Abstracts, week 32

Africa

Abstract: The chief economist for the World Bank's Africa region, Shanta Devarajan, delivered a devastating assessment of the capacity of African states to measure development in his 2013 article “Africa's Statistical Tragedy”. Is there a "statistical tragedy" unfolding in Africa now? If so, then examining the roots of the problem of provision of statistics in poor economies is certainly of great importance. This volume on measuring African development in the past and in the present - published as a special issue of the Canadian Journal of Development Studies (vol. 35, no. 1 (March 2014)) - draws on the historical experience of colonial French West Africa, Ghana, Sudan, Mauritania and Tanzania and the more contemporary experiences of Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The authors each reflect on the changing ways statistics represent African economies and how they are used to govern them. Contributors: Morton Jerven, Gerardo Serra (on Ghana), Vincent Bonnecase (en français, sur l'Afrique occidentale française), Alden Young (on Sudan), Felicitas Becker (on Tanzania), Boris Samuel (on Mauritania), Wim Marivoet and Tom De Herdt (on the Democratic Republic of Congo); Dwayne Woods (on African democratization, development and growth); Roy Carr-Hill (on measuring development progress in Africa); Katharina Welle (on Ethiopia); Christopher Cramer et al. (on Fair Trade and rural poverty); Johannes Hoogeveen et al. (on collecting high frequency panel data in Africa using mobile phone interviews). [ASC Leiden abstract]

Africa

Abstract: In researching African realities anthropologists very often have to face the difficulty of the use of some very problematic terms such as 'ethnic' (in expressions like 'ethnic music', 'ethnic clothing', etc.), 'tribe' and derivatives, or 'witchcraft' and 'sorcery'. Such terms are still used but the discomfort that many anthropologists feel when using them is undeniable; they are, undoubtedly, 'knotty terms'. To what extent can African anthropology do without these terms? What must our attitudes regarding these terms be if we really cannot give them up? These are some of the questions the author addresses in this article, giving special importance to the troublesome term of 'witchcraft'. It is clear that anthropological practice in African societies cannot be separated from general dynamics of alterization processes. As the author argues in the article, part of the problem of knotty terms lies in the way the ‘Other’ is viewed and treated through determined alterization strategies such as synecdochization, exoticization, undervaluation, overvaluation, misunderstanding and exclusion. The interest in reflecting on the 'knotty terms' issue lies in the fact that far beyond their epistemological implications for anthropology, they have an important ideological and therefore social dimension as well. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]

Africa

Abstract: The Pan African Anthropological Association (PAAA) marked the 10th anniversary of its creation by holding its 9th Annual Conference in Yaounde, Cameroon, from 30 August-2 September 1999. The conference, themed “The Anthropology of Africa: Challenges for the 21st Century”, was attended by some seventy participants, mostly African. The conference proceedings were initially published in 2000 with very limited circulation. Given the continued relevance of the papers presented, the PAAA has republished the proceedings of its landmark 9th Annual Conference. The book consists of forty-three chapters divided into eight parts, namely: Teaching anthropology in the decades ahead; Health challenges: HIV/AIDS anthropological perspectives; NGO’S use and misuse of anthropology; Anthropological focus on
environment; Some applied issues in anthropology; The African family in crisis; Ethnicity and ethnic conflicts; and Population issues and anthropology: fertility crisis. [ASC Leiden abstract]

Africa


Abstract: This book is a collection of case studies on diverse African diasporas in the United States, Canada and Europe. The editors mention four overarching themes underscoring the essays in the book. These are the creation of African diaspora community and institutional structures; the structured and shared relationships among African immigrants, host, and homeland societies; the construction and negotiation of diaspora spaces, and domains (racial, ethnic, class consciousness, including identity politics); and finally African migrant economic integration, occupational, and labour force roles and statuses and impact on host societies. They approach the African diaspora from a perspective that incorporates the historical, as well as contemporary constructions of diasporas, and their transnational identities. [ASC Leiden abstract]

Africa


Abstract: Current debates on the transnational impact of world views (interpretive frameworks) often refer to the concepts of ‘globalization’ or ‘travelling models,’ with an emphasis on domination or on a process of translation. This volume highlights situations where different world views are confronted with each other within Africa, and the question of how the actors mediate between the two. The conceptual chapters foster a critical view on the normative implications of agency itself, as well as how they reflect on the claim of interpretive hegemony of human rights, concepts of law, democracy, or neoliberalism. In addition, the book examines the confrontation of world views in particular cases. Essays examine distinct empirical grounds, such as law (e.g. Islamic law, children's rights, law and development, political ideology), and analyze the role of transcendental powers. Contributors: Dieter Neubert and Christine Scherer (Introduction); Elísio Macomo and Dieter Neubert; Patrick Chabal; Dieter Goetze; Walter E.A. van Beek (on agency and evil among the Kapsiki of North Cameroon); Hauke Dorsch (on Mozambican students in Cuba and their reintegration at home); Norbert Oberauer (on Islamic religious endowments (waqf) in colonial Zanzibar); Signe Howell (on global governmentality and transnational adoption); Harald Sippel and Ulrike Wanitzek. [ASC Leiden abstract]

Africa

Special issue on higher education leadership and management / [CODESRIA]. - In: Journal of Higher Education in Africa: (2014), 150 p

Abstract: This special issue of the ‘Journal of Higher Education’ addresses issues on higher education leadership and management in Africa. Contributions: Deanship, leadership dilemmas and management challenges: facing the social sciences in public university education in Kenya (Kenneth Inyani Simala); Rethinking leadership, management and career advancement for 21st century deans in the social sciences and humanities at Makerere University (Consolata Kabonesa and Elizabeth Kaase-Bwanga); Faculty governance: opportunities and challenges after the Egyptian Revolution: the case of the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University (Hala H. El Said); Rethinking the role of universities in Africa: leadership as a missing link in explaining university performance in Uganda (Roberts Kabeba Murisa); The social sciences at crossroads: challenges and opportunities at Addis Ababa University (Abeje Berhanu); Understanding the factors that influence leadership effectiveness of deans in Ghana (Goski Alabi & Joshua Alabi); The academic dean and the challenges of meeting changing expectations within a competitive higher education environment in Africa (Alfred Otara). [ASC Leiden abstract] http://www.codesria.org/spip.php?article2307&lang=en

Africa

Abstract: This companion on African modern and modernist art from the mid-nineteenth century to the present features 29 essays by African, European, and North American authors who assess the work of individual artists as well as explore broader themes such as discoveries of new technologies and globalization. The volume includes original and previously unpublished fieldwork-based material and presents new and complex theoretical arguments about the nature of modernity. It grounds the work of contemporary artists in the innovations and inventions of nineteenth and twentieth century Africa instead of situating them solely in non-African contexts. Among many other topics, the volume covers nineteenth century photography in Liberia, influences of the Indian Ocean trade, early twentieth century debates on the arts in Egypt, pan-Africanism and art education in Ghana, Uganda and Senegal, revolutionary painting in Algeria and Côte d'Ivoire, and African patronage of North Korean design films. The book is divided into nine parts: I: Introduction; Part II: "Africa has always been modern". Part III: Art in cosmopolitan Africa: the nineteenth century; Part IV: Modernities and cross-cultural encounters in arts of the early twentieth century; Part V: Colonialism, modernism, and art in independent nations; Part VI: Perspectives on arts of the African diaspora; Part VII: Syntheses in art of the late twentieth century; Part VIII: Primitivism as erasure; Part IX: Local expression and global modernity: African art of the twenty-first century. [ASC Leiden abstract]
Angola
Abstract: This article considers the politics of memory and memorialisation in Angola today in the light of existing scholarship on this theme elsewhere in southern Africa. The author examines young anti-government activists' preoccupation with history, and argues that this can be understood only with reference to the MPLA government's own renewed concern with history since the end of the civil war in 2002, and its attempts to recast the nationalist narratives of the pre-1990 era. Since 2002, the government has sought to contain the threat posed by democratic opposition by claiming an exclusive role for the MPLA as the defender of the nation and by silencing critical discussion of events from the one-party era: most notably the mass killings of May 1977. For opposition activists, the assertion of an alternative history serves not so much to attract the support of others as to provide evidence of the government's dishonesty, and thus to reinforce the activists' belief in the rightness of their own cause. As has happened elsewhere in the region, the Angolan government's insistence on asserting a particular view of history does little to gather support, and serves above all to open up a space for contestation. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2015.991189 (Restricted access)

Cameroon
Abstract: This paper examines the way the 50th anniversary of Cameroon's independence was celebrated from the point of view of performances around the theme of unity that came to dominate the celebrations. It focuses on the symbols (dates, emblems), activities and interpretation of events during the independence jubilee celebrations while analyzing the significance of the failed promise of reuniification celebrations in 2011, the attempt by Southern Camerooners National Council (SCNC) activists to stage a celebration in their own way on 1st October 2011 and the reaction from regional government officials. Bibliogr. notes, ref., sum. in English and French [ASC Leiden abstract]
ré-interprétation des éléments du passé, s'effectuant toujours en lien avec le contexte temporel, lequel détermine lui-même la transmission ou le refoulement de tel ou tel aspect. Bibliogr., notes, réf., rés. en français et en anglais. [Résumé extrait de la revue]

Cameroon
Abstract: Shortly before the turn of the century Sultan Njoya of Bamum developed an independent written script to record the history of his people and provide a secure means of communication for royal affairs. The final version of his script, dubbed 'A ka u ku', was hailed by German colonial authorities as a symbol of intelligence and Njoya's progressive character. The French initially held equally positive visions of Njoya when they replaced the Germans as Cameroon's new colonial master in the wake of WWI. By the 1920s, however, their regard for Njoya was replaced by a growing antipathy which eventually led to the sultan's arrest and exile to Yaoundé. Since the use of 'A ka u ku' declined in the same period scholars have argued incorrectly for decades that it must have been outlawed by local French authorities as part of their campaign to undermine Njoya and curtail his power. In reality, Njoya's script simply fell victim to inter-war politics and the clear material advantages to those Bamum who acquired literacy in French. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]

Cameroon
Abstract: Cet ouvrage dissipe le nuage qui enveloppait, jusque-là, la vie sociale globale du peuple Tikar. Les premières explorations de terrain ont suscité de nouvelles questions scientifiques et ouvert des perspectives de recherche intéressantes sur les dynamiques historiques, sociales et culturelles chez les Tikar, depuis la formation des premières chefferies jusqu'à nos jours. Contributions: Les bases archéologiques de la connaissance de l'histoire et de la culture tikar (Martin Elouga); Ces inconnus/méconnus des peuples du Cameroun. Les Tikar, hier et aujourd'hui (André Maah); Les chefferies tikar : processus de formation des chefferies, institutions socio-politiques et culture matérielle des tikar (Martin Elouga); La chefferie tikar de Gah : institutions sociopolitiques et culture matérielle (Martin Elouga); La chefferie tikar de kong : processus de formation et institutions sociopolitiques (Roger Ngnidie); La chefferie Tikar de Nditam : intelligence de la création, du fonctionnement et de la survie d'une institution politique traditionnelle négro-africaine à partir du principe de la dualité fondamentale (Paul Abouna); La gestion des ressources de chasse chez les Tikar de Nditam (Séverin-Cécile Abega); De la mine à l'object: technologie du bronze chez les Tikar (Martin Elouga); Les trônes dans l'espace sculptural en bronze tikar (Martin Elouga); Symbols in Tikar arts (Tikere Mofor Nting); Les relations Bedzang-Tikar (Odile Christiane Ossanga); Mâ Njalâ, "Touffe de Sissongo ; espace couvert de Sissongo" : le pacte de sang entre les Ndômé et les Vouté (Célestin Ngoura); The Tikar fortified chiefdoms : battle fields of the 18th-19th century's interethic wars (Martin Elouga). [ASC Leiden abstract]

Cameroon
Abstract: In this chapter the author explores the notion of agency as a theory of causation, as a culturally viable way to explain "why things happen". He points out that not only "good" is attributed to agency, but also "evil". If an event is attributable to well-known regularities, even laws, it is the environment and not the agent who causes the event. Agency is a way of explaining, in the context of a particular culture, why things which are not evident are as they are. Mishaps in particular will often be explained by referring to agency of the self or third parties. Looking at the Kapsiki (or Higi) of North Cameroon and Northeastern Nigeria, the author examines agency in four types of misfortunes gleaned from a sample of divination cases: illness, a setback in plans, an unusual experience, and general insecurity vis-à-vis an incomprehensible
world. He shows that for the Kapsiki the agents of misfortune are manyfold and varied, ranging from one’s own mistakes to evil outsiders, and from the figure of Death roving the mountains to infectious diseases. For the Kapsiki misfortune comes in recognisable, somewhat predictable forms, which means that the evil agents are not considered to act completely freely. The author argues that notions of agency are ways of signification, logical pathways to give meaning to events, and especially to the mishaps, mistakes and misfortunes in people’s lives. [ASC Leiden abstract]

Chad
Abstract: Au début de l’année 2012, un avion commercial transportant des touristes s’est posé pour la première fois dans le désert tchadien. Après être revenu sur les contextes géopolitiques saharien et tchadien qui ont suscité cette ‘ouverture’ touristique, l'article décrit la manière dont le pouvoir politique national s’exerce à travers ce nouveau champ. L'analyse porte ensuite sur le peu d'intérêt manifesté par les populations du Sahara tchadien concernant la venue de ces étrangers que personne n'a invités. Indifférence et malentendus donnent l'occasion de questionner l'idée du développement par et pour le tourisme, puis d'interroger les notions d'hospitalité et de solidarité qui éloignent visiteurs et visités plus qu'elles ne les rapprochent. Bibliogr., notes, réf., rés. en français et en anglais. [Résumé extrait de la revue, adapté]

Ethiopia
Menstrual synchrony claims among Suri girls (Southwest Ethiopia) : between culture and biology / Jon Abbink. - In: Cahiers d'études africaines: (2015), vol. 55, cah. 218, p. 279-302 : foto
Abstract: Among the Suri agro-pastoralists, a relatively self-sufficient and independent people of ca. 34 thousand in the extreme southwest of Ethiopia, young adolescent girls often assert that they menstruate together and regulate their own menstrual cycle, relating it to the phases of the moon. ‘Menstrual synchrony’ is a much debated and still unresolved phenomenon in the scientific literature. Rather than giving immediate credence to its existence, the author claims that the young, unmarried Suri girls - well aware of all biological facts around procreation, the fertility cycle and pregnancy prevention - follow a cultural script of sexuality and aim to fit physiological facts into a preferred socio-cultural mould. They use the synchrony assertion to change behaviour and thereby to maintain sexual independence and choice of partners in a society that is marked by significant gender equality but also by individual competition. After a brief presentation of key issues in the (inter-disciplinary) debate on menstrual synchrony and its possible existence and causes, the author describes Suri sexual culture and menstrual customs, using field data gathered in two villages. He then tentatively assesses the plausibility of the Suri girls claims to menstrual synchrony, and elaborates an interpretation of Suri female sexual/reproductive strategies as enhancing women's agency in a society marred by growing internal instability, conflict, and an uncertain future. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]

Abstract: Ce coffret est le premier volume d’une série qui raconte avec des images et des témoignages, l’histoire de l’Afrique contemporaine à travers ses grands hommes. Ce premier volume porte sur quatre personnages. Il s’agit de Sékou Touré de la Guinée, de Seyni Kountché du Niger, de Felix Houphouet-Boigny de la Côte d’Ivoire et de Ahmadou Ahidjo du Cameroun. [Résumé ASC Leiden]

Kenya
Abstract: À la suite de ses travaux sur l'enfance et la circoncision en pays kikuyu, l'auteur étudie
ici le passage à l'âge adulte et ses nouvelles formes dans le Kenya contemporain. Tout d'abord, il présente rapidement les anciens modes de passage à l'âge adulte (rites de circoncision, mariage et naissance du premier enfant) et l'éthos qu'ils inscrivaient chez les impétrants, c'est-à-dire la construction des éthos masculin et féminin traditionnelle. Il évoque ensuite les difficultés que rencontrent les jeunes hommes et femmes pour correspondre aux attentes sociales que comportent ces statuts dans un univers où la terre et les emplois (nécessaires pour y répondre) se font toujours plus rares, alors que les razzias - mode alternatif d'accomplissement personnel - ne sont plus possibles. L'auteur conclut son propos en esquissant les nouvelles formes de masculinité et de féminité que proposent le pentecôtisme et les groupes politico-religieux de vigilants. En effet, il avance l'hypothèse qu'une partie de leur succès est dû aux formes innovantes - ou néotraditionnelles - de rôles d'adultes qu'ils présentent. Bibliogr., notes, réf., rés. en français et en anglais. [Résumé extrait de la revue]

Maghreb


Abstract: During the Arab Spring, long marginalized Islamist political forces achieved political influence in Tunisia, Egypt and Libya. In four chapters this book discusses the rise of political Islam in North Africa: 1. Revival of political Islam in the aftermath of Arab uprisings: implications for the region and beyond (Mohammed El-Katiri); 2. Political transition in Tunisia (Alexis Arieff and Carla E. Humud); 3. Egypt: background and U.S. relations (Jeremy M. Sharp); 4. Morocco: current issues (Alexis Arieff). [ASC Leiden abstract]

Mali


Abstract: Dans les cultures de tradition orale, tout type de discours est une manifestation langagière particulière qui ne délivre sa signification réelle et son efficacité qu'à travers l'éventail des paramètres présidant à sa performance. Ainsi relèvera-t-on, pour l'épopée des Peuls du Massina : au niveau de l'expression textuelle, la dimension référentielle du contenu de la narration et sa mise en forme stylistique ; au niveau socioculturel, le statut respectif des participants : le griot énonciateur et son auditoire ; au niveau de la performance, les circonstances et les modalités de l'énonciation (accompagnement musical) ; au niveau de la pragmatique, la fonction mobilisatrice autour d'une idéologie identitaire. Bibliogr., notes, réf., rés. en français et en anglais. [Résumé extrait de la revue]

Namibia


Abstract: This case study of a fish market near the border of Namibia and Zambia examines how economic and environmental changes have affected the marketing channels associated with fishery in southern Africa. The authors monitored the volume and origin of fish entering the market in Katima Mulilo, Namibia, between 2007 and 2012, and conducted semi-structured interviews with fish committee members and market vendors. Prior to 2010, the market for fish had a simple commodity chain, involving local producers and consumers. Since then, a nearby lake has refilled, providing a new source of fish. The market has expanded and diversified, with large volumes of fish now being sent to consumers in urban centres in Zambia and even to the Democratic Republic of Congo. The authors consider the sustainability of the fishery in relation to expansion and re-alignment of the marketing channel and the degree to which intra-regional trade in fish promotes or hampers food security and sustainable use of the resource. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2015.991619 (Restricted access)

Northern Africa

*Special Issue : the southern shores of the Mediterranean and its networks: knowledge, trade,
The articles in this special issue are the result of a workshop held at the University of Minnesota in 2013 during which the importance of the southern shores of the Mediterranean was discussed and debated. Taken together the articles reconsider the concept of the Mediterranean as an enclosed sea where exchanges occur essentially between its immediate shores and highlight the importance of the southern shores in creating commercial, social and intellectual links far beyond the territories along its coastlines. The activities emanating from or transiting through the southern shores are, according to these articles, multi-directional and wide-reaching. The concept of the influence of the Mediterranean is thus no longer limited to the sea and its shores but extends South beyond the Sahara and North beyond the bordering nations, as far afield as the USA.

Contents: Introduction (Patricia M.E. Lorcin); The elegant plume: ostrich feathers, African commercial networks, and European capitalism (Aomar Boum, Michael Bonine); The trans-Saharan slave trade in the context of Tunisian foreign trade in the western Mediterranean (Ismael M. Montana); Ahmad Baba al-Timbukti and his Islamic critique of racial slavery in the Maghrib (Timothy Cleaveland); A Timbuktu bibliophile between the Mediterranean and the Sahel: Ahmad Bul’arf and the circulation of books in the first half of the twentieth century (Shamil Jeppie); Full circle: Muslim women’s education from the Maghrib to America and back (Beverly Mack); The diaspora and the cemetery: emigration and social transformation in a Moroccan oasis community (Paul A. Silverstein); Beur/Maghribi musical interventions in France: rai and rap (Ted Swedenburg). [ASC Leiden abstract] http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/fnas20/20/1 (Restricted access)

Senegal
Abstract: Cet article étudie et analyse les discours des militants pulaarophones du Sénégal ainsi que les productions artistiques (poèmes) des militants. Il s'agit plus précisément de rendre compte à quel point les questions de pouvoir sont au centre des actions et des discours des militants pulaarophones. La langue pulaar n'est de ce fait qu'un instrument pour tenter de renverser les hiérarchies de pouvoir (politique et économique) dans un pays où la langue wolof est vue de plus en plus comme une langue hégémonique. D'un point de vue méthodologique, cette étude s'inscrit dans le cadre de l'anthropologie des pratiques langagières, et adopte donc une approche pluridisciplinaire. Bibliogr., notes, réf., rés. en français et en anglais. [Résumé extrait de la revue, adapté]

Senegal
Abstract: This article examines certain everyday strategies in which Dakarois engaged as they negotiated the challenging economic terrain of the colonial capital from the late 1910s to the mid-1940s. Civil court cases provide a unique view into the types of questions urban dwellers confronted and the solutions they devised in transacting with one another within the context of official policies that sought to keep resources among most of the population at a vital minimum. Analysis of those cases and other evidence from that era reveals that Dakarois’ greatest resources were each other: neighbours, family members, and people of common origin provided opportunities in concrete and credit form. Practices such as pawning objects and lodging funds with individuals became ways people crafted financial strategy without fully interfacing with colonial structures. This article therefore argues that the types of transactions that became important to Dakar's urban setting in the first half of the twentieth century illustrate the roots of the informal economy that later became deeply associated with African cities. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]

South Africa
Abstract: Although Mozambican migration to South Africa has a long history, it is only recently that scholarly literature has begun to shift slightly from the defining albatross of the contract labour migration system to provide a much more incisive analysis of the everyday circumstances of individual migrants. Focusing on the suburb of La Rochelle in Johannesburg, the authors argue that, while this shift represents an important insight for migration research, it remains particularly thin on matters of urban space and migrant spatial decision-making. The authors look at the spatial presence of Mozambicans in La Rochelle, use property-ownership and interview data to engage in the global discourse on ethnic enclaves, and discuss the peculiar circumstances of the development and life cycle of Johannesburg's La Rochelle ethnic enclave. Our findings suggest that the Portuguese language has remained central to the development of La Rochelle as an ethnic enclave, though the suburb has taken an atypical trajectory since the end of apartheid that hardly fits the traditional ethnic enclave classification. Importantly, immigrants who move into ethnic enclaves often establish a permanent presence, but the Mozambicans in La Rochelle have forms of permanence in aggregate terms only, as the individual migrants remain transient within La Rochelle and the greater Rosettenville area. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2015.992716 (Restricted access)

South Africa
Black Consciousness’s lost leader: Abraham Tiro, the University of the North, and the seeds of South Africa's student movement in the 1970s / Anne Heffernan. - In: Journal of Southern African Studies: (2015), vol. 41, no. 1, p. 173-186
Abstract: The 1970s have come to represent a decade of student protest within South Africa, but in writing history of this period, scholarly attention has focused primarily on pivotal events in the latter part of the decade, such as the Soweto student uprising of 1976, and the institutional history of organisations such as the South African Students’ Organisation. This focus has, by necessity, neglected the contributions of non-urban, regional actors and sites of protest. It has also failed to contextualise the events of 1976 against a backdrop of student protest earlier in the decade. This article seeks to situate the role of the rural northern Transvaal in the student protests of the 1970s. It focuses on the rise of Abraham Tiro, a student at the University of the North and prominent leader in the South African Students’ Organisation, and on the University of the North itself as a site of protest organisation that influenced and changed student protest across South Africa between 1971 and 1974. The paper argues that both Tiro’s individual impact on national protest politics and the role of the University of the North as an incubation site for SASO greatly influenced the spread of the student movement during this period, by facilitating the conscientisation of school and university students. Through events such as Tiro’s 1972 graduation speech, the Alice Declaration, and the influx of Turfloop students into high schools as teachers, the Black Consciousness brand of politicisation was effectively spread across South Africa’s black student community. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2015.991575 (Restricted access)

South Africa
Abstract: This article returns to the controversial topic of Krog’s alleged plagiarisms in her highly acclaimed account of South Africa’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), Country of My Skull, and connects Krog’s borrowings with a less-noted feature of that work, that is her heavy editing (arguably, fictionalisation) of some of the testimonies reproduced by her in that book. Most critics read the testimonies presented in Country of My Skull as faithful versions of those given at the hearings, edited only for punctuation and readability (as Krog insists was her method), and many critics offer commentary on the TRC based on Krog’s rendering of it. Catherine M. Cole1 has noted, though, in her book Performing South Africa’s Truth Commission, that the changes are more substantive. Tracing these alterations alongside Krog’s obscuring of authorship via various borrowings, the author argues that the two phenomena work in tandem to “forge” an indigenous South African voice, which Krog casts as specifically “black”. These observations the author
frames within a larger argument about the pressures of national authorship, and transcultural accountability and literary honour. In so doing, she discusses previously un-noted borrowings by Krog - from the sociologist Pierre Bourdieu and from the anthropologist Julian Pitt-Rivers. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2015.991595 (Restricted access)

South Africa
Abstract: Orlando High School and Morris Isaacson High School, the two most famous high schools in Soweto, offer a valuable lens into the shifting culture of teaching and learning in South Africa's urban public schooling. These two schools are best known for their role in the 1976 Soweto uprising, but the author moves away from this aspect of their history and, instead, analyses them as institutions of learning and as crucial generators of Soweto's professional elite over several decades. This article focuses on the schools as they operated under the Bantu Education system from the late 1950s until the mid 1970s. During the 1960s the Nationalist government was hostile to the very notion of African secondary schooling in the cities. Yet in spite of an authoritarian and repressive state bureaucracy, a lack of resources, and overcrowding, the schools established themselves as credible institutions of learning. Under the firm leadership of T.W. Kambule and Lekgau Mathabathe, they attracted talented, dedicated staff and highly motivated students. Working within the state system inevitably aroused suspicions and tensions; nevertheless, the schools offered the most likely avenue for ordinary Sowetan families to achieve some form of professional upward mobility. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2015.991573 (Restricted access)

South Africa
Abstract: The poor working conditions and wages in South African agriculture suggests that legal mechanisms to protect workers' rights will remain largely ineffective if workers are not, at the same time, in a position to forge a collective agency. Despite South Africa's "world class" labour legislation, farm workers' freedom of association and right to bargain collectively are hardly realised at all. This article draws on interviews with South African labour and human rights activists to explore why this is so. Structural and cultural traits of rural labour relations collude with the inept approaches of trade unions, revealing that even a state-of-the-art progressive labour relations system may fail to engender any countervailing power on the part of labour. How to make trade union rights of agricultural workers actionable remains a fundamental challenge in labour relations research and policy. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2015.992718 (Restricted access)

South Africa
Abstract: Until recently, the deepening of financial markets in developing countries has been widely seen as growth-enhancing. A well-developed capital market - so the argument goes - provides a source of finance for productive investment, thus fostering growth. South Africa possesses one of the oldest stock exchanges among emerging economies, making the country a good case study to scrutinise such growth-enhancing effects. Employing a detailed - and original - analysis of company annual reports and financial statements, this article questions the validity of the growth-enhancing claims made for financial deepening. Although the South African equity market is a source of substantial funds for mining companies, the consequences of their activity do not appear to enhance growth but rather to induce financial fragility. New evidence will show that listed mining companies use financial markets to support their speculation in mining assets.
As a consequence, financial funds are channelled into few productive activities with limited impact on job creation. Crucially, detrimental effects on monetary policy and domestic credit growth can be expected, since external finance is not flowing towards productive investment but ends up as cash holdings on corporate balance sheets. This trend in turn encourages rapid credit expansion, which recently favoured unsustainable consumption-driven growth in South Africa, leaving the country with heavy job losses and high household debt in the aftermath of the global financial crisis. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2015.991601 (Restricted access)

South Africa
Abstract: The Bhisho massacre occurred on 7 September 1992, when 28 African National Congress (ANC) supporters and one soldier were killed and over 200 demonstrators were injured by the Ciskei Defence Force (CDF) during a protest march. This took place roughly 18 months before South Africa's first democratic election in 1994. In this article the author analyses the different narratives and contentions that crystallised around the massacre over a period of 20 years. She examines how the massacre is remembered and commemorated in various guises through oral and written reminiscences, monuments and commemorative rituals within the historical context of its Bantustan roots, the transitory pre-democracy period, and lastly its contemporary political paradigm as the 'gateway' to a re-imagined Bhisho, (re-)fashioned on covert silences and selective remembering, which are tantamount to myth-making. In the process, the story of the massacre evaporates and a new narrative replaces it, constructed according to the political trajectory of the hegemonic elite and the bureaucratic machinery responsible for producing it. But it is the 'memory consumers', the audiences of the representations in question, who can ultimately choose between co-option, disavowal and contestation. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2015.992714 (Restricted access)

South Africa
Abstract: The spatial planning and policy framework and associated implementing tools in South Africa have undergone fundamental changes since the onset of the democratic era in 1994. The effectiveness and influence of urban spatial planning on restructuring South African cities are however increasingly being questioned and there remains a paucity of empirical evidence to evaluate the impact of these plans. In this article seven key challenges are identified as impacting on the effectiveness of urban spatial planning in the democratic era. The responses to these challenges as reflected by the urban spatial plans of a cross-section of cities investigated indicate moderate levels of progress with improving the horizontal and vertical alignment of spatial planning processes and with the integration of sustainability principles into spatial planning. Some limited improvement was noted with the understanding of the urban space economy and the alignment of infrastructure development and capital investment with spatial planning. However, very little progress is evident with the principle of physical and social economic integration of cities, considering the informal sector in mainstream spatial planning processes, and with the use of appropriate indicators and quantified targets to monitor the implementation and impact of spatial plans. The author argues that the application of innovative spatial and statistical techniques will not only greatly enhance the understanding of these issues, but will also provide the basis for formulating appropriate and robust indicators and targets to monitor the impact of spatial plans. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract]

South Africa
Abstract: Within tourism scholarship in general and in African tourism in particular, there is little research relating to employment conditions in the tourism industry. In South Africa, this knowledge gap is remarkable in light of the vital role of tourism in national government strategies for employment creation and of the emphasis given to promoting "decent work". This article uses a mixed methods approach to examine work conditions of South African tourist guides. The findings reveal the majority of tourist guides are in precarious or vulnerable forms of temporary short-term work, much of which is outside of existing labour regulations. The largest share of tourist guides are white males with limited careers spent in tour guiding. Many guides are retired or semi-retired from other professions and often engaged in the activity for lifestyle rather than economic motivations. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract]

South Africa
Abstract: This article reflects briefly on the evolution of "Urban Forum" as it reaches the milestone of a quarter-century of academic publishing. In chronicling the past 25 years, a range of observations are made in terms of the institutional organisation of the journal, the thematic and spatial focus of research published, the flow of submissions and authorship. It is argued that much in the form of a unique investigatory research voice concerning the changing spatialities of African cities has been presented and explored. Nevertheless, there are further issues that require attention, which it is hoped will form part of future debates to be profiled in the pages of "Urban Forum". Bibliogr. [Journal abstract]

South Africa
Abstract: Since Peruvian economist Hernando de Soto introduced the "dead capital" concept in 1989, he remained a controversial figure. There are those who find his ideas fascinating. They see the transformation of housing and business regimes in developing countries from informal to formal as a potentially powerful mechanism to turn large amounts of latent capital into live, working capital. Others are sceptical, questioning his premises on practical and ideological grounds. Studies have shown that the legalization of properties in developing countries is no silver bullet solution to future economic development. Outcomes have often fallen short of claims made in the de Soto hypothesis. This paper attempts to demonstrate how the same arguments are being repeated in these debates while potentially controversial issues have managed to remain under the radar of commentators on both sides of the divide. The paper then highlights the vitality of market forces in informal and mixed formal/informal markets in cities in South Africa. Referring to different forms of transformation in the residential sector in cities in South Africa, the study indicates that some forms of informal urban development do indeed represent "dead capital" while others, which should be regarded as "dead capital" in terms of the de Soto hypothesis, are very much alive. The underlying thesis of the paper is that the vibrancy of current irregular market activities in disadvantaged communities is indicative of the potential strength of market forces there. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract]

South Africa
Abstract: Internationally there has been considerable discussion on the role that creative industries play as a strategy by which post-Fordist cities can revive stagnant urban economies. Among those sectors of the economy that form part of the creative industries, the filming sector counts as one. On the whole, these debates have been conducted with reference to the post-industrial cities of the north. Little attention has been placed on the role of the filming sector in the developing south generally, its spatial distribution, and its relationship to other economic and social geographies in those urban places. The paper provides a spatial analysis of the filming industry in urban South Africa and relates it to general economic and social geographies in two South African cities that have identified the filming industry as a key development strategy. In
addition, an agenda for future research, in particular pertaining to urban South Africa is outlined. It is concluded that there is a broader urban planning and geography project at hand. Questions need to be asked about how the filming industry interacts with other government programmes and the ongoing transformation of physical and symbolic spaces in urban South Africa. Bibliogr., note, sum. [Journal abstract]

South Africa
Abstract: The recent rise of China as a major global capitalist player has significantly affected those countries to which the Chinese have migrated, and South Africa has proved no difference. Little research was found pertaining specifically to the daily operation of Chinese shops in South Africa. Consequently, the aim of this paper is to fill this gap in our knowledge by providing an outline of the operational aspects associated with running Chinese shops in the city of Johannesburg and entrepreneurs' perceptions and opinions of their business environment. The background information sketches a picture of the Chinese diaspora and the economic activities of Chinese immigrants in South Africa, while the literature review provides insights into the global nature of Chinese migrants as ethnic entrepreneurs and examines their patterns of economic activity in foreign countries. Questionnaire interviews were conducted with 500 respondents selected at random throughout the city of Johannesburg. The demographic results show that respondents have followed different trajectories to establish themselves in South Africa. Furthermore, results indicate that economic factors and "guanxi" networks (close family and friend networks) are the most important aspects that influence and shape the general business profile of respondents. Despite trying circumstances, respondents remain innovative entrepreneurs who use their economic resourcefulness and "guanxi" networks to make a living in Johannesburg by adapting to local circumstances quickly. Important implications for better local government planning for Chinese communities and businesses in Johannesburg are also highlighted. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract]

South Africa
Abstract: The "ruralurban fringe" is under assault worldwide, as cities expand in seemingly unstoppable growth, commonly known as "urban sprawl". As cities grow, this "transition zone" becomes a contested area as various actors fight for space, with varying opinions on land use. This paper describes the decision-making dynamics governing land use in Jamestown, located in the rural-urban fringe, in Stellenbosch Municipality, South Africa. A fundamental lesson that emerged out of the research is that local outcomes are highly vulnerable to economic and political realities that may exist far from the area itself, resulting in clear winners, and "losers", often depending on the ideological perspective of the individuals involved. The paper aims to draw out several lessons for planners and advocates of sustainable urban design: given the complex pressures governing land use in present day South Africa, what is there to be learned from this particular case in terms of "best practice" and best / better ways forward? Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract]

South Africa
Towards an understanding the outcomes of housing privatisation in South Africa / Lochner Marais [et al.]. - In: Urban Forum: (2014), vol. 25, no. 1, p. 57-68
Abstract: Housing privatisation is commonly understood in political economic terms. The proponents of privatisation argue that the provision of ownership enables households to have security of tenure, which in turn leads to increased housing investment, the development of a secondary housing market and a source of income for the local authority by means of land tax. On the other hand, critics of housing privatisation suggest that such processes lead to landlordism and an increased dependence on mortgage finance. This paper uses historical methodology to trace the historical lack of secure tenure for urban black South Africans. The data
consists of 395 structured questionnaires conducted in the case study area of Mangaung, the former black township of Bloemfontein. The results suggest that housing privatisation processes in South Africa cannot be viewed only through a political economic lens. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract]

**South Africa**

*New South African review ... / ed. by John Daniel ... [et al.] - Johannesburg : Wits University Press, 2010.*

Abstract: This series is meant to follow the tradition of critical scholarship established by the "South African Review" which appeared in the 1980s and 1990s. The first volume focuses on Economy, ecology and sustainability; State, politics and policy; Education, health and land; and Crime and Sex. The contributions in the second volume deal with International politics; Economy and society; Environment; and Media. [ASC Leiden abstract]

**Subsaharan Africa**


Abstract: According to OSSREA "The impact of international migration, both South-South as well as South-North, on the economic, social and political life of the people in Eastern and Southern Africa was not well documented and studied", and "the evidence-base for policy on migration and development was very weak." With this in mind, OSSREA's 2012 "Call for Proposals" on international migration in Africa had the following objectives: (1) To analyze the nature and type of South-South migration, focusing on issues, such as brain gain and/or brain drain, remittance flows, technical know-how transfers, violations of the rights of African migrants, and gender dimensions of migration; (2) To investigate the dynamics of migration from Eastern and Southern Africa to the Arab Gulf States as well as to developed countries, focusing on the skills of migrants, and other issues as mentioned above; and (3) To assess the successes, impediments and challenges of African international migrants from Eastern and Southern Africa, and to formulate policy recommendations to maximize the gains and minimize the costs associated with international migration in Africa. This book grew out of the results of this "Call for Proposals". Contents: International migration and development in Africa: issues, challenges, and policy options (Assefaw Bariagaber); Zimbabwe skilled migrants in Botswana: what are the impacts? (Albert Makochekanwa and Prosper Kambarani); Nature and impact of international migration in sub-Saharan Africa: a case of Ugandans moving to South Sudan and Arab Gulf States (Rogers Twesigye); International migration in Ethiopia: challenges and opportunities (Endalew Addis); Impact of migrant remittances on national economy and household income: some evidence from selected Sudanese States (Abdul Hameed Elias Suliman, Ebaidalla Mahjoub Ebaidalla, and Abdalla Ali Ahmed); The impact of international remittance on poverty, household consumption and investment in urban Ethiopia: evidence from cross-sectional measures (Kokeb G.Giorgis and Meseret Molla). [Book abstract, edited]

**Tanzania**

*Colonial encounters : a Danish planter in German East Africa / Marianne Rostgaard & Jane L. Parpart. - In: Afrika Zamani: (2013), no. 20/21, p. 107-130*

Abstract: In 1888, Christian Lautherborn set out to establish a cotton plantation for the German East Africa Company in Pangani, Tanzania. Little did he know that he was heading out at a dramatic moment, and would soon (literally) be caught in the crossfire of a war between the coastal Africans, the Zanzibar government and German imperialist interventions. While in Tanzania, Lautherborn wrote a series of letters, some published in a local Danish newspaper and some written privately to family. A substantial number of Christian Lautherborn's letters home were printed in a newspaper, Vendsyssel Tidende, as 'Letters from our correspondent in German East Africa'. This article takes its point of departure in the analysis of differences between what may be termed the 'public' and the 'private' discourses in the letters. Parts of the letters may be read as a contribution to the formation of a colonial discourse in Denmark/Europe. Here one finds a number of familiar stereotypes about Africa and Africans. On the other hand, some of the
letters, often eyewitness accounts of incidents that diverge from the common colonial discourse, suggest very different interpretations. The letters may thus be read both as a way of negotiating African experiences and European expectations and also as evidence of cultural adaptation and hybridity. The article therefore comments on discrepancies between common stereotypes present in the letters about the African's childishness, laziness etc. and Christian Lautherborn's actions as a plantation manager and member of colonial society. A careful reading of Lautherborn's letters also reveals a number of contradictions between what he says and what he does. Bibliogr., notes, ref. sum., in English and French. [Journal abstract]

http://www.codesria.org/IMG/pdf/5._rostga.pdf

Zimbabwe

Abstract: This article is based on Zimbabwean ex-political prisoners' testimonies and writings, and argues that, although Rhodesian prisons were spaces of racialised abuse, curtailed freedoms, and heightened repression, they were also spaces of struggle, subversion and negotiation. Indeed, prisoners' testimonies and their written accounts reveal the depravity and brutality of prison life. They capture vividly some of the gruesome experiences in the state corridors of silence. Yet, as this essay demonstrates, these testimonies also disclose the ways in which prisoners were not simply victims of state-sponsored penal terror: prisoners told stories of how they struggled, coped and creatively adapted to the harsh prison regimes. The author also argues that, by transforming the prison into an arena of struggle for political and social rights, African political offenders undermined the disciplinary, rehabilitative, and punitive intent of imprisonment. Political prisoners are important historical subjects in the telling of the struggle for liberation in Zimbabwe - prisoners' life stories and writings demonstrate the ways in which political prisoners confronted the colonial regime. As political prisoners, they were important symbols of the struggle for liberation, and were also producers of powerful critiques of the colonial regime through their writings. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

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