The International African Institute

The IAI was founded in 1926 in London as the International Institute of African Languages and Cultures. Over the years, the IAI has played a pioneering role in promoting African studies through facilitating research, scholarly publishing about Africa, and a variety of other programmes including hosting seminars and lectures.

For further details visit www.internationalafricaninstitute.org

Recommend to your Librarian at
journals.cambridge.org/recommend_AFR
journals.cambridge.org/recommend_AFB

Subscription prices are available online at:
Africa (ISSN 0001-9720) - journals.cambridge.org/africa
Africa Bibliography (ISSN 0266-6731) - journals.cambridge.org/afb

USA, Canada and Mexico:
(845) 353 7500
(845) 353 4141
subscriptions_newyork@cambridge.org

Cambridge University Press
32 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY
10013-2473, USA

Elsewhere in the world:
+44 (0)1223 326070
+44 (0)1223 325150
journals@cambridge.org

Journals Customer Services
Cambridge University Press
FREEPOST CB27
The Edinburgh Building, Shaftesbury Road
Cambridge, CB2 8BR, UK
If posting from outside the UK, a stamp is required

Printed in the United Kingdom on elemental-chlorine-free paper containing 75% recycled fibres. 2010.
ISBN: 978-1-107-90930-4
Africa

Editors:
Professor Karin Barber, University of Birmingham
Dr David Pratten, University of Oxford
Published for the International African Institute

Africa, the journal of the International African Institute, is the premier journal in African Studies encompassing the whole of Africa and a wide spectrum of disciplines. Founded in 1928, the journal has a long history of publishing ground-breaking work in the humanities, social sciences, and environmental studies.

Editorial policy encourages an interdisciplinary approach. The editors are interested in African production of knowledge, emerging social and cultural trends ‘on the ground’, and links between local and national levels of society.

A thematic strand on ‘local intellectuals’ highlights obscure or unpublished texts by Africans writing outside the academic or literary mainstream. These shed a fascinating light on local life in Africa. Online publication makes it possible to reproduce extensive local texts in their entirety, as a supplement to articles published in the journal.

Each issue contains six or seven major articles, arranged thematically, extensive review essays and substantial book reviews. One issue each year is a guest-edited special issue on a key emerging topic or theme.

The editors are committed to engaging actively with the African Studies community and encouraging early-career authors, especially those based in Africa. To this end, writing workshops are organised in the UK and Africa, and debates and round-tables are hosted at conferences.

Cambridge University Press and the International African Institute offer members of the African Studies Association (UK) and the Royal African Society the opportunity to subscribe to Africa at a generously discounted rate of £20.

Africa Bibliography

The Africa Bibliography is an authoritative guide to works in African studies and has been published under the auspices of the International African Institute annually since 1984. Launching in 2011, the Africa Bibliography will be available for the first time as a searchable online database, alongside the annual print edition.

When complete this online consolidated version will bring together every record collected since the bibliography’s foundation, producing a rich and interactive resource for all scholars interested in the study of Africa.

* Includes Boolean, quick search and browse functionality
* Allows users to search across multiple volumes and filter results
* Quick, comprehensive and clear access to records

From January 2011 Africa Bibliography 2004 - 2009 will be available. Further volumes back to 1984 will be added subsequently.

Register for FREE Content Alerts - journals.cambridge.org/africa/register
Try Africa Bibliography for FREE
Register for trial access to the new online Africa Bibliography at journals.cambridge.org/abtrial
Contribute to *Africa*

The focus of *Africa* is ethnographic in a broad sense: the Journal is concerned with real experience in Africa - ‘on the ground’ - as opposed to polemics, policy documents, or purely philosophical or literary discussions. The Journal is committed to the analysis of Africa’s own cultural categories and concerns. The editors seek original papers, preferably based on the author’s first-hand field-work or archival research, and offering a theoretically-informed, incisive analysis or interpretation of the data. Papers should be around 8000 words long exclusive of footnotes and bibliography.

The editors welcome contributions to the ‘African local intellectuals’ strand. These introduce and analyse texts - whether oral, manuscript or print - produced by African authors outside the academic or literary mainstream. Such texts could include note-books, diaries, letters, local works of history, philosophy or literature, oral narratives, performed or written poetry, newspaper serials and a host of other forms. The full text, edited and where necessary translated by the contributor, will be published as an online supplement to the article.

Manuscripts should be sent via email as a Word file to iai-africa@contacts.bham.ac.uk. Manuscripts which include special symbols should be accompanied by a pdf version of the article with all orthographic fonts embedded. For more detailed guidelines for contributors please visit [journals.cambridge.org/Africa/contribute](journals.cambridge.org/Africa/contribute). All submissions are rigorously peer-reviewed and authors are usually given detailed advice to help them revise their manuscripts.

Submissions, queries to the editors and all related correspondence, except book reviews, should be sent to The Editors, AFRICA, c/o Centre of West African Studies, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 2TT, UK; email: iai-africa@contacts.bham.ac.uk.

Books for review should be sent to Dr Nicolas Argenti, Reviews Editor, AFRICA, c/o Stephanie Kitchen, International African Institute, School of Oriental and African Studies, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London, WC1H 0XG; email: na25@soas.ac.uk. Reviewers are also invited to approach the Reviews Editor with suggestions for reviews.

The editors are pleased to receive manuscripts for publication in *Africa*. Articles submitted for publication are considered for acceptance on the understanding that they have neither been published nor being considered for publication elsewhere.

For full instructions on submissions go to - [journals.cambridge.org/Africa/contribute](journals.cambridge.org/Africa/contribute)
Recent articles

- Disguising the pain of remembering in Akwapim
  Michelle Gilbert

- Past Pentecostalism: notes on rupture, realignment, and everyday life in Pentecostal and African Independent Churches
  Matthew Engelke

- Is land inalienable? Historical and current debates on land transfers in northern Ghana
  Carola Lentz

- The Occult Does Not Exist: A Response to Terence Ranger
  Gerrie ter Haar and Stephen Ellis

- Burial Sites, Informal Rights and Lost Kingdoms: Contesting Land Claims in Mpumalanga, South Africa
  Deborah James

- On Reason and Afro-Pessimism
  Patrick Chabal

- The Search For Security In Muslim Northern Nigeria
  Murray Last

- Family values, land sales and agricultural commodification in south-eastern Ghana
  Kojo Sebastian Amanor

Recent special issues

- Perspectives on vigilantism in Nigeria

- Knowledge in practice: expertise and the transmission of knowledge

- Interpreting land markets in Africa

Editorial board

Editors
Karin Barber, University of Birmingham
David Pratten, University of Oxford

Reviews Editor
Nicolas Argenti, Brunel University

Editorial Advisory Board

Kojo Amanor
University of Ghana

Alan Barnard
University of Edinburgh

Thomas J Bassett
University of Illinois

Joost Beuving
University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Filip De Boeck
Catholic University of Leuven

Jim Brennan
University of Illinois

Filip De Boeck
Catholic University of Leuven

Jim Brennan
University of Illinois

Pauo F. de Moraes Farias
University of Birmingham

Harri Englund
University of Cambridge

Peter Geschiere
University of Amsterdam

Jane Guyer
Johns Hopkins University

Michael Lambek
University of Toronto

Murray Last
University College London

Carola Lentz
University of Mainz

Tom McCaskie
School of Oriental and African Studies

Birgit Meyer
University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Célestin Monga
World Bank, USA

Abdul Raufu Mustapha
University of Oxford

Insa Nolte
University of Birmingham

Christine Obbo
Independent anthropologist

Derek Peterson
University of Michigan

John Parker
School of Oriental and African Studies

Debby Potts
King’s College London