Africa
Heading south : theory, 'Viva Riva!' and 'District 9' / Pier Paolo Frassinelli. - In: Critical Arts: (2015), vol. 29, no. 3, p. 293-309
Abstract: This article begins by reflecting on how the geopolitical configuration outlined in Edward Said's 'Culture and imperialism' (1993) has been radically altered both by the decline of the US empire and, in conjunction with it, by what Jean and John Comaroff describe, in the subtitle of 'Theory from the south' (2012), as Euro-America's evolution toward Africa. From there, the article turns to 'Viva Riva!' (2010) and 'District 9' (2009), two films that appropriate the conventions of Hollywood blockbusters to produce cinematic narratives set in contemporary African urban landscapes which lend themselves to be viewed through the lens of recent theoretical debates on the becoming global of the south. These films' gazes produce an image of African cities that is legible as a dystopic vision of the global future. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02560046.2015.1059545 (Restricted access)

Africa
Abstract: This introduction to three articles on history and violence in this issue of 'Africa' suggests that violence has often been approached differently by anthropologists and historians. The authors reflect on the ways in which both disciplines have worked to interpret violent events in Africa, whether in the deep past, during the colonial era or in more recent periods. To better contextualize these disciplinary advances, they intersperse them with brief reviews of general theories on violence. The three articles featured in the special section 'History and violence', while dealing with very dissimilar case studies, provide common insights on three main themes. The first engages with the paradox of the contingency and continuity of violence, and with the unevenness of perpetrators, victims and targets. The second deals with the refractive meanings attached to violent events. The third probes, underneath the apparent turmoil of violent acts, the deep moral and cultural frameworks of action that underwrite them. This introduction is composed around these main questions. Bibliogr. [ASC Leiden abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0001972015000248 (Restricted access)

Africa
Abstract: It is widely believed that national urban policies in Africa are rare. This is a concern bearing in mind the formidable challenges posed by urbanisation in the context of low incomes and weak institutions. The paper unpacks the concept of urban policy and what it means for the way in which cities grow. It considers the situation in five countries with different approaches (Ethiopia, Morocco, Ghana, Uganda, South Africa). The evidence indicates increasing interest in steering urban growth through coordinated actions on land, housing and infrastructure. The positive developmental arguments seem to carry more weight than the threats of disaster if squalor and social unrest are not addressed. Yet the appropriate policy responses are not clear-cut and there are many dilemmas faced. Capacitating city governments to plan and invest in networked infrastructure appears to be one of the priorities. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02589001.2015.1107288 (Restricted access)

Burundi
Abstract: Following a localized Hutu uprising in 1972, the Tutsi-dominated state in Burundi embarked on a vast series of reprisals across the country, leaving between 100,000 and 300,000
dead. Prominent political leaders were liquidated, Hutu who were able or learning to read were arrested, and many who had achieved any marginal level of exceptionality in economic success or other social achievement were accused of treason and murdered. Described as a 'selective genocide', the means of this violence proved deeply informative of its nature and of the experience of those caught up in the bloodshed. In the northern province of Ngozi, selection was managed through roadblocks and lists of names, creating the inescapable image of a totalitarian and bureaucratic state order. These methods fuelled a strong reaction of obedience, both among the youth and other agents of the state who took part in the arrests, and among the victims, who are commonly described as reacting with 'docility' to the violence. A matter of 'law-making violence', the selective means of the genocide shaped the political and social order that emerged from it, the 'implements' of genocide substantially contributing to the recognition of discrete ethnic communities among the population at large. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French

Democratic Republic of Congo
Abstract: The article situates a new type of Congolese stand-up comedy, performed in Kinshasa's mourning spaces (matanga), within the city's social universe. This type of funerary joking, enacted by comedians unrelated to the bereaved, represents a clear departure from the customary funerary humour in which accepted jokers occupy particular social positions vis-à-vis the deceased. Following recent changes in the organization of mourning rituals within the circles of Kinshasa's wealthy, these rather intimate events are ever more open to 'strangers', who anticipate the spending capacities of the gathered crowd. Comedians constitute one among a wide range of outsider groups who approach the bereaved community as a space of opportunity. It is argued that this emergent cultural form is utterly urban, and could only appear within urban life worlds where conviviality with others, and in particular an understanding of people's need to make a living in precarious circumstances, transforms the mourning community into an audience that pays for a cultural performance. Humour is not only derived from a symbolic difference between the poor and the rich, but also through the performance of exaggerated flattery, producing the illusion of patronage and situating the comedian within a feigned patron-client relationship for the duration of that performance. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French

Democratic Republic of Congo
Abstract: This article investigates the fraught relationship between violence and healing in Central African history. Looking at the case study of one of the largest uprisings in the colonial history of Congo - the Lobutu-Masisi Kitawalist uprising of 1944 - the article asks how the theories of power that animated the uprising might help better illuminate the nature and role of violence not only in the uprising itself but in the broader history of the region. Drawing attention to the centrality of discourses that relate to the moral and immoral use of disembodied spiritual power (puissance/nguvu/force) in the uprising, the article evokes critical questions about the deeper history of such discourses and the imaginaries and choreographies of violence that accompanied them. Thinking about violence in this way not only breaks down imagined lines between productive and destructive/legitimate and illegitimate violence by highlighting that such distinctions are always contentious and negotiated, but also demonstrates that the theories of power animating such negotiations must be understood not as tangential to the larger anti-colonial political struggle of Bushiri and his followers, but as central to that struggle. Moreover, it paves the way towards thinking about how these same theories of power might animate negotiations of legitimacy in more recent violent contexts in Eastern Congo. Bibliogr.,
Democratic Republic of Congo
Poverty amid plenty: structural violence and local governance in western Congo / Niamh Gaynor.
Abstract: The protracted conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has drawn sharp criticism regarding the model of liberal peacebuilding employed in the country. Critics emphasise the importance of local ownership of peacebuilding mechanisms at sub-national as well as national levels. This raises questions in relation to the popular legitimacy and efficacy of local mechanisms. Drawing on field research conducted in the relatively affluent province of Bas-Congo in Western Congo, this article highlights a lack of popular legitimacy for provincial-level political authority within the province stemming from an acute marginalisation of the population from local structures of power and wealth. The article also demonstrates the inefficacy of more local, village and neighbourhood-based political structures which, aimed at conflict mitigation rather than transformation, ignore the structural roots of local conflicts and do little to counteract the growing social distrust, conflict and disintegration within local communities. Bibilogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

Abstract: Fifty years after his assassination on 17 January 1961, Patrice Lumumba, Prime Minister of the newly independent Congo, is back to haunt Belgium. Through commemorations, encounters and a return visit, a top-ranking Belgian civil servant who was in Elisabethville at the time, Sir Jacques Brassinne de La Buissière, attempts to exorcise the ghosts of the past. This documentary plunges us into one of the blackest days of the Belgian Congo's decolonisation. The film exposes the fine line separating legitimation and historiography and the traumatic question of responsibility and debt. As a supplement to the film a book offers additional information, containing an interview with Jacques Brassinne, two open letters published in the Belgian newspaper Le Soir, a text from historian Ludo de Witte, who wrote the book 'The assassination of Lumumba' (1999), which led to the institution of a parliamentary commission of inquiry into the death of Patrice Lumumba, and a text from Emmanuel Gerard, member of this commission. Lastly, a large section of images from Jacques Brassinne's archives complete the book. [Abstract ASC Leiden]

Ethiopia
Abstract: HIV/AIDS is a global epidemic. Although unpublished studies show that the number of AIDS related deaths has fallen by 39% between 2005 and 2013 in sub-Saharan Africa, the region still accounted for 74% of all the people dying from AIDS-related causes. While the community conversation approach (CCA) is increasingly advocated for HIV prevention in developing countries, its impact on measurable outcomes regarding HIV/AIDS competence and HIV testing practices has not been well established. The aim of this study is to examine the role of CCA on HIV/AIDS competence and recent HIV testing practice in Ethiopia. Methods: Cross-sectional data were collected on N=29 639 participants in the Ethiopian Demographic and Health Survey in 2010 using a structured face-to-face interview. Multiple logistic regression analyses were used adjusting for potential confounders (age, sex, marital status, educational status, religion, residence, wealth index and age at first sex). Results: A significant association between CCA exposure and comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS was found in women and men (odds ratios, OR=0.52, 95% CI: 0.47; 0.57) and (OR=0.77 95% CI: 0.70; 0.85) respectively. Both men and women exposed to CCA were more likely to test for HIV than their non-exposed counterparts were (OR=2.54, 95% CI: 2.29; 2.82) and (OR=1.70, 95% CI: 1.57; 1.85) respectively. Higher education, wealth status, urban residence and delaying sexual initiation to at least 16 years of
age were independently associated with recent HIV testing. Conclusions: CCA was found promising in facilitating HIV/AIDS prevention by improving respondents’ knowledge and uptake of HIV testing services. Hence, CCA should be expanded to reach more people and follow up of participants may be warranted, focusing on vulnerable groups. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.2989/16085906.2015.1083448 (Restricted access)

Ethiopia
Abstract: Understanding the “informalization and formalization process” in Ethiopian urban centers plays an increasingly important role in the economic development of the cities. The purpose of this book is to assess the situation of informality in urban Ethiopia based on a broad definition, considering informal businesses, employment, housing and land services. The book is based on the selected papers presented at a conference, organized jointly by the Ethiopian Civil Service College and IHS, Erasmus University Rotterdam, in March 2009. In the conference 17 papers were presented covering topics of informality in the areas of urban economy, urban services, urban land and housing. From the 17 papers, 12 were selected for this book, organized in three parts. Contents: Part I Urban informal economy. Why do firms choose to stay informal? The case of Addis Ababa (Belay File); Informality in Ethiopia: taxing the hard to tax (Aloysius Bongwa); Informality and unemployment in Addis Ababa: an odd couple (Jan Fransen). Part II: Informal access to urban land and housing. Urbanization and its impact on the making of informal settlement in Addis Ababa (Samson Kassahun); Analysing informal settlements from the institutional perspective: a comparative case study in Addis Ababa (Frew Mengistu); Informal-formal convergence in access to urban land for housing (Scelo Zibagwe, Gift Dafuleya and Juliet Akola); Changing land rights in China and Ethiopia, how to incorporate informal land markets (Meine Pieter van Dijk) Part III Informal services. The demise of the formal municipal solid waste management system and the emergence of informality in Ethiopian cities (Tendayi Gondo); From informal lending to microfinance (Meine Pieter van Dijk and Degefe Duresa Obo); Informal microfinance in practice: lessons from Salam Iddir in Addis Ababa (Gift Dafuleya and Scelo Zibagwe). Part IV Incorporating Informality. Conclusions and Recommendations to incorporate informality (Samson Kassahun and Jan Fransen). [ASC Leiden abstract]http://www.academia.edu/22380807/Formalization_and_informalization_processes_in_urban_Ethiopia_incorporating_informality (Restricted access)

Europe
Abstract: Despite the apparent failure of the European news media to create solidarity across geographic and mediated space during the Rwandan genocide and the Second Congo War, humanitarian suffering in the region has recently reached Europe through literature and cinema. Amongst the recent cultural oeuvres dealing with humanitarian issues in the region, one finds the autobiography ‘A long way from paradise’ (2010) by Leah Chishugi and the documentary film ‘Blood in the Mobile’ (2010) by Frank Poulsen. Drawing on an empirical study encompassing online discussion sites, news media and magazines in three European countries (Denmark, Finland and the United Kingdom), the authors ask how journalists and web commentators relate to these two cultural products in particular, and human suffering on the African continent in general. They are particularly interested in whether and how compassion is verbalised and visualised in online and offline narratives when the African Great Lakes region is discussed. They also ask whether and how themes from the global south are embedded in northern localities. Through these questions, they strive to answer whether and by what means these two documentary oeuvres, and the publicity they gained in online and offline mediated milieus, managed to challenge narrow and ingrained discourses of Africa as a region without hope. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02560046.2015.1059548 (Restricted access)
Germany
From public service broadcaster to development actor: Deutsche Welle and the (con)quest of African female audiences / Eva Poloska-Kimunguyi. - In: Critical Arts: (2015), vol. 29, no. 3, p. 382-399

Abstract: This article examines German public service broadcasting and its message for African female audiences. It situates the activities of Deutsche Welle (DW) within public diplomacy theory and analyses the content of DW's 'Learning by Ear' series, which is geared towards young African women. The article investigates DW's view on gender and education in Africa and positions the broadcaster's activities within the broader context of the German and European Union's (EU) development assistance to the continent. Through critical discourse analysis, the article examines the broadcaster's perception of Africa. It argues that DW constructs a flattened, reductionist and often incorrect image of Africa. In its stories, Africa is depicted as a continent of harmful traditions that need to be abandoned, gender-biased schooling practices which are a product of regressive African communities, and women who are voiceless and powerless. The article concludes that although well intended, DW fails to grasp the complexities of African realities. Its broadcasts emerge as a series of culturally insensitive programmes that perpetuate well-worn stereotypes. Supported by Germany's Federal Foreign Office and designed to dispose of 'backward' African traditions to make space for the 'new' and the 'modern', the 'Learning by Ear' series echoes the language of the mission civilisatrice of Africa's imperial past - something that contemporary development discourse has significantly moved away from. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

Ghana
Perspectives from the world of nutrition and food science / eds. Matilda Steiner-Asiedu, Agartha Ohemeng, George A. Annor - Legon-Accra : for the University of Ghana by Digibooks Ghana, 2015.

Abstract: This reader addresses issues of food and nutrition security in Ghana. It highlights the need to eat from all food groups, as well as the importance of breakfast, local cereals and of reading food labels. It discusses certain traditional food processing techniques and draws attention to some popular dietary behaviours and their health implications. Titles: Iodine deficiency disorders in perspective (Ebenezer Asibey-Berko and John Egbuta); The changing nature of the Ghanaian food groups: challenges for our health (Helena Nti, Sarah Hilda Hammond and Jacob Setorglo); Breakfast: the Ghanaian perspective and our health (Matilda Steiner-Asiedu, Justicia Kyeremeh and Alex Kojo Anderson); Hydration and sports performance (Renee Nsarko, Fred Vuvor and Jacob Setorglo); Food labelling for healthy eating habits (Matilda Steiner-Asiedu, Frank Hayford and Alex Anderson); Addressing complementary feeding challenges through nutrition education (Agartha Ohemeng); Geophagia: nutritional and health implications (Obed Harrison, Helena Nti and Fred Vuvor); Nutrition of the elderly in Ghana: preliminary findings (Matilda Steiner-Asiedu, Benedicta Atulbire Aganiba and William Bruce Owusu); Perspectives on the traditional food processing technologies in Ghana (Firibu K. Saalia, Esther Sakyi-Dawson and Samuel Sefa-Dedeh); Nutrition and health benefits of consuming millet grains (George Ampomansah Annor). [ASC Leiden abstract]

Ghana

Abstract: This reader addresses issues related to the development and use of medicines in Ghana. Topics include quality control and standardization of medicines, as well as poor quality and fake medicines and the dangers they pose. Titles: The Ghanaian experience in drugs discovery research (Edwin Nkansah, Arthur C. Sackeyfio, Alexander K. Nyarko, Patrick Amoateng, Isaac J. Asiedu Gyekyey and Benoît K. Banga Nguesan); Scientific formulation of herbal medicines (Ofosua Adi-Dako, Arthur C. Sackeyfio, Philip Debrah and Grace Lokia Allotey-Babington); Quality control of plant medicines: the way forward (Samuel Frimpong-Manso, Alexander K. Nyarko and George Magnus T. Ayitey); Poor quality medicines (Henry Nettey,
Ghana


Abstract: The Language Centre of the University of Ghana was founded in 1970 as a language research department under the then Faculty of Arts. Its mandate was to focus on research and teaching related to the improvement of performance in English, the official language, and the various Ghanaian languages as vectors of education, culture and community interaction. Since the 1970s the Centre has been focusing on research related to language learning, teaching and assessment, language endangerment and documentation, multilingualism, intercultural communication, and the interconnected areas of language and literature. The ten chapters of this collective volume comprise research articles by directors and research fellows of the Centre, selected from previously published works with continuing relevance, as well as more recent works that have not yet been published. Ghanaian language and literature in national development (Mary Esther Kropp Dakubu); Language policy for primary schools: quo vadimus? (Kingsley Andoh-Kumi); L1-influence as a possible source of variation in the use of the third person singular pronoun in Ghanaian English (Mabel Y. Asante); On the state of English studies among first year students in the University of Ghana (Faustina B. Hyde); The problem of English language skills at the university level: a case study of first-year law and administration students at the University of Ghana (Helen Odamtten, Aloysius Denkabe, Innocentia E. Tsikata); The lecturer as speaker and student as listener in an academic discourse context (Vera E.M. Arhin); Range and frequency of conjunctive adjuncts in Ghanaian University students' writing in English (Gordon S.K. Adiha and Adeline Borti); The making of a modern herbalist: a narratological analysis of Marian Ewurama Addy's 'Rewards: an autobiography' (David Ako Odoi); The contribution of the North German Missionary Society (NGMS) to the development of Ewe (Kofi Dorvlo); Nominalisation in Ewe (Kafui A.G. Ofori). [ASC Leiden abstract]

Kenya


Abstract: This special issue explores the ways in which the emerging local film industries in East Africa are overcoming the burden of colonial and foreign film-making in order to establish film-making practices with distinct approaches and characteristics. The topics, films, and theoretical and analytical approaches included are diverse and wide ranging, despite the limited geographical scope. Contents: Cinema in East Africa: introduction (Lizelle Bisschoff); A feminist approach to contemporary female Kenyan cinema: women and nation in 'From a Whisper' (Kahiu, 2008) and 'Something Necessary' (Kibinge, 2013) (Clara Giruzzi); Kenya's Riverwood: market structure, power relations, and future outlooks (Ann Overbergh); Film production as a "mirror of society": the history of a video film art group in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (Claudia Böhme); Innovation and its obstacles in Tanzania's Bongowood (Ann Overbergh); The Slum Film Festival in Nairobi: exploring cinematic representation from the urban margins (Federico Olivieri, Joshua Michael Wong); Screening Ethiopia: a preliminary study of the history and contemporary developments of film production in Ethiopia (Alessandro Jedlowski); Cinematographic techniques in three Kenyan films (Rachael Diang'a). [ASC Leiden abstract]http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/intellect/jac/2015/00000007/00000002

(Restricted access)

Kenya

The relationship between collective action and serious illness in western Kenya / Jane K. Njuguna

Abstract: By 2012 HIV had infected about 1.6 million Kenyans and an estimated 58 000 had died due to HIV/AIDS. HIV/AIDS rates in western Kenya are disproportionately high compared to the rate in Kenya as a whole. This study aimed to assess gender differences in participation in collective action in households affected by serious illness (e.g., HIV/AIDS, TB) in western Kenya. The authors expected serious illnesses would reduce collective action due to a reduction in the number of adults and their ability to care for themselves and others. They used data from a mixed-methods study that used multiple-case embedded-case studies for rural households in western Kenya. The study investigated the relationship between collective action and households affected by serious illnesses. Household health was assessed from information about seriously ill members in 120 households. This information was compared with data about collective action activities and demographic data. Nearly half (48%) the households reported serious illness. More than 1 in 4 (28%) had HIV/AIDS, TB or AIDS-associated illnesses. Women engaged in a moderate level of participation in collective action groups and were statistically more likely to report serious household illness (OR=8.08, 95% CI 2.89, 22.56). Men, who were moderately (OR=3.24, 95% CI 1.27, 8.25) or highly involved in collective action groups (OR=15.43, 95% CI 1.30, 183.06), were statistically more likely to report serious household illness. Collective action groups may help households cope with illness and should be encouraged in communities hard hit with serious illness. Bibliogr., notes, sum. [Journal abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.2989/16085906.2015.1112295 (Restricted access)

Malawi


Abstract: The British press, public and parliament are not generally thought to have played a significant role in the process of Britain's decolonisation in Africa. Neither do most studies of the broad British metropolitan experience foreground the importance of African nationalism. This article begins to challenge both of these views by providing an assessment of the significance of the British press's rather sensational treatment of an incident of late-colonial violence in the context of an African demonstration in Blantyre, Nyasaland, in 1960. African activists exploited the British press presence in Blantyre as a means of advancing the nationalist cause and fighting the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. British correspondents responded positively for a variety of ideological, political, personal, situational and institutional reasons. In addition, by 1960, the British press recognised the strength of African nationalism in the context of African violence and agitation across that continent in preceding months and years. Its critical articles, which interlocked with British parliamentary proceedings and specific sets of historical concerns, had important effects among two core readerships: sections of the white settler communities of the Federation, and the British Government. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2015.1101819 (Restricted access)

Malawi

Donor funding to community radio stations in Malawi and its impact on their performance / Peter Mhagama. - In: *Journal of Southern African Studies* (2015), vol. 41, no. 6, p. 1301-1314

Abstract: Many community radio stations in developing countries rely on donor funding for their sustainability. This raises some questions with regard to how they fulfil their social mission of promoting the participation of the community in the activities of the radio. This article examines how donor funding to community radio stations can affect the performance of the stations, because it has potential to divert the attention of the stations from serving the community to broadcasting externally produced programmes. Based on a case study of Nkhotakota community radio station in Malawi, data were collected through face-to-face interviews with key informants and focus-group discussions with the listeners of the station. The article argues that donor funding, though important for the sustainability of the stations, can erode their identity, because they start concentrating on attracting donors to sponsor programmes. These donors also start to
influence the agendas of community radio stations. The article concludes that, overall, the participation of ordinary people in the media is negatively affected. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2015.1116233 (Restricted access)

Malawi

Abstract: Several studies have shown that HIV is an important distal factor that affects a woman's fertility. This study investigates the effect of HIV on fertility among Malawian women using data from the 2004 and 2010 demographic and health surveys. Specifically, the study assesses fertility differentials between HIV-positive and HIV-negative women and the changes in the relationship between HIV and fertility during the study period. Age-specific fertility rates and logistic regressions are used to investigate these objectives. The results show lower age-specific fertility rates (except for the 15-19-year-old age group) and probabilities of giving birth for HIV-positive relative to HIV-negative women before and after controlling for confounding factors respectively. The odds of giving birth for an HIV-positive woman were 34% lower in the period 12 months before the 2004 survey compared to an HIV-negative woman and 25% lower before the 2010 survey (p < 0.01). The authors think that the scaling up of antiretroviral treatment has contributed to the increase in the likelihood of giving birth among HIV-positive women between 2004 and 2010, more plausibly entailing a possible reduction in HIV sub-fecundity. Bibliogr., notes, sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.2989/16085906.2015.1093512 (Restricted access)

Malawi

Abstract: The Malawi Journals Project is one of the longest-running observational field studies in rural sub-Saharan Africa, ongoing since 1999. The journals provide real-time accounts of the unfolding epidemic, from the days when AIDS was considered by rural Malawians to be a death sentence, through the advent of international AIDS organisations bearing advice on avoiding infections by self-control, and then the turn to institutionally-based efforts to control infection through HIV testing and antiretroviral medications. This article examines the epistemological and substantive contributions of the Journals Project, which we and others who have analysed the journals have made to understanding the AIDS epidemic. The article has three primary aims. The first is to provide evidence of the chasm between the top-down perspectives of global actors with a mandate to address the pandemic and the bottom-up perspectives of local actors trying to avoid dying from AIDS, perspectives that are often contradictory. Second, beyond what can be learned from the journals about individual and collective responses to AIDS, they suggest the value of longitudinal observational field studies as a method for understanding how cultural change occurs. And third, as an example of the potential of longitudinal field studies as a research method on AIDS as well as other topics, the authors have structured their argument around the broader empirical and theoretical debates in the social sciences featured in published and presented analyses of the Malawi journals data: multiple moral logics, the course of global flows of information and injunctions, and the collective deliberation that produces authoritative local knowledge. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.2989/16085906.2015.1084342 (Restricted access)

Mozambique

2007, O gotejar da Luz = Light drops / um filme de Fernando Vendrell ; argumento, Leite de Vasconcelos ; realização, Fernando Vendrell ; produção, Ana Costa, Fernando Costa ; Marco d'Almeida ... [et al.] Lisboa : Costa do Castelo Filmes, (396802125).
Abstract: A middle-aged white man recalls the summer some thirty-five years ago during which he lost his innocence in this coming-of-age drama. Visiting an old abandoned settlement in Mozambique that he and his family lived in during the 1950s, Rui Pedro (Luis Sarmento)
remembers another homecoming he had at this same spot when he was fourteen. Via flashback, a young Rui (Filipe Carvalho) rejoin the community with joy as he reconnects with his white and African friends. Trouble comes soon afterwards in the form of two white visitors -- a relative of Rui's from South Africa and an army officer. The relative begins sowing the seeds of discontent by having an affair with Rui's family's maid, Ana (Alexandra Antunes), a very close friend of Rui's who had just married another domestic in the Pedro household. Not long after, her new husband and the tribe learn of her infidelity and exact the severe punishment prescribed by tribal law. Meanwhile, the army officer institutes strict guidelines governing the farming practices of the region, making it virtually impossible for any of the indigenous peoples of the region to survive. As rebellion looms over the countryside, Rui realizes his own father is complicit in exploiting the natives and is forced to choose sides in the oncoming battle between the settlers and the natives.

[Abstracts reproduced from dvd-video]

Nigeria


Abstract: Beauty pageants in Nigeria have become highly popular spectacles, the crowned winners venerated for their beauty, success and ability to better society through charity. This paper focuses on the Carnival Calabar Queen pageant, highlighting how pageants, at the nexus of gender and the nation, are sites of social reproduction by creating feminine ideals. A divinely inspired initiative of a fervently Pentecostal First Lady, the pageant crowns an ambassador for young women's rights. While the queen must have 'grace and beauty' and be 'ever prayerful', the discussion unravels emic conceptions of feminine beauty, religiosity and respectability. Yet, young women also use pageantry as a 'platform' for success, hoping to challenge the double bind of gender and generation they experience in Nigeria. The discussion pays particular attention to how young women, trying to overcome the insecurities of (urban) Nigerian life, make choices to negotiate individualism with community, and piety with patriarchy. Ethnographically, this paper situates beauty pageants in the region's past and present practices that mould feminine subjectivities. Contributing young women's experiences to recent literature on the temporalities of African youth, the paper's explicit focus on how new subjectivities form through action illuminates important themes regarding agency, resistance and notions of the religious self. In doing so, it furthers current analyses of Pentecostalism, seeking a more nuanced understanding of gender reconfiguration and demonstrating how religious subjects can be formed outside church institutions. Bibliogr., notes, sum. in English and French [Journal abstract]

http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0001972015000285 (Restricted access)

Nigeria


Abstract: This article concerns literary culture and the representation of romantic love in colonial Nigeria's print media. It examines how Nigerians, during the first half of the twentieth century, began redefining love, as both a biocultural and a historical construction, through what the author calls the modernization of African romantic passion. Through letters to editors and articles, print media showed that love, like education, politics and other institutions of colonial power, could be modernized to reflect Nigerians' quest to embrace 'civilization' and Western modernity. Modern romantic love did not just replace the precolonial or 'traditional' norms; rather, selective appropriation of precolonial gender and romantic norms created a hybrid that was neither African nor totally Western. While much has been written on African textual and print culture, gender, marriage and sexuality under colonial rule, the subject of romantic passion has received limited attention. Those few published works on the subject overlook it as a significant element of modernization that was championed by Africans who sought new avenues to express their emotion for the consumption of the reading public. This article attempts to retrieve the literary culture of colonial Nigerian youth by weaving textual analyses of representations of love into the wider socio-cultural transformation under alien rule. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French [Journal abstract]
Nigeria
Abstract: As Nigeria marked its centennial in 2014, violent sectarianism pried open a historical debate about whether 'amalgamation' of the country's two former regions by British authorities in 1914 was a 'mistake'. Even before independence, however, self-interested nationalism restrained self-interested regionalism, sustaining unification. The author argues that a 'parallel institutionalism' has ever since mediated the nation's heterogeneity through two different visions of representation. A long pause in state creation, a reduction in the Effective Number of Parties, and declining relevance of a pact that facilitated the 1999 democratic transition have revealed latent tensions in the status of multicultural institutionalism and strengthened liberal institutionalism. The author then analyses how demographic, economic, and migratory trends are slowly transforming the structure of representation, placing dilemmas of parallel institutionalism at the centre of future nationhood. Additional research could explore a natural experiment between the northeast, which is facing an Islamic insurgency, and the northwest, which is not. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02589001.2015.1099218 (Restricted access)

South Africa
Abstract: The ability of hunting and gathering populations to adopt herding forms of subsistence constitutes the crux of a long-standing debate in southern African archaeological and anthropological scholarship concerning the spread of livestock to the subcontinent. This article takes as a detailed case study the subsistence strategies of the nineteenth-century /Xam Bushmen of the Northern Cape (South Africa), extracted from a transcription of the entirety of the Bleek-Lloyd Archive. It focuses on /Xam characterization of and relationships with the various domesticated species that shared their Karoo landscape, and asks whether these relationships differ markedly from their conceptions of non-domesticated animals. Turning to the wider context of hunter-gatherer engagements with domesticates, the article concludes by proposing that, for the /Xam, domesticated fauna were part of a spectrum of differentiated resources, and did not entail an interaction with a wholly alien suite of new demands. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0001972015000297 (Restricted access)

South Africa
'Men don't want things to be seen or known about them' : a mixed-methods study to locate men in a home based counselling and testing programme in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa / Alastair Van Heerden, Sakhile Mswele, and Heidi Van Rooyen. - In: African Journal of AIDS Research: (2015), vol. 14, no. 4, p. 353-359 : tab
Abstract: While evidence for home based counselling and testing (HBCT) as an effective HIV testing strategy is growing, men are often under-represented in this approach. Following up on a sample of households previously offered HBCT, in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, the study contacted men who had not tested. Ninety men were randomly divided between voice, text or instant message arms, contacted and encouraged to test. Additionally, focus groups were conducted with 10 men and 10 women to better understand the barriers that prevent men from participating in HBCT. Men who answered or replied to the unsolicited contact varied from a low of 23% with instant message to 60% with voice message. Overall, four men self-reported testing for HIV. The two major themes that emerged from the qualitative data were ambivalence towards seeking medical help and psycho-social barriers to HIV testing. These barriers were a discomfort with testing in a public forum, fear of positive results and fears of indirect disclosure due to HBCT. Although feasible and acceptable, this approach requires more work to understand how it could be made more effective and efficient at getting men tested. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.2989/16085906.2015.1121881 (Restricted access)
South Africa
Abstract: Between 1984 and 1986, South Africa was engulfed in widespread uprisings in the townships across the country. State repression, aimed at curbing popular protests, had the detrimental effect of radicalizing sections of black youth who were at the forefront of the struggle against the apartheid regime. While the insurrectionary period was marked by non-violent repertoires of protest including boycotts, strikes and protest marches, violent strategies gained momentum as well. One area that saw the proliferation of popular protest was the Vaal Triangle, a highly industrialized complex south of Johannesburg. It was in this area where protests against an illegitimate and defunct local government, poor service delivery and rent increases turned into a popular uprising in September 1984. This uprising not only signified the redrawing of boundaries of community but also a shift towards more militant and violent strategies among sections of politicized youth. Based on life history interviews and archival research, this article argues that political violence aimed to forge a new political and social order. Strategies of violence emerged out of the intersection between localized conflicts and broader ideologies and strategies of the African National Congress, including its call for 'ungovernability' in 1984 and its promotion of a People's War in 1985. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0001972015000261 (Restricted access)

South Africa
Abstract: This article explores the application of principles governing public-private partnerships (PPPs) to a particular case in South Africa and suggests ways in which governance principles could be incorporated more effectively within its designated objectives. Despite an increasing recognition of the need for active research into the effectiveness of governance principles within PPPs, there remains very little research about the effectiveness of PPP governance as a developmental project. The Gautrain Rapid Rail Link is a project by the Gauteng provincial government (GPG) to provide efficient public transport options and good governance, using the build, operate and transfer type of PPP. This article draws on both a background case study of the Gautrain and the conceptual framework of governance to evaluate the extent to which effective governance has been achieved through the Gautrain. It sheds light on some governance issues and on the lessons learned that might be useful in enhancing governance in PPPs in South Africa. If the PPP mega-rail transportation system is to provide a new approach to delivering goods and services to citizens in post-apartheid South Africa, PPPs will need to be viewed as governance tools, promoting transparency, accountability, risk allocation, responsiveness, collaboration, mutual commitment, social and community obligations and proper strategic representation of costs in their planning and implementation. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2015.1117240 (Restricted access)

South Africa
Abstract: This study examined the use of a locally developed storytelling prompt as an alternative medium for HIV and AIDS awareness and prevention messages among rural university students in Limpopo Province, South Africa. An assessment of first-year students (n=21) response to a storytelling stimulus with local and familiar content shows a high uptake of the content messages in six persuasive narrative mediators: recall, narrative interest, absorption, identification with the main character, intention to commit to at least one health behaviour and self-efficacy. There were statistically significant correlations between narrative interest and recall, as well as between absorption and intention to commit to at least one health behaviour. Within the narrative theory
framework, the author argues for differentiated and culturally sensitive strategies and modes on HIV and AIDS communication to broaden the scope of focus to marginal areas where educational entertainment (EE) programmes may be inaccessible and ineffective. Finally, the author discusses opportunities for further research that assess the effectiveness of local stories on a larger scale. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02560046.2015.1059555 (Restricted access)

South Africa
Abstract: The HIV epidemic in South Africa has created a generation of orphaned and vulnerable children (OVCs). Little is known about the experiences of these "former" OVCs once they pass their 18th birthday. The authors conducted a qualitative study to understand the experiences of food insecurity for rural South African young adults. They conducted 20 in-depth interviews with 11 men and 9 women aged 18 to 25, and 2 focus group discussions. Many ate a single meal a day provided by the school feeding scheme or by friends. Despite this, nearly all participants emphasised the emotional and social, rather than the physical, tolls of food insecurity. These experiences of social shame predominantly stem from instrumental stigma, the perception within the broader community that because these former OVCs lived in relative poverty they would not be able to contribute to the web of community ties which function as a social safety net. Interventions designed to support former OVCs must focus on building social capital and supporting emotional resiliency in addition to providing material support. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.2989/16085906.2015.1123162 (Restricted access)

South Africa
Abstract: This report of a public opinion survey on South Africa's foreign policy did not attempt to gauge South Africans' knowledge about specific issues in international politics, but rather their underlying attitudes, specifically their foreign policy postures. After providing a brief overview of the scholarly debates about the role of public opinion in foreign policy analysis, the authors contextualise the nature and methodological approach of the survey. Thereafter they organise the article according to three key themes that illuminate 'ordinary' South Africans' foreign policy postures and how South Africans view their country's international identity. These themes include, first, debates about what the purpose of our foreign policy should be; second, the country's international role; and third, who South Africans consider to be their allies and role models. Finally, they distil possible patterns emerging from the survey into a posture that they relate to two concepts: 'pragmatic internationalism', and a 'middle power role'. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02589001.2015.1108001 (Restricted access)

South Africa
Abstract: A growing body of research warns of the social challenges facing orphans. The authors examine this issue focusing on differences between orphans and non-orphans from mixed households, that is, households that comprise both orphans and non-orphans. They examined whether orphans reported worse psychosocial outcomes, caregiver interactions and health risk behaviours than non-orphans in mixed households. The study sample comprised 134 children (61 non-orphans, 73 orphans; mean age=14.64, SD=1.85) from the Amajuba district in KwaZulu-Natal. Orphans were no worse off in terms of anxiety/depression (p=0.65), affability (p=0.11) and resilience (p=0.29) in comparison to non-orphans in similar type households.
Orphans reported similarly positive interactions with caregivers as did their non-orphan counterparts (communication with caregivers about problems: p=0.67; caregivers’ material and practical assistance: p=0.92). No significant differences in substance use (cigarettes: p=0.67; drugs: p=0.60; alcohol: p=1.00) and sexual activity (p=0.85) were observed. These findings suggest that further consideration should be given to the child’s living arrangements and caregiver attachments before and after parental loss as well as household composition and financial position when analysing differences in psychosocial and health-related outcomes between orphans and non-orphans in mixed households. The findings call for greater thoughtfulness in how to define orphanhood, as even children with living parents had other relatives identified as their primary caregivers. They emphasise caution with regard to decisions being made about which children are considered most vulnerable in contexts of poverty and high HIV prevalence, and to whom responses should be targeted, whether this be to orphans only or mixed households as a whole. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract]

http://dx.doi.org/10.2989/16085906.2015.1095774 (Restricted access)
South Africa
Abstract: After decades of entrenched racial discrimination, virtually all South African children today enter the schooling system, and many progress further than did their parents. Yet the increased importance of fees at the best schools means that a child's schooling and subsequent life chances depend, in new ways, on the efforts of others, usually family members. These efforts are indicated in isiZulu by the term 'ukufundisa', which means 'to cause to learn', in addition to its more common translation of 'to teach'. Based on research in and around Umlazi township, Durban, this article illustrates how South Africa's increasingly marketised education system reworks the social bonds mediated by schooling. Although many kin contribute to a child's upbringing, the high cost of gaining access to the upper end of the education market places great demands on mothers and fathers to 'fundisa' a child. For mothers with the means, a child's attendance at a prestigious 'multiracial' school continues the long-standing educational efforts that have tied mothers to their children. But for poorer women there is a painful sense that this bond is weakening when they are unable to navigate a high-stakes schooling system. Moreover, in the context of a low marriage rate and a so-called 'crisis in masculinity', schooling can help to link children to their fathers in meaningful ways. The article concludes that educational inequalities are felt not only in school dropout rates or failed exams but also in the everyday social bonds that are made and broken in a sometimes painful manner. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2015.1108545 (Restricted access)

South Africa
Abstract: The period 1984-86 has been widely recognised as a watershed in South Africa's history, leading to the most sustained challenge to the apartheid regime and eventually contributing to the demise of white minority rule. The Vaal Uprising of September 1984, triggered by dissatisfaction over rent increases and an illegitimate and defunct local government, heralded the beginning of the insurrectionary period. However, while the uprisings of the mid 1980s have attracted sustained scholarly interest, the processes that underwrote the rebellious momentum and the discourses and practices shaping civic politics warrant greater attention. Based on a large body of archival material and life history interviews, this article examines the roots of the emerging Charterist civic movement in the Vaal Triangle. It seeks to show that civic politics emerged along multiple fault lines, which reflected complex processes of inclusion and exclusion. Antagonism towards community councillors increased in the years before the uprising, and led to the defining of collective identities and the forging of a political 'community' that excluded them. These processes of inclusion and exclusion reflected not only contestations over the political order but multiple cleavages rooted in a failure on the part of councillors to honour the social contract. With the formation of underground units of the African National Congress in 1982 and the establishment of the Vaal Civic Association in 1983, localised processes of conflict and discourses of contestation began to intersect with anti-apartheid politics. The article argues that these layers of contestation finally led to a politics of difference that provided the matrix for rebellion. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2015.1108597 (Restricted access)

South Africa
Abstract: A striking insight of analyses of neoliberalism has been the extent of elite continuity throughout. But there have also been significant changes. While, in the agricultural sector, much of the literature on agricultural co-operatives has highlighted their continued market dominance,
this article focuses on the case of an unsuccessfully transformed tobacco co-operative in the small South African town of Mokopane. While state deregulation of the agricultural sector did not mean that all forms of associational support for farmers were lost, farmers there faced a more precarious position. A general decline in farming has resulted in significant changes in the nature of land utilisation. Mining and game farming have become the district's economic mainstay. This article also highlights shifts away from communal, inter-personal forms of organisation within co-operatives well before the official coming of the neo-liberal epoch. None the less, the scope of decision-making by co-operative management was limited by the oversight of the Ministry of Agriculture, which functioned as a safety net of sorts, but also considered that the interests of ordinary farmers were best upheld by co-operatives remaining non-profit entities. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2015.1093835 (Restricted access)

**Southern Africa**


Abstract: Evidence indicates that trade costs are a much more substantial barrier to trade than tariffs, especially in sub-Saharan Africa. The authors decompose trade costs into (a) trade facilitation; (b) non-tariff barriers and (c) the costs of business services. They develop a conceptually innovative model and new dataset to assess deep integration to reduce these three types of trade costs in the East African Community, the Common Market of East and Southern Africa and South African Development Community (EAC-COMESA-SADC) "Tripartite" Free Trade Area (FTA), within the EAC alone and unilaterally by the EAC. They find that there are substantial gains for all six of the African regions from deep integration in the Tripartite FTA or comparable unilateral reforms by the EAC; but the estimated gains vary considerably across countries and depend on the reform. Thus, countries would have an interest in negotiating for different reforms in different agreements. Tariff removal in the Tripartite FTA would produce only small losses or gains, depending on the country. Interestingly, they estimate that Kenya gains less from comparable unilateral liberalisation by the EAC than from the Tripartite FTA, due in part to an umbrella of protection in services markets in the Tripartite region. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

http://jae.oxfordjournals.org/content/24/5/677.abstract (Restricted access)

**Subsaharan Africa**


Abstract: Development goals and poverty-reduction policies are often focused on raising agricultural productivity and dependent on farm household level data. Historically, household surveys commonly employed self-reported land area measurements for cost-effectiveness and convenience. However, as the authors illustrate, these self-reported estimates may measure land with systematic error resulting in sizable biases. This has led to the increased use of Global Positioning Systems (GPS) and other modern technologies to measure land size. In this article, the authors compare self-reported (SR) and GPS land measurement to assess the differences between the measures, to identify the sources of differences, and to determine the implications of the different measures on agricultural analysis. The results from the analysis of data from four African countries indicate that SR land areas systematically differ from GPS land measures and that this difference leads to biased estimates of the relationship between land and productivity and consistently low estimates of land inequality. Through the evidence and analysis presented here, the authors conclude that the more systematic use of GPS-measured land area will result in improved agricultural statistics and more accurate analysis of agricultural relationships, which will better inform future policy. Bibliogr., notes, sum. [Journal abstract]

http://jae.oxfordjournals.org/content/24/5/593.abstract (Restricted access)
Subsaharan Africa
Abstract: This article investigates the potential household welfare implications of large-scale agro-industry investments in Sub-Saharan Africa. Specifically, it compares the income and poverty of households integrated into a Malawian sugar investment with those households not integrated. Two different supply-chain set-ups are studied: smallholder outgrower and vertically integrated estate-production systems. Potential selection bias is addressed using propensity score matching and a number of robustness checks. The authors find significant positive income differences between participants in either supply-chain set-up and the respective counterfactual. Overall, income poverty is significantly lower among outgrowers relative to the counterfactual, whereas in the case of estate workers these differences are only significant for the extreme poverty line. Qualitative interviews confirm these results, but they also allude to risks for the rural poor associated with social conflicts in the expansion of new out grower schemes as well as a lack of transparency in the operation of existing schemes, which are likely to undermine the poverty-reducing potentials of such investments. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://jae.oxfordjournals.org/content/24/5/645.abstract (Restricted access)

Subsaharan Africa
Abstract: Si l'Afrique du Nord et le Moyen-Orient, d'une part, et l'Afrique subsaharienne d'autre part font chacune l'objet d'une littérature abondante, les relations entre ces deux aires régionales constituent, elles, un thème peu exploré et peu analysé. Le dossier 'Afriqu'Orient' dans ce numéro de Confluences Méditerranée entend apporter un éclairage sur ces relations. Titres: Afriqu'Orient : des relations à explorer (Sébastien Abis et Karine Bennafia); Une production islamique de la mondialisation : les relations Afrique-monde arabe à l'ère du transnationalisme contemporain (René Otayek); L'Afrique subsaharienne et le monde arabe : des espaces agricoles déconnectés (Mihoub Mezouaghi); Les investissements saoudiens dans la Corne de l'Afrique : l'exemple de Mohamed Al Amoudi, homme d'affaires saoudien en Ethiopie (Romain Calvary); Les origines africaines du droit au Maghreb (Safa Ben Saad); Liens bancaires et financiers entre le monde arabe et l'Afrique subsaharienne (Estelle Brack); L'Algérie et la sécurité au Sahel : lecture critique d'une approche paradoxe (Louisa Dris-Ait Hamadouche); De l'Egypte à l'Ethiopie, quand la puissance se déplace en Afrique nilotique (Pierre Blanc); L'Iran et l'Afrique : une coopération à l'épreuve des faits (Alhaji Boubag Nouhou). En plus, ce numéro de Confluences Méditerranée contient une contribution sur Jacques Chevallier, l'ancien maire d'Alger. Partisan du dialogue entre Européens et nationalistes algériens dès les années 50 pour la reconnaissance des droits des Algériens puis d'une Algérie algérienne à terme où Pieds-noirs et Algériens auraient eu leur place, Chevallier fut incompris et rejeté par sa communauté, malgré une popularité initiale. Cet article se veut une interprétation de cet échec. [Résumé ASC Leiden]

world
Live Aid/8: perpetuating the superiority myth / Julie Grant. - In: Critical Arts: (2015), vol. 29, no. 3, p. 310-326
Abstract: In 1984, the Band Aid charity single was produced, followed by the Live Aid concert in 1985, to raise awareness and funds to alleviate poverty in Ethiopia and its surrounds. In 2005, Live 8 was organised to address the continued issue of poverty. Although this movement emanated from benevolent intentions, through the choice of the Band Aid song-lyrics, the images displayed, and the comments and decisions made regarding the concert events, the movement served to 'other' people from the global south. Thus, Band Aid and Live Aid/8 contributed to, and compounded, problematic truths which suggest that the global north is superior to the south. Such truths were also evident during the colonial period, and were promoted through exhibitions that advocated that people from the north were superior to colonial natives, and that colonialism was beneficial to the colonies, i.e., aiding the natives to improve themselves. Consequently, Band Aid, Live Aid/8 and colonial exhibitions all proclaimed to aid the people of the global south while advocating problematic truths. It is important to recognise that such truths endure, albeit evolved,
as these truths continue to disempower countries in the global south, embedding the truth that the
south is incapable of forging its own successful future without help from the north. Bibliogr., notes,
ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02560046.2015.1059547 (Restricted access)

Zimbabwe
'Equality of rights for every civilised man south of the Zambezi': electoral engineering in Southern
6, p. 1167-1180 : graf., tab
Abstract: The Southern Rhodesian experiment with the alternative vote (AV) is not well known
among electoral specialists. Yet this was the origin of the better known claim that such a
preferential voting system might ameliorate ethnic tensions in deeply divided societies. AV was
one among several institutional innovations deployed by a reformist white settler government in
Southern Rhodesia in response to the emergence of the African nationalist movement. Despite its
usage with a highly restrictive franchise, the system delivered a preference transfer-dependent
victory for a centrist government that aimed to accommodate African political aspirations in 1958.
Yet that outcome was not repeated in 1962 or 1965, when Ian Smith's Rhodesia Front instead
obtained office, declared independence from the United Kingdom and - once freed of restraints
from London - dismantled electoral devices aimed at encouraging inter-communal vote transfers.
This article examines the debates about Southern Rhodesian electoral reform in the late 1950s
and early 1960s, explores the working of accommodation-oriented devices at the elections of
1958, 1962 and 1965, and contests whether viable political settlements can be assembled in
such contexts simply by institutional reform aimed at encouraging 'moderation'. Notes, ref., sum.
[Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2015.1116231 (Restricted access)

Zimbabwe
Land for housing: a political resource reflections from Zimbabwe's urban areas / Davison
Abstract: When the Zimbabwean government launched the Fast Track Land Reform Programme
(FTLRP) in 1999, an international outcry followed, with Zimbabwe described as an international
pariah state. Zimbabwe entered a prolonged socio-economic and political crisis. While
conventional opposition attacks the FTLRP for its negative impacts on agriculture, food security
and economic growth, this article argues that the programme has also had widespread impacts
on access to housing land. Over the years, the main political tool used by the ruling Zimbabwe
African National Union (Patriotic Front) (ZANU[PF]) was land, especially in rural areas. Later,
especially in urban and peri-urban areas, ZANU(PF) used peri-urban farms to bolster its waning
support in the urban constituencies. Through ZANU(PF)-aligned co-operatives and land barons,
the party became a major player in deciding who had access to land for housing. On the other
hand, the opposition Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) tried to use its majority control of
urban areas to give its supporters land for housing, albeit with limited success. MDC-controlled
urban administrations were incapacitated, as most urban land was under a de facto ZANU(PF)
administration. This article focuses in particular on the allocation of housing land between 2000
and 2012 in Zimbabwe's major cities. The ZANU(PF) approach to housing bypassed urban
planning regulations, with catastrophic effects on urban infrastructure planning. Further, the
article explains developments in council-led housing and the role of non-council actors in housing
provision. The Zimbabwean experience shows that it is not enough for a political party to be voted
into power; rather, controlling resources such as land is a vital consideration in urban governance
and development. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2015.1087163 (Restricted access)

Zimbabwe
Subversion of socialist theatre and the rise of post-realist theatre in Zimbabwe / Samuel
Abstract: This article takes a theatre historiography approach by scrutinising key developments in
Zimbabwean theatre between 1980 and 1996. While theatre historiography often deals with
critiquing source materials, theatre reconstruction and theatre iconography, in this article my emphasis is on historical periodisation, with a particular interest in intellectual and artistic change. At independence in 1980, the Ministry of Education and Culture sought to decolonise theatre by challenging the dominance of Western illusionistic theatre through sponsoring, advocating and creating an alternative theatre characterised by speech, mime, song and dance, with a socialist ideological leaning. However, from 1991 the cultural context of Zimbabwe shifted from socialism to neo-liberal policies. The officially admired socialist realist aesthetic began to decline, giving way to a new modernist theatre. This article accounts for the decline of socialist realist theatre through the lens of one of the elements of Willmar Sauter's theatrical events theory - cultural context. The author argues that the new Zimbabwean cultural context that obtained after the adoption of the IMF/World Bank-backed Economic Structural Adjustment Programme (ESAP) reversed the socialist gains of the first ten years after independence and affected socialist revolutionary theatre by altering the taste of the audience and reducing spending on social services like theatre. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02560046.2015.1059544 (Restricted access)

Zimbabwe
When the war de-professionalises soldiers: wartime stories in exile / Godfrey Maringira. - In: Journal of Southern African Studies: (2015), vol. 41, no. 6, p. 1315-1329
Abstract: The narratives of Zimbabwean soldiers who fought in the Democratic Republic of Congo war (1998-2002) have received scant attention, particularly at a time when the professionalisation of the Zimbabwean National Army (ZNA) is questioned by scholars and, largely, by the private media, in and outside Zimbabwe. This article explores accounts of soldiers who joined the ZNA in post-independence Zimbabwe: those without a liberation history. The article reveals these ex-soldiers' accounts of their profound disappointment about the way in which the Zimbabwean army was 'de-professionalised' in its deployment in the DRC war. They felt that the army, particularly the commanders, became unprofessional in their practice. The men's disappointment ranged from the poor conduct in war, lack of food and clothing, and the inability of the army to repatriate soldiers' dead bodies from the war terrain. The author argues that the accounts of de-professionalisation provide a vantage point from which to analyse the current politicisation of the Zimbabwe defence forces. The article is based on 44 life histories. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2015.1084769 (Restricted access)