

### **Africa**

Emerging powers, state capitalism and the oil sector in Africa / Ian Taylor. - In: *Review of African Political Economy*: (2014), vol. 41, no. 141, p. 341-357

Abstract: The global development landscape is rapidly changing with the acceleration of the economies of emerging countries and this has important implications for sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). Notably, these emerging partners share a broad comparative advantage in their outward engagement. They are able to access large pools of finance and capital reserves and they also uphold a version of the Developmental State Model that encourages a statist approach to business. This state capitalism is increasingly coming to the fore, particularly in the aftermath of the global financial crisis and the evident intellectual collapse of neoliberalism as a sustainable economic model. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2013.864630> (Restricted access)

### **Africa**

Philanthrocapitalism : appropriation of Africa's genetic wealth / Carol B. Thompson. - In: *Review of African Political Economy*: (2014), vol. 41, no. 141, p. 389-405

Abstract: Although debates about the Gates Foundation's Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) continue with the serious criticisms that it will transform Africa's farming systems into monoculture and that it is trying to link African food production to the global 'food value chain', this paper focuses on more fundamental goals of AGRA: to access and privatise Africa's genetic wealth. Employing the theory of accumulation by dispossession explains why AGRA is appropriating African genetic wealth and the theory of philanthrocapitalism explains how that appropriation is occurring. This study employs philanthrocapitalism to show that the multiple acts of genetic resource expropriation are neither disparate nor unconnected, but rather, reflect a systemic change of replacing public agricultural sectors with private business practices and control. Appendix, bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2014.901946> (Restricted access)

### **Cameroon**

*Neighbors, strangers, witches, and culture-heroes : ritual powers of smith/artisans in Tuareg Society and beyond* / Susan Rasmussen - Lanham, MD [etc.] : University Press of America, 2013.

Abstract: Contents: Chapter 1: Tezma Power and Tuareg Inaden Smith/Artisans; Chapter 2: Inaden Origins, Histories, and Professional Practices; Chapter 3: Powers, Tensions, and Mediations; Chapter 4: Q'alb Power and Amhara Buda/Tayb Smith/Artisans; Chapter 5: Echar Power and Bidan M'Allemin Smith/Artisans; Chapter 6: Beshengu Power and Kapsiki Rerhe Smith/Artisans; Chapter 7: Nyama Power and Mande Nyamakala Smith/Artisans. Backflap: This book examines alleged 'superhuman' powers associated with smith/artisans in five African societies. It discusses their ritual and social roles, mythico-histories, and changing relationships between specialists and patrons. Needed but also feared, these smith/artisans work in traditionally hereditary occupations and in stratified but negotiable relationships with their rural patron families. Many of them now also work for new customers in an expanding market economy, which is still characterized by personal, face-to-face interactions. Rasmussen maintains that a framework integrating anthropological theories of witchcraft, alterity, symbolism, and power is fundamental to understanding local accusations and tensions in these relationships. She also argues that it is critical to deconstruct and disentangle guilt, blame, and envy concepts that are often conflated in anthropology at the expense of falsely accused 'witch' figures. The first portion of this book is an ethnographic analysis of smith/artisans in Tuareg society, and draws on primary source data from this authors long-term social/cultural anthropological field research in Tuareg (Kel Tamajaq) communities of northern Niger and Mali. The latter portion of the book is a cross-cultural comparison, and it re-analyzes the Tuareg case, drawing on secondary data on ritual powers and smith/artisans in four other African societies: the Amhara of Ethiopia, the Bidan (Moors) of Mauritania, the Kapsiki of Cameroon, and the Mande of southern Mali. In the

concluding analysis, there is discussion of similarities and differences between these cases, the social consequences of ritual knowledge and power in each community, and their wider implications for anthropology of religion, human rights, and African studies. [ ASC Leiden abstract]

### **Democratic Republic of Congo**

The death of Dag Hammarskjöld / Henning Melber. - In: *Review of African Political Economy*: (2014), vol. 41, no. 141, p. 458-465

Abstract: Dag Hammarskjöld, Secretary-General of the United Nations, died in a plane crash in September 1961 near Ndola in Northern Rhodesia (now Zambia) when trying to find a solution to the secession of Katanga and the Congo crisis. The circumstances of the crash, which took another 15 lives, remained suspicious. More than 50 years later, a newly initiated private investigation has collected more evidence, raising doubts that this was an accident. This briefing offers a summary background to Hammarskjöld's role in the Congo, introduces the initiative and presents the findings of the Hammarskjöld Commission. Bibliogr., notes, ref. [Journal abstract] <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2014.902810> (Restricted access)

### **Malawi**

Two transitions : the political economy of Joyce Banda's rise to power and the related role of civil society organisations in Malawi / Clive Gabay. - In: *Review of African Political Economy*: (2014), vol. 41, no. 141, p. 374-388

Abstract: When Joyce Banda became Malawi's president in 2012, she was welcomed by the international community as an antidote to the increasingly erratic and autocratic behaviour of her unexpectedly deceased predecessor Bingu wa Mutharika. Banda appeared to be the product of the twin drivers of a 'rising' Africa; namely a newly empowered donor-supported civil society on the one hand, and a Western-oriented political elite committed to transparency and good governance on the other. Based on several field trips to Malawi over the past five years, this article seeks to problematise the degree to which Joyce Banda and Malawi's civil society organisations represented a double transition from the more patrimonial form of politics which had dominated the political and civil society sectors throughout Malawi's postcolonial era. Although prepared prior to recent corruption scandals which have engulfed the Banda government in the run-up to elections in May 2014, this article sets the context for understanding these cases as a product of Malawi's political economy and uneven insertion into the global economy. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract] <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2014.901949> (Restricted access)

### **Somalia**

Resource conflict and militant Islamism in the Golis Mountains in northern Somalia (2006-2013) / Markus Virgil Hoehne. - In: *Review of African Political Economy*: (2014), vol. 41, no. 141, p. 358-373 : krt

Abstract: The conflict around Galgala, a small town in the Golis Mountains west of Bosaso in northern Somalia, poses the government of Puntland against clan militias and militant Islamists. The conflict was originally over natural resources, but soon turned into a conflict related to the 'global war on terrorism'. It is additionally complicated due to its location in the contested borderlands between Somaliland and Puntland. The article analyses the effects of these dynamics on the local population and, more generally, on stability and peace in the region. It argues that sustainable solutions to the ongoing conflict can only be found if one takes into account the legitimate claims of the Warsangeli, the clan to which the local mountain dwellers belong, regarding the protection of their land and their resources. The anti-terrorism discourse that is currently foregrounded, mainly by the government of Puntland and its allies including the USA, is likely to inhibit the understanding of issues at stake. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract] <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2014.901945> (Restricted access)

### **South Africa**

*Disability care in Africa : community-based rehabilitation in rural regions* / ed. by Adri Vermeer,

Zsoka Magyarszeky - Amsterdam : VU University Press, 2014.

Abstract: Back cover: This book describes the development of a differentiated network of disability care in a developing rural area consisting of a number of townships in South Africa. The network includes residential care for abandoned, neglected and orphaned children with physical and/or intellectual disabilities; semi-residential care in group homes for young adults with a disability and daily care in day care centres for families with a disabled child in the surrounding townships; and home-based care for families with a disabled child at their homes. Then an analysis is provided about how home-based care is carried out in two other African countries, Uganda and Zimbabwe, by a non-governmental organization in The Netherlands, aiming at direct child assistance and capacity development in developing countries. Finally, in-service training activities are described that are necessary for the transition from a residential nursing-oriented facility to a community-based care organization. [ASC Leiden abstract]

### **South Sudan**

Dwindling but surviving : South Sudan and external involvement in the current crisis / Aleksis Ylönen. - In: *Review of African Political Economy*: (2014), vol. 41, no. 141, p. 466-473

Abstract: In mid December 2013 South Sudan experienced an outbreak and escalation of armed violence which has produced a severe humanitarian crisis. While it has again raised questions about the viability of the South Sudanese state, the crisis has also resulted in a shake-up of the diplomatic landscape by changing and consolidating strategic relationships between South Sudan and its closest neighbours. This briefing argues that the newly reconfigured inter-state relations are a sign of South Sudans continued dependence on outside actors, and shows how external alliances and invasive military involvement continue to contribute to the internal political and economic reality which allows the highly contested leadership to remain in power. Bibliogr., notes, ref. [Journal abstract]

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2014.907780> (Restricted access)

### **United States**

#### **Ghana**

How and why chiefs formalise land use in recent times : the politics of land dispossession through biofuels investments in Ghana / Festus Boamah. - In: *Review of African Political Economy*: (2014), vol. 41, no. 141, p. 406-423 : krt., tab

Abstract: In the current land deals debate, land dispossession is often attributed to exploitative acts of agricultural investors. However, the role of equally active actors in the making of land deals such as chiefs, who customarily are custodians of land, does not feature prominently in the debate. The paper shows that the recent surge in large-scale land deals in Ghana corresponds with chiefs' pre-existing motivation to re-establish authority over land for two reasons: firstly, to formalise the use of 'stool land' to create rural development opportunities; secondly, to formalise boundaries of 'tool land' to avert potential future land litigations. Social groups lacking recognition from chiefs therefore often lose land, whereas land areas of those persons recognised by chiefs are protected, sometimes even regardless of their 'citizenship' identity in project villages. The author argues that an understanding of how local social institutions and politics mediate investment in land will enrich analyses of processes of land dispossession. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2014.901947> (Restricted access)

### **Zimbabwe**

Zimbabwe's 'new' smallholders : who got land and where did they come from? / Gareth David James. - In: *Review of African Political Economy*: (2014), vol. 41, no. 141, p. 424-440 : graf., krt., tab

Abstract: In March 2000, land occupations in Zimbabwe intensified, forcing the government to implement the Fast Track Land Reform Programme, which significantly altered the agrarian structure of the country. Ever since, there have been widespread misconceptions about the nature and character of the land occupations and the identities of new land beneficiaries. Using survey data and in-depth interviews from 166 newly resettled households, this article shows the majority were 'ordinary' poor and near-landless people from communal and other rural areas.

While there is some significant variation within and between new communities, they are far from what we might call 'elites'. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2014.901948> (Restricted access)