

# **Papers of Johan 'Hans' Frederik Holleman, Director of the African Studies Centre**

## **Archival Inventory by:**

François Janse van Rensburg, 2016

Updated by Ursula Oberst, 2024/2025

### *Shelf 5*

#### **Brief Description**

**Title:** Papers of Johan 'Hans' Frederik Holleman, Director of the African Studies Centre

**Origin:** African Studies Centre Library, Leiden University

**Dated (mostly):** 1945-1993

**Dimensions:** 10 boxes

**Languages (mostly):** Afrikaans, Dutch, English

**Summary:** Extensive collection of correspondence, drafts, manuscripts, maps, newspaper clippings, notes, and miscellanea collected by J.F. Holleman, predominantly from his work in South Africa from 1945 to 1963, Northern and Southern Rhodesia from 1945 to 1963 and in 1975, and the Netherlands from 1963 to 1993.

**Biographical History:** J.F. Holleman was born in Java, in the Dutch East Indies (now Indonesia) on 18 December 1915. His father was F.D. Holleman, a legal scholar and anthropologist. Johan Holleman was educated at Stellenbosch University and the University of Cape Town, both in South Africa, where he studied law and ethnography. In 1945, he was appointed as a Beit Research Fellow at the Rhodes-Livingstone institute in Lusaka, Northern Rhodesia. He conducted research, including fieldwork, on the Shona people, and was awarded his PhD on Shona Family Law by the University of Cape Town in 1950. Between 1957-1962, he was a professor and director at the Institute of Social Research of the University of Natal in Durban. In 1963, Johan Holleman moved to the Netherlands. Here he served as director of the African Studies Centre from 1963-1969, and he was also a professor at Leiden University from 1963-1979 where he held the same research chair Cornelis van Vollenhoven and his father Frederik David Holleman once did. After his retirement in 1979 his research chair was abolished. Towards the end of his life Johan Holleman translated a series of books on adat law written by Cornelis van Vollenhoven. In addition to his academic activities, Johan Holleman wrote fiction, including several important works of Afrikaans language fiction. Many of his fiction contributions were made under the pseudonyms 'Jacobus van der Blaeswindt' and 'Holmer Johanssen.' He was also a photographer. Johan Holleman died in Alphen aan den Rijn, in the Netherlands, in 2001.

**Institution:** African Studies Centre, Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands.

**Repository:** African Studies Centre Library. See also: The archive of F.D. Holleman at the

African Studies Centre Library, and the archive of J.F. Holleman at the Leiden University Special Collections.

## Origin and Acquisition

**Acquisition:** Unknown, likely collected by J.F. Holleman, and left at the African Studies Centre where he was a director from 1963-1969.

## Content and Composition

### Specification Content:

*The content of the boxes and folder are specified below:*

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## HOLLE-JF 1: Correspondence, 1945-1963

*Box 1:* Labelled 'Corresp. Dec 45-50, 1952-56, 1957-63, misc. cuttings'

- Brown folder labelled 'General Correspondence, Dec. 45-50'
  - [Misc.] [English] Newspaper clippings placed in white envelope. 10 clippings.
  - [Correspondence] [Afrikaans, Dutch, English] Extensive unsorted correspondence including handwritten and typed letters as well as telegrams, to and from Johan Holleman, dated (mostly) 1945-1950, with several later letters.
- Brown folder labelled '1952-56'
  - [Correspondence] [English] Unsorted loose letters, dated 1947-1957, 6 letters, placed in white envelope.
  - [Misc.] [English] Newspaper clippings, 3 clippings.
  - [Correspondence] [English] Unsorted handwritten and typed correspondence as well as telegrams, dated 1956-1957.

- [Misc.] [English] Various unsorted official documents from the University of Natal, Institute for Social Research, including appointment forms, conditions of service, and minutes of meetings, dated 1956-1957.

## **HOLLE-JF 2: Field notes, 1946-1952**

*Box 2: Labelled 'Typed Fieldnotes, Weza, Narira, 1947'*

- Brown package, unlabelled containing typed field notes
  - [Notes] [English] Typed notes on customary law and court proceedings.
- Brown package labelled 'Land Tenure', containing typed field notes
  - [Notes] [English] Typed notes on customary law and court proceedings.

*Box 3: Labelled 'Typed Field Notes, 1946-1952'*

- White envelope containing notes
  - [Notes] [English] Typed and handwritten notes dated 1945-1946 on [Shona] terminology.
- Brown envelope labelled 'Delicts, case material'
  - [Notes] [English] Typed notes dated 1946-1947 on [Shona] customary law court cases, 36 pages.
  - [Notes] [English] Handwritten and typed notes dated 1946-1947 on [Shona] customary law court cases, 40 pages.
- Brown envelope labelled 'Land Tenure'
  - [Notes] [English] Typed notes dated 1946-1947 on [Shona] customary law, 38 pages.
- Brown envelope labelled 'Miscellaneous'
  - [Notes] [English] Typed notes dated 1945-1946 on [Shona] terminology, 16 pages.
  - [Notes] [English] Handwritten notes on [Shona] childbirth and childcare, 17 pages.
  - [Notes] [Dutch] Typed notes dated 1946 on [Shona] games, 2 pages.
  - [Notes] [English] Typed and handwritten miscellaneous notes dated 1946-1948 on [Shona] customs.
- Brown envelope labelled 'Economic & Socio-Economic Activities & Statistics'
  - White envelope
    - [Correspondence] [English] Handwritten letter to J.F. Holleman, dated 31/10/46, 2 pages.
    - [Misc.] [English] Handwritten statistics on a settlement, Chogugudza, 2 pages.
    - [Misc.] [English] Handwritten speech dated 17/10/46 titled 'Marriage customs of the Waitera Tribe, S. Rhodesia', 4 pages.
  - [Misc.] [English] Handwritten economic statistics from Nhimbe, dated 1946, 5

- pages.
- [Misc.] [English] Handwritten and typed notes dated 1945 on 'Beer Feast of Ploughing', 2 pages.
  - Plastic sleeve labelled 'Selected cases- procedure'
    - [Notes] [English] Typed notes, with occasional handwritten comments, on [Shona] customary court cases, neatly organized, representing 27 cases, 144 pages.
  - Brown envelope labelled 'Delicts (Crimes; Torts)'
    - [Notes] [English] Handwritten notes on 'Seduction.'
    - [Notes] [English] Typed notes dated 1946 on 'Abortion', 2 pages.
    - [Notes] [English] Typed notes dated 1946 on various women's issues in [Shona] customary law, 11 pages.
    - [Notes] [English] Typed notes on 'Homicide', 3 pages.
  - Empty brown envelope labelled 'Transactions (Property rights; contracts; obligations)'
  - Brown envelope labelled 'Transactions, case material'
    - [Notes] [English] Typed notes dated 1947 on 'Rights to and use of kraal manure', 5 pages.
    - [Notes] [English] Typed notes dated 1947 on 'Women & property', 2 pages.
    - [Notes] [English] Typed notes dated 1950 on a [Shona] customary court case, 6 pages.
  - [Misc.] [Dutch] [English] Loose papers, placed in a white envelope, including a typed letter in Dutch dated 27/01/1946 to F.D. Holleman, 2 pages; and handwritten notes on kinship, 4 pages.
  - Brown envelope labelled 'Autonomous communities'
    - [Notes] [English] Typed notes, neatly organized, dated 1945-1947 with handwritten comments and drawings of various communities, 25 sets of notes on [Shona] customary law, 96 pages.
  - [Misc.] [English] Loose papers, placed in a white envelope, consisting of hand drawn kinship diagrams and typed instructions for a field researcher, 20 pages.
  - Brown envelope labelled 'Marriage and family law'
    - [Notes] [English] Typed notes dated 1945-1946 on [Shona] customary law, 23 pages.
  - Empty brown envelope labelled 'Property and estate'
  - Brown envelope labelled 'Procedure (formal & informal)'
    - [Notes] [English] Typed and handwritten notes dated 1946-1948 on [Shona] customary law, 32 pages.
  - [Misc.] [English] Loose papers, placed in a white envelope, consisting of hand drawn kinship diagrams and comments, 9 pages.
  - Brown envelope labelled 'Land tenure'

- [Notes] [English] Typed and handwritten notes dated 1946-1947 on [Shona] customary law, 25 sets of notes, 105 pages.
- Brown envelope labelled 'Land tenure, case material'
  - [Notes] [English] Typed notes with handwritten comments and hand drawn kinship diagrams dated 1946-1947 on [Shona] customary law and history, 23 sets of notes, 84 pages.
- Brown envelope labelled 'Phraseology'
  - [Notes] [English] Typed notes with handwritten comments on [Shona] terminology, 47 pages.
- Brown envelope labelled 'Religious etc., case material'
  - [Notes] [English] Typed notes on [Shona] religion, 3 sets of notes, 8 pages.
- Brown envelope labelled 'Religious & magico-religious beliefs & activities'
  - [Notes] [English] Typed notes on [Shona] religion, 8 sets of notes, 28 pages.
- [Misc.] Illegible loose page placed in white envelope, 1 page.
- Brown envelope labelled 'Autonomous communities, case material'
  - [Notes] [English] Typed and handwritten notes on [Shona] customary law, 16 sets of notes, 51 pages.

### **HOLLE-JF 3: Zulu material, field notes**

#### *Box 4: Labelled 'Zulu Material, Field Notes'*

- Green folder labelled 'Regsgemeenskappe'
  - Various loose papers placed in a white envelope
    - [Notes] [Dutch] Handwritten notes on an unknown topic, possibly related to the Dutch East Indies, 8 pages.
    - [Notes] [Dutch] Typed and handwritten notes on an unknown topic, possibly related to the Dutch East Indies, 2 pages.
    - [Notes] [Afrikaans] Typed notes with handwritten comments titled 'Voorkeurreg van die burgergrondbesitter', 13 pages.
    - [Notes] [Afrikaans] Various handwritten notes on unknown topics, likely Bantu customary law, 30 pages.
  - [Manuscript] [English] Typed manuscript titled 'Extract from memorandum for the guidance of Native Court Interpreters (Xhosa)' by J.Z. Makongolo, Department of Justice General Minute no. 62, 1941. Two copies.
  - [Notes] [Afrikaans] [English] Brown folder labelled 'Regsgemeenskappe, Oostelike Groep', containing handwritten notes, 29 pages.
    - [Notes] [Afrikaans] White folder labelled 'Politieke organisasie' containing handwritten notes, 80 pages.

- Brown folder dated 1939 titled 'Grondereg'
  - [Notes] Afrikaans] Typed and handwritten notes on topics related to Bantu customary law, 21 sets of notes plus various loose papers, 111 pages.
  - [Notes] [Afrikaans] Typed and handwritten notes on topics related to Bantu customary law, 10 sets of notes, 101 pages.
- Empty brown folder titled 'Regsgemeenskappe, Westelike Groep'
- Brown folder titled 'Verspreide onderwerpe'
  - [Notes] [Afrikaans] Loose handwritten notes, 4 pages.
  - [Notes] [Afrikaans] White folder containing 4 sets of handwritten notes, 45 pages.
    - [Misc.] [Zulu] Will dated 1939, titled 'Testament van Qwakindoba', 10 pages.
- Brown folder titled 'Skuldreg, Oostelike Groep'
  - [Notes] [Afrikaans] [English] Typed and handwritten notes on debt in Zulu customary law, 6 sets of notes, 16 pages.
- Green folder labelled 'Stukken van J.F. Holleman'
  - [Correspondence] [Afrikaans] Handwritten personal correspondence to J.F. Holleman, likely from his wife Marie Sem.
  - [Correspondence] [Afrikaans] [Dutch] [English] Unsorted correspondence to and from J.F. Holleman, 4 letters, 16 pages.
  - [Misc.] [English] Various loose kinship diagrams, 5 pages.
  - [Manuscript] [English] Typed manuscript by A.R. Radcliffe-Brown with attached letter by Max Gluckman dated 1946, titled 'Kinship and marriage in Africa.'
  - [Manuscript] [English] Typed draft manuscript with handwritten comments titled 'Analysis of certain aspects.'
  - [Manuscript] [English] Typed draft manuscript dated 1946, titled 'The Structure of Hera kinship' with handwritten comments.
  - [Manuscript] [English] Typed manuscript dated 1947, titled 'Some Practical Aspects of the Hera kinship system.'
  - [Manuscript] [English] Typed manuscript dated 1948, titled 'Some aspects of Bantu law.'
- Brown folder labelled 'Shona, from literature pre 1945'
  - [Notes] [English] Poorly organized mostly handwritten notes on the Shona, 152 pages.

## HOLLE-JF 4: PhD Thesis, 1950 & Mangwende Commission, 1960/1962

Box 5: Labelled 'Ph.D. Thesis, 1950'

- [Manuscript] [English] PhD Thesis, 'Some Aspects of Central Shona Family Law' with maps and kinship diagrams.
  - [Misc.] [English] Loose typed appendix titled 'Some Aspects of the Native Marriages Act. 1950', 13 pages.
  - [Misc.] [English] Loose typed preface by L. Powys-Jones, chief native commissioner of Southern Rhodesia, one page.
  - [Misc.] [Dutch] Part of an unknown Dutch newspaper.
  - [Misc.] [English] Brown envelope labelled 'Tables (Chapter 1)' containing kinship diagrams, 5 pages.

Box 6: Labelled 'Mangwende Commission, Nov. 1960 to April '61: a) Correspondence; b) Report; c) Reactions to Report'

- Brown envelope labelled 'Mangwende Commission, correspondences'
  - [Misc.] [English] Numerous loose unsorted newspaper clippings, magazines, government publications, and correspondence, all related to the Mangwende Report.
- [Manuscript] [English] 'Report of the Mangwende Reserve Commission of Inquiry, 1961' with handwritten comments, newspaper clippings, and loose legal publications by the Rhodesian parliament.
- Brown envelope labelled 'Mangwende Report: Press Cuttings & Letters of response'
  - [Misc.] [English] Numerous loose unsorted newspaper clippings, magazines, government publications, and correspondence, all related to the Mangwende Report.

## HOLLE-JF 5: MISSING

Box 7: Labelled 'Materiaal voor boek Chief, Council & Commissioner'

- [Misc.] Numerous loose unsorted materials including manuscripts and press cuttings related to the book 'Chief, Council, and Commissioner', *not yet inventorized*.

## HOLLE-JF 6: 1960 National Convention Rhodesia

Box 8: Labelled '1960 National Convention Rhodesia; Dir. Report I.S.R. Durban; Indonesia 1983'

- [Misc.] Numerous loose unsorted materials relating to:
  - The 1960 National Convention of Southern Rhodesia
    - National Convention of Southern Rhodesia Salisbury, Zimbabwe) ((1960 : (1960). The National Convention report : October 31 to November 5, 1960 at Salisbury. National Committee of the National Convention.
    - Collection of papers of the Convention's commissions; overview of working groups
  - Documents relating to Holleman's time at the Institute of Social Research at the University of Natal in Durban between 1957-1962.
    - Director's annual report / University of Natal - Institute of Social Research. 1958/1959, 1959/1960, 1960/1961, 1961/1962
    - Holleman, J. F., & University of Natal Institute for Social Research. (1962). *Cash, cattle or women : a conflict of concepts in a dual economy*. University of Natal, Institute for Social Research.
    - Holleman, J. F., & Institute of Administrators of Non-European Affairs (South Africa). Congress (7th : 1958 : Muizenberg, South Africa) Muizenberg, South Africa) 1958 : (1958). *The tightrope dancers : report on the 7th Annual Conference, Institute of Administrators of Non-European Affairs, Muizenberg, 30th Sep.-3rd Oct., 1958*. University of Natal, Institute for Social Research.
  - Holleman's attendance at a conference on adat law held in Indonesia in 1983 including personal mementos. Correspondence
  - Further:
    - Nota betreffende de ontwikkeling van het Afrika-Studiecentrum, 1963
    - Notebook
    - Some notes on the proposed townships at Seki and Ntabazinduna / J.F. Holleman, Bulawayo 1952.
    - Memorandum on certain aspects of the native marriages act, 1950

## **HOLLE-JF 7: Rhodesia 1975**

Box 9: Labelled 'Rhodesia 1975'

- [Misc.] Unsorted materials with loose papers relating to J.F. Holleman's research in Rhodesia in 1975, including notes, notebooks, and photograph negatives, not yet inventorized.



## **HOLLE-JF 8: Essays on African Contract; Mutumbu Cases, Rhodesia 1975'**

*Box 10:* Labelled 'Essay on Contract; Mutumbu Cases, Rhodesia 1975'

- Brown folder labelled 'Mutumbu - Rhod - 1975'
  - Numerous unsorted typed and handwritten documents on [Shona] customary court cases.
- Brown folder labelled 'Essays on African Contract, first draft'
  - [Notes] [English] Handwritten draft essay titled 'Enforcement of contracts', 7 pages.
  - [Notes] [English] Handwritten notes, 3 pages.
  - [Notes] [English] Notebook with handwritten notes, dated 1962.
  - [Manuscript] [English] Typed draft titled 'Essay on African Contract.'
  - [Manuscript] [English] Typed draft titled 'The Material Binder: tangible promise or obligating performance, or both? [Continuation of the previous essay?]
- Brown folder labelled 'Essays on African Contract, draft'
  - [Manuscript] [English] Typed draft titled 'Essay on African Contract.'
  - [Manuscript] [English] Typed draft titled 'The Material Binder: tangible promise or obligating performance, or both? [Continuation of the previous essay?]
  - [Misc.] Various unsorted notes.
- Green folder labelled 'Essay on African Contract [illegible]'
  - White envelope containing various unsorted notes.
  - [Manuscript] [English] Typed draft titled 'Essay on African Contract (with special reference to Shona Law).'
  - [Manuscript] [English] Typed draft titled 'The Material Binder: tangible promise or obligating performance, or both? [Continuation of the previous essay?] Two copies.

## **HOLLE-JF 9: Miscellaneous**

*Folder 11:* Labelled 'Contracts/Obligations'

- Various organized photocopies of academic articles on the Law of Contract, including handwritten notes.

*Folder 12:* Labelled 'Transactions, interviews, case records'

- Various organized documents dated 1975 relating to customary court cases in [Southern Rhodesia] including transcriptions of court cases, interviews, and typed

and handwritten notes.

*Folder 13:* Labelled 'Procedure & evidence, case records: marital relations, beliefs'

- Various organized documents dated 1974-1975 relating to customary court cases in [Southern Rhodesia] including transcriptions of court cases and court documents.

*Folder 14:* Labelled 'Southern Rhodesia, Maps; Extracts; [illegible] publications'

- Empty green folder labelled 'A.34. New Building'
- [Correspondence] [Dutch] Loose draft letter to the management of the African Studies Centre, dated 06-06-1969, 1 page.
- Brown folder
  - [Maps] [English] Maps of Southern Rhodesia by district, 16 maps.
  - [Manuscript] [English] Typed manuscript titled 'The Traditional History and Customs of the Makaranga (Warozwi)' by E.G. Howman.
  - [Manuscript] [English] Typed manuscript titled 'An Outline of the Legal Ideas of the Vazeru.'
  - [Manuscript] [English] Typed manuscript titled 'Ndau Religion: A Study of the Religious Practices of a Primitive People' by Rev. George A. Wilder.
  - [Misc.] [English] Various loose papers and typed bibliographies.
  - [Misc.] Various prints of African drawings by Stephen Katsande, 16 drawings.
  - [Misc.] [English] Booklet labelled 'The Kaffir Store.'
  - [Misc.] [English] Pamphlet dated 1946 titled 'The Prime Minister on Native Policy', reprinted from the Bulawayo Chronicle.
  - [Publication] [English] 'Urbanization in Southern Rhodesia' by Percy Ibbotson, *Africa: Journal of the International African Institute*, Vol. XVI, no.2, April 1946.

*Folder 15:* Labelled 'Shona names'

- Unsorted correspondence to and from J.F. Holleman dated between the 1960s and 1990s with several draft manuscripts related to the letters.

## **HOLLE-JF 10: Correspondence, 1960s**

*Folder 16:* Labelled 'Prof. Holleman, persoonlijk, 1963 to 14 Oct. 1965'

- [Correspondence] Extensive professional correspondence to and from J.F. Holleman after moving to the Netherlands, dated 1963-1965, alphabetized.

*Folder 17:* Labelled 'Prof. Holleman, persoonlijk, 15 Oct. 1965-'

- [Correspondence] Extensive professional correspondence to and from J.F. Holleman after moving to the Netherlands, dated 1965-1972, alphabetized.