Africa

Africa: transitioning to a green economy: from economic growth to sustainable development / ed. by Dr. Chidi Magnus Onuoha, Miriam Kennet and Michelle S. Gale de Oliveira - Reading: Green Economics Institute, 2013.

Abstract: This collective volume treats issues of transitioning to a green economy in Africa. It is divided into eleven parts: 1. Transitioning to a sustainable economy (chapters about climate change in Nigeria; poverty reduction in Nigeria; green economics model and sustainable development as a challenge and opportunity for realistic policy responses); 2. The Green Economic's Institute's activities and network in Africa; 3. Prosperity & justice (chapters about minimum wage legislation trends and price level dynamics in Nigeria; macroeconomic impacts of oil price shocks in Nigeria); 4. Towards the development of a green economics model (GEM) that benefits Africa's people and natural environment; 5. Greening of the African economy (chapters about Somaliland; actors involved in the management of the Baka Indigenous Peoples' Forest of Cameroon; greening of the industrial sector in Mauritius); 6. Learning to re-value nature; 7. Denving oil exploitation and corruption in the Nile Delta. 8. Biodiversity (chapters about elephants and people in Mali; biodiversity conservation as a key component of post-conflict reconciliation aid in Mali). 9. Green economics: voices of Africa (chapters about green economics as a global movement for change; sustainable development in South Africa; teaching and learning strategies within South African undergraduate economics education; green development paradigms in Zimbabwe, agricultural practices in Central Cameroon; community forestry in Cameroon; mineral exploitation and sustainable development in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC); the concept of development and the people of the DRC); 10. Sustainable development (chapters on a cultural approach to sustainable development; precedents for a sustainable world; a new understanding of sustainable development); 11. Africa's agricultural power and the future of Africa. [ASC Leiden abstract]

Cape Verde 2004, The journey of Cape Verde (in search of identity): a documentary film / prod. & dir. by Guenny K. Pires Los Angeles, CA: Txan Film Productions & Visual Arts, (395019168). Abstract: The central theme of the film is Cape Verdean identity as it relates to ethnicity, race, culture, history and other social questions facing the Cape Verdean people. Allegedly, discovered by Portugal in 1460, Cape Verde became the first slavery port of West Africa in the early 1700s where slaves were sold to the Spanish, French and later to the English for their colonies in the New World: the Americas and the Caribbean. The documentary is shot over a period of four years and develops through a series of journeys through the islands of Cape Verde and to her immigrant communities in the USA, Portugal, The Netherlands, France, Madeira, São Tome and Angola. [Abstract reproduced from dvd-video]

Kenva

Friends or foes?: a critique of the development of the media and the evolving relationship between press and politics in Kenya / Lusike Mukhongo. - In: *Critical Arts:* (2015), vol. 29, no. 1, p. 59-76

Abstract: The article focuses on the development of the press in colonial and postcolonial Kenya over the last 100 years. However, it is important to point out that communication systems existed in Africa even before the development of mass media as we know it today. Often, communication scholars, like other social scientists, tended to treat Africa at the onset of colonialism as a tabula rasa (Bourgault 1995: 2), because in early times in African history, the art of communication was conducted through oral means (Magaga 1982). However, because what is often termed 'systems' of mass media were introduced during the colonial period, the analyses of these systems, historical or otherwise, tend to reflect only what happened starting from the 20th century (Bourgault 1995). The limited scholarship on contemporary events until the 1990s, and the focus on the state's reluctance to permit historical research, has led to the creation of 'imagined histories' in Kenyan discourse and, consequently, the history of independent Kenya is encrusted with myth and little consensus on historical events (Hornsby 2013: 15). The article therefore

seeks to detail the history and development of the media, its relationship to politics and the subsequent effect on media freedom in colonial and postcolonial Kenya. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract]

http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02560046.2015.1009678 (Restricted access)

Kenya

The Samburu laibon's sorcery and the death of Theodore Powys in colonial Kenya / Elliot Fratkin. - In: Journal of Eastern African Studies: (2015), vol. 9, no. 1, p. 35-54 : foto's, krt Abstract: This paper examines the role that laibons (diviners and ritual healers) played and continue to play in warfare among Samburu pastoralists through their use of divination and sorcery to defeat external enemies. The paper focuses on the 1931 death of Theodore Powys, a white ranch manager in northern Kenya whose death was, in time, attributed to murder by five Samburu warriors. The event and trial occurred as conflicts increased among Samburu pastoralists, white settler ranchers of Laikipia District, and the Kenya colonial administration in the early 1930s. Although the warriors eventually were acquitted of murder charge, their laibon, Ngaldaiva Leaduma, was arrested before the trial under the Witchcraft Ordinance and deported for intimidating witnesses and interfering with the investigation. The larger Samburu community also faced harsh fines and disarmament and was incorporated into the settler-dominated Rift Valley Province. This paper focuses on three themes - conflicts over grazing land between the Samburu and the settlers; colonial responses to local ritual leaders such as the laibon; and Samburu conceptualizations and use of spiritual power in political conflicts. It demonstrates that ethnographic approaches and methodology can complement historiographical methods of archival research to present a multivocal account of a period of conflict and disruption. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/17531055.2014.984828 (Restricted access)

Mali

Le Mali contemporain / sous la dir. de Joseph Brunet-Jailly, Jacques Charmes, Doulaye Konaté - Bamako : Éditions Tombouctou, 2014.

Abstract: La société malienne a considérablement évolué depuis l'indépendance, les jeunes y sont beaucoup plus nombreux et mieux informés, les femmes plus actives dans le sphère public. Mais les changements qui ont marqué notamment la gouvernance et la situation économique paraissent décalés au regard des nouvelles contraintes et attentes liées à ces mutations. Comment cette société, dans sa diversité, pense-t-elle la modernité? Cet ouvrage collectif présente les contributions d'une cinquantaine de chercheurs en sciences sociales maliens et français qui ont étudié la société malienne contemporaine, dans la période qui a immédiatement précédé la crise au Mali (2007-2012). Ils se sont principalement intéressés à la vie politique dans les communes et quartiers, à la réalité de la décentralisation, à l'image que l'État en action donne de lui, au fait religieux - les 'religions du terroir' ainsi que l'islam -, mais aussi aux divers aspects de la migration, et enfin à la place des jeunes dans la société. [Résumé ASC Leiden]

Mozambique

Mozambique : littératures et sociétés contemporaines / sous la dir. de Geneviève Vilnet ; avec la participation de Benoît Dagobert ... [et al.] - Paris : Indigo & Côté-femmes, 2013.

Abstract: Les six articles de ce volume traitent de la société pluriethnique, plurilinguistique et pluriculturelle mozambicaine contemporaine. À partir des uvres Vozes Anoitecidas (Les baleines de Quissico) et Terra Sonâmbula (Terre somnambule) de Mia Couto, du roman Niketche, uma história de poligamia (Niketche : le parlement conjugal) de Paulina Chiziane ou des contes Nós Matámos o Cão-Tinhoso (Nous avons tué le chien teigneux) de Luís Bernardo Honwana, des universitaires francophones, brésiliens et portugais s'intéressent à l'apport de la littérature et de l'intertextualité où se côtoient les champs linguistique, sociologique, anthropologique, artistique et philosophique, à l'écriture et à la lecture de la société contemporaine mozambicaine, de ses valeurs, de ses aspirations et de son imaginaire. À travers le roman, le conte et l'estória, les écrivains mozambicains font entendre les voix des provinces du Sud et du Nord, des traditions, rites et rituels et de la modernité, celles du féminin et du masculin, de la gémellité et des figures du double, du corps et de la danse. Auteurs : Benoît Dagobert, Rosiany Peixoto Rocha, Neusa

Maria Oliveira Barbosa Bastos, Regina Helena Pires de Brito, Albertina Ruivo, Geneviève Vilnet. [Résumé ASC Leiden]

Senegal

'On ne se dévêt pas devant n'importe qui' : le témoignage oral des personnes vivant avec le VIH au Sénégal / Fatou Leity Mbodj. - In: *Cahiers d'études africaines:* (2015), vol. 55, cah. 217, p. 133-162

Abstract: Le témoignage public comme pratique est un des moyens pour les associations de malades à travers le monde de donner un visage, une visibilité à une maladie, en d'autres termes de contribuer à en faire un objet public, concret et réel. En Europe, de nombreux patients se prêtent au jeu du témoignage, une forme d'engagement contre la maladie. Au Sénégal, le témoignage se révèle sous ses formes historiques, juridiques et sociales. Il est, dans le cadre de la maladie, un fait rare voire inexistant. L'analyse des témoignages oraux, faits par les personnes vivant avec le VIH au Sénégal, révèle en quoi ceux-ci constituent un exemple d'adaptation locale d'une technique empruntée. L'étude rend compte également des obstacles politiques, économiques, culturels, moraux, qui donnent un caractère original au témoignage oral des personnes vivant avec le VIH. Bibliogr., notes, réf., rés. en français et en anglais. [Résumé extrait de la revue]

Senegal 2011, *Taxi sister / a film by Theresa Traore Dahlberg* [S.I.]: Reaktor, (395018811). Abstract: 'Taxi sister' is a short documentary about Boury, a female taxi driver in Dakar, Senegal. As a woman behind the wheel she leads a busy life filled with everyday drama, and constantly grapples with societys view and expectations on women. The film is based on the Taxi Sister project, which was started by the Senegalese State in 2007 with the aim of encouraging female entrepreneurs. Ten women were offered the opportunity to get a drivers license and buy a car on credit. Today there are fifteen women taxi drivers in Dakar, which is nothing compared to the fifteen thousand male taxi drivers. [Abstract reproduced from dvd-video]

Somalia

The machinations of the Majerteen Sultans: Somali pirates of the late nineteenth century? / Nicholas W. S. Smith . - In: *Journal of Eastern African Studies:* (2015), vol. 9, no. 1, p. 20-34 : krt Abstract: This article explores the history of Somali piracy in the nineteenth century. Focusing on the Majerteen Sultans, and especially the late nineteenth century rulers Uthman Mahmud Yusuf and Yusuf Ali, who ruled over the coast of contemporary Puntland, the author argues that Majerteen rulers used piracy as a political tool to consolidate their power over the Somali littoral in the face of colonial conquest. They used piracy to goad the European powers into signing treaties of mutual protection and channelled European patronage to buttress their rule over the Majerteen population. In contrast to the literature which frames piracy in terms of state collapse and maritime anarchy, the author argues that piracy was a diplomatic strategy to exploit inter-imperial competition. As well as offering a historical perspective on Somali piracy, the article takes a comparative approach, drawing on theories about non-state actors and violence to bring interdisciplinary and historical insight to bear on the topic of the Somali piracy. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/17531055.2014.970602 (Restricted access)

South Africa

Empire and broadcasting in the interwar years: towards a consideration of public broadcasting in the British dominions / Ruth Teer-Tomaselli. - In: *Critical Arts*: (2015), vol. 29, no. 1, p. 77-93

Abstract: The article identifies the ambivalent, contradictory identities of those English-speaking listeners in the far-flung outreaches of the Empire in the period between the two world wars who forged complex identities supporting aspects of the British Empire, while nurturing notions of independence with a rapidly changing political, economic and cultural dispensation that made up the 'British world' in the interwar years. The focus remains on the establishment of national public service broadcasters in three of the four original British 'dominions' - Canada, Australia and South Africa - and specifically their interaction with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) during the founding years of public broadcasting in those countries. The research delves into the policies

and circumstances that drove this cooperation, and situates these in the context of the larger collaboration between fledging broadcasters within the interwar period of the British Empire. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract]

http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02560046.2015.1009679 (Restricted access)

South Africa

Reuters and the South African press at the end of Empire / Peter Putnis. - In: *Critical Arts:* (2015), vol. 29, no. 1, p. 41-58

Abstract: At the end of the Second World War, Reuters' status as a leading independent world news agency was under threat. While seeking to be a 'world agency', Reuters' ownership was vested entirely in the British press. Decolonisation threatened traditional sources of revenue. American agencies were rapidly extending their global reach. In response, Reuters sought to re-constitute itself as a 'British Commonwealth' agency by offering a stake in the company to the national press organisations of Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Canada and India. In the event, the plan largely failed. South Africa and Canada declined to join; India maintained its shareholding for just four years. Only the press associations of Australia and New Zealand remained enthusiastic supporters. This article examines the failed 1947 negotiations between Reuters and the South African Press Association (SAPA), which were aimed at securing a partnership between the two organisations. It critiques Reuters' idea of a 'commonwealth of interest' in matters of international news, conceived at a time of decolonisation and emerging nationalisms. It examines SAPA's stance towards Reuters in the light of South Africa's political situation, including the growing influence of the Afrikaans press. Bibliogr., ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02560046.2015.1009677 (Restricted access)

South Africa

The imperial British newspaper, with special reference to South Africa, India and the 'Irish model' / Donal P. McCracken. - In: *Critical Arts:* (2015), vol. 29, no. 1, p. 5-25: graf., tab Abstract: This article looks at the extent to which newspapers existed and developed in the British Empire, particularly in South Africa and India. It looks at the relative size of the imperial press in relation to other European empires. It discusses the different forms the colonial press took: the settler press, the vernacular press and the missionary press. The article also looks at the developments which assisted the growth of colonial newspapers, such as the expansion of the telegraph system. The problems facing colonial newspapers are discussed as well as the issue of colonial press freedom. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02560046.2015.1009675 (Restricted access)

Southern Africa

Special issue: Africa's urban food deserts / guest eds.: Jane Battersby and Jonathan Crush - New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Periodicals Consortium, 2014.

Abstract: Since the mid-1990s, the concept of the "urban food desert" has been extensively applied to deprived neighbourhoods in European and North American cities. Food deserts are usually characterised as economically-disadvantaged areas where there is relatively poor access to healthy and affordable food because of the absence of modern retail outlets, such as supermarkets. This idea has not been applied in any systematic way to cities of the Global South and African cities in particular. Yet African cities contain many poor neighbourhoods whose residents are far more food insecure and malnourished than their counterparts in the North. This special issue of Urban Forum addresses some of the challenges and difficulties of conceiving of highly food insecure areas of African cities as conventional food deserts. At the same time, it argues that the concept, appropriately reformulated to fit African realities of rapid urbanisation and multiple food procurement systems, is a useful analytical tool for African urban researchers and policy-makers. Although supermarkets are becoming an important element of the food environment in African cities, a simple focus on modern retail does not adequately capture the complexity of the African food desert. In the African context, the food deserts concept requires a much more sophisticated understanding of over-lapping market and non-market food sources, of the nature and dynamism of the informal food economy, of the inter-household differences that

lead to different experiences of food insecurity and of the Africa-specific conditions that lead to compromised diets, undernutrition and social exclusion. The papers in this special issue explore these different aspects of African food deserts defined as poor, often informal, urban neighbourhoods characterised by high food insecurity and low dietary diversity, with multiple market and non-market food sources but variable household access to food. Articles: Africa's urban food deserts (Jane Battersby, Jonathan Crush); The geography of supermarkets in Cape Town: supermarket expansion and food access (Jane Battersby, Stephen Peyton); City without choice: urban food insecurity in Msunduzi, South Africa (Jonathan Crush, Mary Caesar); Growing out of poverty: does urban agriculture contribute to household food security in southern African cities? (Bruce Frayne, Cameron McCordic, Helena Shilomboleni); Migrant Windhoek: rural-urban migration and food security in Namibia (Wade Pendleton, Jonathan Crush, Ndeyapo Nickanor); Household food insecurity and survival in Harare: 2008 and beyond (Godfrey Tawodzera); The dimensions of urban food insecurity in Gaborone, Botswana (Benjamin Acquah, Stephen Kapunda, Alexander Legwegoh): Gendered mobilities and food access in Blantvre, Malawi (Liam Riley, Belinda Dodson); Food for the urban poor: safety nets and food-based social protection in Manzini, Swaziland (Daniel Tevera, Nomcebo Simelane); Uganda's emerging urban policy environment: implications for urban food security and urban migrants (Andrea M. Brown). [ASC Leiden abstract]

Subsaharan Africa

Perspectives in religious studies / ed. by E. Dada Adelowo - Ibadan : HEBN Publishing Plc, 2014. Abstract: This edited work consists of three volumes on the subject of religion in Africa, with a focus on Nigeria, and southern Sudan. The first volume includes chapters on theories of religion and world religions. The second volume contains contributions on biblical, mainly Old Testament, studies, church and religious history, and on Christianity and Islam in the African, or Nigerian, context. The third volume holds chapters on religion from a sociological and ethical perspective, African traditional religion and Islam, Contents: Volume I, Section A: Theories, Theories of religion (E. Dada Adelowo); Religious experience: the manifestation of the sacred (M.P. Adogbo). Section B: World religions. African concept of God (T.F. Jemiriye); Divinities in African traditional religions with emphasis on West Africa: a study of selected West African divinities (A. Dzurgba); Symbols and symbolism in African indigenous religion: the Urohobo of Nigeria as a case study (M .P. Adogbo); Yoruba magic and medicine (P.A. Dopamu); Judaism and Hinduism (E. Dada Adelowo); The basic components of Islam (M.A. Abdu-Raheem); Christianity (E. Dada Adelowo); Shinto (B. Saraswathama); Sikhism: a study of a reformed religious movement (A. Dzurgba). Volume II: Old Testament covenants (G.O. Abe); Charisma: a case study of succession narrative in the Old Testament (A.E. Array-Chidomere); Moral theology of the Old Testament prophets (J.A. Ilori); Re-ordering of Amos' visions (D.J.I. Ebo); The theology of 'Ger' in the Old Testament (J.M. Enomate); The lamb christology of the apocalypse (O.K. Peters); The Holy Spirit and God in the theology of Paul (D.T. Ejenebo); St. Paul's conception of the Church as reflected In Galatians (M.F. Akangbe); History rediscovered: the relationship between history and faith (Philip Baker); The early African Church Father-St. Augustine Of Hippo (354-430 A.D.): a case study (E. Ade Odomuyiwa); Contextualisation of Christianity in Africa (D.T. Ejenebo); Contextualisation of Christian sacraments: a case-Study of the Anglican communion in Nigeria (G.O. Abe); African experience of Christianity: a historical review (D.O. Olayiwola); A historical survey of the Church of Christ in the Sudan among the Tiv (A. Dzurgba); Origin and development of the Gospel Faith Mission Churches in the southern part of Ondo State (M.O. Akinwumi); Christianity and Church hierarchies: a case study of the African Churches in Agege, Lagos (E.A. Odeyemi); A history of the Church reformation in the sixteenth century A.D.: merits and demerits (E.A. Odumuyiwa); Islam and Borno (J.B. Ogundana); Islam and the Hausa culture (Ademola Adeleke); Plurality of religions and its effects: a case-study of the situation in Yorubaland of Nigeria (E. Dada Adelowo). Volume III: Church and national development: the evangelist and social change in modern Nigeria (D.O. Olayiwola); Religion and Nigerian political future: The role of the Church (G.O. Abe); The Nigerian Church in entrepreneurship (G.O. Abe); Religion and communication: a socio-anthropological approach (R.A. Akanmidu); The impact of religion on population change in Nigeria (J.A. Ebigbola); The contribution of Christian education to the development of southern Igboland (S.N. Adiele); Personal morality and religious faith (S.A. Adewale); Ethics of African

traditional religion (A.A. Zurgba); Ethics of Islam and Christianity (E. Dada Adelowo); The theistic arguments (R.A. Akanmidu); Nigerian traditional religion and Islam in interaction (E. Dada Adelowo); Comparative religion: the contents of Yoruba oral traditions, the Qurn, Hadith and the Bible (E. Dada Adelowo); Towards better understanding of Muslims and Christians (Father J.P. Kenny); Islamic revolution in Hausaland (E. Dada Adelowo); Islam in the middle belt of Nigeria (Felix Dare-Alao); The beginnings, expansion and consolidation of Islam in Oyo-Yorubaland in the nineteenth century (E. Dada Adelowo); Islam in Igboland: history and culture-contact (A.R.I. Doi); Islamic mysticism in relation to the African milieu (M.A. Abdu-Raheem); Healing in Yoruba Islam: problems and prospect - an aspect of Islamic modernism (E.O. Oyelade); The influence of Islam on music and dance among the Yoruba (Ademola Adegbite); Hajj (Zakariyah I. Oseni). [ASC Leiden abstract]

Subsaharan Africa

Unmasking the African Dictator: essays on Postcolonial African literature / ed. by Gchingiri Ndgrig; with a forew. by Ngg wa Thiong'o - Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press, 2014. Abstract: This edited volume is a collection of essays that examine the fictional and dramatic representations of tyrannical regimes in Africa, in fiction, drama, films, and music. The essays cover a wide range of countries, Mali, Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Congo (Brazzaville), Nigeria, the Central African Republic, Somalia, Kenya, and Uganda, and examine the works of several major authors of dictator fiction like Achebe, Ngugi, Farah, and Tamsi, among others. Contents: Nuruddin Farah's "Variations on the theme of an African dictatorship" (Gchingiri Ndgrig); Colonialism, the modern African dictator and the postcolonial state (Nada Halloway); The unfaithful chronicler: on writing about the dictator in Henri Lopès's "Le pleurer-rire" (The laughing cry) (Magalí Armillas-Tiseyra); Toxic fathers: Henri Lopès's "The laughing cry" as emblematic African dictator novel (Gtahi Gtt); The last king of Africa: the representation of Idi Amin in Ugandan dictatorship novels (Oliver Lovesey); "Jacob's ladder" and "Anthills of the Sayannah": narrativizing the internal-external dynamic of African political power (Joseph McLaren); The dictator and his objects: the status of the fetish in the African dictator novel (Magalí Armillas-Tiseyra); "Fimbo ya Nyayo": when the Kenyan dictator called the tunes! (Maina Mtonya); Diagnosing the dictator's body politic in "Wizard of the Crow" (Robert L. Colson); Performing resistance in Ngg's "Wizard of the Crow" (Gchingiri Ndgrig); Fraternal oppression and the "aesthetics of vulgarity" in Alain Mabanckou's "Broken glass" (Awa Sarr); "A nation of one's own": fictional indictment of cannibalistic African states (Ng'ang'a Mchiri). [ASC Leiden abstract]

Sudan 2011, Our beloved Sudan: documentary feature / written, prod. and dir. by Taghred Elsanhouri [S.I.]: Taghred Elsanhouri, (39459228X).

Abstract: This documentary film tells the story of Sudan counting down to a self-determination referendum on whether the country remains united or breaks apart. The film documents the historical trajectory of the nation from its birth in 1956 to its partition in 2011, interlacing a public and a private story. It invites key political figures to reflexively engage with Sudan's history, while observing an ordinary, mixed-race family (husband from the 'Arab' North, one of his wives from the 'African' South) caught across the divides of a big historical moment as its members try to make sense of the partition and live through it. [Abstract reproduced from dvd-video]

Tanzania

The role of credit facilities and investment practices in rural Tanzania: a comparative study of Igowole and Ilula emerging urban centres / Marianne Nylandsted Larsen and Torben Birch-Thomsen . - In: *Journal of Eastern African Studies:* (2015), vol. 9, no. 1, p. 55-73: ill., krt., tab

Abstract: Small urban settlements or small towns in rural areas represent the fastest urban growth in most of the African continent. Along with a renewed political interest in African agriculture, urban settlements have gained a prominent position in poverty reduction in rural areas and offer an alternative to out-migration. Based on data collected between 2010 and 2012 covering more than 60 business operators in two emerging urban centres (EUCs) and their rural hinterlands, this article explores development trajectories in two EUCs in Tanzania, both of which have experienced rapid population growth and attracted new investments in business by both

migrants and the indigenous population in an effort to exploit new opportunities in the centres. The initial urbanization has not been driven by the state or by new institutional interventions such as microfinance but rather by 'the market'. This paper argues that microfinance plays a role in facilitating possibilities for some businesses to sustain, expand or diversify their activities once the business is well-established in the EUCs. Migrants play a pivotal role for the early development and later diversification of business activities within both EUCs. They have been attracted by new investment opportunities and bring capital and knowledge from previous experiences with economic activities. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/17531055.2014.985808 (Restricted access)

Uganda

Re-membering Mwanga: same-sex intimacy, memory and belonging in postcolonial Uganda / Rahul Rao. - In: Journal of Eastern African Studies: (2015), vol. 9, no. 1, p. 1-19 Abstract: Proponents of Uganda's Anti-Homosexuality Act 2014 have denounced homosexuality as an import from the West. Yet every June, hundreds of thousands of Christian pilgrims in Uganda commemorate a set of events, the hegemonic textual accounts of which pivot around the practice of native 'sodomy'. According to these accounts, the last pre-colonial Kabaka (king) Mwanga of Buganda ordered the execution of a number of his male Christian pages in 1886 when, under the influence of their new religion, they refused his desire for physical intimacy. These events have assumed the place of a founding myth for Christianity in Uganda as a result of the Catholic Church's canonization of its martyred pioneers. This article explores how public commemoration of these events can coexist with the claim that same-sex intimacy is alien to Uganda. Unlike previous scholarship on the martyrdoms, which has focused primarily on colonial discourse, the article pays attention to contemporary Ugandan remembering of the martyrdoms. And against the grain of gueer African historical scholarship, which seeks to recover the forgotten past, it explores the critical possibilities immanent within something that is intensively memorialized. The article maps Ugandan public memory of the martyrdoms, unrayelling genealogies of homophobia as well as possibilities for sexual dissidence that lurk within public culture. Bibliogr., ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/17531055.2014.970600 (Restricted access)

West Africa

Ethnic ambiguity and the African past: materiality, history, and the shaping of cultural identities / [ed. by] François G. Richard, Kevin C. MacDonald - Walnut Creek, CA: Left Coast Press, Inc, 2014.

Abstract: The collective inquiries in this volume address ethnicity in ancient Africa as a social fact and a political artifact along numerous dimensions. Eleven authors engage with contemporary anthropological, historical and archaeological perspectives to examine how ideas of self-understanding, belonging, and difference in Africa were made and unmade. They examine how these intersect with other salient domains of social experience: states, landscapes, discourses, memory, technology, politics, and power. The various chapters cover broad geographic and temporal ground, following an arc across Senegal, Mali, Nigeria, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, and East Africa, spanning from prehistory to the colonial period. Contents: From invention to ambiguity: the persistence of ethnicity in Africa (François G. Richard and Kevin C. MacDonald); Shapen signs: pottery techniques, indexicality, and ethnic identity in the Saalum, Senegambia (c. 1700-1950) (Cameron Gokee); "The very embodiment of the black peasant?": archaeology, history, and the making of the Seereer of Siin (Senegal) (François G. Richard); "A chacun son Bambara," encore une fois: history, archaeology and Bambara origins (Kevin C. MacDonald): The uses of the past: indigenous ethnography. archaeology and ethnicity in Nigeria (Roger Blench); What was the Wandala State and who are the Wandala? (Scott MacEachern); Who's who? The case of the Luba (Pierre de Maret and Alexandre Livingstone Smith); Political and theoretical problems for the archaeological identification of pre-colonial Twa, Tutsi and Hutu in Rwanda (John Giblin); Ethnicity, archaeological ceramics and changing paradigms in East African archaeology (Paul J. Lane); Ethnic ambiguity: a cultural evolutionary perspective (Stephen J. Shennan). [ASC Leiden abstract]