSE is also developing plans to take summer schools to African students in partnership with other universities, extend scholarships for African students and to develop more research projects which are a partnership between LSE and African scholars. It is hoped the arrival of Professor Mkandawire will also coincide with a series of public events at LSE and in Africa. Jo Beall, Professor of Development Studies at LSE, will champion the African Initiative from South Africa, where she is beginning a three-year secondment as Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the University of Cape Town.

Obituaries

Professor Emeritus David Bryant Kimble (12 May 1921 – 8 March 2009), who has died aged 87, belonged to the group of post-Second World War British scholars involved in the establishment of new African universities as significant engines of nation-building.

The Guardian published a modified version on 19 June 2009
Professor Lalage Bown: lalagebown@tiscali.co.uk

Peggy Harper (2 June 1923 – 4 April 2009), who has died aged 85, was a dancer and choreographer who dedicated much of her life to the study of traditional Nigerian dance.

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Note to Contributors

Send items for inclusion in the next *Newsletter* by 15 December 2009 to Dr Simon Heap, Editor, ASUK Newsletter, Plan, Chobham House, Christchurch Way, Woking, Surrey, GU21 6JG, UK or simon.heap@plan-international.org or effaheap@aol.com

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

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