

Africa

Do nations have stomachs? : food, drink and imagined community in Africa / Paul Nugent. - In: *Africa Spectrum*: (2010), vol. 45, no. 3, p. 87-113

Abstract: This paper takes a rhetorical question posed by Ernest Gellner and reframes it to ask whether a sense of national identity can be forged through everyday acts of consumption - in particular, that of food and drink. The article finds value in Benedict Anderson's conception of the nation as an imagined community, but argues that it makes little sense to privilege the printed word over other forms of consumption. The article goes on to suggest that there have been significant convergences at the level of consumption, but that not all of this has led to reflection about what it means to be a member of the nation. Some lessons are drawn from literatures about music and dress, following which the attention turns to alcoholic drinks and everyday foodstuffs. The history of the consumption of beer and wine in South Africa is used as a case study for convergence in a least likely scenario. The discussion on food observes that while cuisine is not a matter of debate in many African countries, in some countries, like Ethiopia and Senegal, it is taken very seriously indeed. In South Africa, there are ongoing efforts to posit food preferences as something distinctively South African. Although the braai is often discussed in a lighthearted manner, the promotion of a sense of awareness about what all South Africans share in terms of eating habits also has a more serious side to it. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and German. [Journal abstract]

<https://journals.sub.uni-hamburg.de/giga/afsp/article/view/378/> 376

Botswana

Language issues in the teaching and learning domain at some Southern African Universities / ed. by Gregory Kamwendo and Thabile Mbatha - Helsinki : Helsinki University Press, 2016.

Abstract: This special issue of the 'Nordic Journal of African Studies' focusses on language issues in the teaching and learning domain in university education in two African countries in southern Africa - Botswana and South Africa. The papers in this special issue address students' language interactions and how language is used to negotiate learning spaces in two professional programmes at university level. Contributions: Pre-service teachers' beliefs and experiences surrounding the use of language in science classrooms: a South African case study (Nonhlanhla Mthiyane); From university writing to workplace writing: the case of social work undergraduate students at the University of Botswana (U. Nkateng and D. Kasule); Ideologies shaping language choices: views of African students on Isizulu modules in higher education at the University of Kwazulu-Natal (Thabile Mbatha). [ASC Leiden abstract]

<http://www.njas.helsinki.fi/pdf-files/vol25num2/mthiyane.pdf>

http://www.njas.helsinki.fi/pdf-files/vol25num2/nkateng_kasule.pdf

<http://www.njas.helsinki.fi/pdf-files/vol25num2/mbatha.pdf>

Brazil 2012, *The balance* / Roderick Steel [S.I.] : 3a via Films, (409316008).

Abstract: The documentary explores the Egungun cult in the city of São Paulo, Brazil, in a temple founded in the late 60s. Traced back to the first Yoruba slaves transported to Brazil from Nigeria and Dahomey, this ancient form of religion dresses and worships ancestor spirits. In the film High Priest Zú who works during the day as an upholsterer - shares experiences accumulated over 20 years within a community that has refused to relinquish its own religious identity while observing a strict code of conduct. Zú also offers insights into the fine line between art, craft and religion, and shows us how ancestor worship in the 21st century can help boys become men, reveal future generations of priests, transform the lives of those in need of spiritual and emotional guidance, and bring ancestors back to life. [Abstract reproduced from dvd-video]

Burkina Faso 2008, *Koglb-Zanga or Prince Wendemi, an example of social exclusion fighter / a film by Yalgabamba Ilboudo Ouagadougou* : Alliance production [etc.], (409173622).

Abstract: This documentary deals with the situation of women in Burkina Faso who have been accused of witchcraft. The film centres on the village of Boussé, province of Kourwéogo in the Plateau Central region, where Mossi women are regularly accused of having eaten the soul of men. The director, also known as Prince Wendemi, an artist musician born in Boussé, has committed himself to raise awareness of the social exclusion of these women, who often are rejected by their families and even threatened with death. The women as well as the traditional healers and local chiefs are interviewed, while researchers, priests, pastors and imams give their views on what has to be done to fight against this phenomenon. [Abstract ASC Leiden]

Congo (Brazzaville) 2011, *Goddess of the stadium / un film documentaire de Delphe Kifouani* Dakar [etc.] : Traces du Sud [etc.], (409316911).

Abstract: Two soccer teams in Congo. Two groups of girls. The eldest is 30 years old, the youngest 15. Their job: professional soccer players. A crazy choice for their families, because in Congo, it is nearly impossible to live from the income soccer provides. These players bring thousands of fans to the stadium, though they live in poverty. Nevertheless, they continue to believe and train every day. Their dream: to go to Europe, and play in a women's soccer club. The film shows the duality in the lives of these players. The life in the stadium, under the spotlight, and the other life, outside, the struggle for survival. [Abstract reproduced from dvd-video]

Congo (Brazzaville) 2009, *D'une rive à l'autre / un film écrit et réalisé par Delphe Kifouani* Merignac [etc.] : La SMAC [etc.], (409258431).

Abstract: Brazzaville and Kinshasa are the capital cities of the two Congos, and as such, the two closest capitals in the world. The two countries signed an agreement, allowing the disabled people to go from one city to another, and trade, with an advantageous discount on customs and taxes. This is why a lot of disabled people started doing so. The film shares their numerous daily boat trips across the Congo river, in order to show the human relationships created on the trips, as well as the commercial issues at stake. [Abstract reproduced from dvd-video]

Kenya

Literacy through a foreign language and children's rights to education : an examination of Kenya's medium of instruction policy / Kembo-Sure and Nathan O. Ogechi. - In: *Nordic Journal of African Studies*: (2016), vol. 25, no. 1, p. 92-106

Abstract: The paper examines whether or not English medium in Kenyan primary school education serves the intended instrumental and sentimental or symbolic functions. It is based on Standard Four (when English medium is introduced) Maths and Science classroom data in two schools from two regions of the country. The dominant home languages are Kiswahili in one region and DhoLuo in another. Premised on linguistic human rights and education as a basic human right, the data are analysed on four dimensions. These are: teacher talk-grammatical accuracy and appropriacy; types of questions; types of communication strategies and turn distribution. The paper concludes that teachers and learners are not ready to use English medium at Standard Four and the emphasis on the instrumental value of English is disastrous since very few Kenyans use English in their day-to-day interactions at work places. It recommends at least five years of Mother Tongue medium in primary school before the transition to the English medium. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract]

http://www.njas.helsinki.fi/pdf-files/vol25num1/kembo_ogechi.pdf

Morocco

New linguistic practices of the February 20 Movement in Morocco : toward a new model of language policy / Adil Moustaoui Srhir. - In: *Nordic Journal of African Studies*: (2016), vol. 25, no. 1, p. 72-91

Abstract: In Morocco, the 'Arab Spring' raises questions about the importance of new linguistic and discursive practices of the social movements as a new form of communication. This paper therefore will focus on the February 20 Movement in Morocco. Its main objective is to analyze the relationships between the occurrence of these linguistic and discursive practices of the M20F,

which are considered a trend toward a new model of language politics due to the emergence of new revolutionary scenes and spaces of interaction. The analysis will focus i) on the choice, the use-distribution, and the function of mother tongues, namely Moroccan Arabic and Amazigh as local language resources, ii) on the role played by local languages in constructing a new model of language policy in Morocco, iii) on the roles played by other languages (Standard Arabic, French and English) in the communication strategies of the February 20 Movement and also in the internalization of the protests. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract]
<http://www.njas.helsinki.fi/pdf-files/vol25num1/moustaoui.pdf>

Namibia

The meanings of inheritance : perspectives on Namibian inheritance practices / [comp. and ed. by Robert Gordon] - Windhoek : Gender Research & Advocacy Project, Legal Assistance Centre, 2005.

Abstract: All over the world, inheritance seems to provoke problems and all people seem to have laws which attempt to blaze a trail through the thorny thickets of the problem. This book contains nine articles pertaining to the law of inheritance among various peoples in Namibia. It commences with an introduction: On the perniciousness of inheritance problems by Robert Gordon. This is followed by Take it or leave it: the post- and pre-marital inheritance of San people in the Oshikoto region by Thomas Widlok; The inheritance of social obligations among Namibian Khoekhoen by Sabine Klocke-Daffa; Inheritance and maintenance among the Himba of the Kunene region by Michael Bollig; Estates and systems of inheritance among Ovahimba and Ovaherero in Kaokoland by Jekura Uaurika Kavari; Inheritance practices and property rights in Ohangwena region by Joanne Lebert; 'It all depends on the family': revisiting laws and practices of inheritance in Namibia by Heike Becker; In small things stolen: the archaeology of inheritance versus property grabbing in Katutura by Debie LeBeau; and Bhe v the Magistrate of Khayelitsha, or African customary law before the Constitution [of South Africa] by Manfred O. Hinz. [ASC Leiden abstract]

<http://www.lac.org.na/projects/grap/Pdf/meaninheri.pdf>

Somalia

Maandeeq : the dilemma of the post-colonial state in Somalia / Abdirashid A. Ismail. - In: *Nordic Journal of African Studies*: (2016), vol. 25, no. 1, p. 1-22 : ill

Abstract: Since its inception in 1960, the Somali Republic has had two main missions: socio-political unification of the Somalis in the Horn of Africa and socio-economic development of the new nation and, accordingly, these were the key issues to be addressed by the post-colonial state in Somalia. However, neither of the two objectives was achieved by the civilian regime in power during the first decade of post-colonial Somalia. By employing the contract theory of the state, I will investigate why the civilian regime failed to achieve meaningful national goals. Using the literature and surveying historical archives and oral traditions, I will compare the post-colonial state in Somalia with the ideal liberal democratic state developed in the social science literature. The article shows that the post-colonial state in Somalia was a distorted version of the liberal democratic state and the failure of the civilian regime could be associated with these distortions. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract]

<http://www.njas.helsinki.fi/pdf-files/vol25num1/ismail.pdf>

South Africa 2005, *Mzansi : een trip door Zuidafrikaanse subculturen / Bart van Dijck* Antwerpen : Axe Entertainment, (409174408).

Abstract: "Mzansi" means "South" in Zulu and is the local term for South Africa. "Mzansi" is not a classic documentary but rather a cinematic wandering across a country that is as beautiful as it is schizophrenic. Along with his fellow explorer Patrik Oosterlynck, Antwerp filmmaker Bart Van Dijck experienced a whole range of emotions, going from euphoria to despair and illusion. Their journey took them from a Sangoma ritual in Alexandra through a variety of 'Gangsters Paradise' neighbourhoods in Johannesburg to end up in the ancient cultural melting pot of Cape Town. They show subcultures such as B-Boys in Yeoville, Kwaito Rappers and Pantsula Dancers in Soweto, Surfers and a Metal Band in East London, Car Tuners and Drag Racers in Durban,

Golfers in Nemato Township, Gumboot Dancers in Zamdela, MC Waddy Jones, Xhosa Rap Crew Driemanskaap, DJ and Producer Ready D. A portrait of South Africa, 10 years after the abolition of apartheid. [Abstract reproduced from DVD-video]

South Africa 2001, *Wa 'n wina / by Dumisani Phakathi* Cape Town : Steps Southern Africa, (409733539).

Abstract: Filmmaker Dumisani Phakathi returns from a white suburb to his old neighbourhood in Phiri, Soweto (Johannesburg, South Africa). With a camera on his shoulder, he engages with friends to discuss relationships, sex and love. Against the backdrop of unemployment and poverty we meet various real-life characters from the street. Strong characters like Phumla and Timothy expose their emotions as they talk intimately about the realities of their street and the choices they have been forced to make. It 's a rock and roll journey that reveals the gaps between everyday life and the AIDS education campaigns that often talk past the very people they are supposed to address. It is also the recognition of the people's will to survive in the age of AIDS. [Abstract reproduced from dvd-video]

Tanzania 2009, *Mwamba Ngoma = Tune the drum / Jordan Riber* [S.I.] : Media for Development International, (40931529X).

Abstract: History of the sources of influences (traditional ones like Ngoma and Taarab, but also Western influences) on Tanzanias popular music and the role of music in the communication of social messages. Among the musicians interviewed are Carola Kinasha, Mzee Yusuf, Banana Zorro, Mlimani Park Orchestra. Also featuring the Wahapahapa Band, that mixes radio drama with music to communicate around HIV and AIDS. [Abstract reproduced from dvd-video]

United States 2008, *Whatever Lola wants / a film by Nabil Ayouch ; starr.: Carmen Lebbos ... [et al.]* Casablanca : Ali n' Productions, (409263966).

Abstract: This film is part of the Africa in the Picture archive. Lola is a female postal worker that dreams of becoming an oriental dancer. After a friend encourages her to perform at a local restaurant, Lola captures the attentions of the handsome Zack. Lola follows after him, but is crushed to find that Zack is to marry someone of his family's choosing. Lola decides to turn all of her energy into making her dreams a reality and tracks down Ismahan, a reclusive dancing star that retired due to a scandal involving a mysterious lover. Although reluctant, Ismahan is persuaded into giving Lola lessons and a friendship blossoms as a result. In no time Lola becomes a professional level dancer and attracts the interest of Nasser Radi, a famous impresario. He takes her under his wing. During this time Lola discovers that Nasser was Ismahan's lover and that the two were kept apart because of social conventions but also because of their own pride. As Lola's career takes off, she manages to help reunite the two former lovers before returning to New York in order to take the art she loves to her fellow Americans. [Abstract reproduced from dvd-video]