Abstracts, week 38

**Africa**


Abstract: In May 2013 the African Union proposed the creation of an institutional framework for a new continental rapid-response force called the African Capacity for Immediate Response to Crises. While the creation of the rapid-response force has offered hope as an antidote to the recent continental inaction in the face of insurgencies in places like Mali in 2013, it has undergone critical scrutiny because it seemingly duplicates - and thus arguably draws resources away from - a similar mechanism, the African Standby Force, which has been in development by the African Union and regional communities since 2003. A contemporary debate is thus emerging: Certain observers favor the African Capacity for Immediate Response to Crises' new, ad-hoc, slim, and voluntary approach to collective security, while others argue that the African Standby Force's preexisting - though underdeveloped - regionally based, comprehensive, and institutionalized framework should receive top priority. This article offers overviews of both institutions and the various debates currently surrounding them. In the main, it argues that while critiques that the African Capacity for Immediate Response to Crises is duplicative of the African Standby Force are superficially cogent, deeper analysis shows that this is not the case. Rather, the African Capacity for Immediate Response to Crises is a laudable stopgap measure for continental rapid-deployment capabilities until the more bureaucratically complex African Standby Force is fully operationalized. Rather than undermining the African Standby Force, the African Capacity for Immediate Response to Crises is instead highly complementary. Indeed, it is likely the case that some of the more successful components of the African Capacity for Immediate Response to Crises will ultimately be incorporated into the African Standby Force's rapid-deployment capabilities once the latter is ready for operations in 2015 or beyond. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/19392206.2015.998543 (Restricted access)

**Burkina Faso**


Abstract: Fanta Regina Nacro's "The Night of Truth" (2004) is a graphic post-war political film that mediates the conflict between ethnicities within a nation state that has failed to appreciate its diversity as a gift. The authors analyse how the artists use cinematic means to challenge individuals and communities to cross the borders of sectarianism and intolerance in order to discover their shared need for freedom as a human race. They argue that although individuals and communities are often caught up in the prison of intolerance and divisionism, the ultimate desire of the human person is to be free to associate and make choices. Their central argument is that art has the power to foster agency, and to liberate individuals and communities in subtle and effective ways. Bibliogr., notes, sum. [Journal abstract]

http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/intellect/jac/2015/00000007/00000001/art00004 (Restricted access)

**Burkina Faso**


Abstract: Recently, the academic and political debate on resource scarcity and conflict has been revitalized against the background of global trends like climate change and the growing commercial pressure on land. Scholars widely agree that resource scarcity causes or influences conflict via social and political mediation mechanisms. But the respective understanding of social mediation fundamentally depends on theoretical and ontological perspectives. The author argues that conflicts over land are indeed distributive conflicts over a scarce resource. But they cannot
be understood regarding only the materiality of the resource because the conflicts are embedded in specific social relations. The author examines local conflicts over land in the Comoé province, south-western Burkina Faso and illustrates how local citizenship is negotiated in these conflicts. Control of and access to land, as well as social categories of citizenship and belonging are linked to each other in a mutually constitutive relationship. Bibliogr., notes, sum. [Journal abstract] http://modernafricajournal.org/wp-content/uploads/Bettina-Engels-2014-Beyond-scarcity-Conflicts-over-land-and-social-relations-in-south-western-Burkina-Faso.pdf

Cameroon
Men stay at home while women move out: new trends of mobility to China amongst Bamenda grassfield women (Cameroon) / Walter Gam Nkwi. - In: Modern Africa: (2014), vol. 2, no. 1, p. 95-113 : tab
Abstract: This article examines the mobility of women from the Bamenda Grassfields to China. Prior to the improvement in road and air transport, men had always been seen as those who move out and thus the breadwinners in the family. However, there is an increasing shift from this paradigm and recently with advancement in road and air transport female migrants have in many ways become the breadwinners of their families thus changing the socio-cultural norms hitherto unknown in the region. Women’s mobility in the past was linked to spousal reunions or for family reasons. Drawing from archival and secondary sources, oral interviews, and secondary sources this article argues that the new wave of mobility of women from the Bamenda Grassfields to China has altered previously perceived notions of men as breadwinners of the family and has led to a new dynamic in this region with women becoming more assertive. These women have come to represent what is known as China Women and they have fundamentally challenged patriarchal roles and control in the cultural fabric of the sub region. What accounts for this new wave of migration to China? To what extent does this phenomenon impact on the existing notion of men as breadwinners? The article concludes that the stereotypical view that conceives women as sedentary to stay at home and look after the livestock and children while their husbands move in search of family incomes has been challenged by the women of this region. Bibliogr., ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://modernafricajournal.org/wp-content/uploads/Walter-Gam-Nkwi-2014-Men-stay-at-home-while-women-move-out-new-trends-of-mobility-to-China-amongst-Bamenda-grassfield-women-Cameroon.pdf

Cameroon
The repugnancy and incompatibility tests and customary law in Anglophone Cameroon / Mikano E. Kiye. - In: African Studies Quarterly: (2014), vol. 15, no. 5, p. 85-106
Abstract: Contemporary customary law in Anglophone Cameroon has undergone a severe transformation since the coming into force of the Southern Cameroons High Court Law (SCHL), 1955. Prior to its enactment, customary law was administered by village authorities and was not subjected to any requirements. The SCHL is an influential piece of colonial legislation applicable in the former Southern or West Cameroon (currently the two Anglophone South West and North West Regions). Apart from establishing the competence of the then High Court, the legislation provides for the reception of English law into the territory and for the enforcement of customary law subject to passing duality tests: the repugnancy and incompatibility tests. Section 27(1) governs enforcement of customary law. Seemingly, the provision had the objectives of guaranteeing the survival of customary law in Anglophone Cameroon and eliminating offensive customary practices, thereby provoking in the people a sense of reform of customary rules. However, contemporary developments revealed that inasmuch as Section 27(1) has secured the survival of customary law (as interpreted by lawyers) over the years, it has also generated a number of conceptual and practical difficulties in the enforcement of customary law by the statutory courts. There are no clear standards in determining repugnancy and this has led to uncertainty in the application of customary law. Further, the duality tests have led to a divergence between the customary law recognized by the court and that recognized in society, the consequence being that a new version of customary law has arisen which does not reflect socially recognized norms. Alternatively, through the application of the duality tests, a new
version of customary law is created by the statutory courts and then institutionalized in the legal system. Bibliogr., notes., ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

Cape Verde
Peasants, the state and aid: rural development and poverty in Cape Verde / Carlos Ferreira Couto. - In: Modern Africa: (2013), vol. 1, no. 2, p. 87-109 : fig
Abstract: Based on employment-intensive public works, international food aid implemented a model in several countries with varying rates of success. Through the sale of foodstuffs, food aid in Cape Verde originated a monetized help system called cash-for-work. This system consisted of recruiting workers from rural areas for the construction of infrastructure projects for the conservation of soil and water. Also the construction of roads creates income for rural families, during their free time from the traditional activities such as composting, sowing and harvesting of dry land agriculture. The result was the establishment of a food aid program in Cape Verde through the 1980s and 1990s that represents a combination of several types of programs. These programs intend to guarantee long-term employment as well as the creation of an infrastructure. Therefore it was not a program of emergency food aid. Santiago’s rural production relationship develops alongside the transformation in social structures based on the traditional forms of cooperation of work and mutual assistance. This is in response to developmental actions through the rural development projects. These transformations in the peasants social organization refer to the importance of reciprocity in peasant society. In the Santiago case, this possibility is settled by using a device to reduce uncertainty, a kind of shape memory behavior, where collective reciprocity of the social structure, built on peasant institutions, was to maintain a negative relationship with modernizing external interventions. Development/underdevelopment, is the result of the action of economic agents in a precise contexts. The decision of rural economic agents as minimum resource managers is the essential ingredient to the "modernization" of peasant self-management, fostering the co-evolutionary process (progression) of different elements of social design. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

Central African Republic
2011, The ambassador / a film by Mads Brügger; producers, Peter Engel and Carsten Holst; director & original idea, Mads Brügger; writers, Maja Jul Larson, Mads Brügger Copenhagen : Electric Parc, (396088589).
Abstract: The Ambassador, about the trading of diplomatic titles in Africa. Brügger impersonated a Liberian ambassador by purchasing a new identity on a black market, and then proceeded to expose the ease with which people holding diplomatic titles can exploit the gem trade. As result of the revelations in the documentary the government of Liberia has taken legal steps to prosecute Brügger and the other participants, due to the embarrassment his work has done to the country. However, as of July 2012 the Danish government has not been presented with a formal demand for the extradition of Brügger. [Abstracts reproduced from dvd-video]

Chad
Abstract: Adam (Youssouf Djaooro), a former central African swimming champion, is the pool attendant at a luxury hotel. He is known as Champ. As an economy measure Mrs. Wang, the manager, demotes him to gate security guard and his son Abdel is made pool attendant. The local chief pressures Adam to give money towards Chad's fight against rebel forces, chastising him for not attending a cause meeting. The chief tells Adam of how he sent his 17-year-old son to fight in the war. He also tells Adam he has three days to pay money to support the cause. To regain his post Adam volunteers Abdel for the army and troops come to the family home to draft him. Adam resumes his job as pool attendant. A 17-year-old woman, Abdel's pregnant de facto wife, arrives at Adam's home and is taken in and cared for. The conflict worsens and the townspeople flee. Adam tells his daughter-in-law of his treachery and she breaks down. Adam rethinks his position and takes his motorcycle with sidecar to the war zone to bring Abdel home. He finds Abdel seriously wounded- eye, neck, right arm and abdomen. That night Adam takes
Abdel from the hospital, places him in the sidecar and heads for home. On the journey Abdel says he wishes to swim in the river. Abdel dies as they reach the river. Adam floats the corpse in the river which takes the body away. [Abstract reproduced from dvd-video]

Ethiopia
Grasping Kiflu's fear : informality and existentialism in migration from North-East Africa / Magnus Treiber. - In: Modern Africa: (2013), vol. 1, no. 2, p. 111-139
Abstract: Five decades after sociologist Everett Lee published his universal Theory of Migration, rationalising etic explanations of praxis in unprivileged migration still prevail. In this article the author critically discusses commonly used concepts such as coping strategy, agency and creativity that have been widely derived from the study of uncertainty in urban and rural Africa. Subsequently he suggests reassessing the concept of informality within the context of migration, where it evolves alongside migrations informal/formal divide. Informality then includes migrations specific existential dimension and can be understood as a typical mode of action in unprivileged migration. Informality potentially bridges the gap between acting and being acted upon (Jackson 2005), it renders active where otherwise passivity and exclusion have to be faced and thus feeds imaginations of a better life elsewhere. Informality, however, also shapes people and their view of the world. This is explicated exemplarily with reference to my own fieldwork with migrants from Eritrea and Ethiopia. The author argues that migrants agency should not be simply alleged from above, but conceptualised from empirical research. The study of migrants informal praxis can not only contribute to theoretical debates in migration studies but also refers to a global perspective. Bibliogr., notes, sum. [Journal abstract]
http://modernafricajournal.org/category/issues/

Ghana
Abstract: Community is one of the idealized terms used frequently in contemporary development discourse. This paper argues that community is a complex and portrays the outcomes of development programs that apply it loosely. It draws on qualitative research methods and a case study of the World Banks Community-Based Rural Development Project implemented in Abaase in the Eastern Region of Ghana between 2005 and 2011. The analysis suggests that while the concept of community seems appealing, it may not practically exist or may be weak in localities labeled as communities. Thus, the paper argues for the need to design and implement community-based or driven programs in a way that identifies, develops, and targets specific community groups or members, particularly in migrant and transient populations. Bibliogr., notes., ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

Ghana
The cattle are 'Ghanaians' but the herders are strangers : farmer-herder conflicts, expulsion policy and pastoralist question in Agogo, Ghana / Azeez Olaniyi, Michael Francis and Ufo Okeke-Uzodike. - In: African Studies Quarterly: (2014), vol. 15, no. 5, p. 53-67 : krt
Abstract: The phenomenon of farmer-herders conflict across West Africa has prompted management strategies by several governments across the subcontinent. One of the conflict resolution mechanisms has been the policy of expulsion, which the Ghanaian state adopted as a response to incessant conflict between the settled agriculturalists and migrating Fulani herders. This paper focuses on migration and conflict as well as the intrigues and politics of expulsion of Fulani pastoralist from Agogo town in Ghana since 2009. There are multiple factors responsible for the migration of Fulani herders to Agogo area that are linked to climate change. The authors also examine the social and political factors triggering the expulsion as well as agitation to expel the Fulani. Counter to this they examine the Fulani reactions towards this development. Through this the authors also critique the policy of expulsion as a means of dealing with the pastoralist question. By means of a critical assessment of the conflict they offer strategies for policy and reconciliation. Bibliogr., notes., ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
Guinea-Bissau
Abstract: Today, global players and global legal norms are present even in seemingly remote areas. The Bijagós archipelago of Guinea-Bissau is a case in point. Besides the autochthonous islanders, there are operators of the global tourist industry, international drug dealers, fishing ships from Asia and Europe, petrol companies, as well as transnational environmental organisations on the islands who seek to obtain specific rights to access the islands resources, be it oil, fishing grounds, beaches, biospheres, or hiding places. All newcomers, however, bring differing legal perceptions to the islands. The article argues that the confrontation of autochthonous legal norms with allochthonous conceptions affects morally protected boundaries between various spheres of exchange, leading to crises of trust, misunderstandings and mutual accusations of immorality. On the archipelago, local groups actively cope with these global challenges by claiming for the re-establishment of neo-traditional rights on land and fishing grounds, which are not only directed against newcomers, but are also prone to bring about changes within the age-class society of the Bijagós. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum [Journal abstract] http://modernafricajournal.org/wp-content/uploads/Georg-Klute-Raul-Fernandes-Global-Challenges-and-the-ReDevelopment-of-Neo-traditional-Land-Rights.-Research-in-Legal-Anthropology-in-Guinea-Bissau.pdf

Kenya
'Jogoo la shambani haliwiki mjini': the village and the town in the 'Mgithi' and one man guitar performances in Kenya / Maina wa Mtonya. - In: African Studies Quarterly: (2014), vol. 14, no. 4, p. 1-16
Abstract: The 1990s marked an emergence of a relatively new genre in the contours of Kenyan popular culture. The Mgithi performance signaled a beginning of new directions, largely in Kenyan music and specifically in the contemporary Gky music in terms of themes and style. The performance, mostly an urban phenomenon dominated by Gky one-man guitarists, is a major site for negotiation of identities and incorporates the interface and interplay between the traditional and the contemporary, especially in the urban setting. This article highlights the inherent contradictions in creation and re-creation of urban identities as expressed in this music. The main argument is that identities are always contested and different socio-economic situations call for a negotiation, if not a re-negotiation of identities. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://asq.africa.ufl.edu/files/Volume-14-Issue-4-Mutonya1.pdf

Kenya
Kibera..., make yourself at home! : researching the community development in Nairobi's informal settlement of Kibera / Lenka Smolinská. - In: Modern Africa: (2013), vol. 1, no. 1, p. 105-123 : foto's
Abstract: The report presents findings from research conducted on a community development in the informal settlement of Kibera in Nairobi. The research was conducted as a base for the author's Masters Thesis in the year 2006 and focused on the community-based youth organizations. Apart from observing and describing their activities the author recorded the emic perception of life in Kibera and views on poverty. She found out that the common outsiders discourse and description of life in an impoverished settlement differs greatly from the view of its young adult inhabitants. Due to the youths enthusiastic and indeed philosophical attitude to life the author decided to focus on the positive aspects and reveal the wealth present in Kibera. The wealth, as she tried to show, rests in the young proactive population of Kibera who are striving to be recognized and respected. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://modernafricajournal.org/wp-content/uploads/Lenka-Smolinská-Kibera-make-yourself-at-home-.pdf

Kenya
Protection of development-induced internally displaced persons under the African Charter: the case of the Endorois community of Northern Kenya / Laurence Juma. - In: Comparative and
Abstract: The discourse on development-induced displacement has highlighted the enormity of problems faced by communities who are forcefully removed to create room for development projects, while at the same time, exposed the insularity of national and international legal frameworks for their protection. Using the case of ‘Centre for Minority Rights Development (CEMIRIDE) on behalf of the Endorois Community v Kenya’ (No 276/200), decided by the African Commission on Human and People's Rights in November 2009, this article analyses the support that regional and continental rights enforcement mechanisms could provide to the protection of IDPs, particularly those displaced by development projects. The article concludes that whereas there may be a need for expanding the reach of law in providing protection to development-induced IDPs, it may still be worthwhile to explore the possibility of reverting to the regional human rights protection mechanism to meet the shortfall in protection and assistance provided by the existing IDP laws. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://reference.sabinet.co.za/webx/access/electronic_journals/cilsa/cilsa_v46_n2_a3.pdf (Restricted access)

Abstract: Le droit malgache est ancien et spécifique. Au fil des siècles, et jusqu'à présent, il n'a pas cessé de se développer, s'enrichir et s'approfondir. Il demeure aujourd'hui encore pleinement vivace. Il conserve sa pleine utilité et efficacité. En trois séquences, ce film illustre cette pérennité et cette vigueur du droit malgache. Le début du film montre une doctorante, utilisant photos et vidéos, qui tente de démontrer l'importance de maintenir les rituels d'usage, notamment le sacrifice d'un zébu lors de la signature de contrats de gestion intégrée dans la région de Moramanga. Ensuite le voyage continue vers l'océan Indien, le long d'un pipeline minéralier en phase de finition. Un enseignant-chercheur de l'Université d'Antananarivo et son étudiante mettent en place des indicateurs permettant de mesurer les transformations sociales et spatiales occasionnées par cette construction. Enfin, c'est le pays Bara, au sud de Madagascar, qui sert de décor à la troisième séquence. La découverte récente de saphir a enflammé la région d'Ikalaka. Depuis une dizaine d'années, un enseignant-chercheur de l'Université d'Antananarivo et plusieurs groupes d'étudiants ont suivi les transformations engendrées par la ruée migratoire et l'émergence de villes et villages-champignons. Les secteurs de l'hygiène, de l'éducation et de l'organisation administrative sont analysés. [Résumé extrait du DVD]

Namibia
Abstract: The Republic of Namibia has an extremely complex composition of its population. Bantu nations, Khoisan groups, mixed communities and people of European origin create a political problem of how all those society segments can be represented in the national decision making process in a just and satisfactory way. During the precolonial time period, the individual tribes and groups had their own chiefs or kapteins along with the respective aristocracy or elected representation (Volksraad in the case of the Rehoboth Basters). The German colonial rule between 1884 and 1915 united all national and racial groups for the first time, but the African communities remained outside of the gradually constituted white self-administration as a subordinated element. During the South African rule under the League of Nations Mandated Territory regime 1915/1921-1945 the first political representations of Africans were being organized on the ground level. After World War II the controversy between the Union of South Africa (Republic of South Africa since 1961) and the UNO Trusteeship Council led to an effort to seek a solution according to the apartheid politics: the whites from South West Africa were represented directly in both South African parliament chambers. Meanwhile several homelands for the native population were projected in conformity with the Odendaal Plan. Under pressure from the international community, only three homelands were really proclaimed out of 11 planned. The UNO initiative and the SWAPO armed resistance made it impossible to recognize results of the last elections organized in 1980 within the racial/tribal framework as well as the all-races Transitional Government of National Unity established in 1985. During the last years under the
South African administration, traditional chiefs assumed their authority in all African communities. Based on the free and UNO supervised one-person-one-vote 1989 elections the independent Namibia came to existence in 1990. However, all democratic rights and the bicameral parliament the upper chamber of which respects the equality of each from 13 regions do not guarantee a fully fair representation of all ethnic groups. The merging of the Euro-American democratic system of power with the complicated national/tribal/clan reality is still to be calibrated in the future. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://modernafricajournal.org/wp-content/uploads/Jan-Kl%C3%ADma-2014-The-evolution-of-the-political-representation-of-African-communities-in-DSWASWANamibia.pdf

Namibia
Abstract: Soon after constitutional democracy came to Namibia in 1990, the courts began to propound and develop a human rights culture and jurisprudence. Missing, however, from the resulting wealth of case law, were cases relating to government liability. In effect, there was no corresponding development of the law of state liability in Namibia until recently when claims for delictual damages for the acts and omissions of police and prison authorities alleging breaches of fundamental rights, started reaching the courts. Although the Namibian Constitution does not, like the South African, expressly mandate the courts to develop the common law so as to reflect the spirit of the entrenched fundamental rights, the Supreme Court has held that the Namibian Constitution and national legislation necessarily authorise the courts to adjudicate having regard to those rights. It then proceeded in 'Dresselhaus Transport CC v Government of the Republic of Namibia' 2005 NR 214 (SC) to treat as 'useful guidelines' the constitutional-delict principles enunciated by South African courts in developing Namibia's own government liability law. This presentation argues that, like their counterparts in South Africa, litigants in Namibia do not bring their actions directly under the Constitution seeking compensation for breaches of their fundamental rights, started reaching the courts. Although the Namibian Constitution does not, like the South African, expressly mandate the courts to develop the common law so as to reflect the spirit of the entrenched fundamental rights, the Supreme Court has held that the Namibian Constitution and national legislation necessarily authorise the courts to adjudicate having regard to those rights. It then proceeded in 'Dresselhaus Transport CC v Government of the Republic of Namibia' 2005 NR 214 (SC) to treat as 'useful guidelines' the constitutional-delict principles enunciated by South African courts in developing Namibia's own government liability law. This presentation argues that, like their counterparts in South Africa, litigants in Namibia do not bring their actions directly under the Constitution seeking compensation for breaches of their fundamental rights, and that pursuing that line of action has its inherent problems and negative implications for vindication of litigants' rights. It suggests a re-think of that approach and practice. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://reference.sabinet.co.za/webx/access/electronic_journals/ cilsa/cilsa_v46_n2_a2.pdf (Restricted access)

Nigeria
Abstract: Boko Haram currently poses existential threats to the Nigerian state and its citizens. But defeating the group has proved very challenging for the Nigerian government. This is partly due to lack of understanding about the contributing factors relating to the emergence and continued existence of Boko Haram. Thus, this article examines how the interaction of Islamic fundamentalism, politics, and poverty explain the emergence and continued existence of Boko Haram in Nigeria. As a reflection of the hollowness within Nigeria's overall security architecture, the inability of Nigeria's security agencies to combat the current threats posed by Boko Haram is also analyzed. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/19392206.2015.998539 (Restricted access)

Nigeria
Two sides of a coin : traditional rulership and the mitigation of nonstate security threats in Nigeria / Bona Chizea and Oarhe Osumah. - In: African Security: (2015), vol. 8, no. 2, p. 75-95
Abstract: Nigeria faces a serious set of new security threats. In the south and the northeast, respectively, there are insurgencies led by the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta, among others, as well as Boko Haram. These insurgencies are related to a complex set of insecurities in Nigeria: poverty, income inequality, corruption, crime, and youth militias. The Nigeria state thus far has not been able to effectively address these security issues. This article
examines the potential of traditional rulership in Nigeria to positively contribute to the struggle against insecurity and its consequences. It finds that there may be promise in the institutions of traditional rule. Yet, because traditional rulers have been often co-opted by the state, they have lost much of the legitimacy it needs to fulfill that potential. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/19392206.2015.1036668 (Restricted access)

**Nigeria**

**Violence as intentionality for survival and power in two Yoruba films / Olabode Wale Ojoniyi.** - In: *Journal of African Cinemas: (2015), vol. 7, no. 1, p. 31-39*

Abstract: This article explores how violence is motivated by different levels of apprehension in man's consciousness to provoke him/her to certain vicious actions. It builds on the hypothetical suggestion of Nietzsche that men interpret the world through their fears and project their fears into the nature of things (cited in Schacht 1983: 199225) when analysing violence in its existential terms/forms. The article assumes that it is normal for men to have fears and relate to others through their fears. Consequently, it interrogates the roles played by fear as an existential sub-theme in man's consciousness in relation to violent actions as projected in two Yoruba films, "Eku Meji/Two Rats" (Ayinde, 2011) and "Aje Nimope/I Call to Wealth" (Ramon, 2012), with the possibility of seeing violence as a conscious intentional act of survival and sociocultural interaction/production. It also looks at grounds upon which characters are predisposed to violence, concluding that whoever wishes to survive at all cost may be predisposed to violence. Bibliogr., notes, sum. [Journal abstract]

**Nigeria**


Abstract: The extant perspectives on vote-buying have produced three central arguments around its causes, which are the factors of poverty, the electoral/voting system, and the nature of politics in the state. Going beyond these perspectives, this study presents the argument that vote-buying can also be explained by considering the nature of the political economy of a state, especially when the state is oil-dependent. The Nigerian case study demonstrates this argument. The authors employ the oil-impedes-democracy framework, which is a strand of the resource curse theory, to argue that the incidence of vote-buying in Nigeria's contemporary elections is prevalent because of the oil wealth associated with politics and elections in the state. This is because abundant oil wealth intensifies elite competition, which explains the use of all strategies to win elections including vote-buying. This is also facilitated by the fact that the political elite, especially the incumbent, have adequate access to oil wealth and spend it to buy elections and hold on power. Voters, on their part, also prefer to sell their votes during elections to have a share of the national cake given their perception of the wealth associated with politics in Nigeria and the poor service delivery by politicians after assuming state offices. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://asq.africa.ufl.edu/files/Volume-15-Issue-2-Onapajo- Francis-and-Okeke-Uzodike.pdf

**Nigeria**

**Unveiling the salient issues in the protracted Jos crises, Central Nigeria / Peter Nungshak Wika.** - In: *Modern Africa: (2014), vol. 2, no. 1, p. 53-74 : tab*

Abstract: This paper has critically examined the causes and contexts of the protracted crises in Jos Plateau State, Nigeria since 1994. The paper traces the emergence and perpetuation of the conflict to the imposition of an exploitative and competitive colonial system sustained by mass labour migration, ethnic-politics and religious contestations. At the centre of these violent eruptions are the groups dynamics that the conflict has created: The Indigene versus Settler problematic as well as the Christian versus Muslims militias. The crises in Jos are resource and identity-based in a contest over the native, political and economic soul of the ancient Tin-city. The various attempts made by the State and other non-State actors at finding lasting solutions to these ensuing huge human and material loss in this circle of violence have largely been insincere as they are also politicized. The Conflict perspectives as well as the Ethnic and Resource
Mobilization paradigm were adopted in an attempt to understanding the Jos crises. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract]

Rwanda
Abstract: The post-genocide Rwandan government is simultaneously characterized as heroes in regional peacekeeping operations and violent criminals in the Democratic Republic of Congo. An analysis of the Kagame regime's reasons for contributing to African peace operations reconciles these contradictory images. Following the logic of extraversion, the Rwandan government's peacekeeping activities are an instrument for mollifying Western donors without terminating interference in the Congo. Peacekeeping showcases a strategic manipulation of international norms rather than a commitment to humanitarianism. The strategy has proven successful for the Rwandan government, improving the regime's diplomatic standing and increasing their access to military aid and training. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/19392206.2015.998542 (Restricted access)

Rwanda
Abstract: This article explores the French government's political and military relationship with Rwanda since 1975, with a particular focus on the period from 1990 and throughout the genocide of 1994. An argument is made that the French state, through its behavior in Rwanda before and during the genocide of 1994, is complicit under international criminal law. As a concept, complicity provides a lens for understanding the scope of liability of states as responsible actors within the international system. The article argues that that the knowing participatory role played by the French throughout the period of the Rwandan genocide can be construed as complicity in genocide. This is a criminal breach of international law. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/19392206.2015.1036669 (Restricted access)

Rwanda
The rise and fall of the Rwanda-Uganda alliance / Scott McKnight. - In: African Studies Quarterly: (2014), vol. 15, no. 5, p. 23-52
Abstract: This paper argues that the Rwanda-Uganda alliance began in the early 1980s as a pact of survival between Ugandan rebels and Rwandan exiles then living in Uganda, through the Rwandan and Ugandan military occupation of Congo, and concludes with the alliances violent breakup in late 1999. Using different alliance theories, this paper helps explain that the success of the Rwanda-Uganda alliance against the Mobutu regime had generated a bandwagon effect in the region. But the speed and success of this war paved over serious disagreements in strategy and clashes of personality within the Rwanda-Uganda alliance. It was not until the second war in Congo that these disagreements came to the surface; the alliance encountered fierce and unexpected resistance from states in the region, which joined together to balance and ultimately stymy the Rwanda-Uganda alliances second attempt at regime change in Congo. Drawing from interviews with high-ranking Ugandan and Rwandan officials, as well as numerous secondary sources, this paper argues that the Rwanda-Uganda alliance was beset by personality clashes between major players in the alliance, strategic disagreements over the ubiquitous Congo question, and zero-sum economic conflicts of interests, exemplified by the fighting between the Rwandan and Ugandan militaries at Kisangani, which marked the end of the alliance. Bibliogr., notes., ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

Senegal
Special Issue: Fed up: creating a new type of Senegal through the arts / guest ed. Molly Krueger
Abstract: The primary objective of this guest-edited issue of the African Studies Quarterly is to present the shifting political and social landscape in contemporary Senegal led by artists/activists, to introduce new and innovative forms of musical, literary, theatrical, and artistic expression existing in Senegal today, and to analyze the intersections between the political and the arts in the attempts by artistic creators to transform Senegalese culture, society, and politics. The editors believe that the articles demonstrate that contemporary Senegalese artists are working through their artistic and cultural creations to empower ordinary citizens who are fed up with the calcification of conventional political avenues to create a new type of Senegal. Furthermore, this collection of essays shows that the mentality among these artists to reform Senegalese society through the arts is a uniquely Senegalese philosophy that can be traced back to the birth of Senegals independence. Contributions: Introduction: fed up: creating a new type of Senegal through the arts (Molly Krueger Enz and Devin Bryson); The new type of Senegalese under construction: Fadel Barro and Aliou Sané on Yenamarrism after Wade (Sarah Nelson); The rise of a new Senegalese cultural philosophy? (Devin Bryson); Nafissatou Dia Dieus critical look at a Senegal in the midst of transformation (Molly Krueger Enz); De-centering theatrical heritage: forum theater in contemporary Senegal (Brian Quinn); These walls belong to everybody: the graffiti art movement in Dakar (Leslie W. Rabine). Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [ASC Leiden abstract]

Somaliland
To be or not to be: rethinking the possible repercussions of Somalilands international statehood recognition / Nikola Pijovic. - In: African Studies Quarterly: (2014), vol. 14, no. 4, p. 17-36
Abstract: After the fall of President Siyad Barre in 1991, the northern region of what used to constitute Somalia declared independence from the rest of the country as the Republic of Somaliland. Although Somaliland is not internationally recognized as a sovereign state, it has survived for over two decades and currently constitutes the most peaceful and secure area of Somalia. Notwithstanding its accomplishments in state building and good governance, however, the international community has been highly reluctant to extend Somaliland international recognition, while at the same time showering the dysfunctional Somali Federal Institutions with aid and complete recognition in all international forums. Diplomats, politicians, and academics discussing Somalilands status usually raise a number of issues that should be considered before the territory is to be extended formal recognition. This article seeks to examine many of those issues and discuss their validity in order to illuminate the highly complex situation surrounding Somalilands international recognition. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://asq.africa.ufl.edu/files/Volume-14-Issue-4-Pijovic2.pdf

South Africa
Accessing the archive: a TV history of Afrikaans film / Keyan Tomaselli. - In: Journal of African Cinemas: (2015), vol. 7, no. 1, p. 3-14
Abstract: This article explores the political economy of the Afrikaans film production industry. The point of entry is a TV documentary series, "Far Away in the Movies" (Lategan, 2011). A basic methodology for examining visualization of media history is developed by examining the series as a point of reference. The issue of film archives and challenges of obtaining access is discussed. Issues of memory and how interviewees and scholars remember is conducted through autoethnographic analysis. Bibliogr., notes, sum. [Journal abstract]
http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/intellect/jac/2015/ 00000007/00000001/art00001
(Restricted access)

South Africa
Improving the contribution of cooperatives as vehicles for local economic development in South Africa / Prudence Khumalo. - In: African Studies Quarterly: (2014), vol. 14, no. 4, p. 61-79
Abstract: There has been a growing realization over the years of the importance of cooperatives as vital instruments for socio-economic development across the globe. The article seeks to argue that the success of cooperatives in contributing to local economic development (LED) in South
Africa is undermined by the lack of an active cooperative movement and faulty state support for cooperatives. Through a literature review, the LED contribution of cooperatives by way of training, provision of services, social cohesion, and infrastructure development is analyzed. Subsequently, there is a discussion of the challenges faced by cooperatives in the country such as the high attrition rate, leadership and management challenges, interference by government officials, and a lack of stability. The article endeavors to bring to light some of the possible solutions to the current challenges, among which is the need for establishing training institutions on cooperatives, the creation of an enabling environment for a strong cooperative movement to thrive, and provision of adequate funding. The article further underlines the need for a research and evaluation mechanism that will monitor the performance of cooperatives and provide necessary support. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://asq.africa.ufl.edu/files/Volume-14-Issue-4-Khumalo1.pdf

South Africa
Abstract: South African law distinguishes between enrichment liens and debtor and creditor liens. The former are generally classified as real rights and the latter are not. This position is similar to the position in Dutch law before the enactment of the current BW, where 'retentierechten' (liens) were divided into 'zakenrechtelijke retentierechten' and 'verbintenisrechtelijke retentierechten'. The former enjoyed real operation while the latter did not. Even though most authors are of the opinion that neither 'zakenrechtelijke retentierechten' nor 'verbintenisrechtelijke retentierechten' qualified as either real or personal rights, there were some authors who regarded 'zakenrechtelijke retentierechten' as real rights. The current 'BW' did away with the uncertainty regarding the nature of a lien. There is no longer a distinction between different types of lien. Article 3:290-3:295 'BW' deals with 'retentierechten' and classifies a lien as a 'verhaalsrecht' (right of redress) and a specific 'opschortingsrecht' (right to suspend). Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://reference.sabinet.co.za/webx/access/electronic_journals/cilsa/cilsa_v46_n2_a6.pdf (Restricted access)

South Africa
http://reference.sabinet.co.za/webx/access/electronic_journals/cilsa/cilsa_v46_n2_a5.pdf (Restricted access)

South Africa
Abstract: For VAT purposes, two issues arise when vouchers are used namely whether the time of supply is when the voucher was issued and imported (in the case of vouchers issued outside the Republic) into South Africa, or, when a voucher is exchanged for goods or services; and, secondly, whether VAT must be accounted for on the discounted amount paid for the voucher or the stated monetary value of the voucher. This article critically examines the VAT treatment of vouchers under the VAT Act (as it currently stands) with reference to the draft Interpretation Note
on the VAT treatment of vouchers at a discount. It further analyses the Draft harmonised EU proposals on the VAT treatment of vouchers in the EU with a view to seeking a solution to the current South African uncertainties in respect of the time and value-of-supply rules when vouchers are issued. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://reference.sabinet.co.za/webx/access/electronic_journals/cilsa/cilsa_v46_n2_a4.pdf (Restricted access)

South Sudan
IGAD’s mediation in the current South Sudan conflict: prospects and challenges / Kasaija Phillip Apuuli. - In: African Security: (2015), vol. 8, no. 2, p. 120-145
Abstract: Since December 2013, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development has been mediating the current South Sudan conflict. The mediation effort is predicated under Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter under which regional organizations can undertake activities in the area of conflict mediation and resolution. In January 2014, the mediation process resulted in the signing of two landmark agreements on the cessation of hostilities and the political detainees. The paper argues that the authority's mediation process is in danger of failing due to a number of reasons, including the authority's structural problems and lack of leverage to enforce its will on the parties to the conflict. In the end, the mediation may have a chance of success if the organization can tap into its mediation experience gained during the Sudan and Somalia peace processes. Moreover, the authority's mediation of the South Sudan conflict has a chance of succeeding because it has been recognized by the African Union and the United Nations among others as the only process to resolve the problem. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/19392206.2015.1036671 (Restricted access)

Tanzania
Abstract: Self-reliance was a cornerstone of Ujamaa socialism - the ideology of Tanzania from 1967 till the mid-1980s. In the post-Cold-War period socialist ideology was actually abandoned, together with the really valuable concept of self-reliance. As most African countries, Tanzania is crucially dependent on foreign aid. The authors argue that aid can play a positive part for Tanzania and countries like it, but only if it promotes their self-development which, in its turn, is possible only if a nation is or strives to become self-reliant. However, in contemporary Tanzania the culture of self-reliance has almost disappeared since national ideology has changed, and many people rely on foreign aid and national government, not on their own hard work. At the same time, the union of foreign donors and corrupt national bureaucracy results in Tanzania in aid without development that, as in the case of aid for mosquito bed nets, cannot promote self-reliance and, hence, socio-economic progress. App., bibliogr., notes, sum. [Journal abstract]

Zambia
Abstract: This article examines the organization of Zambian political parties via the extended case method of the reflexive science model (Burawoy 1998). 23 in-depth interviews with party members and activists were conducted in three Zambian provinces around the time of the tripartite general elections in 2011. The inter-subjective encounters focused on the parties day-to-day functioning and were used to construe a model of party members lifeworld and its connections to macro-social forces studied by positive science. The study describes the Zambian political party scene as a one party multipartism that is characterized by a lack of organizational cohesion and party switching of both individuals and structures. Using this interpretation as a springboard, the second part initiates a theoretical discussion of party ideology, party voter interface, the dynamics of non-cohesive party competition, and the role of informal politics in the party's internal organization. A picture emerges of political parties that are well adapted to the
Abstract: The economic voting theory and the responsibility hypothesis posit that voters hold the government accountable for economic performance and will vote for the incumbent if the economy is good. The core assumption is that there is an incumbent and an opposition contesting in an election. But, this is not always the case. In elections following a transitional power sharing government, the schism between the incumbent and the opposition is generally blurred. Political parties that usually contest in the elections would have been part of the transitional power-sharing government. In such cases, voters are not able to apportion responsibility, and political parties compete to claim credit and assign blame. This increases the propensity for election commodification. Applying this proposition to Zimbabwe's 2013 elections, this paper contends that commodification of elections increases in polls following a transitional power sharing government when political parties contesting in the elections were part of the transitional power sharing government, making it difficult for voters to determine responsibility for policy, and leading to intense competition among political parties to claim credit and apportion blame for the performance of the transitional power-sharing government. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

Abstract: This paper seeks to understand the rationale behind the introduction of the villagization program in post-independence rural Zimbabwe between the 1980s and the 1990s with a particular focus on the Gokwe South District. This is particularly interesting in that similar programs in the colonial era generated resentment and faced resistance among the rural population and were eventually abandoned. Given that the history of Africa is replete with examples of such programs that failed dismally, the most representative being the ujamaa experiment in post-colonial Tanzania, one wonders why a post-independence government would still have faith in such unpopular programs. The paper is based on fieldwork conducted between 1996 and 1997, and again in 2002-3 and more recently in 2011 in selected areas of Gokwe South District. The research made use of minutes of meetings of the Gokwe South Rural District Council, especially those of the Council's Natural Resources Board and Resettlement Committee; national and local newspapers; interviews conducted with Village Development Committees (VIDCOs), chiefs, village heads, ward councilors, Council and Agritex officials, the district administration and ordinary villagers. Largely in response to the influx of immigrants into the district, among other factors, state officials in Gokwe constructed a land degradation narrative to justify the program. Research work revealed that the program was not adequately explained to Gokwe rural communities. However, the program was eventually overtaken by the land occupations of commercial farms that began around 1997 and dominated the Zimbabwean political landscape for much of the first decade of the twenty-first century. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://asq.africa.ufl.edu/files/Volume-14-Issue-4-Nyambara1.pdf

Zimbabwe's choice / Vladimir Shubin. - In: Modern Africa: (2013), vol. 1, no. 1, p. 41-65
Abstract: The article attempts to juxtapose myths and the realities of Zimbabwe and prove that the viewpoints wide-spread in the international media and even academic community are far
removed of those realities. Against the historical background it analyses the economic and political crisis the country faced in the beginning of the 21st century and the period of the all inclusive government. Special attention is paid to the 2013 presidential and parliamentary election and to the reasons of Robert Mugabes victory. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract] 