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Reeves, A.; Winden, M.C.A. van

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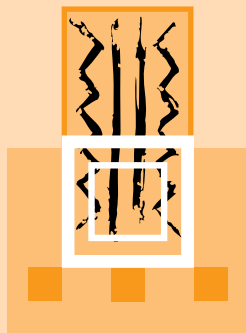
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African Studies Centre Afrika-Studiecentrum

Annual Report

2005



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Centre d'Etudes
Africaines



Address

Afrika-Studiecentrum/African Studies Centre

Address: African Studies Centre
PO Box 9555
2300 RB Leiden
The Netherlands

Visiting address: Pieter de la Courtgebouw
Wassenaarseweg 52
2333 AK Leiden
The Netherlands

Telephone: Office +31 (0)71 527 3372/3376
Library +31 (0)71 527 3354

E-mail: Office: asc@ascleiden.nl
Library: asclibrary@ascleiden.nl

Website: Office: www.ascleiden.nl
Library: www.ascleiden.nl/library

Colophon

Annual Report 2005, African Studies Centre

Editors : Ann Reeves and Marieke van Winden

Photographs : Jan Hoorweg, Tiny Kraan, Steef Meyknecht, Julie Ndaya, Gitty Petit, Ben Soares, Maaïke Westra and Marieke van Winden

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Introduction

Following the positive evaluation the African Studies Centre (ASC) received from the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) in 2004 and the valuable recommendations the committee made for the Centre's future direction, the ASC completed its new five-year policy plan in 2005 and started to draft its new research programme. The ASC's mission statement and strategic objectives were reformulated, with a distinction being made between primary and secondary strategic goals. This will result in its activities having a clearer and better-defined focus. The Centre's scientific work is directed at an academic and policy forum, which is the formalization of a trend that has been developing over the last few years. Many research activities in the past have not only shown their policy relevance but were even specifically designed in conjunction with policy-makers and produced both sound scientific and policy results. The food and nutrition, and the deagrarianization research programmes are good examples of this. They challenged new agendas in development policy and also made a major contribution to the ASC's high-quality academic output. As director of the ASC, I therefore welcome the new trend towards increased cooperation between research, development and foreign policy. However, we are all aware that such cooperation is not undertaken lightly and positive results can only be achieved by building mutual trust and creating open-minded relations between researchers, policy-makers and practitioners.

The ASC is trying to achieve this goal in a number of ways, recognizing that such objectives cannot be achieved overnight but have to be nurtured over time. To further this end, a number of initiatives were set up in 2005 and invitations from other parties were also accepted. Firstly, in cooperation with the Royal Netherlands Institute of South-East Asian and Caribbean Studies (KITLV) and various parties within the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a research plan was designed to investigate the deviating development pathways of a number of South-East Asian and African countries. Although some of these South-East Asian countries have enjoyed tremendous economic success over the past decades, the latter certainly have not. The research design deals with socio-political processes and economic practices with the aim of inspiring a development policy in Africa, and will also be of interest to academia. Discussions between researchers and policy-makers and a conference in Leiden last November, which brought together research teams from the countries concerned and other interested policy-makers, have resulted in a research project that all parties consider challenging.



Secondly, the ASC and the Directorate Africa of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs have elaborated on a proposal within the framework of the so-called IS-Academie. This Academy on International Cooperation is best described as an attempt by the Directorate General of Development Cooperation to mobilize knowledge for development cooperation more efficiently by improving relations with knowledge institutions and to create awareness of each other's needs and work and raise a new generation of scientist-cum-policy-makers or policy-maker-cum-scientists who are able to work in both environments. During their annual seminar, the ASC's staff and the Directorate discussed themes of mutual interest, at times heatedly. In addition, a working committee elaborated on and operationalized both the content and a working plan for the coming years. The ASC's main concerns are twofold. The IS-Academie initiative is so important that it should not be limited to the ASC alone. African Studies in the Netherlands in general should be able to participate in this new programme of knowledge mobilization and production. Though it requires substantial financial investment on the part of the ASC, discussions are currently underway to include a number of university institutes involved in African Studies in the programme. In addition, there is an urgent need for the ASC to involve its partners in Africa in this initiative to prevent it losing sight of African realities and, even more importantly, to ensure some kind of African influence on the agenda. We will try to achieve this by involving CODESRIA, the ASC's strategic partner in Africa.

And thirdly, the ASC is currently researching the history of the SNV – formerly the Dutch Development Volunteers, and now the Netherlands Development Organization – following its 40th anniversary in 2005. The project involves the writing of a socio-cultural history of the SNV with the focus on interpreting change, continuity and developments within the SNV.

The special attention that my team has been investing in the policy orientation of the ASC's work does not mean that the academic forum is being neglected. On the contrary, for example on behalf of the ASC, I called on the Foundation for the Advancement of Tropical Research (WOTRO) not to neglect its objective of stimulating independent, innovative and controversial academic research in its new strategy. Moreover, as living proof of its scientific significance, one such proposal on the history of motor transport and the internal combustion engine in Africa was submitted by the ASC to the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO) and sub-



sequently won a prestigious four-year subsidy from the Vidi programme. New NWO subsidies for individual PhD projects at the ASC were also awarded.

A completely new initiative is the two-year Research Masters in African Studies (MPhil), which will be offered for the first time in September 2006. This broad and multifaceted programme with an interdisciplinary approach has been developed in close cooperation with Leiden University, various other Dutch universities and the CERES and CNWS research schools. It aims to promote the field of African Studies in the Netherlands and it will be stimulating for the ASC to have talented and highly motivated students in its midst on a regular basis.

And last but not least, the theme groups and the scientific management committee started the important process of finalizing the current ASC research programme by drawing together their contributions and linking them to recent findings and developments in their respective themes. They now need to discuss which new directions to explore in the coming years. A number of national and international scientific and policy experts from outside the institute, including the Scientific Advisory Council, will provide feedback on these exercises. And finally, as usual, a number of prominent scientific seminars and conferences were organized and publications appeared showing the Centre's continuous flow of high-quality scientific output.

The African Studies Centre had a productive year in 2005 and is moving forward with new and exciting projects and the challenges of an innovative research programme in new theme groups in the year ahead.

Leo de Haan
Director

About the African Studies Centre

Founded in 1947 as part of the Africa Institute in Rotterdam, the African Studies Centre (ASC) became an independent foundation in 1958 with its own charter, governing body and director. The ASC has always been situated in Leiden. Although it is an independent, interacademic institute, the ASC maintains close administrative ties with Leiden University, the oldest university in the Netherlands. The Centre is funded by the Netherlands Ministry of Education, Culture and Sciences, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Conservation and Fisheries.

In the context of the present challenges and opportunities in African Studies, our mission can be summarized as follows:

The African Studies Centre is an independent scientific institute that generates and disseminates knowledge on Africa and aims to promote a better understanding and insight into historical, current and future societal developments in Sub-Saharan Africa.

This mission statement can be broken down into the following strategic goals:

Primary strategic goals

The ASC strives to be a top international scientific institute that:

- undertakes pioneering scientific research of a multi-disciplinary nature on Sub-Saharan Africa, particularly in the field of the social sciences in its broadest meaning, for an international scientific and policy-directed forum; and
- collects and makes available knowledge and information about Africa for scientific research and academic purposes through the provision of a library, information and documentation department.

Secondary strategic goals

Through its research and the dissemination of knowledge about Sub-Saharan Africa, the ASC aims:

- to encourage international academic debate within African Studies and actively participate in a national and international network of Africanists, with special emphasis on cooperation with researchers in Africa and the development of African research institutes; and

- to further the debate between researchers, policy-makers and development practitioners, journalists, the business world and the general public; and
- to promote an understanding of African societies in these groups through the provision of library, information and documentation services.

The ASC's research interests are set out in theme-group programmes with a five-year time span. Within these theme groups many projects are undertaken in cooperation with African colleagues or institutes. The full text of the ASC's current research programme for the period 2002-2006, as well as a list of research projects by theme group can be found on the ASC website.

The ASC has an extensive library with approximately 55,000 books and 500 journals. The research department, library, documentation and information department and the administrative support department provide employment for about 50 people.



Research Programme

The ASC's three theme groups, which will wind up their activities in 2006, were beginning to see results from their research work in 2005. In alphabetical order the three theme groups are:

- Agency in Africa: Understanding Socio-cultural Transformations in Time and Space (AA);
- Culture, Politics and Inequality: Formations of Power and Identity (CPI); and
- Economy, Ecology and Exclusion (EEE).

More details of the groups' research plans can be found on the ASC website or in a booklet entitled *ASC Research Programme 2002-2006* that is available from the ASC secretariat or via the website.

Agency in Africa

ASC researchers

Dr Wouter van Beek
Prof. Wim van Binsbergen
Dr Mirjam de Bruijn (Head)
Dr Rijk van Dijk
Dr Jan-Bart Gewald
Dr Mayke Kaag

PhD students

Linda van de Kamp (ASC)
Julie Ndaya (ASC)
Karin Nijenhuis (ASC)
Laurens Nijzink (ASC)
Lotte Pelckmans (ASC)
Kiky van Til (ASC)

Associate members

Dr Inge Brinkman
(SNV research project)
Dr Sandra Evers
(Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam)
Anne-Lot Hoek
(SNV research project)
Dr Sabine Luning
(Research Masters coordinator)
Prof. Francis Nyamnjoh
(CODESRIA)
Dr Marja Spierenburg
(Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam)
Dr Marijke Steegstra
(Radboud University, Nijmegen)

Visiting fellows in 2005

Prof. Michael Bourdillon (University of Zimbabwe)
Dr Sanya Osha (University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban)



The year started for the Agency in Africa theme group with an internal two-day workshop to discuss the results of the group's studies so far. These discussions continued at monthly meetings when the sphere was always critically reflexive. This overview summarizes the theme group's points of departure and considers its results to date.

Agency is the manoeuvring space within and in interaction with a social, economic and political environment or structure that is external to and, at the same time, part of agency. Agency is at the core of the creative process of social transformations and is mediated through the local actor's understanding, perceptions, ideas, emotions and even fantasies and how these influence the creation of transformation. Whereas agency is limited by the possibilities and options available, time and again African realities show the re-emergence of vibrant or resilient social formations, such as specific migration patterns, specific forms of associational life, religious groups, innovative forms of production and so forth that mediate or negotiate prevailing circumstances. These formations are profoundly linked to the economic and social position of a person in society and to cultural constructions of personhood and creativity, while, at a higher level, agency analysis goes together with the analyses of power relations (access to resources) and wider social relations in society. The study of African agency in empirical realities guides this theme group's research.

An important question in the theme group is *whose* agency the group is studying. It is clear that the researcher him/herself is as much an agent as the people of the societies studied. The group was always searching for a balance between structure and agency, and continually dealing with constraints and enabling structures and agency. Here the theme group should also question whether agency is situated only in individuals or if groups can also have agency. The question as to whether agency provides people with possibilities and opportunities or whether it limits social action was frequently at the centre of ASC debates. The theme group's analysis of social change and the role of agency cannot avoid analysis of the political and power relations in the societies concerned. Here the interface between agencies also comes to the fore. Different agencies participate in every process of transformation, and the confrontation between these agencies, their oppositions and their connections are relevant to an understanding of the direction of change. Agency is a difficult concept in that it involves the many values of the people who explain it. Unravelling the concept of agency of the researchers concerned should, therefore, always be part of the research itself. Can we talk about African agency and is there any difference between African people and the rest of the world?



The theme group felt that the study of agency involved doing justice to people's capability to act but at the same time not losing sight of the structural circumstances that enable and constrain this capability. It is not sufficient to consider only how people deal with long-term processes and structures, but how, in this endeavour, they co-shape these processes and structures should also be analyzed. Agency is about making a difference. The latter seems to be clear but leads to a methodological problem: how can agency be assessed and what should the geographical and/or time scale be? Differences should be measured but this question has not yet been totally resolved.

The research group tackled the question of agency in a wide range of fields of study: mobility/migration; poverty/marginality; urbanization; religion; identity construction; conflict and violence, development and policy; technology; reflection on the role of various groups and positions in societies including that of the researcher. The members of the group are from different disciplines which made discussions lively and illuminating: geographers, anthropologists and historians.

Research on transformation in African societies cannot ignore mobility as a factor of expression of these changes. Furthermore, mobility in itself is one of those important changes that are a direct consequence of people's interpretation of changes and the opportunities they see in these changes.

Agency and the ecological environment concentrate on the relationship between society and the environment. In the Sahel, nature reserves showed that the changing positions of people related to their histories and their perspectives, and the internalization of the ecology helped to explain new directions in livelihoods. In these changes, the most important are the new social forms that people create, new social relations that may eventually lead to profound cultural and social change.

People who live in insecure circumstances, as is the case in situations of political unrest and oppression such as Chad and the Democratic Republic of Congo and in ecologically fragile zones like the Sahel are still able to deploy agency and to contribute to the shaping of their world. In a situation of political, economic and social marginality, the 'structure' becomes dominant and the manoeuvring space of a person limited. However, the margins may provide people with incentives to give form to their agency. It is at the core of poverty research, where today vulnerability is a key concept that offers the possibility of analyzing the variety of states of being poor. Vulnerability is, however, most often conceptualized as a material state of being, whereas the agency approach has shown that vulnerability is also culturally and socially defined. This is especially clear in research where vulnerability and religion are combined.



Les Femmes Congolaises et les Transformations Sociales dans la Diaspora et au Congo

Cette recherche de Julie Ndaya se place dans le cadre de la mondialisation. Elle a examiné les transformations sociales en République Démocratique du Congo dans le contexte des femmes congolaises Combattantes, c'est-à-dire les personnes devenues par consultation membres des filiales aux Pays-Bas et en Belgique des groupes religieux du Combat Spirituel (en raccourci le Combat). Le Combat est un rituel purificateur. Ses membres sont aussi bien des hommes que des femmes. Mais il s'est centré sur les femmes et leur motif de consultation. En fait elles recherchent l'aide d'un groupe lors de crises identitaires comme par exemple les malheurs successifs, les problèmes conjugaux et sexuels, le célibat prolongé, la stérilité. Le diagnostic établi après que la personne affligée a suivi une initiation biblique s'élabore en termes de la rupture avec les systèmes culturels antérieurs pour adhérer à un nouveau système culturel dont la base est la cosmologie biblique.

Les adeptes du Combat se nomment les Combattant(e)s. La Bible est leur base épistémologique. Le mariage, la maternité et la prospérité sont les valeurs centrales de leur mouvement.

Ce rituel a été initié par les femmes congolaises scolarisées à Kinshasa dans les années '80.



Une scène du rituel du Combat symbolisant le rite de passage (A scene from the Combat ritual symbolizing the rite of passage)



Il s'est répandu en Europe avec le grand flux migratoire des Congolais vers l'occident au début des années '90. Les groupes locaux tels qu'on les trouve dans les différents pays où vivent les Congolais sont sous la tutelle de Kinshasa.

Afin de comprendre la cause de l'apparition du Combat au Congo et dans la diaspora, Julie Ndaya s'est inspirée des analyses des sociologues et anthropologues qui ont abordé le changement religieux en Afrique sub-saharienne comme réaction des individus contre les conflits culturels vécus dans un contexte donné. Sa thèse est que les problèmes que le Combat veut résoudre auprès des Congolaises dans la diaspora sont les mêmes qu'à Kinshasa. Il s'agit dans tous les cas de la médiation des conflits sociaux qui affectent la vie des Congolais dans le monde contemporain et qui sont causés par les différents phénomènes qui ont caractérisé le monde au 20^{ème} siècle (comme la colonisation, l'urbanisation, la scolarisation missionnaire, les ajustements structurels, et la chute du communisme).

En se plaçant à l'intérieur des groupes présents à Bruxelles et à La Haye (1998-2004), Julie Ndaya a observé les rapports domestiques, la hiérarchie, les rapports de parenté. Les questions auxquelles elle a voulu répondre sont les suivantes : quel est le cadre de référence de ce nouveau système culturel? Y a-t-il continuité ou rupture avec Kinshasa mais surtout avec la culture congolaise traditionnelle? Quel est le projet de vie qui est mis en place dans cette nouvelle parenté religieuse? Enfin, elle a posé les questions méthodologiques qui s'imposent pour une telle recherche qui se place dans le cadre de la mondialisation: peut-on comprendre le centre à partir de la périphérie? Quelles techniques de récolte de données utiliser en tant que chercheur autochtone? Et puis à quels concepts d'analyse recourir tout en évitant la violence de l'objectivation?



During the execution of the programme, the theme group arrived at the conclusion that technological change was very relevant to the study of agency. The new Vidi project was formulated around the idea of technological change. Technology does not stand on its own but is appropriated and internalized by individuals and societies. Although most technological innovations in Africa come from outside the continent, they become Africanized. At the same time this appropriation and internalization leads to social transformations, to new incentives for agency, but also to relations between different agencies.

Finally, agency research should also reflect what we do. These reflections are also to be found in the journal *Quest* that is hosted by the ASC.

These various findings around the relevance of agency research have also been put forward in discussions on policy and development in Africa. The contribution to the analysis of 'development policy' did not stop at the individual contributions to specific domains mentioned above. With the study of the history of the SNV Dutch development organization, commissioned by SNV itself, the theme group entered a new domain of reflectivity on development and analysis of development as a dynamic process in itself. Not much has been written about the history of development organizations so this project is putting together a socio-cultural history of the SNV looking at its ideals, hopes, expectations, frustrations and achievements, with the focus being on people and practice rather than on theory.



Culture, Politics and Identity

ASC researchers

Prof. Jan Abbink (Head)
Dr Stephen Ellis
Dr Ineke van Kessel
Dr Piet Konings
Dr Benjamin Soares
Dr Klaas van Walraven

Associate members

Aregawi Berhe
(political scientist)
Mindanda Mohogu
(economist)

PhD students

Bayleyegn Tasew
(Addis Ababa University)
Abreham Alemu Fanta
(Addis Ababa University)
Froukje Krijtenburg
(Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam)
Inge Ruigrok
(Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam)

Visiting fellows in 2005

Due to visa problems, the CPI's visiting fellows had to postpone their visits to the Netherlands.

In 2005 the Culture, Politics and Inequality in Africa (CPI) theme group saw fruitful continuity in its work with the in-depth elaboration of ongoing research projects that yielded some notable new findings and advances in the topics central to the theme group's research programme. These included the political drama in various countries and the impact of international linkages and civil society organizations on the political process, historical forms and long-term societal impacts of persistent conflict, including ethnic strife, and the changing roles of religion in politics and the public sphere in Africa. Moving towards the end of its five-year term, the theme group put an emphasis on writing and preparing publications based on research done over the past few years.

CPI members have based their work on a combination of historical and social-science approaches to African societies, and made use of empirical research in combination with the study of secondary literature, testimonies and documentary sources (e.g. from archives). Both country studies and more general thematic contributions have been made as an ongoing, informed commentary on critical developments in African societies. Most themes discussed resonated with general



topics and current challenges in Africanist research, although CPI members attach great value to the use and representation of local-level views when analyzing contemporary African society and history.

In studying the political dynamics of Africa, not only conflicts and problems of state 'failure' have been addressed by the theme group but also the impact of the changing position of Africa within the international system, the changing role of religious collectivities and actors, and of regimes and movements using religion as an ideology of power. Researchers noticed persistent themes that continue to pose challenges to African societies including insecurity, identity struggles, attempts at liberalization and democratization, the changing role of civil society organizations (the manoeuvring space of which is being reduced or co-opted by the state), effects of violence in local societies, and historical aspects of power struggles and collective resistance in colonial and post-colonial states. Moreover, it was found that religious conflicts, the revival of ethno-regional antagonisms, the increasingly destabilizing role of mass poverty, food insecurity and competition for resources and its socio-political effects were as relevant as ever.

The theme group's research findings indicated that the contested and dramatic nature of African politics and social struggles was showing creative responses from social groups such as youth, trade unions, religious associations or spokespersons, but few were moving towards societal stability, constitutionality and representative rule. Even in countries earlier considered as promising in this respect (for example, Ethiopia, Uganda and Kenya), a regression towards authoritarian attitudes to governance was being seen.

In 2005 the theme group noted the growing importance of wider contextual factors such as the impact of the international political-economic system on the domestic affairs of African countries and the only modest record of success by donor countries, NGOs and UN organs despite the ubiquitous rhetoric of aid and development. Human rights records and international efforts did not show much progress either (for example, in Darfur, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Nigeria and Zimbabwe), and there seemed to be no decisive breakthrough towards democratic consolidation. What is striking in this respect is that the theme group noted that many people in Africa turn towards religion as an alternative to failing or oppressive regimes, but without it carrying any guarantee that things will improve, of course. The promise of the much-touted Millennium Development Goals (MDG) as a framework for international development policy still has to be delivered.



In this context, research findings seem to suggest that, together with international factors, the complexity of local-level problems and political and cultural traditions prevent an easy realization of the MDGs. Security concerns, for example related to international terrorism, became more prominent on the international agenda and are having an impact on national policies.

African societies continue to form a challenge to social and political understanding and to global assessments of how the world as a whole is or should be developing. The theme group's approach is that properly assessing the formation and uses of 'knowledge' in the African public domain, including religion, indigenous political philosophies, and elements of art and popular culture, means confronting 'external' and 'internal' (African) views.

The problematic state of the formal political order in many areas of Africa makes it all the more necessary to study how African populations are recreating socio-cultural and religious orders or frames of meaning through the action and agency of individuals or groups, for instance, the elite. This view is in line with one of the basic assumptions of the CPI theme group, namely that cultural resources, in the form of traditions of meaning and repertoires of action, are durable and help shape political culture and political praxis in Africa. Not enough is known about the workings of this or about the transformations that these repertoires are engendering in interaction with ideas and practices of 'modernity' and of global flows of commodities and ideologies. ASC researchers remain convinced that analysis of the *manifest* spheres of politics, international relations and 'development' issues yields only part of the story and that donor country policy-makers and international organizations more often than not underestimate and perhaps are even at a loss to know how to deal with the informal and ideational spheres of African politics.



Islam, Disengagement of the State and Globalization in Africa

For several years, the African Studies Centre has been focusing more intensively on the study of Islam in contemporary Sub-Saharan Africa. In 2004, the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs funded a collaborative research project entitled 'Islam, Disengagement of the State and Globalization in Africa' between the ASC and the Centre d'Études d'Afrique Noire (CEAN) in Bordeaux. Subsequent support for this project also came from the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Benjamin Soares from the ASC and René Otayek from CEAN served as the project's academic coordinators. The project culminated in a major international conference ('Islam, Désengagement de l'État et Globalisation en Afrique Subsaharienne') held at UNESCO in Paris on 12-13 May 2005, when academic researchers presented their findings to an audience of European policy-makers, diplomats and academics.

From its inception this was a unique project. In addition to sponsoring and facilitating innovative research on the very timely topic of Islam in contemporary Sub-Saharan Africa, the project was designed to bring together academic researchers and policy-makers at every stage. From the beginning, the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs agreed to allow the academic researchers to define the parameters of the project and its major themes of the relationship between Islam, society and the state in Sub-Saharan Africa. After an open call for participation in the project, a scientific committee selected a truly international group of highly qualified researchers with expertise on Islam in Africa, including junior and senior scholars from Africa, Europe and North America. Thanks to the funding available, the individual researchers were able to conduct field research in Africa in order to have the most up-to-date information on the countries in which they were working.

While academics do not get frequent opportunities to enter into a dialogue with policy-makers, the participants in this project were afforded numerous possibilities to discuss their academic research. Researchers were able to meet as a group on two separate occasions with members of the project's steering committee, which included representatives of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and policy-makers commented on researchers' individual projects and questioned them about their ongoing research. Such immediate feedback from policy-makers helped the researchers to better understand what might be of interest



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to policy-makers and ways in which they might make their material accessible to more general audiences, like those at the conference in Paris.

The project's output includes a bibliography on Islam in contemporary Sub-Saharan Africa that will act as a major reference tool for both academics and policy-makers. It is available in a fully searchable format online

www.ascleiden.nl/Publications/Bibliographies/IslamInAfrica/

A published version will appear in June 2006.

The project's second and more important output is the publication of a selection of revised papers from the conference. They improve our understanding of Islam and Muslim societies given the momentous changes of the last ten or fifteen years across the African continent. While economic and political liberalization, democratization, the weakening of the state (or even its collapse in some cases), increased global interconnections and the spread of new media technologies have all had a dramatic impact on Africa, such processes have also influenced the practice of Islam and Muslim societies in Africa in ways that are still not well understood.

Individual case studies on Benin, Cameroon, Chad, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Somaliland, South Africa, Sudan and Tanzania focused on such topics as Muslim youths, Muslim associations and activists, Islamic NGOs, debates about Islamic law, secularism and minority rights, and Muslims and the political process in both conflict and post-conflict settings. Together, the articles show some of the limits of conventional understandings of Islam in Africa and point to the importance of foregrounding recent socio-economic and political developments in the analysis of Islam and Muslim societies in Africa.



Economy, Ecology and Exclusion

ASC researchers

Prof. Han van Dijk
Dr Dick Foeken
Prof. Jan Hoorweg
Wijnand Klaver
Dr André Leliveld
Dr Marcel Rutten (Head)

PhD students

Sam Ouma Owuor
(University of Nairobi, Kenya)
Martin Marani
(University of Salzburg)

Associate members

Jan Cappon
(non-western sociologist)
Prof. Jan Hoorweg
(retired, ASC)
Henk Meilink
(retired, ASC)
Dr Marja Spierenburg
(Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam)
Dr Harry Wels
(Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam)

Visiting fellows in 2005

Dr Shirley Brooks (University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban)
Dr Solomon Mulugeta (Addis Ababa University)

The interrelations of economy, ecology and exclusion as the combined impact of processes at different levels of scale on local actors' decision-making with respect to production and consumption stand at the core of the work of this theme group. These processes concern the transformation of economic systems and climate change on a global scale, government policies and the functioning of markets at the national level, and local economic, institutional and environmental configurations.

The theme group has been considering risk aversion or risk spreading as a common denominator in people's responses, which in turn is to be understood in the context of a high degree of variability and uncertainty in both the ecological and the politico-economic environment. These issues, closely intertwined with poverty, cannot be isolated from processes of exclusion and inclusion. The theme group's research questions why some actors gain access to resources while others do not; and why actors react differently to changing ecological and politico-economic circumstances.

In 2005 the theme group divided its efforts between finalizing the programme and, on the basis of this, reflecting on new themes of research for the years ahead.



Coastal Studies in Kenya

Kenya has some 200 km of coral reefs that fringe its Indian Ocean coast but a steady deterioration in this coastal ecosystem has been observed over the last few decades. Intensive fishing and the collecting of shells by the artisanal fishermen are often blamed for this, although, in fact, there are many other contributing factors. The local fishermen do not approve of destructive fishing methods because they are seeing their catches decrease in size, something they attribute to the degradation of their fishing grounds and over-fishing in the area. Additional negative factors include the gazettement of marine parks and competition from, for example, commercial trawling.

Between 1998 and 2001, a joint research project between the ASC, Moi University in Kenya and Ben Gurion University in Israel studied the relationship between income diversification and resource management among artisanal fishermen in Kenya on a stretch of the coast between Takaungu and Ngomeni. The ASC team was led by Prof. Jan Hoorweg and the results of the study and follow-up work are





being presented to policy-makers, for example at the upcoming Coastal Ecology Conference IV in Mombasa. Faced with dwindling resources and increased competition, not only from fellow fishermen but also from tourism, fishermen have had little choice but to adjust to the changing circumstances. One alternative is to fish more intensively, for example, by investing in vessels and gear, but this is beyond the means of most of the fishermen. Another alternative lies in livelihood diversification and engaging in economic activities other than fishing.

Poverty has often been associated with the overexploitation of natural resources, with the implicit assumption being that higher incomes will reduce the pressure on resources. However, this expectation has not generally been confirmed. Two types of income diversification were distinguished: 'activity' diversification whereby the fishermen concerned had another income in addition to fishing, and 'earner' diversification when the fishermen belonged to a household with more than one breadwinner.

Earner diversification was not related to fishing practices. Income is not pooled in most rural households and thus there is little incentive for fishermen to alter their dependence on fishing and change their fishing practices. The extra income was usually needed for larger households and was often not under the direct control of the fishermen themselves.

Activity diversification showed the relationship with fishing practices although in a different direction than had been hoped. Fishermen with other economic activities fished the inshore grounds more often, used harmful gear more frequently and did not show any willingness to stop fishing in order to take up alternative employment. Instead of fishing more carefully, they behaved in a way that was ultimately more damaging to the marine environment, namely by concentrating on a smaller area with potentially destructive equipment.

Various explanations need to be considered but it is likely that fishermen with other jobs may venture out to sea less frequently and decide to stay closer to shore because of the demands of their onshore work. The findings raise doubts about policy initiatives aimed at generating employment to provide alternatives to artisanal fishing.



Understanding poverty and the hurdles in overcoming poverty in challenging ecological and politico-economic contexts, urban and rural, remained the research issue at stake. In Kenya and Tanzania, the results of a long-term survey confirmed the paradox of accelerated urbanization and the increased importance of urban agriculture. At the same time, however, it appears that those who need it most – the urban poor – are being excluded or are benefiting the least from it. Farming in one's rural areas of origin has become an increasingly important livelihood or even survival strategy for urbanites, giving rise to so-called multi-spatial livelihoods. Yet, urban and rural farming by urbanites cannot be seen as complementary activities. Farming in town is primarily a matter of necessity, the main obstacle for the poor being a lack of access to land. Rural farming is more a matter of opportunity, with land being obtained through inheritance. Ecological variability remains an important factor in town too because the urban poor appear to be suffering from a considerable worsening of food security in periods of drought. Nevertheless, nutritional status data of the under-fives point to the long-term benefits of urban food production in preventing chronic malnutrition, though more so for the older than for the younger under-fives. As a contextual process on a higher level of scale, the impact of food market liberalization on food security was studied, but analyses have not yet been completed. Research by one of the group's visiting fellows on the extent to which economic liberalization and market-oriented reforms in Ethiopia have influenced the livelihoods of the average household in smaller towns concluded that the proportion of the poorest has increased and that there has been an increasing polarization of income between the relatively wealthier and the less fortunate households.

Research conducted in rural settings of Uganda, Mozambique, Chad and Kenya dealt explicitly with the concept of vulnerability. Attention was directed towards the risk and uncertainties households are exposed to and the arrangements and strategies they apply to deal with these risks and uncertainties. Against the background of the debate on poverty reduction strategies, risk reduction or improved risk management can contribute to a reduction in household vulnerability. Attention is also being paid to how local social security arrangements operate and are developing under conditions of widespread poverty and deprivation, and amid social and economic differentiation. Finally, a certain potential for micro insurance has been established.



Research on rural labour markets in Mozambique confirmed that women working for wages are 'putting flesh on the bones'. At the same time labour market research in a number of other countries concluded that pastoral groups often lack – or are not keen on taking up – certain skills which function as access qualifications. Pressures however are building as many of them are losing their (higher-potential) grazing lands to outside buyers, including foreigners. The latter often invest in tourism or water-consuming agro-industries. These invaders frequently run into conflict with the local people and immigrant labourers. In extreme situations this resource competition leads to open conflict between agriculturalists and pastoralists. An interesting parallel was drawn with a visiting fellow's research on the historical development of game reserves in South Africa. It was concluded that conservation practices in South Africa are inevitably politically motivated instead of being ecologically driven because they are caught up in often controversial questions of land use, land occupation and ownership. While the history of game reserves and national parks has broadly been one of exclusion of the local people from land resources, such practices are being challenged in South Africa's post-apartheid present. In particular, the country's land reform programme with its emphasis on land restitution has led to many claims being made on the country's conservation areas. Perhaps in an effort to ward off such threats, conservation authorities are entering into pre-emptive partnerships with impoverished rural communities living close to game reserves and national parks.



Library, Documentation and Information Department

In 2005 the Library, Documentation and Information Department (LDI) focused on completing the new thesaurus of African Studies and on tackling the backlog that had built up over the last few years. The cataloguing unit processed a large number of records, with production rates equaling those of the previous year. The library also produced its policy plan for the next few years and strengthened its professional relations with colleague institutions in Europe and Africa.

Trends and Figures

Among the new acquisitions processed by the LDI department in 2005 were 2,364 volumes – books, reports and pamphlets. Staff processed nearly 600 titles from donations from previous years and selected 689 titles from among recent donations. A total of 788 article titles that were in the backlog for indexing and abstracting were added to the library catalogue.

The documentation unit produced 1,640 abstracts of journal articles and book chapters from edited volumes. These were added to the library catalogue and published separately in the *African Studies Abstracts Online* journal. By the end of 2005, the number of individual subscribers registered with the online alerting facility, to let them know when a new issue of the abstracts journal has been posted on the website, was still growing and had reached a total of 587.

The library welcomed 4,727 visitors and handled 6,561 loans in 2005. Over 400 new visitors were registered. Requests for information totalled 2,159, with requests by phone (1,154) slightly exceeding email requests (1,005).

Library Policy Plan 2005-2008

The LDI department set its objectives for the coming years as part of an institution-wide policy plan. The objectives are based on the recommendations given by the external evaluation committee that visited the ASC in 2004. They can be summarized as follows:

- to extend the paper-based collection with a substantial digital collection, which will be made accessible to the global academic community;
- to reassess its library automation policy and strategy, securing the benefits of present collaborative library services, and to explore new opportunities and strategic partnerships for collaborative library automation;
- to solve the bottlenecks in archiving and shelving space and to develop a preservation strategy for all the types of material held by the library;

- to improve the cross-referencing of the library's resources with those of related libraries and especially with ASC research; and
- to collect usage and user satisfaction data in a systematic fashion.

The library translated these strategic objectives into operational goals and an activity plan for the coming years. From 2006 onwards, the yearly library working plans will be based on this activity plan.

ICT Facilities

Information and communication technology (ICT) facilities at the ASC support the institute's research and library activities in a variety of ways, for example with the registration of scientific output, with web interfaces to library automation output, and with the development of new web applications for innovative products and services on the Internet. The redesign of the ASC website with a new layout, a revised navigation and information structure and an improved content maintenance module was completed in April.

The ASC's DARC (Distributed Africana Repositories Community) initiative is co-funded by the DARE programme (www.surf.nl/en/dare) of the SURF Foundation. It aims to make all Africanist research material and information in the Netherlands accessible through a community portal on the Internet. The Connecting-Africa pilot scheme (www.connecting-africa.net) was developed in 2005 with additional functionality and content. It now contains the details of publications by over 100 Africanists in the Netherlands and provides access to the full text of nearly 2000 academic publications on Africa.

A new project has been planned in cooperation with the DPRN (Development Policy Review Network) to extend Connecting-Africa to include African expertise and information about research publications by the Dutch government and non-governmental organizations. This will also include the development of other regional platforms and an umbrella site called Global-Connections (www.global-connections.nl)

Book Donations

In 2005 the library selected 689 titles from institutional and individual gifts. It acquired the collection of Mr H. Barvelink, which included a number of books on African art and photography. In the past, these fields were not deemed to be particularly important areas for scholarly study but together with books on anthropology and history, they make up a beautiful and very valuable collection. Mr J. Lingbeek donated his collection of mainly antiquarian books about Ethiopia to the ASC library. He was very interested in Haile Selassie and his collection focused in particular on the period of the Italian invasion and conquest from 1935 to 1941. The backlog in processing book donations (of approximately 1500 titles) has been included in a new retro-cataloguing project (see below).

E-journals

A project team worked throughout the year to devise the best approach for managing e-journals, tackling licensing issues and providing online access. Whilst university libraries in the Netherlands have formed a consortium for negotiating prices and access conditions with publishers, smaller academic libraries – such as the ASC library – have not been included in this agreement and find themselves rather isolated. Much work still needs to be done in this field, but a pilot project to provide access to twenty e-journals via an URL resolver was successfully completed.

Abstracting and Indexing

The translation of the UDC classification codes into English terms and the construction of a word-based indexing system started as a project co-financed by NWO in 2001 and continued throughout 2005. By the end of 2005, the translation was completed, with a total of 9064 codes having been translated. Much intellectual effort was put into ensuring the overall consistency of the new thesaurus. Negotiations with OCLC-PICA were held about the integration of the thesaurus in the cataloguing system, the conversion of all the titles in the catalogue and the facilities for thesaurus term searching in the online catalogue.

Retro-cataloguing Project

With the completion of the thesaurus, the UDC classification system will no longer be in use in the library. This means that all the backlog titles carrying UDC codes have to be converted as well, including several thousand government reports stored in the



basement. These titles are not included in the online catalogue and a retro-cataloguing project was therefore started. In 2005 an inventory and cost estimate were made on the basis of small test sets with the different types of materials concerned.

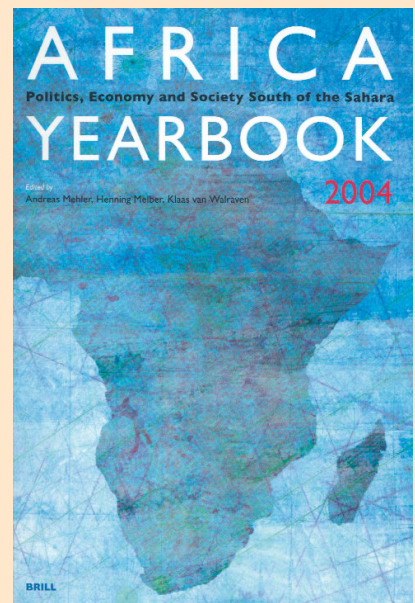
Africa Yearbook 2004: Politics, Economy and Society South of the Sahara

A. Mehler, H. Melber &
K. van Walraven (eds)

Leiden: Brill Academic Publishers
ISBN 90 04 14462 5

The first edition of this new English-language publication offering detailed information on individual African countries appeared in 2005. It is to be published annually by Brill Academic Publishers in Leiden and provides a sequel to the German-language *Afrika Jahrbuch* that used to be published by the Institut für Afrika-Kunde in Hamburg. The articles in the *Africa Yearbook* are all written by renowned specialists – a number of whom are researchers at the ASC – and will provide a yearly overview of developments in each Sub-Saharan African country.

The *Africa Yearbook* details the major domestic political changes, the foreign policy and the socio-economic trends in Sub-Saharan Africa in one specific calendar year. It contains articles on all the Sub-Saharan states, each of the four sub-regions (West, Central, Eastern and Southern Africa) and focuses on major cross-border developments and sub-regional organizations as well as offering articles on continental developments and European-African relations. The *Africa Yearbook* is oriented to the requirements of a variety of target groups: students, politicians, diplomats, administrators, journalists, teachers, practitioners in the field of development aid as well as business people.



Web Dossiers

Four new web dossiers were compiled in 2005 based on conferences and gatherings co-organized by the ASC:

- Islam in Africa (May 2005)
- Poverty Reduction (June 2005)
- Privatization (November 2005)
- Challenges and Prospects (December 2005)

In addition to the web dossiers, a literature list was drawn up for the Consortium for Development Partnerships (CDP) workshop on 'Local Dynamics of Conflict and Peace Building'. A title set was selected from the library's catalogue and included in a database developed by the Hollenweger Center for the interdisciplinary study of Pentecostal and charismatic movements.



Professional Relations and Cooperation

The LDI department contributed a list of journal titles published in Africa to the CERES journals ranking system in the social sciences, a system that includes journals from developing countries. In this way, Africanists in the Netherlands who are assessed on the basis of the CERES system are encouraged to publish in African journals.

In 2005 the head of the library co-organized the library panel at the first AEGIS European conference in London, together with a colleague from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS). She visited Dakar in November 2005 to attend the Standing Conference of African University Libraries Western Area (SCAULWA) conference and to follow up on professional contacts established in 2004 with the CODESRIA Documentation and Information Centre (CODICE). Working agreements were drawn up on the exchange of publications and the organization of a joint second conference on 'Electronic Publishing and Dissemination' to be held in Leiden.

Two staff members went on a working visit to the Basler Afrika Bibliographien in Basel and the Salon du Livre in Genève (Switzerland). And a member of the Collection Development section attended CODESRIA's 11th General Assembly conference in Maputo, Mozambique, where she participated in the book exhibition and returned to the Netherlands with interesting new publications for the ASC's literature collection.

External Communication

The ASC is much better known nowadays in professional and non-professional circles than some years ago. This is the result of a number of specific activities that have been organized by the ASC but is also due to the increased participation of ASC staff members in events hosted by other organizations. In the coming years, the effects of these activities will be measured and priorities will have to be determined.

The most important professional activities are the seminars and conferences organized by the ASC itself, and the institute's publications. Aimed at a wider audience are our website, the CinemAfrica programme, the Masters Thesis Award, and contacts with the media. As of 2006 a new two-year Research Masters in African Studies (MPhil) will be introduced, a programme that the ASC has worked to develop in cooperation with Leiden University.

Seminars

In 2005, the seminar committee organized 19 seminars on a wide variety of subjects ranging from the consequences of economic liberalization in Ethiopia to dispute resolution in South Africa, and from magic practices in the world of Islam to the impact of HIV/AIDS in rural Africa. An earlier initiative to introduce somewhat more coherence into the programme by organizing a series of thematic seminars resulted in three seminars addressing the topic of 'Secular States and Religious Societies', with speakers including Prof. Haggai Erlich (Tel Aviv), Dr Wouter van Beek (ASC) and Prof. Gerrie ter Haar (ISS). BBC journalist Martin Plaut gave a well-attended seminar on the Ethiopia-Eritrea conflict. A seminar on land redistribution in South Africa by Prof. Lungisele Ntsebeza from Cape Town was organized in cooperation with SAVUSA (South Africa – Vrije Universiteit – Strategic Alliances) and the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which provided a venue in The Hague. Inviting speakers from Africa was made financially feasible by organizing cost-sharing arrangements with other Dutch universities.

The best-attended seminar, with over 45 participants, was given by ASC visiting fellow Prof. Michael Bourdillon from Zimbabwe who discussed various approaches to the issue of child labour. The seminar on NEPAD by Dr Henning Melber from Uppsala, with Frieda Nicolai from the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs as discussant, also drew considerable interest. A seminar by the winner of the ASC-CODESRIA Thesis Award, Leslie F. Zubieta Calvert, received an equally enthusiastic response. Most of the seminars attracted an average of 15-18 participants.



Informal discussions during the West Africa Day on 15 November.



The seminar committee considered ways to increase attendance and decided ultimately to experiment by reducing the number of seminars in 2006.

Conferences

2005 was a very busy year as far as conferences were concerned. At the request of the Development Policy Review Network DPRN, the ASC organized three regional expert meetings on East Africa, West Africa and the Horn of Africa respectively. The aim was to bring together researchers, journalists, policy-makers and those working for NGOs. Topical policy-related matters, recent publications and regional research projects were discussed. And as part of a wider programme of expert meetings on regional developments in developing countries, the ASC and DPRN will continue these meetings in 2006 and 2007. In addition to arranging such meetings, the DPRN is setting up a database of researchers, journalists and those working for NGOs in the Netherlands.



Another important issue was the organizing of three debates on topical African issues in the Arena Africana programme, in cooperation with NCDO. The Arena Africana debates aimed to allow African and international experts to meet a Dutch audience to discuss the Millennium Development Goals, peacebuilding, private enterprise and farming and their bearing on African development. The debates were entitled 'Peacebuilding in Africa. Local and Regional Capacities for Securing Peace, Reconstruction and Development' (13 October), 'Africa's Latent Entrepreneurial Class' (10 November) and 'This Land is Your Land... An African Rainbow Evolution and the Future of Small-holder Farming' (7 December). These debates were held in De Balie, Amsterdam, for small but interested audiences.



In May the international conference 'Islam, Disengagement of the State, and Globalization in Africa' was held at UNESCO in Paris. It was initiated and funded by the Netherlands and French Ministries of Foreign Affairs and co-organized by the ASC and CEAN (Centre d'Etude d'Afrique Noire) in Bordeaux (see Box in the section on research activities earlier in this volume).

Study Days

Every year the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs holds a day of discussions in Leiden or The Hague with ASC staff members. This year it was held in the National Museum of Ethnology in Leiden on 27 September and 40 people from both organizations were present. The subject, carefully selected from the ASC's research topics to interest both parties, was 'Analyse van en beleidsresponsen op de "façadestaat" in Afrika: Naar nieuwe partnerschappen in "governance" en ontwikkeling'. During the day there were four lectures and interesting discussions on the selected subjects.

On 28 October the NVAS (Netherlands Association of African Studies) organized a study day entitled 'Africa without Borders' during which NVAS members were given the opportunity to present their research. This conference offered an ideal forum for an exchange of ideas and experiences about research in contemporary Africa. The keynote address entitled 'The Importance of Children' was given by Prof. Michael Bourdillon of the University of Zimbabwe and the films 'Voices in the Desert' by Metje Postma and 'Lamin Kuyateh, een muzikant met een missie' by Fleur Dejong were also shown. The proceedings will be published in an ASC publication that will appear at the end of 2006.

CinemAfrica

Once a month anyone interested in African cinema can view films and documentaries on Africa selected from the ASC's large video collection. In 2005 this programme unfortunately did not attract many people. In 2006 the ASC will try to improve this situation by combining it with a seminar and choosing topics of interest to a wider audience, like sports in Africa.

A weekend of African films was organized jointly by the ASC and the National Museum of Ethnology (Museum voor Volkenkunde) in Leiden in April. The varied programme attracted an interested audience who received an introduction to films from, among others, Madagascar, Senegal, Morocco, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and South Africa.



Masters Thesis Award

Since it was set up in 2003, this award has undergone some important changes. In 2004 CODESRIA, the ASC's strategic partner in Dakar, co-organized the award with the ASC, and in 2005/2006 NiZA in Amsterdam also joined the team. In 2005 the prize was won by Leslie F. Zubieta Calvert of the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa, for her thesis entitled 'The Rock Art of Mwana wa Chentcherere II Rock Shelter, Malawi: A Site-Specific Study of Girl's Initiation Rock Art'. The jury substantiated its point of view as follows: 'The author combines in a concise way several disciplines, i.e. ethnography, social history, gender studies and archaeology. Moreover she has succeeded in gaining entry to local women's initiation ceremonies and living memory, which has never before been included in an interpretative framework of the rock art.' In addition to the prize money, she was invited to give a presentation at the ASC on 12 October, and to publish her thesis as an ASC Research Report.

The award is to be presented annually and those interested in applying are invited to submit their thesis before 15 June each year. For more details, see www.ascleiden.nl/research/award/.



Leslie Zubieta's presentation during the ASC-CODESRIA Thesis Award afternoon



Exhibitions

This year the ASC corridors and the library walls were again adorned with the colourful paintings and photos of (mostly) African artists. 2005 started with a spectacular exhibition of African body masks. The wooden belly sculptures are made by the Makonde people in Tanzania but were painted by the Leiden artist Susana Lopez (see photos).



This exhibition was followed by paintings from the Sudanese artist Fawzia Yousif El Mamoun, who lives in the Netherlands as an asylum seeker. The last three months of 2005 saw an exhibition of graphic art called 'E-POS'. E-POS was a partnership

between the Frans Masereel Centre in Kasterlee, Belgium and the Caversham Centre for Artists and Writers in the KwaZulu Natal Midlands, South Africa. It provided an opportunity for a creative dialogue between two continents and between visual artists and writers that resulted in a unique print portfolio.

Another exhibition was co-organized by Ineke van Kessel on the occasion of her launch of her book *Zwarte Hollanders*. *Afrikaanse soldaten in Nederlands Indië*, which tells the story of more than 3,000 Africans who were recruited into the Dutch East Indies Army in Ghana in the 19th century. It has become a travelling exhibition and, after being hosted by the Tropenmuseum in Amsterdam and the Museum Bronbeek in Arnhem, it will be on show at Het Indisch Huis in The Hague and subsequently in the Africa Museum in Cadier en Keer. Its final destination is the Elmina Java Museum in Elmina, Ghana.

Media Contact

As usual, many scientific staff members were asked to give interviews to the media, especially on the radio, in 2005. The media now regularly contact the ASC for background information and comments on news items. A few examples: Jan Abbink gave interviews – mainly about the Ethiopia-Eritrea conflict – for Radio Netherlands Wereldomroep, Radio France International, BNR Newsradio and Radio 1 ('De Ochtenden'); Wouter van Beek was interviewed by Radio Dakar on sports and development and by the Leeuwarder Courant for their Christmas Special; and Ben Soares was contacted by authors for information they needed for their books, for example, on Islam in Nigeria.

Networks

The African Studies Centre in Leiden maintains strategic and institutional ties with a number of related research organizations in the Netherlands, Africa and Europe. The alphabetical list below includes the institutions with which the ASC has formal and long-standing ties through strategic alliances. In addition to these organizations, the ASC has developed numerous project-based collaborative ties with research institutions, particularly in Africa. ASC researchers have external affiliations with a range of universities, non-governmental organizations and policy-oriented institutions.

AEGIS – The Africa-Europe Group for Interdisciplinary Studies

www.aegis-eu.org

AEGIS is a collaborative network of European research centres that aims to create synergies between experts and institutions. With its primary emphasis on the social sciences and the humanities, AEGIS's main goal is to improve understanding about contemporary African societies. AEGIS is registered as a foundation in the Netherlands and has its own board. The African Studies Centre in Leiden is a founding member of AEGIS and its director is a member of the AEGIS board. The ASC hosts AEGIS's financial administration and its website. ASC researchers contribute to joint conferences, summer schools and other AEGIS activities. In 2004 the ASC together with two other AEGIS partners, the Institut für Afrika-Kunde in Hamburg and the Nordiska Afrikainstitutet in Uppsala, started a new annual AEGIS publication, The Africa Yearbook. The first edition appeared in June 2005.

ASSR – Amsterdam School for Social Research

www.fmg.uva.nl/assr

The Amsterdam School for Social Research aims to be a focal point for social scientists doing interdisciplinary, comparative and historical research into the dynamics of contemporary societies. As a graduate school it offers a multidisciplinary programme for students studying for a PhD in sociology, anthropology or political science. The African Studies Centre and the ASSR signed an agreement of cooperation in 2000 to foster collaborative research in the area of non-Western studies.

CERES – Research School for Resource Studies for Development

<http://ceres.fss.uu.nl>

The CERES research school was established by six Dutch academic institutions in 1992 as a coordinating body to develop research in the Netherlands and to train PhD candidates. The African Studies Centre and CERES signed an agreement of association in 1998 to cooperate in the areas of research coordination and PhD training. ASC researchers contribute to the coordination of the CERES Working Programme and participate in its annual summer schools. ASC research currently contributes to the CERES working programme entitled 'The Management of Natural Resources, Human Resources and Social Insecurity'. ASC researchers are also collaborating with CERES members on the 'Failed Inclusion and Human Rights' project.



CNWS – Research School of Asian, African and Amerindian Studies

www.cnws.leidenuniv.nl

The CNWS Research School is a cooperative venture between Leiden University's Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Social Sciences and Faculty of Law. Senior scholars, who are appointed as members by the CNWS board, encourage junior researchers with preparing dissertations and interdisciplinary research. The African Studies Centre and CNWS signed an agreement of understanding in March 1992 to cooperate in the areas of joint research, teaching, collection building and publications. More than half of the ASC's researchers are currently members of the CNWS and, as such, they participate in the CNWS interdisciplinary research clusters and assist in the training of junior researchers. ASC researchers are currently contributing to the CNWS research cluster entitled: 'Culture and Development in Africa: Political-Economic Changes and the Dynamics of African Cultures'. In 2004 the ASC and Leiden University's Faculty of Arts and Faculty of Social Sciences jointly initiated a new Research Masters in African Studies. The coordination of this new Masters programme will take place within the framework of CNWS cooperation.

CODESRIA – Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa

www.codesria.org



In May, the ASC and CODESRIA signed a Memorandum of Understanding in Dakar.



The African Studies Centre and the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa in Dakar, Senegal, entered into a strategic partnership in 2005. The partnership aims to promote understanding and goodwill among scholars in general, and within African Studies in particular, with the goal of strengthening scientific ties and broadening faculty, student and policy-makers' experiences and horizons. The partnership has identified the following areas of cooperation: research and training projects; library, documentation and ICT; publications and information dissemination; awards for MA and PhD theses in African Studies; conferences, symposia, seminars and workshops; and fund-raising for joint activities. ASC and CODESRIA researchers have worked together on research projects in the past. Both institutions have joined the Consortium for Development Partnerships (CDP) initiative, which provides yet another framework for cooperation between the two centres.



Participants (including Prof. Leo de Haan of the ASC) at the CODESRIA conference on 'Rethinking African Development: Beyond Impasse towards Alternatives' held in Maputo, Mozambique in December.



Leiden University

www.leiden.edu

The African Studies Centre and Leiden University signed a permanent agreement in 1990 to consolidate the close professional and administrative relationship between both organizations. The agreement covers: collaborating in research on Sub-Saharan Africa; assigning the African Studies Centre the privilege of being treated as part of the university organization, with due regard to the corporate rights of the ASC Foundation and its interuniversity form of organization; and the role of Leiden University as an administrative intermediary for allocating the state subsidy to the ASC. Research collaboration between the two organizations materialized with the partnership between the ASC and the CNWS Research School, established in 1992, with the aim of cooperating in areas of joint research, teaching, collection building and publications. The ASC library entertains close working relations with Leiden University library and shares automation facilities and collection access privileges. Both libraries collaborate in the DARC projects and Open Access Leiden.



Governing Bodies and Personnel

Members of the Board of Governors

(on 31 December 2005)

Ms E.M.A. Schmitz (Chair)	Judge, Zwolle Law Courts; former Deputy Minister of Justice and Mayor of Haarlem
Ms B.E.A. Ambags (Vice-chair)	Former ambassador to Burkina Faso and Zimbabwe
Ms J. Groen	Journalist with the Volkskrant
Prof. A. de Ruijter	Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Tilburg

Members of the Academic Advisory Council

(on 31 December 2005)

Dr E.A. Baerends	University of Groningen
Dr P. Boele van Hensbroek	University of Groningen
Prof. M.P. van Dijk	Erasmus University, Rotterdam
Dr S.J.T.M. Evers	Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam
Prof. G.E. Frerks (Chair)	University of Wageningen
G.A. de Groot	University of Tilburg
Dr H. Huisman	University of Utrecht
Dr M. Mous	University of Leiden
Dr W. Nauta	University of Maastricht
Dr M.B. O'Laughlin	Institute of Social Studies, The Hague
Prof. P.J. Pels	University of Leiden
Dr J. Post	University of Amsterdam
Dr R. Reis	University of Amsterdam
Prof. P. Richards	University of Wageningen
Dr H.J. van Rinsum	University of Utrecht
Dr C.B. de Steenhuisen Piters	Royal Tropical Institute
Dr H. Wels	Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam
Prof. F. Wijzen	Radboud University



Personnel

(on 31 December 2005)

Director

Prof. L.J. de Haan

human geographer

Research Staff

Prof. G.J. Abbink

anthropologist

Dr W.E.A. van Beek

anthropologist

Prof. W.M.J. van Binsbergen

anthropologist, philosopher

Dr I. Brinkman

historian, project researcher

Dr M.E. de Bruijn

anthropologist

Prof. J.W.M. van Dijk

forestry expert, anthropologist

Dr R.A. van Dijk

anthropologist

Dr S.D.K. Ellis

historian

Dr D.W.J. Foeken

human geographer

Dr J-B. Gewalt

historian

Dr G.S.C.M. Hesseling

legal anthropologist, jurist

A. Hoek

historian, project researcher

Prof. J.C. Hoorweg

social psychologist, social ecologist

Dr M.M.A. Kaag

anthropologist

Dr W.M.J. van Kessel

historian

W. Klaver

nutritionist

Dr P.J.J. Konings

sociologist of development

Dr A.H.M. Leliveld

economist

Dr S. Luning

anthropologist, coordinator of Research
Masters in African Studies

H.A. Meilink

economist

Dr M.M.E.M. Rutten

human geographer

Dr B.F. Soares

anthropologist

Dr K. van Walraven

political scientist

PhD students

A. Alemu Fanta

ethnologist, folklorist

L. van de Kamp

anthropologist

J. Ndaya

sociologist of development



C.T. Nijenhuis	human geographer, jurist
L. Nijzink	human geographer
S. Ouma Owuor	human geographer
L. Pelckmans	anthropologist
B. Tasew	ethnologist/folklorist
A.J.G. van Til	anthropologist

Library, Documentation and Information Department

T. van der Werf	head of department
M.M.O. Boin	documentalist
M.C.A. van Doorn	documentalist
E.M. Eijkman	documentalist
C.J.M. Kraan	documentalist
M.B. van der Lee	assistant librarian
A.A.M. van Marrewijk	assistant librarian
R. Meijer	documentalist
M. Oosterkamp	assistant librarian
K. Polman	documentalist
M. Smit	assistant librarian
C.M. Sommeling	documentalist
P.G. Verkaik	assistant librarian

Administrative Staff

K.K. Dorrepaal	assistant administrator, publications manager
J. Nijssen	administrator
U. Oberst	programme coordinator
G. Petit	executive secretary to the director
A. Reeves	editor
W. Veerman	programmer, computer manager
M.A. Westra	personnel administrator and management assistant
M.C.A. van Winden	PR coordinator
L. van Wouw	programmer, webmaster
W.J. Zwart-Brouwer	layout assistant



The following members of staff left the ASC during 2005

Dr D.F. Bryceson	research staff
Prof. J. Sender	research staff
H. Sanderman	administrative staff

The following staff were temporarily based at the ASC during 2005

J. v.d. Meulen	assistant librarian
F. Klein Klouwenberg	student assistant
P. Schrijver	project assistant

Visiting Fellows at the African Studies Centre in 2005

Prof. Michael Bourdillon	University of Zimbabwe
4 April – 28 June	
Dr Shirley Brooks	University of KwaZulu-Natal
6 September – 2 December	
Dr Solomon Mulugeta	Addis Ababa University
6 January – 6 April	
Dr Sanya Osha	University of KwaZulu-Natal
30 September – 21 December	



Financial Overview

(in € '000)

<i>Income</i>	2004	2005
Netherlands Ministries of:	2,806	2,814
• Education, Culture and Sciences		
• Foreign Affairs		
• Agriculture, Nature Conservation & Fisheries		
Projects for third parties	253	559
Other income (publications etc.)	164	118
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,223	3,491
<i>Expenditures</i>		
Personnel	2,321	2,291
Institutional costs	741	882
Inventory depreciation	28	35
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,090	3,208



Publications by the Institute and by Staff Members

Academic publications, reports and book reviews by staff members

G.J. Abbink

'Comparing Cultures in Southern Ethiopia: From Ethnography to Generative Explanation', in: J. Abbink (ed.), *Cultural Variation and Social Change in Southern Ethiopia: Comparative Approaches*, special issue of *Northeast African Studies* 7 (3): 1-14.

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J-B. Gewalt

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- 'Colonial Warfare: Hehe and World War One, the Wars besides Maji Maji in South-western Tanzania', Leiden: African Studies Centre, Working Paper 63.
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L.J. de Haan

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G.S.C.M. Hesseling

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M.M.A. Kaag

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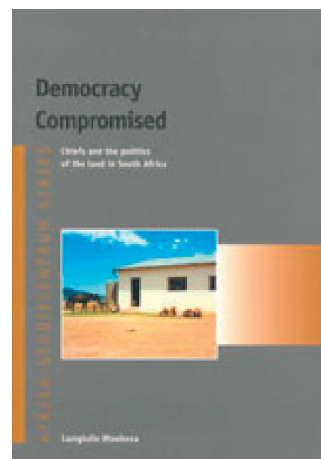
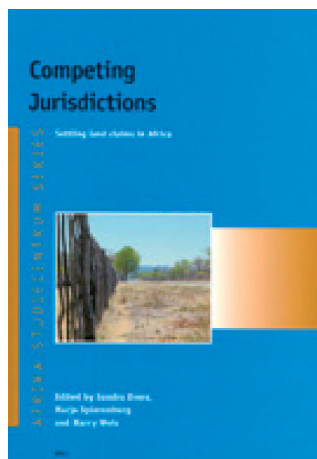
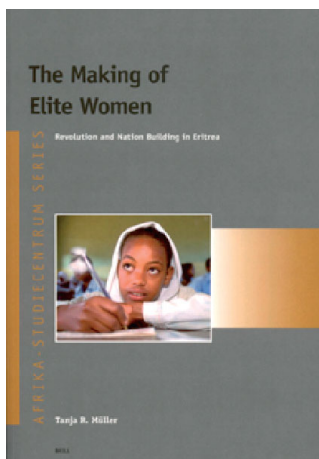
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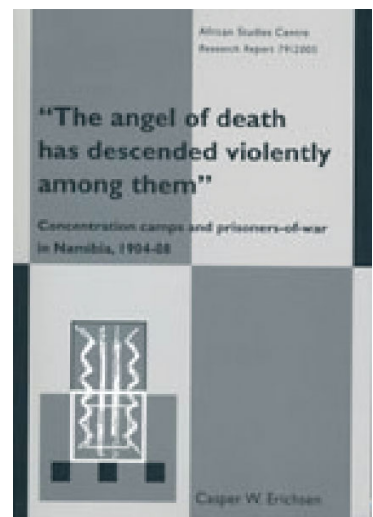
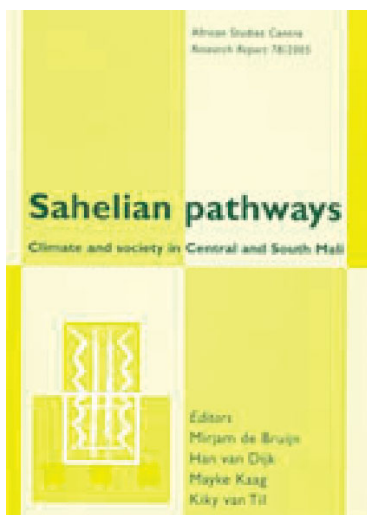
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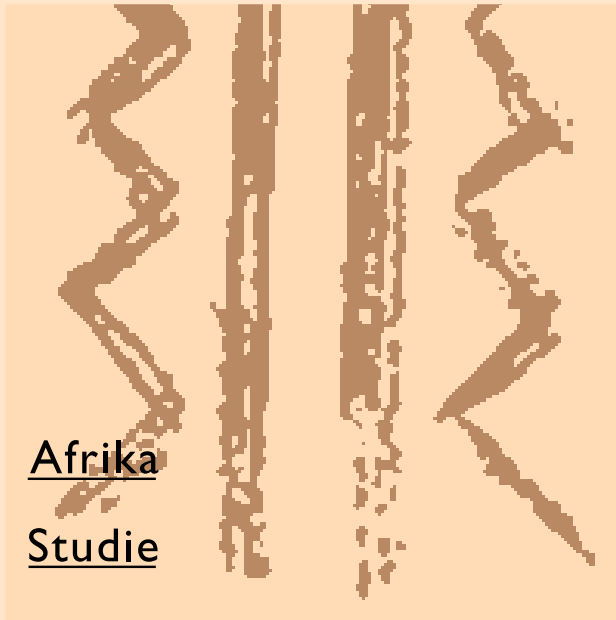
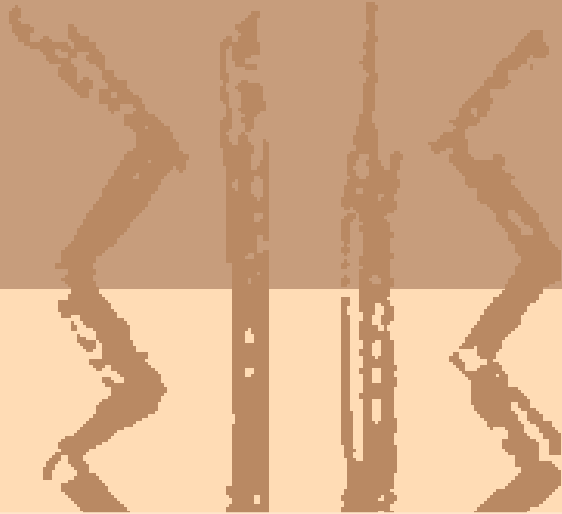
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