

A vibrant street scene in an African market. In the foreground, a man wearing a grey t-shirt with a Superman logo and a helmet stands next to a purple motorcycle. To his left, a woman in a colorful patterned dress and helmet sits on an orange motorcycle with a young boy on the back. The street is filled with other people, many on motorcycles, and shops with various goods. The background shows a long, busy street with more people and buildings under a clear sky.

African Studies Centre Afrika-Studiecentrum Leiden

Annual Report 2019

ADDRESS

2

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface	5	Library, Documentation & Information	47
Some Facts and Figures	6	Events & External Contacts	54
Research	9	Governing Bodies & Personnel as per 31-12-2019	68
Guests at the ASCL	26	Financial Overview	71
PhD Research	31	Publications by ASCL Staff	71
Teaching at the ASCL	35	Publications by the ASCL	74
Research Masters in African Studies 2019-2020	35	Seminars	77
Minor African Dynamics 2019-2020	37	Researchers in the media	80
Minor Frugal Innovation 2019-2020	40	Colophon	84
Special Projects	41		



In Memoriam: Marcel Rutten (1957-2020)

The ASCL is deeply saddened to report that one of its senior researchers, Dr Marcel Rutten, passed away at his home in Nijmegen on the morning of 12 January 2020. Marcel, born on 1 December 1957, was a highly respected and well-liked colleague who will be particularly remembered for his solid research on land, access to land and land rights in East Africa, Kenya and Ethiopia.

Marcel's long-standing link with Kenya dates back to the 1980s when he conducted fieldwork in Kenya as an undergraduate student. Marcel's doctoral thesis, defended in 1992 at the Catholic University of Nijmegen, was titled 'Selling Wealth to Buy Poverty: The process of the individualization of landownership among the Maasai pastoralists of Kajiado district, Kenya, 1890-1990' and dealt with the sale of pastoral land, literally from under the feet of pastoralists using the land.

Throughout his career, Marcel's work focused on pastoralists and everything associated with pastoralism in Kenya: land, water, people, cattle, and the state. His office at the ASCL was adorned with all manner of paraphernalia that reflected this interest, photographs of beautifully decorated cattle, posters of conferences in Kenya, and political cartoons relating to governance in Kenya. His love of Kenya, his integrity, and his insistence on working on an equal basis with Kenyan partners, will be remembered both in Kenya as well as in the Netherlands.

Marcel is survived by his wife and two daughters; he lived to be 62 years of age and will be sadly missed.



PREFACE

This preface is being written in atypical circumstances. For the past three months employees, students, and visitors to the African Studies Centre Leiden have not been able to come to the institute on account of the COVID-19 pandemic that arrived in the Netherlands in early 2020. Overnight, the manner in which we could go to work, conduct our work, and interact with others changed completely. Three months later, as the restrictions begin to be lifted, we have entered the “new normal”. Very few of us will travel to work, working in the office of the ASCL will be on a roster basis and only with single room occupancy, and electronic ‘Whereby’, ‘Zoom’, ‘Skype’, and ‘Microsoft Teams’ meetings will be the norm. The manner in which we conduct our office life as an academic institute has changed, probably forever. As has been noted by others before, pandemics are catalysts for change, and it is clear that some changes, in particular use of electronic communications technology, has now become firmly rooted in the way in which we conduct our work. What the other structural, longer term changes will be, remains to be seen.

The ASCL’s core business, conducting research on developments in, and providing information on Africa, will continue unchanged. This annual report demonstrates that in 2019 the ASCL fulfilled its mission admirably and a number of very positive developments deserve to be highlighted.

- The ASCL welcomed new staff members, in particular our funded PhD students Tycho van der Hoog and Loes Oudenhuijsen, project manager Esther Das, education development officer Madi Ditmars, student assistant Tirza Pulleman, INCLUDE junior researcher Caspar Swinkels, and communications officer Rik Jongenelen.



- Information specialist Gerard van de Bruinhorst conducted an extremely productive acquisition trip to the international book fair in Hargeisa, Somaliland.
- Our relations with the Centre for African Studies at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland were strengthened, and steps were undertaken for the appointment of four PhD students in a fully funded joint PhD programme with CAS in Edinburgh.
- The disruption in library services came to an end with the reopening after an anti-asbestos operation of the ASCL Library.
- Our researchers appointed in 2018, Dr Annachiara Raia, Dr Abdourahmane Idrissa, and Dr Lidewyde Berckmoes, all got on with their research at the ASCL, and a short selection of their findings are presented in this annual report.

I know that the reading of this annual report will be enlightening, and I know that in 2020 we, as the ASCL, will continue to do the work that we are expected to do. I wish you all reading pleasure and good health.



Jan-Bart Gewald, June 2020

SOME FACTS AND FIGURES

6

The African Studies Centre Leiden (ASCL) is the national knowledge centre on Africa in the Netherlands. The ASCL undertakes research and is involved in teaching about Africa and aims to promote a better understanding of and insight into historical, current, and future developments in Africa. The ASCL is an interfaculty institute of Leiden University and has a world-famous library and documentation centre that is open to the general public.

Visit our website at www.ascleiden.nl.



The ASCL is located at the Pieter de la Court building of Leiden University's Faculty of Social Sciences.

In 2019, the ASCL website had:

335,279 page views
143,977 unique visitors
578,026 open access publication downloads

In addition, there were:

4,500 users of the Country Portal
227,482 unique visitors on AfricaBib
46,491 unique visitors of Connecting-Africa

Among the best visited pages were the library web dossiers, the research staff, the thesis award, the visiting fellowship programme, news items, and the library catalogue. The site was visited most frequently by users from the United States (29,043) the Netherlands (26,771), Nigeria (10,401), the United Kingdom (8,242), and South Africa (7,221).

In addition, there were:

7,890 Facebook likes
7,812 Twitter followers



The ASCL Africanist Blog

Blog posts written for the [ASCL Africanist Blog](#) in 2019 covered a wide range of topics, from the politics of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement, to the relationship between art, media, and wildlife conservation in Africa.

In their blog posts, researchers responded to developments in African societies, reflected on the state of African Studies, or highlighted research issues discussed within the context of their Collaborative Research Groups.

Special mention should be made of the blog post written by Dr Marcel Rutten, our senior researcher, who sadly passed away on 12 January 2020. In his last blog post, entitled '[Rembrandt, Lion, and Fox: The intimate relationship between art, media, philanthropy and wildlife conservation in Africa](#)', Marcel draws a line from Rembrandt through to 1920s nature research in Kenya, and to current wildlife conservation programmes in the Maasai area financed by media philanthropists. A fascinating read showcasing not only Marcel's love of history, nature conservation, and the Maasai, but also his ability to uncover the interconnectivity of numerous global developments.

In his blog post '[The Politics of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement](#) (AfCFTA)', Prof. Chibuike Uche, chairholder of the Stephen Ellis Chair for the Governance of Finance and Integrity in Africa, considered the speed with which most African countries endorsed AfCFTA and the widespread global support and acclaim it received, to be surprising. "One possible explanation is that the interests of non-African

actors may be the major driving force behind AfCFTA', he wrote, '[...] because trade liberalization within Africa could be an important first step towards achieving trade liberalization between Africa and such countries, which is their desired goal.'

One of the best-read blog posts in 2019 was Dr Mayke Kaag's '[Africa is here, get used to it!](#)', in which she states that the general interest African Studies lies in the fact that

"Africa is not just a remote part of the globe, over there, and out of focus [...] Africa is *here*. In learning about how power and trust work in Africa, at the same time one learns something about power and trust in general." Dr Harry Wels, convenor of the 'Trans-species perspectives on African Studies' Collaborative Research Group expressed the desire for climate change to dominate the Africanist research agenda in his post '[2019: The year of decentring the human in African Studies?](#)'. In it, he suggested that humans must accept that they are no longer the centre of the world and the universe and that dealing with climate change in Africa and elsewhere must be our top priority, in whatever we do: "in our personal and our professional capacities, as *part* of our living planet instead of as its *master*."

'Africa is not just a remote part of the globe, over there, and out of focus [...] Africa is here'

Keep yourself updated on new blog posts, [subscribe to the blog mailing!](#)

CHAMBRES
D'HÔTES
CHEZ
SABINE



RESEARCH

The African Studies Centre Leiden (ASCL) is a multidisciplinary, inter-faculty institute at Leiden University, specialising in research, information, and documentation services on Africa. It also fulfils a key educational role by running a Research Master's programme in African Studies, supporting a one-year Master's in African Studies at Leiden University's Faculty of Humanities, and by contributing to the teaching of the University's BA programmes. In addition, the ASCL contributes to two minors in African Studies (see elsewhere in this report).

The ASCL has maintained its prominence among European (and global) African studies institutions and as a global hub of expertise and advice on matters relating to Africa for a variety of actors in the world of policymaking, the media, the business community, and NGOs. It remains the prime national knowledge centre on Africa in the Netherlands. The ASCL's library and documentation resources played a pivotal role in this regard, with its extensive and growing research-oriented collections and expanding (digital) information services and web-based platforms.

The Leiden African Studies Assembly (LeidenASA), facilitated by the ASCL and funded by Leiden University, entered its last year of formal university funding in 2019. This Assembly was both an institutional expression of, and tool for, integrating African Studies throughout Leiden University via networking, inviting visiting scholars, and academic events. It was highly successful in its forum and exchange function this year and will continue to support a number of key events in 2020, including the international conference 'Africa Knows'.

Research and publishing on Africa remain central to the ASCL's mission, predominantly in the social sciences and the humanities. The

new research programme became fully operative and its overarching and supporting texts appeared on the ASCL website in early 2019. The programme title is 'Strident Africa: Societal and Environmental Change in the Context of 30 Centuries of History', and four general domains of research have been identified:

- Politics and Security
- Society and Culture
- Economy
- Historical Context

These four classic dimensions indicate the broad areas and themes of ongoing and future research, and virtually all projects in progress also have clear interdisciplinary aspects.

Most ASCL research have an individual creative basis, but are carried out within the framework of seven 'Collaborative Research Groups' (CRGs) that are linked to or derived from the four domains above. Within the groups, scientific exchanges and (foreign) guest lectures took place, and collaborative papers were written, with new publications resulting or in the pipeline. An overview of the CRGs is provided later in this chapter.

In addition, the six active ASCL professorial chairs (two of them also located within the LU History Department) continue as focal points of the ASCL's research thematics. These six chairs are: African History, Governance and Politics in Africa, Inclusive Development in Africa, Citizenship and Identities in Africa, Religion in Contemporary Africa and its Diaspora, and Governance of Finance and Integrity in Africa (the 'Stephen Ellis Chair'). The ASCL has an important research and teach-

ing linkage with TU Delft and Erasmus University via its crucial role in the Centre of Frugal Innovation, co-managed by all three institutions.



As in previous years, a number of ASCL research and advisory activities were externally funded on the basis of submitted research proposal applications, some of which were acquired during the past year. The writing of such applications in conditions of growing competition dented the research and writing time of researchers, but it remains a goal of the ASCL to pursue such efforts, within reasonable bounds. In 2019, a new post-doc researcher, Dr Duncan Money, historian of Central and Southern Africa during the 19th and 20th century, was appointed at the ASCL. His research focuses primarily on the mining

industry, in particular the Zambian Copperbelt. Duncan's main interests are in labour, race and global history.

The main forum for institution-wide exchanges on ongoing work, ideas, and project proposal drafts among ASCL researchers continues to be the Researchers' Assembly (RA), which facilitates free discussion on issues of institutional and financial regulations, practical matters, and research content. The RA was chaired by Jon Abbink. 2019 saw the formation by the RA of an ASCL Ethics Review Board (meeting university demands regarding the EU GDPR 2016/679), which assesses all new research projects and proposals on ethical and data protection issues in the context of this new privacy law (and is likely to impact on and complicate research practice).

The research and exchange partnership of the ASCL with the Centre for African Studies of the University of Edinburgh, UK, took further shape this year, with ASCL researchers spending a 'sabbatical' period of 2-3 months in Edinburgh. Further meetings were held in Leiden and Edinburgh, and the four Leiden-Edinburgh Research Groups (LERGs) formed in 2018 continue their activities. ASCL staff were also prominent at the June 2019 ECAS (European Conference on African Studies) held in Edinburgh. Two PhD candidates will be recruited under a joint scheme with Edinburgh University's Centre of African Studies in 2020.

In addition to many publications in books and journals (with many more in progress and submitted to journals and book publishers), ASCL researchers also regularly wrote various policy reports and briefing papers for various organisations and ministries (not always

published), as well as blog pieces related to their research projects, all available on the ASCL website.

Research domains

Below is a summary of the research domains, insights, and research output conducted under the four general headings of the new research programme 2018-2022. Each section also mentions three representative publications.

1 Politics and Security

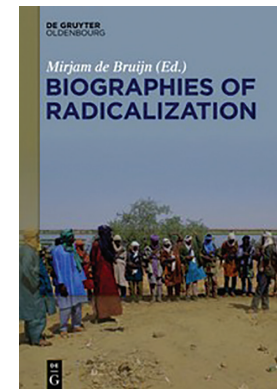
‘Politics’ and ‘security’ are concerned with political order, institutions, governance, public services and elections, and relate to ongoing discussions on human security as a general index of societal stability. In the last year, Africa has seen a mix of stable, peaceful countries and disorderly and chaotic states with numerous conflicts and ungoverned spaces. Demographic changes continue unabated in Africa and combined with environmental challenges and climate change processes to strain the political order and produce political competition and rivalry between religious communities, classes, youth movements and powerholders, as well as (ethno-)regional movements. Both senior researchers and PhD candidates carried out projects on the above themes, examining the enduring challenges of instability as well as political changes such as in the Sudan and Ethiopia.

Several publications came out on issues of politics and religion, youth in conflict, and political upheaval and identity politics. For example, political Islam in the Sahel is the focus of the (translated) book *Islam et politique au Sahel. Entre persuasion et violence* by Abdourahmane Idriss-

sa. He also published a comparative study on the relationship between politics and economics in West Bengal and Niger, contending that democratisation projects and neoliberal reforms have worked against each other, undermining the promises of democratic reform of the state in the Global South. In addition, Idrissa published various policy papers on EU-Africa relations and security problems in the Sahel.

Mirjam de Bruijn published the English version of her edited volume (in French, 2018) *Biographies of Radicalization, Hidden Messages of Social Change*, highlighting the difficult ‘career choices’ of vulnerable, ill-educated and marginalised youths in fragile African countries. In one co-authored chapter, Lidewyde Berckmoes examines ‘legacies of violence’ and the place and role of children and youth in ‘everyday’ conditions of conflict in Central and West Africa. Ton Dietz published a co-edited volume on crime, law, and society in Nigeria (in memory of the late ASCL researcher Stephen Ellis), containing a series of original studies on property crime, currency crime, human trafficking, militant resistance, and problems of the criminal justice system in Nigeria, largely written by Nigerian scholars. Klaas van Walraven and Jon Abbink contributed chapters to the annual *Africa Yearbook* (Brill) on social and political events in Niger, Ethiopia, and Somalia.

The second part of an externally funded research project on public policy and governance reforms in Ethiopia was acquired by Jon Ab-



bink, assisted by Yinebeb Nigatu Tessema. This project, running since 2018 and with a clear policy focus, was thus expanded with a number of field research teams, involving a number of local partners in two large regional states in Ethiopia.

Key publications

Hendriks, T., Reis, R., Sostakova, M., & L. H. Berckmoes. 'Violence and Vulnerability: Children's strategies and the logic of violence in Burundi', *Children & Society* 34(1): 31-45.

Idrissa, A., 'Weakened States and Market Giants: Neoliberalism and democracy in Niger and West Bengal', *Africa Development* 43(3): 25-52.

Akinyele, R. & A.J. Dietz (eds). *Crime, Law and Society in Nigeria: Essays in honour of Stephen Ellis*. Leiden-Boston: Brill.

2 Society and Culture

Work on the cultural 'deep structures' of African societies was done in various research projects, addressing religious life, the interface of language and culture, and the intra-continental and global flows in literature, music, and other cultural representations in both directions: to and from the African continent, and its 'diasporas'.

The study of society and culture also comprises educational issues, medical history, and healthcare issues. The latter two were subject of discussion in the CRG 'Pioneering futures of health' and ongoing research work by Mirjam de Bruijn on youth, conflict, and media use, André Leliveld on 'frugal innovations', and Rijk van Dijk on religious expressions in worldview and identity construction. Several researchers also worked on mobile health projects and publications on migrants, youth, and religious identity.

Old strifes and the state in the sands of the Sahel



Dr Abdourahmane Idrissa.

In the last few months since I have started working at ASCL, I have been re-researching the conflicts in the central Sahel, which are happening in parts of Mali and Burkina Faso, and at the Niger border with those countries. I was drawn to this from my interest in the politics of Islam in the region. Apparently, the main driver of the conflicts was a project to start a caliphate of some sorts in the Sahel by violent means. I was curious to understand the direction this utopian project is taking. However, fieldwork in the three countries soon showed me that the caliphal project, though a mobilising ideology for some participants in the conflict, was only a spark that lit the fire in the region. Many combustible issues have been smouldering in the Sahel-Sahara, across Senegal/Mauritania to Sudan, and the countries in the central Sahel are only the victims of misfortune – in the form of the ill-fated Western intervention in Libya and the presence of North African Salafists in Mali, which combined to trigger the chain of events that led to the present mayhem. This much became clear to me when I realised that the conflicts were remaining confined to the Sahel-Sahara, despite grim predictions of jihadists overtaking West Africa.



A meeting of local leaders in Niger.

My findings clearly suggest that these are ecological conflicts that draw their impetus from conditions and histories that hark back to the troubled times characterising this part of Africa since the end of the 16th century, when a Moroccan invasion destroyed the local keeper of law and order, the Songhay Empire. Neither colonialism, nor post-colonial politico-economic regimes have been able to effect enough structural transformation to end these conditions and consign those histories to oblivion. For instance, a key driver of what is often described as ethnic strife (or, in French, closer to the mark, *conflits communautaires*), is the rise of people still considered, and to a large extent treated, as slaves within the semi-nomadic com-

munities of the Fulani and the Tuareg. Colonialism outlawed slavery and post-colonial governments consider it abolished. However, its memory and stigmas are kept alive in social and economic structures that have largely survived the limited process of modernity that has occurred in the Sahelian countryside. And this leads to trouble – among other issues.

It is now evident to me that, ultimately, these conflicts are best approached through the research agenda of state-building and formation in Sub-Saharan contexts, which I wish to develop in Leiden. For instance, we know little, especially in comparative terms, about the security, fiscal, and judicial state as a cohesive (if largely inefficient) organisation in the region. And what about elites: both the political class (national and local) and possessors of capital (which, by the way, is not just money in the rural Sahel)?

‘Colonialism outlawed slavery and post-colonial governments consider it abolished. However, its memory and stigmas are kept alive in social and economic structures’



As in previous years, artistic performance remained a major idiom of political and cultural critique in Africa and is highly influential due to social media and internet use, and much work is in progress on this among ASCL staff. PhD candidates Inge Ligtoet and Loes Oudenhuis published a co-authored chapter on radicalised youth and social media use in the 2015 Biafra protests in Nigeria, addressing the intermingling of political and cultural factors in youth action. Methodological issues of research and the drive to digitalisation were discussed in Mirjam de Bruijn's Schlettwein lecture published this year. The impact of conditions of inequality, conflict, or poverty-induced migration flows and displacement movements on these cultural manifestations were also studied. Migration problems were treated in several publications, e.g. by Mayke Kaag on transnational migration, land, and investment in African cities and on the chances of youth 'inclusion'.

Issues of cultural dynamics, language use, and literature were seen in the work by Annachiara Raia (on Swahili literature and culture), who published two papers and prepared an anthology of Islamic themes in Swahili poetry. Azeb Amha worked on South Ethiopian languages and cultures preparing a data repository and publications in the framework of an Endangered Language Documentation Programme (SOAS, London) project and finalising the building of a public digital database on the linguistic and material culture of Zargula, Southern Ethiopia. She also remained active as a managing co-editor of the triannual *Journal of African Languages and Linguistics*.

Wouter van Beek continued worked on his externally funded project *DigiDogon*, focusing on recording and digitally safeguarding parts of the intangible cultural heritage of the Dogon people in central Mali, notably a huge song cycle at the heart of the Dogon funeral rites. It was part of the 'Joint Program on Digitalization of Cultural Heritage' (JPICH) and is of great relevance in view of the current jihadist activities in the region, which present an immediate and violent threat to this heritage. This project comprises research in the Dogon area by four junior researchers, three of whom are Dogon themselves.

Key publications

- Kaag, M. & M. Ocadiz. 'A Plea for Kaleidoscopic Knowledge Production', in: E. Fourie, E. Mawdsley and W. Nauta (eds), *Researching South-South Development Cooperation: Critical Reflections on the Politics of Knowledge Production*. London: Routledge, pp. 81-91.
- Raia, A. 'Swahili Palimpsests: The Muslim stories beneath Swahili compositions', *Swahili Forum* 25: 16-41.
- Van Beek, W. 'Matter in Motion: A Dogon Kanaga mask', in: A. Nugteren (ed.), *Religion, Ritual and Ritualistic Objects*. Basel: MDLP, pp. 14-27.

Travelling Islam: The Circulation of Texts Among Swahili Muslim Publics



Dr Annachiara Raia.

The field I have started unearthing since I arrived at the ASCL in March 2019 builds on my previous research while also incorporating a new focus: the transition from manuscript to print culture and from a single scholar and textual tradition to a broader Swahili Muslim network. The novelty of this research approach consists in pairing considerations on the trans-local circulation of texts with the study of the texts themselves, i.e. their local adaptations. I consider Swahili print culture worth investigating not only because it has been

overlooked in comparison with other print cultures in Africa and the Indian Ocean regions, but also for the light it throws on the dynamics of transregional processes of textual mediatization and adaptation.

In July 2019, I took a field trip to Kenya in order to conduct a first survey on Swahili Islamic print culture in Nairobi and Mombasa, which confirmed the rich potential of this line of research. One desideratum that I would like to fulfil in future research is that of fostering comparative studies that will supplant the centre/periphery model of world literatures and meaningfully connect the hubs of Swahili literary culture within a transoceanic textual cosmopolis.



A bookstore in Kenya selling Islamic literature.

During this year I have also worked on the publication of a monograph exploring one of the most widely diffused global narratives, the story of the Islamic prophet Yusuf. It is hoped that this work – which will be published in Spring 2020 with Rüdiger Köppe Verlag in the series of *Archiv afrikanistischer Manuskripte* – will be useful not only to those intending to do specific comparative studies on Islamic texts in African and Indian Ocean literatures, but also to those with a general interest into African sources for intellectual history.

3 Economy

The major hub for work on economics in Africa at the ASCL was the INCLUDE Knowledge Platform, coordinated by Prof. Marleen Dekker. It pursued its multiple activities and projects focused on economic development, (youth) employment, health insurance, entrepreneurship, and investment in Africa. INCLUDE coordinated the publication of many briefing papers, synthesis papers, opinion pieces, and frequent workshops and seminars were held, both in the Netherlands and in Africa, with the African platform partners. Several synthesis reports and papers were edited or co-authored by Marleen Dekker, Agnieszka Kazimierczuk, and others, on productive employment and inclusive development. In 2019, the extension and funding of phase 2 of the INCLUDE Platform was acquired for the years 2019-2022.



Research under the economics cluster also comprised work on business history and markets (by Chibuike Uche, Akinyinka Akinyoade) with the aim to better understand the state of Africa's entrepreneurship, on physical/material resource use, urban services, labour markets, state development projects, and Africa's global linkages via donor country programmes and investors.

The productive conditions of African economies remain precarious due to rapid environmental transformations and problems of climate change. Publications on this were by Ton Dietz in an edited book on environmental change and African societies (published by Brill), and by PhD candidate Agnieszka Kazimierczuk with a paper on wind energy projects in Kenya.

African entrepreneurship was further studied in ongoing projects by Chibuike Uche, as evidenced by his chapter on second-hand car markets in West Africa, and via an international conference he organised at the ASCL on government policies, multinational businesses, and financial flows in Africa. Marleen Dekker co-authored major studies on polygynous household economies and on social inclusion and health insurance in low-income countries.

Several ASCL researchers produced consultancy and technical reports for the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Netherlands embassies, and also contributed to policy reports for external agencies. For instance, Ton Dietz, Akinyinka Akinyoade, Tycho van der Hoog and Mayke Kaag co-prepared one on potential labour market supply from Africa to the Netherlands (commissioned by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs).

Multinational Businesses in African Studies



Prof. Chibuikwe Uche.

There is widespread agreement in African economic history that the advancement of European flags into Africa correlates with the advancement of European business interests in the continent. This explains why prominent European associations that pioneered African Studies were shaped by European business interests.

The African Studies Centre Leiden has a similar history. It was established to explore business opportunities in Africa after the loss of Indonesia. After its split from

the Netherlands African Business Council (NABC) however, this focus became increasingly de-emphasized.

The side-lining of foreign business interests in African Studies has continued, despite the fact that, even with the attainment of political independence by many African states, foreign business interests have remained the most important players in Africa's relationship with the rest of the world. Using cash flows as a proxy, for example, it is now known that what businesses take out of Africa (legally and illegally) is far larger than what comes into

the continent from the combination of foreign investments, development aid, and loans to African governments.

It is in the context of the above that we argue that side-lining business research in African Studies undermines the utility value of African Studies and the institutions that engage in this field.

Our research aims to reverse this trend by throwing more light on the important role businesses play or can play in international relations and in the promotion of sustainable economic development both in their home and host jurisdictions. Hence we have been studying both foreign and local multinational business practices in Africa. In contemporary terms, we have studied the activities and business practices of Dutch multinational companies such as Heineken and Friesland Campina in Nigeria. Our focus was on how their activities impact on sustainable and inclusive development in their host territory.



Coca Cola commercial in Moroka, South Africa.

One measure of the importance of our research is the rising interest of business and state actors in our studies. We are aware that our research is becoming increasingly impactful in a positive, sustainable, and inclusive manner. Policies that will lead to more optimal business practices are gradually being put in place by both businesses and governments in this key sector in African Studies.

Key publications

- Barr, A., Dekker, M., Janssens, W., Kebede, B. & B. Kramer, 'Cooperation in Polygynous households', *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 11(2): 266-283.
- Uche, C., Ezeoha, A., Okoyeuzu, Ch. & Onah, E., 'Second-Hand Vehicle Markets in West Africa: A source of regional disintegration, trade informality and welfare losses', *Business History* 61(1): 187-204.
- Kaag, M. & G. Steel, 'Transnational Migrants, Land and New Investment Hubs in African Cities', *Built Environment* 44(4): 477-492.

4 Historical Context

Research at the ASCL continued to direct attention to the historical contexts of African society, politics, and economic life, and within a perspective on long-term trends. A historicising approach permeates much of our research, also within the other three aspects of ASCL's research programme. Among the historians at the institute, both thematic and country foci were visible according to their specialisations, with a particular research focus on Southern Africa and West & Central Africa. Various researchers worked on precolonial and (post) colonial history, both via book projects and research proposal writing, and ASCL staff supervised a number of PhD candidates working on African historical themes. A collective volume edited by Klaas van Walraven on biographical research in African history neared completion towards the end of the year.

PhD candidate Tycho van der Hoog published his work on the history of beer in Namibia, as well as a paper on North Korean-built nationalist monuments in various Southern African countries.

Key publications

- Van der Hoog, T.A. *Breweries, Politics and Identity: The History Behind Namibian Beer*. Basel: Basler Afrika-Bibliographien.
- Van Walraven, K. *A Decade of Niger: Politics, Economy and Society 2008-2017*. Leiden-Boston: Brill.
- Van Walraven, K. 'The Historical Long-Term in the Politics of the Central African Republic: Insights from the biography of Barthélémy Boganda (1910-1959)' Leiden: ASCL Working Paper 146 (open access).

As clear from the above survey, the ongoing ASCL research activities were partly carried out on the basis of individual research projects, but much of the ASCL's research is carried out in close cooperation with colleagues outside the ASCL and in concert with various partner institutions in Europe, Africa, and elsewhere. Within the ASCL, research was done via well-established collaborative research groups (CRGs), which bring together several ASCL researchers discussing and working on related issues and themes.

Collaborative Research Groups

In 2018, seven collaborative research groups were (re)launched under the new ASCL research programme. Members include information researchers working in the ASC Library, core ASCL staff, as well as associate members from other institutions in the Netherlands and from abroad. All groups were deployed in 2019 and organised a range of activities, from regular meetings, invited guest lectures, and trial presentations of members' own work. The active CRGs were:

Africa in the world: Rethinking Africa's global connections

(Convener: Dr Mayke Kaag)

This group's subject matter concerns Africa's rapidly changing global context and linkages in a by now multipolar world, based on investigating the current dynamics of intensified global engagement in a sociological and historical context as well as considering African perspectives on, and agency, in these processes.

The CRG convened six times for various meetings and (guest speakers') presentations, and convener Mayke Kaag, with co-editors Guive Khan Mohamad and Stefan Schmid, worked on an edited volume *Destination Africa: Contemporary Africa as a global Meeting Point* (on the basis of the conference co-organised by the CRG in 2018), to be published in 2020.

Members of the CRG contributed their work in the field of Africa's global connections at various workshops and conferences, such as ECAS in Edinburgh, where the AEGIS CRG 'Africa in the World' also organised two panels, on 'African global travellers: (Dis)connections, policies, and imaginations' and 'Tourism in Africa: New hopes, old stereotypes?.'

Collaboration and contestation in words: Dialogues and disputes in African social realities

(Convener: Prof. Rijk van Dijk)

This CRG focused on how collective expressions of the written or the spoken word lead to 'collaboration' and/or 'contestation' in areas of African social life in various contexts, especially in the discursive dimension – as defined by religious, ethnic, socio-economic and age-group differences. These 'worded repertoires' of cooperation and dispute, situated in fields of social, political, and cultural competition

in fragile conditions, were at the heart of the CRG's interests, and were studied from different disciplinary perspectives. The CRG convened three times for presentations by members and invited guests, presenting research work as well as nascent research proposals. Under the aegis of the CRG, a panel was organised at ECAS in June in Edinburgh, on 'Religious activism and disrupted social relations: Exploring religion and alienation in Africa', with various ASCL staff participating.

Governance, entrepreneurship, and inclusive development

(Convener: Prof. Marleen Dekker)

This CRG is concerned with studying the nature of the gradual economic emergence of Africa – as an area of natural resources, labour, and capital goods, as an emerging producer, and as a potential market in relation to the rest of the world. Interrelationships between entrepreneurship, economic governance, and inclusive development, were investigated, aimed at understanding the challenges and strategies of the different economic 'stakeholders' and businesses operating on the continent. Members of the CRG also relate their work to issues of (economic) 'governance for inclusive development', markets, supply chains, and also to policies towards the sustainable development goals (SDGs). These themes were researched with a focus on the entrepreneurial level, policymaking, and in terms of securing conducive business environments in often challenging political conditions. The CRG held three meetings, with paper presentations by members and a visiting scholar, and several members were present at the 17th International Entrepreneurship Forum in Nancy, France. Various members also engaged in writing a research proposal for external funding.

Advancing Research on Legacies of Mass Violence



Dr Lidewyde Berckmoes.

Over the past few years, we have seen an increasing interest in how experiences of mass violence, conflict, and trauma affect subsequent generations. The topic is being discussed among scientific audiences, but also in professional magazines, blogs, newspaper articles, and novels throughout the world. In research, we have seen such a surge in attention for this important topic, namely, in the aftermath of the Second World War. The roots of the research field can be traced to clinical psychology work with Holocaust descendants in the 1960s.

Descendants of Holocaust survivors were found to suffer from psychopathological problems that could only be attributed to personal exposure to violence. Many studies followed, mostly taking a biomedical or psychological perspective and focusing on this particular survivor offspring group. These studies have taught us important lessons about the potential effects of mass trauma on people born after the events, as well as on the ways through which such legacies may be passed on. For instance, parenting showed to be significant for mediating and moderating transgenerational legacies of mass violence.

Over the past two decades, we see that a greater variety of disciplines has started to pay attention to this issue, and attention has broadened to include various mass violence contexts, many of these in Africa. The number of mass atrocities committed in the 1990s, may help understand why now, a generation later, there is renewed interest in this issue. In Rwanda, for instance, the first post-genocide generation has reached adulthood. In research and policy circles, attention and debate is growing on how to understand the legacies of the genocide against the Tutsi. To fully understand the impacts, a health, economic, transitional justice as well as socio-cultural perspective is needed. Together with colleagues from the Netherlands Institute for the Study of Law Enforcement and Community-Based Sociotherapy in Rwanda, we looked into direct and indirect mechanisms of transmission in families in Rwanda. In other African contexts, questions have arisen as to how we should understand the role of past conflict and crisis for ongoing conflict dynamics. My own work in Burundi is a case in point. Namely, if we

are to understand how the street protests in Bujumbura, in 2015, spiralled into an ongoing, we must look at the combat knowledge, techniques, and materials that linger in society. Overall, the new orientations and perspectives are enriching, yet further empirical and conceptual work is needed, also in order to understand when intergenerational transmission does not occur or can be prevented.



Community-based sociotherapy session in Rwanda.

Pioneering futures of health and well-being: Actors, technologies and social engineering

(Convener: Prof. Mirjam de Bruijn)

This CRG started in early 2019 aims to pioneer research on topics like mobile health, health insurances, and other emerging fields that combine new technologies and actors in the domain of healthcare and well-being. The goal is to find ways to talk about health issues that represent a ‘human-centred approach’ in which humanity/arts methodologies are central. This CRG organised a panel on ‘The arts of dying and reviving institutions of health and well-being’ at ECAS in Edinburgh, but was not very operative during the year; although its members pursued their individual research projects related to health and well-being. A reboot is envisaged in 2020.

Politics, governance, and law in Africa

(Convener: Prof. Jon Abbink)

This group is a forum for classic themes of African politics in the broad sense. The research focus of members is on conceptions and practices of power, governance routines, youth agency, and the reproduction of power structures and claims thereto. The CRG finds changing patterns of political culture in Africa of permanent relevance, and influential in youth movements, civil strife, ‘governance’ reform, the relationship between politics and religion, and electoral contests.

This CRG held several meetings, hosting several Dutch and foreign guest speakers, including the famous African (Beninese) philosopher Paul Hountondji, speaking on politics and religion in Africa. The CRG facilitated a panel at ECAS in Edinburgh on ‘Religion and secularism in Africa: Challenges to the political order’ with four presenters, includ-

ing the CRG convener. As with the other CRGs, members produced regular blogs on the topics of their research.

Rethinking contemporary African history and historiography

(Convener: Dr Klaas van Walraven)

This CRG is more monodisciplinary than others and brought together those interested in questions of history and historiography in Africa. In 2019, it served as a forum for the presentation of ongoing research by ASCL researchers and for the exchange of ideas and draft papers via guest speakers, from the Netherlands and abroad. Members tackled historical, historiographical, and methodological questions in the widest sense of the term: new research questions, archival source collections, historicising approaches in other disciplines, and new approaches in historiography. It also hosted presentations by external guest speakers, visiting scholars and PhD candidates. In 2019, the CRG co-funded a research trip of ASCL researcher Abdourahmane Idrissa to the French Foreign Ministry archives in Nantes.

Trans-species perspectives on African Studies

(Convener: Dr Harry Wels)

The research focus of this new CRG is relations between humans–animals and other species in Africa, both as conceptualised in local African societies and cultures and in academic research and policy. This CRG’s research aims at a paradigm shift in the study of humans and other species in African society and history – away from a ‘humans only’ approach. This is a subject of growing challenges, due to conservation issues and ecological shrinkage. Focusing on Africa, questions of cultural representation and appropriation of ‘nature’ and of boundaries between the human species and other species are

discussed. Members work on the assumption that writing on Africa needs to include the study of these relations between humans, animals, and other species in a historical and socio-cultural perspective. The CRG organised several lecture, including the well-attended public lecture on 7 November by Prof. Charles Foster of Oxford University. Its members also produced regular blogs.

ASCL and Edinburgh's CAS

The academic collaboration of the ASCL with the Centre for African Studies at Edinburgh University, which started in 2018, took further shape, with exchanges of research and library staff and PhD candidates, and with four Leiden-Edinburgh Research Groups operative: 1. Questions of trust and accountability: Moralising discourses across the secular-religious divide; 2. Inequalities on the move: Student inequality and career aspirations in biomedical education; 3. African history in the context of thirty centuries; and 4. Nature and numbers in climate change in Africa. Work within these groups was geared towards joint seminars, lectures, and joint publications. This collaboration was supported by both Leiden and Edinburgh Universities' top leadership, and in 2020 four joint PhDs will be appointed.

The African Studies Centre Leiden and the Sustainable Development Goals

The basic approach and mandate of ASCL research is to conduct independent, basic research on underlying causes and correlations of observed societal phenomena in Africa, but also with a clear eye to policy work and inspired by questions by societal partners and

organisations, so as to contribute toward societal and developmental relevance. The ASCL also retained a knowledge hub function regarding Dutch contributions to several of the SDGs respective to Africa. A search on the ASCL website yields numerous activities, information sheets, publications, etc. on the SDGs produced under the aegis of the ASCL and related institutions.



As in previous annual reports, we briefly list ASCL contributions in the past year to the debate on the thematic and underlying assumptions of the SDGs, including mentioning some examples of published and ongoing work. While the work of many ASCL researchers has linkages with the 17 SDGs, below we only highlight our involvement in the domain of the most important ones, where researchers make visible contributions via network activity, ongoing research, and publications.

1 **No poverty**

Several ASCL and ASCL-associated (PhD) researchers contributed or collaborated on seminars, blogs, and briefing papers for the INCLUDE Knowledge Platform website on various issues regarding economic growth, poverty, employment, and inclusiveness policies. The Strengthening the Reform Agenda (StRA) programme addressed issues of poverty reduction and economic development in a couple of research groups on youth employment, public service delivery, and investment initiatives.

2 **Zero hunger**

On this subject the INCLUDE Knowledge Platform – a broad-based international consortium administered from the ASCL – continued to commission and produce many relevant contributions via papers, briefings, workshops, and conference gatherings.

3 **Good health and well-being**

ASCL connects the ‘good health and well-being’ topic with the study of morality issues in religious practices in Africa (Rijk van Dijk), also in ongoing work by associate researcher Karin van Bommel and by Lidewyde Berckmoes. The ASCL continues to be involved in work about health insurance and resilience studies, e.g. by André Leliveld and Mirjam de Bruijn.

4 **Quality education**

ASCL maintained its Research Master’s Programme in African Studies and is a major partner in Leiden University’s one-year MA African Studies. Staff supervised many MA students producing high-quality field-research-based theses. The ASCL was a partner

of the consortium for ‘Enhancing Postgraduate Environments’, an EU-funded project coordinated by the VU University Amsterdam and Rhodes University in South Africa. Preparations were in progress under the auspices of the ASCL-based LeidenASA consortium for a large international conference on African education and knowledge infrastructures under the title ‘Africa Knows’, to be held in 2020.

5 **Gender equality**

The ASCL does research about gender relations in households, e.g. in work by Marleen Dekker, and in youth studies by Mirjam de Bruijn, and by Lidewyde Berckmoes in conflict conditions. In the Strengthening the Reform Agenda (StRA) project by Jon Abbink, two policy-relevant research groups were active on women’s empowerment in public administration in two large regional states in Ethiopia. Attention for gender issues remained an integrated part of many research projects at the ASCL.

7 **Affordable and clean energy**

This theme was addressed in various projects of the Centre for Frugal Innovation. Connections were maintained to the Gender and Energy Group at the University of Twente.

8 **Decent work and economic growth**

Many activities in the Netherlands and abroad in Africa under the INCLUDE Platform (coordinated by Marleen Dekker) addressed these themes (see earlier in the report). The ongoing external project ‘Strengthening the Reform Agenda in Ethiopia’ (Jon Abbink, Yinebeb Nigatu Tessema) was expanded

in scope and budget and continued to address to this thematic, with components of academic training and substantial research input from local partners.

9 **Industry, innovation and infrastructure**

The ASCL remained a pivotal partner in the Leiden-Delft-Erasmus (LDE) Centre for Frugal Innovation, with André Leliveld as the key researcher and coordinator. This theme is popular in education (under the LDE minor Frugal Innovation for Sustainable Development, see elsewhere in this report) drawing a good number of students. The themes retained much attention in the framework of the INCLUDE Knowledge Platform. Chibuike Uche was involved in an INCLUDE related project on ‘Dutch Multinational Businesses, Dutch Government and the Promotion of Productive Employment in Sub-Saharan Africa’.

10 **Reduced inequalities**

As hosts of the INCLUDE Secretariat already mentioned, the ASCL saw Marleen Dekker and Karin Nijenhuis coordinate and support various research endeavours on inequality and inclusiveness in Africa.

11 **Sustainable cities and communities**

Many ASCL researchers devoted increased attention to working in urban settings and on youth populations there. The ASCL remained connected to LandAC (the knowledge platform on land governance issues, of which it is a partner) that also devotes attention to this SDG.

12 **Responsible consumption and production**

What ‘responsible consumption and production’ means is still a moot point – for whom, when, and how – but some work done at the ASCL contributed to this global discussion. ‘Changing lifestyles in Africa’ (and among African communities overseas) is still a major topic of research, e.g. in the work of Rijk van Dijk in Southern Africa, with an emphasis on ‘consumerism’, conspicuous consumption, the forming of a middle class, and lifestyle issues in discussions about religion and morality.

13 **Climate action**

The ASCL has a long tradition of doing research about the impact of climate change in Africa and studying the vulnerabilities, risks, and conflicts in Africa’s drylands. In its (political) economy research, recurring issues regarding environmental challenges were addressed, e.g. in published work by Ton Dietz and Agnieszka Kazimierczuk.

14 **Life below water**

ASCL researchers’ activities were all carried out above water.

15 **Life on land**

ASCL researchers continued research on wildlife and conservation (and related conflicts); e.g. in work by (the late) Marcel Rutten and Harry Wels, and via the CRG ‘Trans-species Perspectives on African Studies’, and there also was research work on sustainable rangelands, forest management and conflict mediation. There is a link with the work of LandAC (see SDG 11).

16 Peace and justice, strong institutions

This theme is reflected in much ongoing work by Abdourahmane Idrissa, Jon Abbink, Mirjam de Bruijn, and a variety of PhD candidates supervised at the ASCL. The CRGs on ‘Politics, governance, and law’ and on ‘Rethinking contemporary African history and historiography’ also continued their interest in these issues, hosting a number of (inter)national speaker on these themes. This SDG 16 is also addressed in a major way in several externally funded projects (e.g. ‘Strengthening the Reform Agenda in Ethiopia’, and in various INCLUDE projects).

Some papers were published on political life, (in)security and institutions, e.g. in academic journals (Abdourahmane Idrissa, Mirjam de Bruijn, Lidewyde Beckmoes), in reports, and in country chapters by Jon Abbink, Klaas van Walraven, and former ASCL PhD candidate Joseph Mangarella in the *Africa Yearbook* 15.

17 Partnerships for the goals

The ASCL continues to feature as a network hub, connecting the Netherlands and Africa as well as the knowledge sector with diplomacy/policy, business, and civil society in North and South. It also manages the ‘ASCL Community’ hub (see elsewhere in this report). The ASCL continues linkages with the European Centre for Development Policy (ECDP, Maastricht University), Samenwerkingsverband van Internationaal Onderwijs en Landbouwwuniversiteit (SAIL), the European Association of Development Research (EADI), and is a prominent (founding) member of the AEGIS network.

In Leiden, the ASCL is partner of LeidenGlobal, and concluded its last year in LeidenASA, the partnership for African Studies within Leiden University, a programme under the auspices of the ASCL. In various externally funded research projects there is substantial collaboration with local counterparts in Africa, both in academia and the policy world.

In 2020, the ASCL hopes to forge ahead with its research programme 2019-2024 and put greater emphasis on research and publication.

GUESTS AT THE ASCL

26

Visiting fellows

Visiting research fellows use their time in Leiden for data analysis and/or writing, often on a joint project with one or more ASCL staff members. A visiting research fellowship is for a maximum of 90 days. In 2019, all visiting fellows were financed from the LeidenASA fund.



Dr Mahamat Adam

Mahamat Adam is course coordinator at l'École Supérieur, Université de Maroua (Cameroon) where he teaches general and African linguistics, semantics, lexicology, pragmatics, and oral literature. The main fields of his research are the Chadic languages in general and specifically those of the core group.



Dr Aderonke Adebite

Aderonke E. Adebite is a lawyer and a senior lecturer at the Faculty of Law, Lead City University, Ibadan, Nigeria. She obtained her first degree in Law at the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria, in 2007 and was called to the bar as a solicitor and advocate in 2008. Adebite also holds a Master's degree in Law (2013), and a PhD in Law (2018) from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria.

Considering the Nigerian multi-legal structure, her PhD thesis assessed the childcare rules of Yoruba people in South Western Nigeria. She has

published articles on African indigenous childcare systems, conflicts in child law, and child labour among others.



Dr Damilola Agbalajobi

Damilola Agbalajobi teaches Political Science at Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria. She obtained her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Political Science from the University of Ilorin, Nigeria in 1997 and 2006, respectively, and was admitted as Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science in 2017 at the University of Lagos, Nigeria. Her research interests include International Relations, gender and politics, and democratisation.



Dr Suleiman Chembea

Suleiman Chembea is a lecturer of religion at Bomet University College, a constituent college of Moi University, Kenya. His research is on the interface between Muslim charity and Muslim socio-economic welfare politics in secular state milieus; on Muslim-Christian relations; on religion and migration and religious extremism. He holds a PhD in Islamic Studies from the University of Bayreuth, Germany, an MA in Religion and a B. Ed (Arts) both from Moi University, Kenya.



Dr Kofi Dorvlo

Kofi Dorvlo is a Senior Research Fellow at the Language Centre, University of Ghana, and transferred to the University of Health and Allied Sciences in Ho where he works in the General and Liberal Studies Department. He gained his undergraduate degree in English and Linguistics at the University of Ghana, and he did his graduate work at the same university, where he was appointed

Research Fellow at the Language Centre. He was awarded a PhD from Leiden University in 2008. His doctoral research, which was funded by the Endangered Languages Programme of the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO), focused on the documentation of the language and culture of the Logba people in the Ghana-Togo Mountains.



Dr Zoë Goodman

Zoë Goodman has a PhD in Social Anthropology (2018), and MA degrees in Social Anthropology (2011) and Anthropological Research Methods (2013), from SOAS, University of London. She has taught in the Anthropology department at SOAS for a number of years, most recently co-convening the Migration and Diaspora Studies programme, as well as teaching on the Anthropology of Food. Outside of academia, she has worked for UNCTAD

(the UN Conference on Trade and Development) as well as various trade-related NGOs.



Dr Larissa Kojoué

Larissa Kojoué holds a PhD in Political Science from the Political Studies Institute of Bordeaux, France. A former independent visiting research fellow at the African Studies Centre Leiden, she currently resides in Yaoundé, Cameroon where she is an associate researcher at Fondation Paul Ango Ela de Géopolitique en Afrique Centrale (FPAE). After her PhD, she completed a first

doctoral project at the University of Montréal in Canada, and a second postdoctoral research supported by Sidaction Paris. As a political scientist, her researches focus on global health policies, especially HIV/AIDS, state transformations in Cameroon, citizenship, and social movements.



Dr Adeola Oloyede

Adeola Oloyede holds a PhD degree in Agricultural Economics. She is a research assistant with Stress Tolerant Maize for Africa, Southern Guinea Savannah, University of Ilorin, Nigeria. She is a multidisciplinary researcher. She has worked on ways to promote environmental sustainability and issues relating to small-scale farmers. She is interested in environmental sustainability, green growth, and youth entrepreneurship.

Visiting PhD candidates

In 2019, all visiting PhD candidates were financed from the LeidenASA fund.



Maryem Hamidi

Maryem Hamidi holds an MA degree in Environmental Geomatics from the Sultan Moulay Slimane University in Morocco. Through her years of studying, she became fascinated by image processing and remote sensing and by the way these techniques are applied to monitor environmental risks in order to protect the environment. For this reason, her MA thesis was on 'Quality

assessment of NDVI from MODIS data towards vegetation monitoring over a semi-arid region of Morocco'. In 2018, she started a PhD research on 'The application of remote sensing and GIS to land cover and land use, mapping and change detection in Morocco', at the Faculty of Sciences of Mohammed V University of Rabat.



Crépin Marius Mougua

Crépin Marius Mougua is a PhD candidate in Anthropology at Leiden University and temporary teacher/researcher at the Department of Anthropology of the University of Bangui (Central African Republic). His research is aimed towards children and youth in long term conflicts in Central Afri-

ca from both a historical and an anthropological perspective. His field of research also includes climate and sustainable development, which are themes that he has been working on during his Master's research.

Self-financed visitors



Dr Pascale Trompette

Pascale Trompette is a sociologist, working as a CNRS Senior Research Fellow at the PACTE Social Sciences Research Centre at the University of Grenoble Alpes, France. Her research is broadly rooted in the sociology of economics, markets and innovation. Current projects concern the development of 'market-based solutions' to poverty in developing countries, with a special interest on rural electrification in

Africa. Her work examines the multiplicity of (non-)market arrangements and trading networks providing energy access to households - the informal economy, the 'frugal' solutions of the so-called Bottom-of-the-Pyramid (BoP) markets, kit or minigrid subsidised infrastructure. For several years now, she has been collaborating with the Centre for Frugal Innovation in Africa at the ASCL.

Non-resident LeidenASA research leave fellows



Prof. Peter Pels

Peter Pels has been Professor in the Anthropology of Africa at Leiden University since 2003. He graduated from the University of Amsterdam in 1993 on a study of interactions between missionaries and Africans in late colonial Tanganyika, and has since continued to work on the construction of differences of culture and power in human relationships.



Dr Cristiana Strava

Cristiana Strava is a university lecturer at the Leiden University Institute for Area Studies. She has a PhD in Anthropology and Sociology from SOAS, University of London (2016) and is interested in developing new research directions and relationship between North African scholars and colleagues working on Sub-Saharan Africa in Leiden.

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PHD RESEARCH



Inaugural meeting of the Graduate Programme in African Studies, September 2019.

September 2019 marked the official start of the ASCL's own Graduate Programme in African Studies (GPAS), headed by Prof. Rijk van Dijk. PhD candidates who are enrolled in this programme are being (co-) supervised by one of the institute's six professors and other academic staff members. The meetings organised in the framework of the GPAS are also open to students from other faculties of Leiden University. The mission of the GPAS is to enhance the pursuit of PhD degrees in African Studies at Leiden University, by providing the necessary support and intellectual resources to ensure their academic quality, relevance, and originality.

2019 also marked the first time that the ASCL published a double vacancy for PhD candidates. After a long and demanding selection process, Loes Oudenhuisen ('Islam, Everyday Ethics, and Its Gendered Contestations: "Wicked" women in Senegal from 1950 to the present')

and Tycho van der Hoog ('Brothers in Arms: National liberation movements in the frontline states, 1950-1990') were selected.



PhD candidates Tycho van der Hoog and Loes Oudenhuisen.

PhD Theses defended in 2019

ASCL staff (co-) supervised about 60 PhD candidates based both at the ASCL and at different universities in the Netherlands and Africa in 2019.

The following PhD students defended their theses in 2019 (only ASCL promotors are mentioned):

Anika Altaf

The many hidden faces of extreme poverty: Inclusion and exclusion of extreme poor people in development interventions in Bangladesh, Benin and Ethiopia.

29 January 2019 at the University of Amsterdam

Promotor: Prof. Ton Dietz

Murtah Shannon

Making a Donor City: The contested trajectories of urban development in Beira city, Mozambique.

25 June 2019 at Utrecht University

Co-promotor: Dr Mayke Kaag

PhD research at the ASCL: Anika Altaf



The majority of people living in extreme poverty in my research experienced e.g. feelings of sadness, depression, fatalism, and a low self-image, and had started to 'hide' themselves from society. These feelings and actions were not merely a consequence of an internal process, but interrelate to and were highly fed by (social) exclusion by their family, community, and wider society, including development agencies. Extreme poverty is frequently defined in terms of materialities. While these are indeed essential in the lives of people experiencing extreme poverty, the importance of relations and the mental well-being of people is largely overlooked and a blind spot in both research, policy, and practice within the field of international development. My research has shown that without attention for these other dimensions of extreme poverty, assisting people sustainably out of their state of ill-being becomes a cumbersome task. Understanding of what people themselves think, feel, and need, how and at which levels they are excluded, the power dynamics that are present in their communities and synergy with other interventions, will provide initiatives aimed at including these people a much higher chance of succeeding.

Joseph Mangarella

Politics and the Longue Durée of African Oil Communities: Rentierism, hybrid governance, and anomie in Gamba (Gabon), c. 1950s - 2015 (and beyond).

11 September 2019 at Leiden University

Promotor: Prof. Jon Abbink

Co-promotor: Dr Klaas van Walraven

PhD research at the ASCL: Joseph Mangarella

My experience at the ASCL is difficult to sum up, mostly because it spanned 4-5 years and reflected the highs and lows that most, if not all, PhD candidates go through during their tenure. But I can say with deep conviction that there were few better places to take that journey as an external Africanist student than at the ASCL.

There are many reasons for this. The ASCL's administrative and research staff were among the most open, helpful, and knowledgeable I had ever encountered, and the sense of tight-knit community at the ASCL was irreplaceable. Through the dedicated efforts of my daily supervisor, Dr Klaas van Walraven, and my promotor, Prof. Dr Jon Abbink, I was not only expertly and conscientiously guided through my research, but I was also put into contact with several ASCL researchers (Dr Akinyinka Akinyoade, e.g.) who became indispensable to onsite fieldwork.

My experience at the ASCL was also enriched by the ancillary and myriad activities that help make the ASCL a lively centre of Africanist scholarship. I timed my visits to coincide with weekly seminars, took part in PhD intervision sessions, participated in library events, and thoroughly enjoyed myself in the process. I also had the opportunity to conduct

my own CRG History seminar (during a two-month PhD fellowship) and contribute an ASCL Africanist blog post. The latter was a direct result of my ongoing contributions to the *Africa Yearbook* (published by Brill), another opportunity made possible by my supervisors. Not least, I felt that my growing expertise on Gabon was valued, such as when I was enlisted by Klaas to help organise a workshop in Libreville.



Shell employees during the Independence Day Parade, Gabon.

Now, I happily retain the same zeal for African Studies that led me to pursue a doctorate; I can confidently attribute that to my experiences at the ASCL.

Catharina Wilson

Conflict (Im)mobiles. Biographies of mobility along the Ubangi river in Central Africa.

11 September 2019 at Leiden University

Promotor: Prof. Mirjam de Bruijn



Catharina Wilson and Joseph Mangarella successfully defended their PhD theses.

Sander Muilerman

Innovating Service Delivery and Aligning with the State: The co-creation of scaling mechanisms for cocoa extension in Africa.

15 October 2019 at Wageningen University

Promotor: Prof. Ton Dietz



TEACHING AT THE ASCL

As an interfaculty institute within Leiden University, the ASCL is actively involved in teaching at the undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate levels.

The ASCL hosts the Research Master's programme in African Studies and carries extensive co-responsibility for the Master's programme in African Studies.

2019 saw the continuation of the joint Leiden-Delft-Erasmus (LDE) minor 'Frugal Innovation for Sustainable Global Development', coordinated by ASCL researcher Dr André Leliveld. Another LDE minor 'African Dynamics' was launched in September 2019, coordinated by educational supervisor Madi Ditmars. All aforementioned programmes and minors fall under the Faculty of Humanities.



A total of 14 students started with the MA and ResMA African Studies 2019-2020.

RESEARCH MASTER IN AFRICAN STUDIES 2019-2020

The Research Master's in African Studies is a two-year MA programme of the ASCL at Leiden University. In September 2019, the following students of the programme obtained their diploma: Juul Kwaks, Alberto Loda, Soumaya Sahla, Daan Sanderse, Manon Schouten, Colm Wittenberg, and Mia Yang.

Juul Kwaks and Manon Schouten deserve a special mention as they obtained their degree with distinction. Their and other ResMA African Studies theses are accessible via the Leiden Repository.

During the course of the year, three second-year students started their six months' fieldwork in Africa (Ethiopia/Italy, Uganda and Nigeria).



Study coordinators and students during the Master's Open Day 2019.

Research Master's Theses Completed in 2019

Lotte Geboers

Fam Than Biz: The empowerment of women entrepreneurs in Mauritius.

Juul Kwaks

Living with the Legacy of Displacement: An exploration of non-return and the long-term effects of displacement on social life in Pabo, Northern Uganda.

Alberto Loda

Foreign Agricultural Investments in Tanzania: Drivers of land grabbing or sustainable development?

Soumaya Sahla

In the Name of Geopolitics: The proxy-war between Saudi Arabia and Iran in Ghana by means of Islamic NGOs.

Daan Sanderse

The Ruining of an Empire: On the causes of the Marinid decline.

Manon Schouten

E Pluribus Unum? The significance of the pre-colonial timeframe (1840-1890) for Namibia's past and present.

Colm Wittenberg

Poison in the Rhodesian Bush War: How guerrillas gain legitimacy.

Mia Yang

People are Each Other's Remedy: Chinese contractors navigating an 'unfamiliar' environment in Senegal.



Two graduation ceremonies were held in which both MA and ResMA students obtained their degree. Left: Daan Sanderse.

MINOR AFRICAN DYNAMICS 2019-2020

Alumnus Manon Schouten, ResMA African Studies 2017-2019

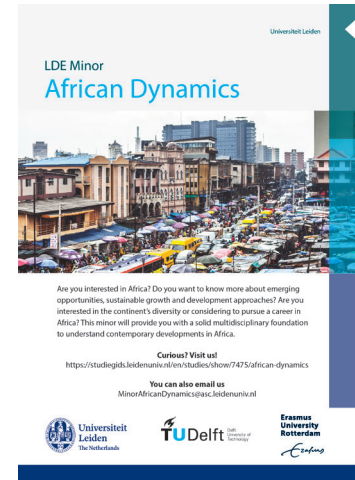
Hello! Or, in Otjiherero: *koree!* My name is Manon Schouten and I am 24 years old. I was a student in the African Studies Research Master in 2017–2019. After three months of diverse classes and introductions to the African continent, I figured that Namibia had been a rather underexposed country during our lectures. Trained as a historian, it did not take long for me to decide upon a theme and a region for my Master's thesis: the history of Namibia, this impressive country that has been 'colonised' twice. I set out to discover how the pre-colonial period is currently being presented and represented in the Namibian public sphere (and why so). After three months of preparatory archival research in Germany and Switzerland, I travelled to Namibia to compare the European versions of Namibian pre-colonial history with the local (oral) accounts of this period. From countless interviews and many more informal talks, I concluded that history is being used as a political tool in Namibia. It was striking to hear of the personal suffering this continues to cause to Namibians. Sadly, these stories are left out of the history books, and they therefore demonstrate the invaluable importance of conducting fieldwork.



Manon Schouten on fieldwork in Namibia.

The joint Leiden, Delft, Erasmus (LDE) minor African Dynamics is a multidisciplinary minor and was offered to third year bachelor students from the LDE universities for the first time in September 2019. Africa has undergone significant transformations in recent decades and this is likely to accelerate. Current projections indicate that the continent's population will double in the next 30 years, with more than half of its people living in urbanised environments. The subsequent growing demand for food, water, energy, land, infrastructure, health services, education, jobs, etc. can be powerful drivers of growth, but may also present severe social, economic, and environmental threats. The way in which Africa unfolds will greatly impact the course of the world's shared future in the 21st century.

Sustaining our technologically advanced, climate vulnerable, and complex globalised world, requires a holistic and interdisciplinary approach. The African Dynamics minor combines knowledge and expertise in the humanities, social and natural sciences, and technology to offer an analytical view of Africa from different perspectives and establish an understanding of what diverse fields have to offer and why it is important to know and integrate specialisations.





The African Dynamics minor class of 2019-2020.

“Our field trip to South Africa allowed us to experience the country’s many different sides. We witnessed both strong communities and segregated societies, extreme wealth and severe poverty, well-funded organisations and projects barely surviving. As guest students of Stellenbosch University, we followed academic seminars by renowned professors, went on site visits to historically important sites of the Western Cape, and even harvested veggies in community gardens.

The trip bridged the gap between knowledge and reality, granting us to the opportunity to experience what was taught in class in real-life cases and societies. Therefore, I believe our field study has been a valuable part of the academic program and made me come back a more knowledgeable student”.



Puck Dekker, International Studies, Leiden University

“The most valuable aspect of this minor is its focus on multidisciplinary collaboration between students from various academic and personal backgrounds. As a business student, it was very insightful to be engaged in discussing Africa’s development with students from various background, ranging from Civil Engineering to Cultural Anthropology, and from Economics to Architecture. Alongside the field trip to Kenya, this definitely enriched the overall learning experience and has been extremely valuable to both my personal and academic development”.



Yorick Houweling, Business Administration, EUR.

“For the LDE Minor African Dynamics, I visited Rwanda in January 2020. The field study consisted of various visits to different places and institutions including a primary and secondary school, a water treatment plant, a branch office of a drinking water company, an irrigation dam, a public transport company, and other industries.

These activities were planned in collaboration with our host university INES Ruhengeri, where we felt really welcome. Furthermore, I was also very impressed by the development and the positive attitude of the people in the country. This combination made this fieldtrip absolutely unforgettable”.



Vincent Hoogelander, Civil Engineering, TU Delft.

MINOR FRUGAL INNOVATION FOR SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT 2019-2020

40



In 2018, the ASCL – on behalf of CFIA – became responsible for the Leiden-Delft-Erasmus Minor ‘Frugal Innovation for Sustainable Global Development’. Dr André Leliveld is the academic coordinator of this minor, supported by Maaïke Westra of the ASCL and support staff at CFIA. In the minor, lecturers from the three LDE universities contribute expertise on frugal innovation from their respective disciplines. Participating students have the opportunity to work with students

from other universities and disciplines, allowing them to step outside of their mono-disciplinary frame of reference. Apart from gaining theoretical knowledge during academic modules, students have the unique opportunity to go abroad for an internship. The minor thus combines theory, practice, and societal engagement.

“There is much diversity, between courses and even within the courses. During the tech course, for example, we also got to work with marketing, industrial design and policy management.”

Christopher Overtveld, Aerospace Engineering, TU Delft

“It has been refreshing, quite different to my own studies. This minor is not just theory – it balances theory and practice. The technology course at TU Delft has been focused on practice, with interesting speakers such as NGOs, which I really enjoyed.”

Jin Seong, International Studies, Leiden University



Leiden-Delft-Erasmus Minor ‘Frugal Innovation for Sustainable Global Development’.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

'The main challenge lies [...] in identifying the power dynamics along the aid chain and empowering the right actors that can enlarge operating space'

INCLUDE Assumptions Programme

INCLUDE
KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM ON INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

2019 was a vibrant year for INCLUDE's knowledge brokering activities for the research programme 'New Roles of CSOs for Inclusive Development' (the Assumptions Programme), which investigates the assumptions underpinning the civil society policy framework 'Dialogue & Dissent' of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). The policy supports lobby and advocacy activities of civil society strategic partnerships. Highlights of INCLUDE's activities in 2019 included two conferences on interim empirical findings (January) respectively final findings (October) and a seminar at the MFA (June), all three serving as input for the MFA's new policy framework.



In line with its purpose of co-creating and sharing knowledge, the closing conference 'Co-creating knowledge on advocacy with civil society' drew on the findings of researchers and insights from policy and practice. Final findings of the eight research projects, of which six were (partly) in Africa, were discussed and built on findings shared

in the earlier conference 'Research for Dialogue & Dissent 2.0' and the seminar on how non-state actors influence the operational space for CSOs, where it was concluded that although the projects worked on different research questions in different contexts, they came up with similar findings. In the process of synthesising these findings, cross-cutting issues were discussed during breakout sessions in the afternoon. These included urgent topics such as legitimacy and embeddedness, cooperation between CSOs, how non-state actors limit civic space, and partnerships with unusual suspects. These and other issues are central in the resulting final synthesis review 'Room to Breathe: What works to support CSOs for inclusive development', which was published early 2020, as well as the final reports of the distinct research projects.

A noteworthy conclusion is that the main challenge lies not in a lack of understanding of what issues CSOs face and how these constrain them in their daily activities, but in identifying the power dynamics along the aid chain and empowering the right actors that can enlarge operating space. This brings to mind an important theme raised by INCLUDE since its inception: inclusive development is not only about designing the right policies, but identifying and empowering strategic actors that can enforce and implement them.

Other projects that INCLUDE has been working on are civil society engagement with land (Kenya) CBOs within the official development aid system (Kenya) enabling rules for advocacy (Kenya) CSOs in sustainable development (Kenya) dilemmas in sustainable development and civil society (Bangladesh/Zambia) and non-state actors and civic space (Zimbabwe/Bangladesh/Palestinian Territories).

Breaking Down Barriers

On 29 January 2020, the Breaking Down Barriers closing conference ‘Pushing Boundaries in Advocacy for Inclusion’ took place in The Hague. At the conference, over 200 professionals, activists, policy-makers, media and academics exchanged knowledge, experiences and emerging insights on advocacy for inclusion. Key themes were the success factors of advocacy, the importance of intersectionality, and the roles of Northern and Southern organisations in advocacy networks.



Dr Willem Elbers during the conference ‘Pushing Boundaries in Advocacy for Inclusion.’

The conference was organised by the ASCL together with its societal partner Liliane Foundation and was the final event of the ‘Break-

ing Down Barriers to Inclusion’ project. This project (2015-2019) was headed by ASCL researcher Dr Willem Elbers and aimed to identify the success factors of disability advocacy based on research in Cameroon, Sierra Leone, and Zambia. In 2019, this project won the Impact Challenge Award, an award for non-profit organizations that engage in learning to enhance their effectiveness. The findings of ‘Breaking down Barriers have been captured in the publication ‘Pushing Boundaries in Disability Advocacy, Breaking down Barriers to Inclusion.’



Breaking Down Barriers won the Impact Challenge Award 2019.

DigiDogon

The project members of DigiDogon met in January and February for a two-week-long workshop in Leiden, filled with a training about the technical aspects in audio-visual anthropology, different lectures, and two museum visits. Many Dutch researchers involved in Mali Studies kindly gave their valuable assistance, and visual anthropology staff of the Department of Anthropology in Leiden trained the project’s four assistant researchers in sound recording, filming, and editing. In sum, the workshop was a promising start to the junior researchers’ upcoming fieldwork.



Participants of the DigiDogon workshop in Bamako, Mali.

The project's junior researchers, Ibrahima Poudiougou, Amadou Guindo, and Issa Sagara started their fieldwork in the summer of 2019, and gathered new data concerning song cycles and stories about Abirè, the 19th-century seer from Dogon Country, who is the pivotal figure in the project.

From 4-6 April, the central JPICH office organised a conference in Paris on digitalisation of cultural heritage, in which the various projects presented themselves. The external advisor Wouter van Beek did so for the DigiDogon project, in a meeting that proved a welcome opportunity to learn from each other's experiences in this relatively new field. Leiden-based junior researcher Catherine Krier attended a conference about *'Recovering, Digitizing and Practicalizing Africa's Indigenous Knowledge'* at the University of Kisii in Kenya and presented a poster about the digitisation of intangible cultural heritage and its dynamics.

In the course of the year, the French branch of the project developed second thoughts about the feasibility of the fieldwork element as envisaged. After a meeting between the French consortium partner and the Dutch external adviser, it was decided that the French would work together with the British and Dutch contingents until November, when an assessment and supervision workshop was planned in Bamako. However, in the summer, the French withdrew from the project. Following deliberations, the Netherlands and the UK decided to pursue the project together.

The workshop in Bamako from 12-23 November provided supervision of the current field researchers in Mali, resulted in the planning of a book launch, and prepared the first major series of recorded songs for the website. The project website, called 'Dogon Cultural Heritage', was published as part of Leiden University's website.

Financial Decision-Making, Gender, and Social Norms in Zambia

The project 'Financial Decision Making, Gender and Social Norms in Zambia' is a collaboration between Financial Sector Deepening Zambia, Nottingham University, and the ASCL. With funding from the NWO Westerdijkpremie and the Department for International Development UK (DFID), the project aims to investigate the social norms that guide and constrain the financial decision-making of Zambian men and women. In 2019, the research team developed and implemented data col-

'Preliminary analysis suggests there is no evidence for clear social norms regarding who in the household should hold money'

lection instruments. We used methods drawn from behavioural and experimental economics to collect data on the content of a range of individual values and social norms relating to money holding, money use and money management.



Interviews taken in Zambia.

These methods were tested and implemented in the field in the summer of 2019. We had a great time travelling with a team of 20 excellent field researchers, using self-constructed field kits containing, amongst other things, easels, privacy trays, booklets, yellow stickers, twelve- and six-sided dies, tokens, writing pads, etc. We collected data in 22 villages in two districts in Eastern Province, Zambia. A typical day in the field consisted of four data collection workshops and individual survey administration, as well as data entry, kit mending, and finding

sites that were not prone to wind. We have now collected information on 704 men and women. Preliminary analysis suggests there is no evidence for clear social norms regarding who in the household should hold money, while we find evidence for strong social norms on keeping secrets from one's spouses. After more in-depth analysis, in 2020 we will further validate our findings with community participants and village heads. Additionally, we will discuss our findings with practitioners in Eastern Province and practitioners, regulators, and policy-makers in Lusaka, to explore ways of incorporating knowledge about social norms into financial services, financial literacy programmes, and policy design.

Nomads Facing Change

In October 2016, the ASCL started the coordination of a research project that concentrated on the conflict situation in the Western Sahel, in collaboration with two research institutes in Mali (IRPAD and Groupe Odyssee) and a research institute in Niger (LASDEL). Although formal funding ended in 2019, this does not mean that the project has come to an end. What were the elements that the team 'discovered' that are not part of the analysis so far? Simply put: what did our project contribute?

In addition to ethnographic research in regions, we worked with refugees and internally displaced people, with various associations who work in the pastoral scene, and we conducted interviews with key players in the policy scene. Furthermore, we explored the influence of digital communication in the conflict.

'We not only looked at radicalisation, which is so often attributed to these groups, but also at the specific histories of inequality and local conflict that have made these groups very sensitive' for recruitment'

of cattle. Cattle, which represent nomads' wealth, have always been an important source of income for states, often not via the tax system, but through illegal tax (paying the forest service, paying for access to pastures) often paid to intermediaries. Today, nomads and their grievances are often directed to these intermediaries, their elites who serve the interests of the national state. Our research found that the first round of attacks in the centre of Mali were oriented towards these elites.

The numbers of internally displaced people and refugees, especially in Burkina Faso and Mali, are rising every month. The research team conducted a series of interviews in Bamako, Janfolila, and Bougouni. Based on these interviews, the team has reported in different policy

'There is a serious risk that new tensions may occur in Southern Mali reproducing the conflict dynamics in the centre of the country'

The focus on mobilisation among nomadic groups and their role in the conflict is relatively innovative. We not only looked at radicalisation, which is so often attributed to these groups, but also at the specific histories of inequality and local conflict that have made these groups very sensitive for recruitment. This inequality is symbolised by changes in property relations

realms (i.e. EU, MINUSMA, Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs) that there is a serious risk that new tensions may occur in Southern Mali, reproducing the conflict dynamics in the centre of the country.



Meeting of 'Nomads Facing Change' in Bamako, Mali.

The publication of this research is difficult for two reasons. Firstly, things develop rapidly and it is difficult to make a sound analysis of a world in turmoil and a still-developing conflict. Secondly, the team's researchers on the ground cannot take the risk of being exposed. In these conditions of violence, the state has also become an actor that controls information. Academics take risks to publish their points of view and we are constantly reviewing how to protect our researchers? We have published some of our experiences on the public website: www.nomadesahel.org.



LIBRARY, DOCUMENTATION & INFORMATION

Figures and Trends in 2019

	2018	2019
Number of visitors	3559	3323
Loans	6051	5782
Requests for information by phone / in the library by email	538 1467	396 1426
New acquisitions	2568	4180
Items catalogued (including gifts)	3982	4380
Abstracts (ASA Online)	449	359
Subscriptions to ASA Online mailing list	1153	1008
Titles in ASCL collection	203,704	208,616
Titles in Connecting-Africa	70,416	75,646
Connecting Africa (unique visitors)	92,192	46,491
AfricaBib (unique visitors)	280,829	227,482
ASCL Repository (downloads ASCL publications)	570,708	578,026

Highlights from the ASCL Library in 2019

- A book acquisition trip to Somaliland, resulting in the acquisition of 500 Somali books in Hargeisa;
- Major maintenance of the ASCL Library building, with outplacement of 36,000 books;
- Wikidata and Wikipedia activities, including the digitisation of Africana photographs from 1960-2000.
- 13 recently published books from Nigeria, by established writers like Wole Soyinka and debut novelists like Ever Obi, were bought in Abuja in November 2019.



Acquisition trip to Somaliland



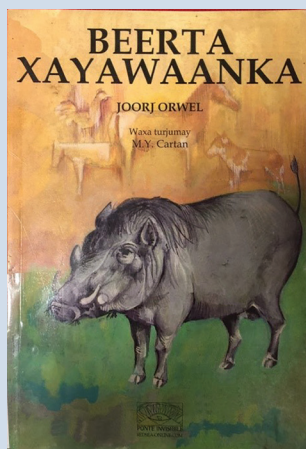
The ASCL visited the Hargeysa International Book Fair in July 2019.

On behalf of the ASCL Library, Dr Gerard van de Bruinhorst visited the Hargeysa International Book Fair (HIBF) from 17-25 July 2019 in Somaliland. The HIBF is much more than a place where booksellers and buyers meet: it is a cultural festival with highly Inspiring contributions from scholars, poets, (young) writers, and musicians. In the Somali-speaking region, there are at least four of these annual cultural events: apart from Hargeysa, book fairs also take place in Mogadishu, Kismayo, and Garowe.

In little more than a week, he purchased over 500 books and some 100 issues of newspapers (mostly Jamhuuriya/Republican). Judged by the places of publication, there is a lively book trade between Somalia, Djibouti, Sweden, the UK, and Somaliland. English and Arabic material was represented by 60 items each, and the bulk of the material was published in Somali. Books in English were mainly government publications, textbooks for secondary education, and coffee table books, dictionaries and just one novel written by the young author Nasiim Aar.



The long history of publishing in Arabic seems to have all but disappeared after the standardisation of the Somali language. Apart from the genres that have an obvious link with Arabic (such as Arabic language and Islamic education textbooks), very few titles were originally published in Arabic. Among them biographies of Muslims scholars rank high. Because Somaliland is predominantly Muslim, Islamic books are incorporated in the mainstream book market and not sold near mosques, as is often the case in Muslim minority countries.

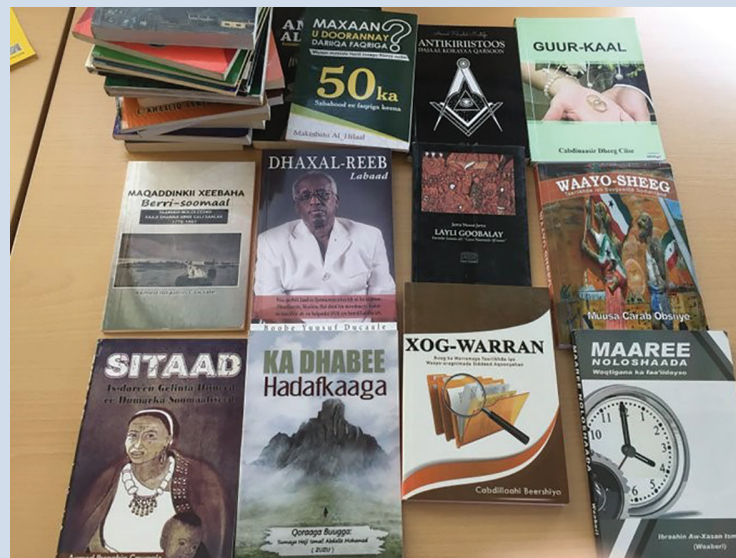


George Orwell's 'Animal Farm' in Somali translation.

The Somali language material consisted mainly of historical, (auto) biographical, and poetical works. A high interest in all matters related to language is reflected in a significant collection of wisdom literature, proverbs, sayings, and quotations. Interesting smaller categories deal with more localised social problems like tribalism, khat chewing, and migration.

Getting the books to the Netherlands was something of a challenge (as always). This time, the books had to be rerouted via Djibouti. The books acquired at the HIBF will play an important role during the Somali Day, an event around Somali literature to be organised by the ASCL and LeidenASA in 2020.

As always, these trips could not have been successful without the help of others. Tirsit Yetbarek and Jaamac Muuse Jaamac, founder of the HIBF, deserve a special word of appreciation.



Books bought at the Hargeisa International Book Fair 2019.

Cataloguing & Acquisition

In 2019, 4,085 books were processed via the acquisition module in the ALMA library system. In total, 4,398 library materials, including 86 DVDs and 1,579 novels and poetry books were catalogued.

Gifts

Gifts are a welcome addition to the collection of the ASCL Library. In 2019, the library received book donations from:

- Garance Reus – Deelder (> 40 books; Zambia)
- Lex Achterstraat (> 25 books; development, Senegal)
- Bill Kinsey (> 20 books; diverse subjects)
- André van Dokkum (> 10 books; Mozambique)
- Jan de Wolf (> 10 books; diverse subjects)
- Maarten Mous (> 10 books; Ethiopia, dictionaries)
- Akin-Otiko Akinymayowa, Willy Boezak, Bruno Braak, Luigi Gaffuri, Jan-Bart Gewald, Lucie Hubert, Jan Jansen, Robert Ross, Michael Tonfeld and others.

Looking for Space: Temporary location of the ASCL Library

In 2019, the ASCL Library underwent major maintenance due to an asbestos removal operation in the Pieter de la Court Building, and was relocated temporarily to the neighbouring Library of Social Sciences for the first two months of 2019. The relocation had an expected side effect: the number of visitors and borrowed books during these months dropped, resulting in a slightly lower annual number of visitors and loans. The ASCL Library returned to its own location on 11 March 2019. Library services continued as usual, with the exception of

a shutdown for several days while the transport of the collection and the desks took place.

The ASCL Library was also faced with the temporary move of some 36,000 books from the ASCL collection to the stacks of Leiden University Library at Witte Singel 27. This concerns the books with shelf number AFRIKA 1-29999, and AFRIKA A1-A5999. This relocation was due to issues of space.

All of the outplaced books can be requested and picked up at the ASCL Library (two-day service) or at Witte Singel (one-hour service).



Refurbishing the library.



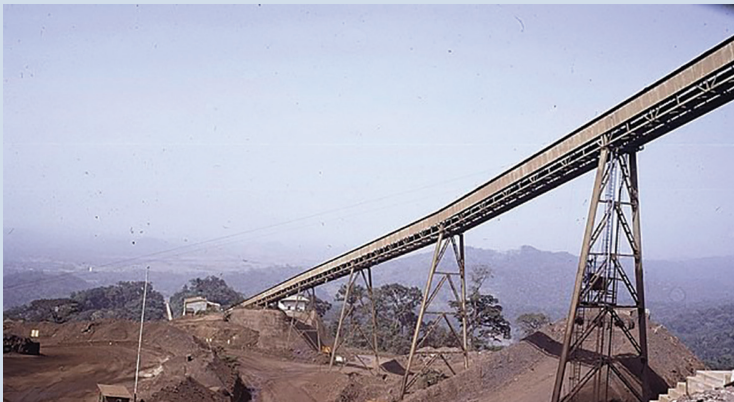
Temporary library location.

Wikidata, Commons, & Photographic Collections

Africa is underrepresented in research information. In order to help bridge that gap, the ASCL Library decided to contribute to open data and thus better promote research and information about and from Africa. One of the ways to contribute is to make more Africa data openly available. The ASCL Library contributes in the following ways:

- a weekly upload of the metadata of recently published journal articles on African studies to Wikidata, using Zotero and QuickStatements;
- occasional uploads of the metadata of publications on a specific topic to Wikidata, using OpenRefine and QuickStatements;
- semantic image tagging on Wikimedia Commons.

Another way to make information on Africa available is digitising and uploading photographic images of Africa to Wikimedia Commons – as



Conveyor belt carrying iron ore, Yekepa, Liberia, 1976.

Africa is also underrepresented in photographic collections. With the help of Hans Muller, the ASCL Library has been successful in the digitisation of 6,000 images from several collections:

- Angeline van Achterberg collection: images of Algeria, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, and Tunisia from the years 1981 up to 2007;
- Fred van der Kraaij collection: mainly images from Liberia and Senegal in the 1970s;
- Aart Rietveld collection: Nigeria, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe in the 1970s;
- Photographs of an expedition by the NSAG (Nederlands Studenten Afrika Gezelschap) travelling from east to west across Africa (from the Sudan to Senegal) in 1961.



Tin Aicha, Timbuktu, Mali, 1996.

Spotlights on the collection

In the course of 2019, several *Library highlights* on the ASCL website highlighted new books and films in the library. Examples include:

- *Filming on the Winning Side*. Kenya through the lens of Mohamed Amin (1943-1996)
- *In Africa with Avi and Kumbi*
- On football: *The People's Game* and *Ladies' Turn*
- *Infertility*, a novel and a film
- *Exploring Ancient Nubia*
- *The Unknown Van Gogh* (a book about Cor van Gogh, Vincent's youngest brother, who was raised in the Netherlands, but worked, married, and died in South Africa).

Information services, indexing, & abstracting

The final issue of African Studies Abstracts Online (ASAO), no. 60, was published in 2019. The ASCL Library will continue abstracting and indexing journal articles, to be accessed via the catalogue, focusing especially on materials coming from Africa that have less online exposure. The publishing platforms will be changed. Data on new academic journal articles will be gathered and published on the ASCL website, and also in Wikidata. The Leiden Alert Service on African Studies (LASA) had 344 subscribers by the end of 2019. When subscribing to the alert service people receive updates whenever new publications on a certain country or topic are published.

Web dossiers

ASCL web dossiers group the information on a current topic and make the information available in context. Every web dossier made by the library staff of ASCL has an introduction written by a specialist, links to the descriptions of books and journal articles in the catalogue, and provides a list of annotated links to electronic resources and relevant websites.

Five web dossiers were produced in 2019:

- *African Leaders of Independence* (November), to coincide with the 2019 Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture by Professor Emmanuel Akyeampong on 3 December, in which he focused on the lives of three first-generation African nationalist leaders: Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana, Ahmed Sékou Touré of Guinea, and Léopold Sédar Senghor of Senegal.
- *Proverbs in African Languages* (October), to mark the Year of Indigenous Languages.
- *Public Art in Africa* (July), to mark Wikimania 2019 and its connection to African art.
- *Southern African Women Writers* (March), an experimental web dossier applying Wikidata to explore the ASCL collection of Southern African women writers.
- *Performing Arts in West Africa* (March) on the occasion of the NVAS Africa Day 2019, entitled 'Le corps ne ment pas'.



Dutch actor and TV host Waldemar Torenstra visiting the ASC Library in preparation of a documentary series.

Conference ‘Decolonising African Studies’

‘*Decolonising African Studies: Questions and Dilemmas for Libraries, Archives and Collections*’ was the theme of this year’s conference of the UK Libraries and Archives Group on Africa (SCOLMA). Organised in Edinburgh immediately before the annual meeting of European Librarians in African Studies (ELIAS) and the European Conference on African Studies (ECAS), it turned out to be a day full of inspiring talks. Participants came from both within and outside of the UK – e.g. from South Africa, Zimbabwe, the Sudan, the USA, France, and the Netherlands. Most talks concentrated on issues of decolonising archives in African and western countries.



ELIAS meeting in Edinburgh, June 2019.

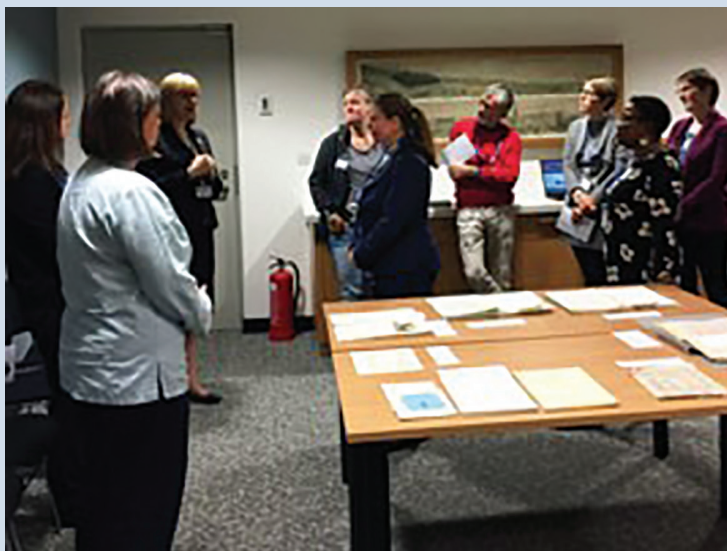
Diversifying a library’s collection is but one aspect of the decolonising effort. Finding ways of obtaining African documents through local vendors, changing ways of making material accessible and sharing it with the public are also part of it, as is the building of African-authored and African-published ‘context collections’ around themes relevant to African societies.

On 11 June, 25 librarians and archivists gathered in Edinburgh to discuss Religious Collections on Africa: Reading archival & library collections against the grain. This 13th annual meeting of European Librarians in African Studies comprised several talks. Araba Dawson-Andoh, Esmeralda Kale, and Emilie Songolo from the Cooperative Africana Materials Project (CAMP) showed the importance and possibilities of this digitisation project. CAMP member libraries fund projects and the acquisition of research materials for the study of Africa, and make African newspapers available.

In addition, a talk was given by Emma Wild-Wood, a senior lecturer in African Christianity and African Indigenous Religions at the University of Edinburgh. In her paper, ‘The Writings of a Ugandan Anglican Priest’, she showed how to go about using archival material as a researcher – in this case, working on material by Apolo Kivebulaya, a missionary to north-east Congo.

The ELIAS meeting concluded with two viewings. The Centre for Research Collections of the University of Edinburgh had exhibited some very interesting (and very colonial!) gems from their African

collections, ranging from letters, music and photographs to cloth. The National Library of Scotland had arranged a viewing of an exquisite choice from its African collection, with very old photographs, diaries, and manuscripts.



Viewing at Centre for Research Collections of the University of Edinburgh.

As part of the blog and podcast series *Citing Africa*, Jos Damen wrote a piece for the London School of Economics Impact Blog, on the subject of decolonising knowledge. In this blog, Damen gave some practical tips on building a more diverse, decolonised library. More information: <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2019/10/04/how-to-decolonise-the-library/>

EVENTS AND EXTERNAL CONTACTS

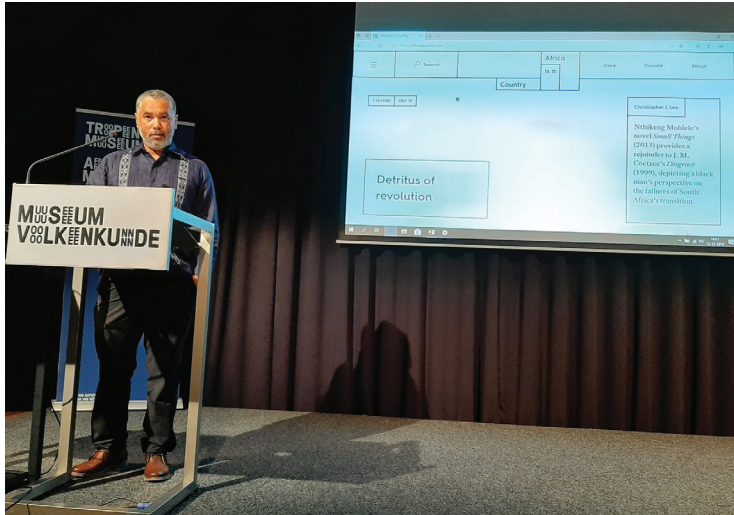
ASCL Community

The ASCL Community continued to grow throughout 2019 and now has 758 members. Community members provided information on their publications and events that they organised. Members with matching research interests were brought into contact with one another. Members with expertise not available at the ASCL were contacted for media interviews and other public performances.

LeidenASA

The Leiden African Studies Assembly (LeidenASA) and its funding by the University Board, was established in 2016 to enable the integration of the African Studies Centre in Leiden University, and to stimulate collaboration between Leiden-based Africanists.





Sean Jacobs of 'Africa is a Country' during the LeidenASA Annual Meeting 2019.

The following activities continued or started under the umbrella of LeidenASA in 2019.

- Stimulate research collaboration within Leiden University, with Leiden Africanists granted research leave at the ASCL: Dr Cristiana Strava (Humanities) and Prof. Dr Peter Pels (Social Sciences). The LeidenASA fund has enabled their teaching activities to be taken over by others.
- Visiting fellows: Dr Mahamat Adam, Dr Aderonke Adegbite, Dr Damilola Agbalajobi, Dr Suleiman Chembea, Dr Kofi Dorvlo, Dr Zoë Goodman, Dr Larissa Kojoué, Dr Adeola Oloyede. More information on their backgrounds elsewhere in this report.
- Visiting PhD candidates: Maryem Hamidi and Crépin Marius Mouguia. More information on their backgrounds elsewhere in this report.
- Library: book acquisition trip to Somaliland.
- Support for the Leiden Legon Sign Language Linguistics School in Ghana, the Field School 'Linguistics in Kenya Experience', and the SPOC 'A Critical Engagement with Advancing the SDGs'.
- Continuation of support for the development of instructional e-resources, including video material, on international development projects (see: www.developmentinbalance.com).
- Start of the LDE minor African Dynamics.
- Continuing support for online platform Digital Humanities.
- Africa Thesis Award: Nsima Stanislaus Udo won the award in 2019 for his thesis '*Visualising the Body: Photographic clues and the cultural fluidity of Mbopo institution, 1914 – 2014*'.
- Annual LeidenASA meeting on 12 December 2019, with keynote speaker Sean Jacobs (Associate Professor of International Affairs at The New School, and founder of Africa is a Country).
- Exploring collaboration with colleagues in TU Delft and Erasmus University Rotterdam, and in Edinburgh; and co-preparing 'Africa 2020'.

LeidenASA functions under the responsibility of the Board and Director of the ASCL. LeidenASA is coordinated by Prof. Ton Dietz, Dr David Ehrhardt, and Maaïke Westra.

SHOP

MAMA Delicious Food

CHIPS





Seminars & Special Events

Seminar audiences at the ASCL consist of people from various disciplinary backgrounds, united by an interest in African affairs. Most of the audience comprise fellow academics, but the ASCL also welcomes people from NGOs, government institutions, Africans living in the Netherlands, students, and others with an interest in Africa.

ASCL Seminar Series

A number of outstanding speakers were invited for the ASCL Seminar Series in 2019. In addition, the ASCL Collaborative Research Groups organised seminars within their own research themes.

The three ASCL Seminar Series events were:

- *Before Johannesburg: A Newly Discovered Tswana City from Around 1800 A.D.* Karim Sadr, University of the Witwatersrand (chair: Prof. Jan-Bart Gewald).
- *Fear of the Trader at Whitehall: UAC-Government Relations in British West-Africa, 1929-1941.* Ayodeji Olukoju, University of Lagos (chair: Prof. Chibuikwe Uche).

- *Presence and Social Obligation: An Essay on the Share.* James Ferguson, Stanford University (chair: Prof. Rijk van Dijk).

Other Seminars

The CRGs organised various seminars on a wide range of topics: ‘Why Animals Matter: Are we smart enough to know how smart animals are?’ (Harry Wels, ASCL); ‘Wilderness, Hybridity, Livelihoods: Contestations over the Cape leopard in the Cederberg Mountains, Western Cape’ (Shirley Brooks, University of the Western Cape); ‘Why Animals Matter & the Emotional Lives of animals’ (Harry Wels, ASCL).



One of the special events of 2019 included a seminar by Prof. Charles Foster.



One of the best attended seminars in 2019 was about the reopening of the AfricaMuseum in Tervuren, Belgium.

In the special event 'Beasts in African Studies', bestselling author Charles Foster (Oxford University) participated in a curated conversation with Jan-Bart Gewald and Harry Wels about his experiences copying animal behaviour. Another special seminar included 'The Reopened AfricaMuseum Tervuren', part of Seminars in Global Art History and Heritage, in which Bambi Ceuppens of the Royal Museum for Central Africa spoke about

the socio-political history of Belgian Congo and the decolonisation process of the museum.

The visiting fellows who were invited by LeidenASA gave a lecture during their three months visit to Leiden, with themes such as the Hogbetsotso festival (Dr Kofi Dorvlo), agripreneurship development in Nigeria (Dr Adeola Oloyede), digital technologies and sexuality in Cameroon (Dr Larissa Kojoué), nudity and socio-political mobilisation (Dr Damilola Agbalajobi), education and inclusive development (Dr Aderonke Adegbite), analysis of Cameroonian folk tales (Dr Mahamat Adam), religiosity among Muslim migrants (Dr Suleiman Chembea), and eating practices in Mombasa (Dr Zoe Goodman).

From the Ashes Reborn: Southern African Transformations 1780-1840

In early June 2019, a two-day workshop on the history of southern Africa between 1870 and 1840 was held at the African Studies Centre and the Archaeology faculty in Leiden. The multidisciplinary workshop dealt with the 'Time of Troubles', otherwise known as the *Mfecane* in southern African history. Between 1780 and 1840, the region was transformed as cities were sacked and razed to the ground. Precious goods were hidden or dropped and forgotten in the mayhem. Families abandoned their aged and infirm. Destitute hordes swept across famine-stricken landscapes and the dead were left unburied to be eaten by scavengers. A series of interrelated wars are considered to have destroyed systems of governance, agriculture, society, and culture. Within a single generation this calamity swept across the sub-continent all the way to Lake Victoria in present-day Tanzania. Generally, the *Mfecane* is held to have been initiated by Shaka Zulu, founder of the Zulu Kingdom. However, recent work on societal collapse indicates that societies do not collapse due to single causes, let alone individual men, history is far more complex and messy.

The period dealt with is of extreme importance for the history of the sub-continent, as it was the period in which the ethnic and racial distinctions, as well as the general distribution of land ownership, that currently determine and bedevil southern African societies were formed and seemingly cast in stone. Funded by a generous Leiden Global LGI Seed Funding Grant, the two-day multidisciplinary workshop was attended by 25 participants drawn from African and European academic institutions.

The workshop sought to investigate the complex and messy history with insights drawn from a number of differing disciplines, ranging from archaeology, history, and anthropology, through to volcanology, meteorology, dendrology, and economics. Through working with and drawing upon this wide variety of disciplines the workshop participants were able to begin fashioning a new historical perspective on southern Africa's past and present in which individual men are not the a priori determinants of the past. Instead, the workshop was able to demonstrate how southern Africa's past, present and future are determined by the dialectical relationship that exists between people and culture with the natural world, in conjunction with people's consistent interaction with issues and events that are global in nature.



Prof. Jan-Bart Gewald at the ruins of Kweneng near Johannesburg, South Africa.

This workshop demonstrated once again that to truly understand the past, not only of southern Africa, it is essential that the historian draws upon and works with specialists drawn from a wide variety of disciplines. In follow up to the workshop a sponsored 'From the Ashes Reborn' panel was held at the ECAS conference in Edinburgh, and a second workshop was to have been held in July 2020. Unfortunately, due to the corona pandemic, this workshop was cancelled, but will be held in the coming year. In addition, an edited volume based on the papers presented is currently being prepared for publication.

ECAS Edinburgh 2019

From 11–14 June, the Centre of African Studies of the University of Edinburgh hosted the 8th edition of the European Conference on African Studies (ECAS). The ASCL was present with a successful bookstand and many of its researchers organised or participated in panels within this year's theme 'Africa: Connections and Disruptions'.

Among the various panels were Prof. Jon Abbink (convenor 'Religion and Secularism in Africa: Challenges to the Political Order'); Dr Azeb Amha ('Religious Activism and Disrupted Social Relations: Exploring Religion and Alienation in Africa'); Dr Lidewyde Berckmoes ('Experiencing Violent Conflicts over



the Life Courses and Across Generations: Connections and Ruptures’); Prof. Mirjam de Bruijn (‘The Arts of Dying and Reviving Institutions of Health and Well-being’); Dr Fantu Cheru (‘India’s Aid and Soft Power in Africa: Connections and Connectivities’); Prof. Ton Dietz (‘African Studies Associations in Europe: a Critical Revision of Aims and Future Challenges’); Prof. Han van Dijk (‘The Sahel in Turmoil: Political Instability, Resource Conflicts and Migration’); Prof. Rijk van Dijk (convenor ‘Religious Activism and Disrupted Social Relations: Exploring Religion and Alienation in Africa’); Prof. Jan-Bart Gewald (convenor ‘From the Ashes Reborn: Reconsidering the “Times of Troubles” in Southern Africa in the Context of Global History’) and Dr Mayke Kaag (convenor ‘Tourism in Africa: New Hopes, Old Stereotypes?’).



The ASCL bookstand provided many visitors with information about the institute and its publications.



Opening address by Mamadou Diouf of Columbia University in the McEwan Hall of The University of Edinburgh, ECAS 2019.



From left to right: Loes Oudenhuisen, Dr Azeb Amha, and Gitty Petit presented their research findings at ECAS 2019.

Conference 'The Future of the African City'

In cooperation with African Architecture Matters, the ASCL organised the two-day conference 'The Future of the African City', which hosted multiple events under one umbrella. One of the highlights of the conference was the publication of the Ng'ambo Atlas. N'gambo is the lesser known 'other side' of Zanzibar Town. In the British Protectorate era, the area was designated as 'the native quarters'; today, it is set to become the new city centre of Zanzibar's capital. The atlas was first presented to H.E. Irene Kasyanju, ambassador of Tanzania to the Netherlands. Among the invitees were members of the ASCL Society Advisory Council. They are asked to be involved in an event once every year to reflect on ASCL projects.



Guests of honour during the conference included H.E. Jeroen Verheul and H.E. Irene Kasyanju.

Seminar: '25 Years after the Rwandan Genocide'

On 9 May, the ASCL organised a seminar on the Rwandan genocide of 1994. The event was hosted at the Leiden University Campus in The Hague. Speakers were Dr Bert Ingelaere (University of Antwerp) and Prof. Filip Reyntjens (University of Antwerp), the discussant was Dr Margot Leegwater (ASCL). The well-attended seminar reflected on the genocide and the role of the international community in the event.

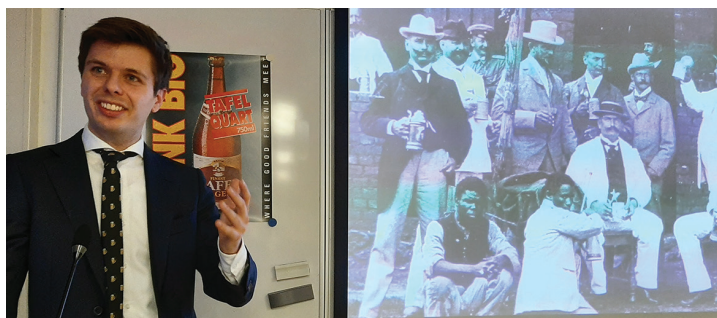


Genocide memorial site with passing traffic.

Book launches

The ASCL gave a total of six academic authors the opportunity to present their recent work to the public:

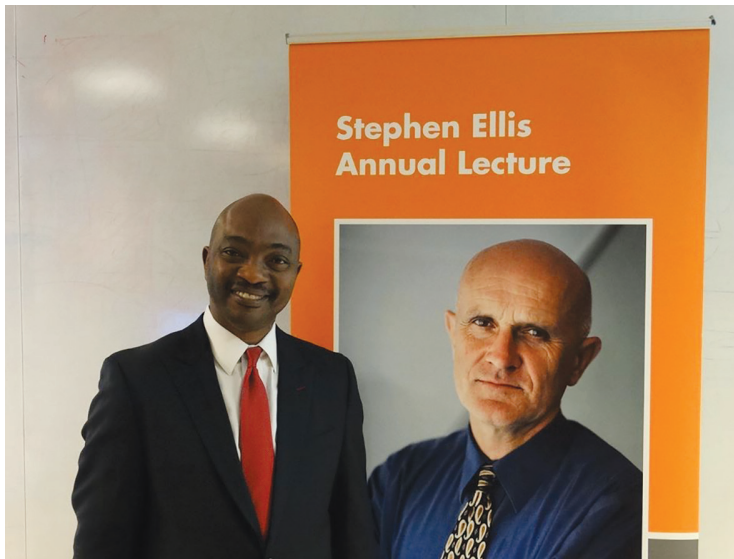
- A double book launch was held on 4 March by Sjoerd Zanen (*Tong Mabior: In het Gebied van de Boven-Nijl: Tussen Verleden en Toekomst*) and Rob van Gemert (*Wat Komt U Hier Doen? Terug in Obungga*). Zanen presented his work on the visits of outsider groups to South Sudan while Van Gemert presented his book on living conditions improvement in a Kenyan slum.
- On 17 March, a new edition of the book *Afrikaanse Letterkunde*, co-written by Mineke Schipper, Daniela Merolla, and Inge Brinkman, was presented. As the only handbook on African literature in the Dutch language, the launch was celebrated with a festive programme.
- Hans van den Breemer presented his book *Anthropological Experiences in Rural Senegal, 1986-2003*, a personal review of the anthropological research internships by students from Leiden University. The event was visited by many of Van den Breemer's former students.
- In *Roads through Mwinilunga*, published by Brill, Dr Iva Peša describes the history of social change in Northwest Zambia. The book was presented by Dr Peša and discussed by a panel of ASCL researchers on 22 October.
- The book *Breweries, Politics and Identity: The History Behind Namibian Beer* by Tycho van der Hoog was launched on 14 November. In his book, Van der Hoog explains how the role of beer in Namibia changed from an icon of white settlers to an icon of an independent Namibian nation.



Book launches were held about diverse topics, including anthropology in Senegal, African literature, and the history of beer in Namibia.

Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture 2019

Stephen Ellis (1953-2015) was a renowned senior researcher at the African Studies Centre Leiden. He combined a great interest in how 'real politics' work and have an impact on people's lives, with a fascination for the role of religion and morality. With the Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture, the ASCL wants to honour his memory and encourage work in his spirit. As every year, the guest of honour is Prof. Gerrie ter Haar, Stephen Ellis' widow.



Prof. Emmanuel Akyeampong gave the Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture 2019.

The 2019 Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture was given by Emmanuel Akyeampong, the Ellen Gurney Professor of History and of African and

American Studies and director of the Center for African Studies at Harvard University. In his lecture, Prof. Akyeampong drew on Stephen Ellis' insights to explore the nexus of spirituality, culture, and political power in the connected lives of three first-generation African nationalist leaders: Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana, Sekou Touré of Guinea, and Leopold Senghor of Senegal. Mission-educated, the exigencies of political power and nation-building necessitated reaching out to different religious constituencies. Imagining the African nation state opened doors to various ethnic cultural influences. These processes were not unambiguous, unsurprisingly, and this first generation of nationalist political leaders – in their experiments with secular, modern African nation states – would bequeath multiple registers that continue to shape modern politics in contemporary Africa.

To mark this event, the ASCL Library created a web dossier 'African Leaders of Independence'.

Africa Thesis Award 2019

Nsima Stanislaus Udo was awarded the Africa Thesis Award for his thesis 'Visualising the Body: Photographic clues and the cultural fluidity of Mbopo institution, 1914 – 2014'. Udo completed an MA in History at the University of Western Cape, South Africa. His thesis explores the history of *mbopo*, a form of female initiation in Southern Nigeria, and argues for the importance of studying popular representations of the ritual. The committee commended his thesis for being very readable, its original use of visual analysis, and how it links detailed insights into the ritual to wider societal transformations.



Nsima Stanislaus Udo received the 2019 Africa Thesis Award during the LeidenASA Annual Meeting.

Juul Kwaks (Leiden University) was nominated runner-up for her thesis 'Living with Displacement: An Exploration of Non-Return and the Long-Term Effects of Displacement on Social Life in Pabo, Northern Uganda'.

The prize was presented at the LeidenASA Annual Meeting on 12 December at the National Museum of Ethnology in Leiden. Udo's thesis will be published in the ASCL Series African Studies Collection.

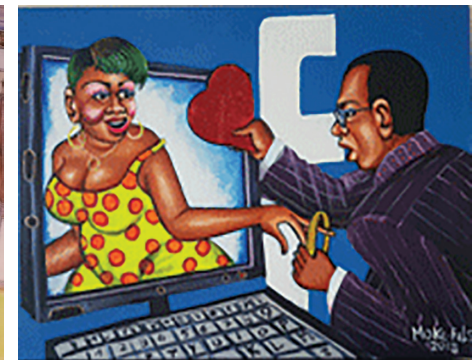
Since 2003, the Africa Thesis Award invites master's students from Dutch or African universities whose theses have been awarded an eight or higher to submit their thesis. The award aims to encourage student research and writing on Africa and to promote the study of African cultures and societies. A total of 41 theses were submitted in 2019.

A promotional poster for the Africa Thesis Award 2019. It features a collage of images including a woman in a red top, a man in a white shirt, and a poster of a man's face. The text on the poster reads: 'Africa Thesis Award 2019', 'Are you interested in Africa and is your master's thesis on a related subject? If so, the African Studies Centre Leiden offers you the chance to win € 500 and to be published!', 'The deadline is 7 July 2019.', and 'www.ascliden.nl/content/africa-thesis-award'.

Exhibitions

Exhibitions of photographs and paintings are on display in the ASCL's corridors and in the library. Once again, the diverse art forms attracted much attention and comments from staff, students, academics, and visitors to the Pieter de la Court Building. For each exhibition the ASCL organized an opening event, during which the artist or initiator gave a talk and took the audience for a tour along the works of art.

Artist(s):	Title:	About:	Origin:	Dates:
Cindy van der Aa, Sapin Makengele, Jean-Marie Mosengo	'La Ville Africaine'	In this collective exhibition paintings inspired on the African city were displayed.	Chad, Mali, Democratic Republic of the Congo	2 November 2018 to 31 January 2019
Roger Ainis, Ahmad Saeed, Michael Tsegaye	'Everyday Nile'	Photographers, journalists and researchers from different Nile basin countries challenged stereotypes that distort understanding of the Nile river.	Egypt, Ethiopia, Sudan	12 March to 30 May
Dorine van Norren	'The Wheel of Values: Africa and the World'	Artworks expressing power relations between regions of the world and related values, in order to facilitate intercultural communication and understanding.	Worldwide	24 May to 30 September
Aart Rietveld	'50-Year-Old Nigerians Art Works Come to Leiden'	In the 1970s, Aart Rietveld discovered paintings left behind by ex-students of a school in Toro, Nigeria, expressing everyday life and struggles.	Nigeria	30 October to 2 January 2020





Yellow bag on the roof rack.

REAR WINDOW SIGNAGE (mirrored text)

Interior view through the side window showing a yellow bag and a person in a blue shirt.

REAR SIDE PANEL LETTERING: RBIC

ASCL in the Media & Press Contacts

This year, researchers were again regularly approached for interviews on Dutch and foreign radio and television and in the (international) press, confirming the ASCL's reputation in the media landscape. A few examples:

Mirjam de Bruijn has been working in the Sahel region for years and has seen many changes happening in e.g. Mali, Burkina Faso and Chad. In 2019, she was interviewed about radicalisation and democratic changes in the Sahel, including articles in *Time Magazine* (28 March), *Trouw* (30 April), and *De Volkskrant* (11 June).

Marleen Dekker, Professor of Inclusive Development in Africa, has also been a frequent guest in the Dutch media. Two of her appearances this year included an interview about the changing stereotypical image of Africa in *Algemeen Dagblad* (28 July) as well as an analysis on unconditional cash relief for the newspaper *De Volkskrant* (12 August).

Radio

Jan-Bart Gewalt was interviewed several times to reflect on current affairs related to Africa. Interviews were given related to elections in South Africa (Radio 1, 5 May and *De Nieuwe Morgen*, 8 May) and violence against women in Cape Town (Radio 1, 8 September).

Other interviews in a political-historical context were given by Klaas van Walraven on the situation in Gabon (*Met het Oog op Morgen*, 8 January) Ineke van Kessel about the release of Nelson Mandela 29 years ago (Radio 1, 11 February) and Mirjam de Bruijn on the increase

of violence in Burkina Faso and Mali (VPRO Radio, 10 April). Finally, Jon Abbink was interviewed about 60 years of independence for 17 African countries in the year 2020 (Radio 1, 28 December).

Daily Newspapers

De Volkskrant published interviews with Mirjam de Bruijn on Al Qaida in Mali (21 January) and violence in the Sahel region (11 June) as well as interviews with Ton Dietz on intensification of agriculture in Africa (11 February) and Marleen Dekker on unconditional cash relief (12 August).

The Dutch newspaper *Trouw* interviewed Anika Altaf about reaching the ultra-poor (4 February), Ineke van Kessel on relationships between local men and foreign women in the former Gold Coast (14 March), Mirjam de Bruijn about the failed peace mission in Mali (30 April) as well as an interview together with Modibo Galy Cissé about Malian jihadist leader Hamadoun Koufa (28 November). A complete list of interviews with different media can be found elsewhere in this report.

GOVERNING BODIES & PERSONNEL

(as per 31-12-2019)

68

Members of the ASCL Board

Prof. M.R. Rutgers	Leiden University, Humanities (chair)
Prof. P.F. Wouters	Leiden University, Social and Behavioural Sciences
Prof. J.P. van der Leun	Leiden University, Law School

Members of the board of the 'Stichting Afrika Studiecentrum'

Prof. J.B. Opschoor	Former dean of the International Institute of Social Studies (chair)
M. Diboma	Netherlands African Business Council
A.C.A. van der Wiel	Former Netherlands ambassador to Nigeria

Members of the Academic Advisory Council

Prof. M.J. Spierenburg	Leiden University (chair)
Dr F.K. Ameka	Leiden University
Dr E.H. Bähre	Leiden University
K.F.K. de Belder	Leiden University
Prof. E. Bulte	Wageningen University & Research
Prof. B. Büscher	Wageningen University & Research
Prof. J.S. Clancy	University of Twente
J.C.M. Damen	African Studies Centre Leiden
Dr J. Fransen	Health Innovation School Rotterdam
Prof. L. de Haan	International Institute of Social Studies
Dr Y.P.B. van Leynseele	University of Amsterdam
Prof. V. Mazzucato	Maastricht University
Dr L.J. Smith	Radboud University Nijmegen
Prof. R. van Tulder	Erasmus University Rotterdam
Dr P.D.M. Weesie	University of Groningen

Dr A.C.M. van Westen	Utrecht University
Prof. P. van der Zaag	UNESCO-IHE

Personnel

Director

Prof. J.B. Gewald

Senior researchers (and their areas of specialisation)

Prof. G.J. Abbink	cultural history, governance and development, political culture, religious discourse and politics, Horn of Africa
Dr A. Akinyoade	demography, healthcare, education, media, Ghana, Nigeria, Mozambique, Namibia
Dr A. Amha	loss and maintenance of linguistic and cultural diversity, language and identity, language policy and education, Ethiopia
Prof. M.E. de Bruijn	mobility, social hierarchies, communication technology, West Africa
Prof. W.E.A. van Beek (retired)	religion, tourism, Cameroon, Mali, Southern Africa
Dr L.H. Berckmoes	conflict, children and youth, integrational transmission, resilience, cyclical violence, regional conflict, Burundi, Rwanda
Prof. M. Dekker	social networks, (micro) insurance, land reform, economic development, poverty reduction, Ethiopia, South Africa, Zimbabwe
Prof. A.J. Dietz (retired)	LeidenASA

Prof. R.A. van Dijk	African diaspora, Pentecostalism, religion and youth, sexuality and relationships in Africa, Botswana, Ghana, Malawi
Prof. J.B. Gewalt	African history, global history, technology and society, Southern Africa
Prof. J.C. Hoorweg (retired)	ecology and economics of the East African coast, Kenya
Dr A. Idrissa	democratisation, political Islam, history of state formation, Niger, West Africa
Dr M.M.A. Kaag	Africa in the world, political anthropology, religion and development, migration, land issues, informal workers, West Africa, director of the Research Masters African Studies
Dr W.M.J. van Kessel (retired)	democratisation, mass media, social movements, history, Ghana, South Africa
Dr A.H.M. Leliveld	social security, (micro) insurance, international aid, economic development, Uganda, education development minor Frugal Innovation in Africa
Dr A. Raia	Swahili literature, authorship, Islamic poetry, orality, literacy, East Africa
Prof. C.U. Uche	political economy, financial history, governance and regulation of financial institutions, foreign businesses in Africa
Dr K. van Walraven	international relations, conflict management, rebellions, Niger, West Africa

Project and junior researchers

H.E. Awuh	inclusive development, ecological sustainability, Cameroon
M.C.H. Heuvels	knowledge valorisation manager INCLUDE
A.H. Kazimierczuk	productive employment, inclusive growth, Kenya
C.L.M. Krier	archaeology, museology, cultural heritage, Dogon, Mali
N.L. Luning	religion, human trafficking
Dr Mr C.T. Nijenhuis	communication skills training, group facilitation, teaching land conflict, rural migration, Mali, knowledge valorisation manager INCLUDE
C.E. Swinkels	junior researcher INCLUDE
Y.N. Tessema	democracy, security, Ethiopia

Personnel seconded to the office

D. Boyco Orams	researcher
Prof. F. Cheru	researcher
Dr M.R. Doortmont	researcher
Dr H. Wels	publications manager

PhD candidates with an ASCL (co-)promotor

R. Adum-Atta; K. Assouma; J.A. Balyaminu; I. Butter; N.A.T. César; T. Chimbidzikai; M.G. Cissé; A.K. Damwah; M.L. Darko; D.T. Dawda; J. Fosu-Ankrah; A. Frank; M. Glover; T.A. van der Hoog; G. Hooghordel; F. Janse van Rensburg; P.H. Justin; A.H. Kazimierczuk; K. Khamis; A.M. Kubo; K. Mayoubila; K. Molenaar; C.M. Mougouia; M.M.L. Mwangal; S.A.A. Nasongo; B. Okello; L.W. Oudenhuisen; G. Petit; F. Pugliese; R. Tchatchoua Djomo; M. van Vliet; J. de Vries; M.L. van 't Wout.

Library, Documentation and Information staff

J.C.M. Damen	director of the ASCL Library
M. Boter	assistant librarian
Dr G.C. van de Bruinhorst	information specialist
E.M. Eijkman	information specialist
M.B. van der Lee	assistant librarian
U. Oberst	information specialist
M. Oosterkamp	assistant librarian, publications assistant
A.E.I. Robson	information specialist
E.M. de Roos	assistant librarian
G.M.M. Seuren	information specialist
Dr H.J. Smits	information specialist
P.G. Verkaik	assistant librarian

Support staff

J. Binnendijk	controller, institute manager
T. Blomsma-Peters	management assistant, executive secretary to the director
S.V. van Dam	student assistant
E. Das	project manager
M.D. Ditmars	education development minor African Dynamics
R.G.L. Jongenelen	seminars, communications, press
G. Petit	project manager
T. Pulleman	student assistant
J. Tuyisabe	student assistant INCLUDE
W. Veerman	ICT expert
F. Veldkamp	web editor, communications, press

H.K. Westra	programmer, web master
M.A. Westra	policy officer, LeidenASA
M.C.A. van Winden	conference organiser
L.H.E.M. de Winter	project manager
A.L. Yeadell-Moore	English language editor
W.J. Zwart	publications assistant

The following members of staff left the ASCL in 2019

K. Assouma	junior researcher
J. Azaoui	student assistant INCLUDE
Dr K.L. van Bommel	researcher
S.W. Borgerdijn	student assistant INCLUDE
Prof. W.J.M. van Dijk	researcher
Dr W.J. Elbers	researcher
E.C. Frobisher	junior researcher
S. Kleine Vennekate	junior researcher
A.M. Kubo	PhD candidate
Dr E. Kumi	researcher
J.M. Kwaks	junior researcher
Dr M.E. Leegwater	project manager
M.A. de Leeuw	student assistant
D. Sanderse	student assistant
K.C.M. de Vries	project researcher
I.F. Wilke	junior researcher INCLUDE
L.A. Wiseman	student assistant
M.L. van 't Wout	PhD candidate

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

	(in € '000)	
	2019	2018
Income		
Total contribution Leiden University, of which 2,976 from the Netherlands Ministry of Education, Culture and Sciences	3,289	3,104
Projects for third parties	1,868	1,988
Other income (publications, etc.)	313	227
Total	5,470	5,319
Expenditures		
Personnel	4,020	3,735
Institutional costs	1,212	1,263
Inventory depreciation	-	7
Total	5,232	5,005

PUBLICATIONS BY ASCL STAFF

Peer-reviewed journal articles and book publications

Akinyele, R. & A.J. Dietz (eds) (2019). *Crime, Law and Society in Nigeria: Essays in Honour of Stephen Ellis*. Leiden: Brill.

Akinyele, R. & T. Dietz (2019). 'Introduction' in R. Akinyele & A.J. Dietz (eds) *Crime, Law and Society in Nigeria: Essays in Honour of Stephen Ellis*. Leiden: Brill, 1-5.

Barr, A., Dekker, M., Janssens, W., Kebede, B. & B. Kramer (2019). 'Cooperation in Polygynous Households'. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 11-2: 266-283.

De Bruijn, M.E. (2019). 'Digitalization and the Field of African Studies', in *Carl Schlettwein Lecture*. Basel: Basler Afrika Bibliographien.

De Bruijn, M.E. (ed.) (2019). *Biographies of Radicalization - Hidden Messages of Social Change*. Berlin/Boston: De Gruyter Oldenbourg.

De Bruijn, M.E., Boas, I et al. (2019). 'Climate Migration Myths'. *Nature Climate Change* 9, 898-903.

Dietz, T. (2019). 'Africa in Transition: What Role for the Environment?' in I. Haltermann & J. Tischer (eds) *Environmental Change and African Societies*. Leiden: Brill, 225-249.

Donskis, L., Sabelis, I., Kamsteeg, F. & H. Wels (eds) (2019). *Academia in Crisis: The Rise and Risk of Neo-liberal Education in Europe*. Leiden: Brill.

- Eichelsheim, V., Berckmoes, L.H., Hola, B., Rutayisire, T. & A. Richters (2019). 'Before My Time? Addressing the Intergenerational Legacies of the Genocide Against the Tutsi in Rwanda'. *Intervention* 17-1: 31-39.
- Ezeoha, A., Okoyeuzu, C., Onah, E. & C. Uche (2019). 'Second-Hand Vehicle Markets in West Africa: A Source of Regional Disintegration, Trade Informality and Welfare Losses', *Business History* 61-1: 187-204.
- Gewald, J.B., Kamsteeg, F. & H. Wels (2019). 'New Ordinary of 'Winners': South Africa as Part of BRICS', *Clingendael Spectator* 73-1: 1-11.
- Hendriks, T.D., Reis, R., Sostakova, M. & L.H. Berckmoes (2019). 'Violence and Vulnerability: Children's Strategies and the Logic of Violence in Burundi', *Children & Society* 34-1: 31-45.
- Idrissa, A. (2019). 'Weakened States and Market Giants: Neoliberalism and Democracy in Niger and West Bengal', *African Development* 43-3: 25-52.
- Kaag, M. & G. Steel (2019). 'Transnational Migrants, Land and New Investment Hubs in African Cities', *Built Environment* 44-4: 477-492.
- Kaag, M. & M. Ocadiz (2019). 'A Plea for Kaleidoscopic Knowledge Production', in E. Fourie, E. Mawdsley & W. Nauta (eds) *Researching South-South Development Cooperation: Critical Reflections on the Politics of Knowledge Production*. London, Routledge: 81-91.
- Kaag, M., Baltissen, G., Steel, G. & A. Lodder (2019). 'Migration, Youth, and Land in West Africa: Making the Connections Work for Inclusive Development.' *Land* 8-2: 1-11.
- Lalaye, D., de Bruijn, M.E. & T.P. de Jong (2019). 'Prevalence of Schistosoma Haematobium Measured by a Mobile Health System in an Unexplored Endemic Region in the Subprefecture of Torrock, Chad'. *JMIR Public Health Surveillance* 5-2: 1-7.
- Raia, A. (2019). 'Angaliya baharini, mai yaliyoko pwani: The Presence of the Ocean in Mahmoud Ahmed Abdulakadir's Poetry' in 'LUGHA NA FASIHI. Scritti in onore e memoria di'. Naples, Università degli Studi di Napoli L'Orientale: 223-250.
- Van den Bergh, M., de Bruijn, B. & A.J. Dietz (2019). 'De Toekomst van de Sahel als Overwinteringsgebied voor Europese Trekvogels', *Limosa* 92-3: 201-2017.
- Van Dijk, R.A. & K.L. van Bommel (2019). 'Worlds Apart? Exploring the Problematic Irrelevance of a Psy-therapy Promoting Happiness-as-norm in an African Context', *Current Anthropology* 60-2: 214-215.
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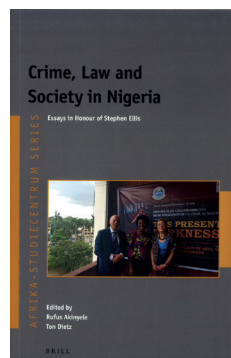
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Van Walraven, K. (2019). 'The Historical Long-term in the Politics of the Central African Republic: Insights from the Biography of Barthélemy Boganda (1910-1959)'. ASCL Working Paper 146. Leiden: African Studies Centre.

PUBLICATIONS BY THE ASCL

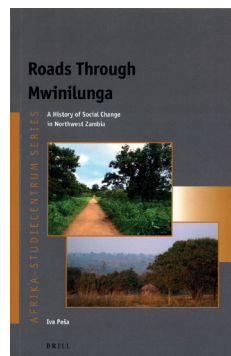
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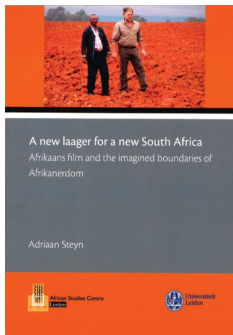


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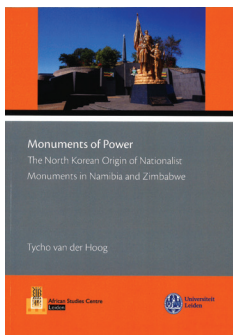
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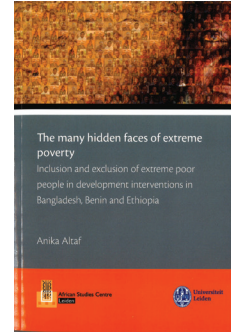
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of Afrikanerdom***

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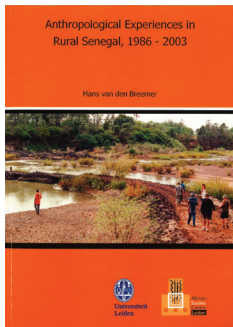
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lic: Insights from the Biography of Barthélemy Boganda (1910-1959)***

K. van Walraven (vol. 146)

ASCL Occasional Publications

These publications are what the title promises them to be: publications for a special occasion. This can be a festschrift, particular books for a wider audience than the academic community, books in Dutch, but also shorter or different types of books such as research summaries, brochures, and e-books.



Anthropological Experiences in Rural Senegal, 1986-2003

H. van den Breemer (vol. 36)

African Postal Heritage papers

Postage stamps, postcards, and other forms of postal heritage are miniature communication tools and tell stories about places, routes, and times. Also for Africa they are part of material heritage, that can be made visible online, thanks to the improving open access possibilities of auction houses, collectors' pages, stamp dealers, and others. The ASCL African Postal Heritage papers connect to the focus of LeidenGlobal: 'material heritage'. In 2019, a total of 10 APH papers has been published.

The APH papers currently have two editors: Jan Jansen (Leiden Anthropology) and Ton Dietz (African Studies Centre Leiden).

Web dossiers (online)

Web dossiers were introduced by the ASCL library and documentation staff in 2001 as a new form of literature survey combining print material with electronic resources and web-based information.

The dossiers deal with topical issues in African Studies and are usually published to coincide with a conference or event or with recent developments in Africa. They appear on average three or four times a year. A web dossier typically consists of an introduction to the subject, a selection of titles – both books and articles – from the collection of the ASCL Library and annotated links to electronic resources and relevant websites. Titles are linked directly to the corresponding records in the online catalogue, which provides abstracts and lending information. All material included in the dossiers can either be borrowed or accessed in the library.

Performing Arts in West Africa (March)

Southern African Women Writers (March)

Public Art in Africa (July)

Proverbs in African Languages (October)

African Leaders of Independence (November)



SEMINARS

78

31 January

Before Johannesburg: A Newly Discovered Tswana City from Around A.D. 1800

Karim Sadr

7 February

Documentary Screening on a Mining Conflict in KwaZulu-Natal: This Land

18 February

The Pioneers (Voortrekkers) Monument in Pretoria: Classical Ideals and Afrikaner Ideologies

Rolf Michael Schneider

4 March

Book launch: Over Insiders en Outsiders in Ontwikkelingssamenwerking

14 March

'Fear of the Trader at Whitehall': UAC-Government Relations in British West Africa, 1929-1941

Ayodeji Olukoju

19 March

Hogbetsotso Rituals and their Cultural Significance

Kofi Dorvlo

26 March

The Influence of Human Capital and Labour Market Among Youth for Agripreneurship Development in Nigeria

Adeola Oloyede

2 April

Digital Cultures, Gender, and Sexuality in Contemporary Cameroon

Larissa Kojoué

1 May

South African Elections Approach: Has the Liberation Dream been Realised?

Barry Gilder

2 May

Workshop: Tracing African Infrastructures. From Colonial Grand Schemes to Contemporary Mega-Projects

9 May

25 years after the Rwandan Genocide

16 May

Presence and Social Obligation: An Essay on the Share

James Ferguson

17 May

Book launch: Afrikaanse Letterkunde. Tradities, Genres, Auteurs en Ontwikkelingen

5 June

The Female Nude as a Symbolic Tool for Social and Political Mobilization among the Ekiti Yoruba

Damilola Agbalajobi

20 June

Children's Education and Inclusive Development in Nigeria. Exploring Multicultural Preferences for Redistributing Economic Obligations through Law

Aderonke Adegbite

25 June

White Lions in South Africa: Exploring Ecology and Cultural Significance

Jason Turner

12 September

South Africa to India: Narratives of a Century of Repatriation (1871-1975)

Uma Dhupelia-Mesthrie

13 September

Book launch: Anthropological Experiences in Rural Senegal, 1986-2003

Hans van den Breemer

23 September

Why Animals Matter: Are We Smart Enough to Know How Smart Animals Are?

Harry Wels

10 October

The Reopened AfricaMuseum Tervuren

Bambi Ceuppens

22 October

Book launch: Roads through Mwinilunga – Writing Histories of Social Change in Southern and Central Africa

Iva Peša

24 October

Wilderness, Hybridity, Livelihoods: Contestations over the Cape Leopard in the Cederberg Mountains, Western Cape

Shirley Brooks, Irené van Schalkwyk

7 November

Beasts in African Studies? Radical Reflections on Research Methodologies

Charles Foster

11 November

Les Contes Kotoko de Makary. Une Analyse Anthropologique

Mahamat Adam

14 November

Book launch: Brewing Identity: The Role of South Africa in the History of Namibian Beer

Tycho van der Hoog

18 November

African Muslim Migrants in Secular Europe in the Age of Islamism: Negotiating Belief and Ethnoreligiosity in European Cities

Suleiman Chembea

27 November

The World in a Sweetshop? Localising the Indian Ocean in Mombasa, Kenya

Zoë Goodman

29 November

Conference: Government Policies, Multinational Businesses and Financial Flows in Africa

3 December

Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture: Spirituality, Culture & Political Power in Early Independent West Africa

Emmanuel Akyeampong

5 December

Moralising God? Religions and Politics in Africa Today

Paulin Hountondji

11 December

Why Animals Matter & The Emotional Lives of Animals

Harry Wels

RESEARCHERS IN THE MEDIA

8 January

Klaas van Walraven on radio show 'Met het Oog op Morgen' about Gabon

19 January

Ton Dietz in *Nederlands Dagblad* about poverty reduction in Africa

20 January

Jan-Bart Gewalt, Harry Wels and Marja Spierenburg in *Psychology Today* about 'Nature Conservation in Southern Africa'

21 January

Mirjam de Bruijn in *De Volkskrant* about Al Qaida in Mali

29 January

Ton Dietz in *Elsevier Magazine* about population growth expectations in Africa

30 January

Jon Abbink cited in *The Washington Post* on tribalism in politics

4 February

Anika Altaf (PhD candidate) in *Trouw* about her PhD thesis 'Reaching the Ultra-poor'

6 February

Anika Altaf (PhD candidate) in *Folia* about reaching the ultra-poor

11 February

Opinion piece by Ton Dietz in *De Volkskrant* about intensification of African agriculture

11 February

Ineke van Kessel on Radio 1 about Nelson Mandela on the occasion of his release 29 years ago

14 March

Opinion piece by Ineke van Kessel in *Trouw* about relationships between European men and local women in the Gold Coast

28 March

Mirjam de Bruijn and Didier Lalaye in *Time* about the social media ban in Chad

4 April

Article by Jon Abbink in *Global Observatory*: ‘Ethiopia’s Successes Under Abiy Ahmed Constrained by Ethnic Divisions’

10 April

Mirjam de Bruijn on VPRO Radio about violence in Burkina Faso and Mali

30 April

Mirjam de Bruijn in *Trouw* about the failed peace mission in Mali

5 May

Jan-Bart Gewald on Radio 1 about elections in South Africa

7 May

Harry Wels in *Nieuwsblad* about elections in South Africa

8 May

Rahmane Idrissa in *Leidsch Dagblad* about Salafi radicalism in the Sahel

8 May

Jan-Bart Gewald on radio show ‘De Nieuwe Morgen’ about South African elections

12 May

Ton Dietz in *Algemeen Dagblad* about the ‘sleeping giant’ Africa

17 May

Sjoerd Zanen (former PhD candidate) in *NRC* on the occasion of his book on South Sudan

11 June

Mirjam de Bruijn in *De Volkskrant* about violence in the Sahel

3 July

André Leliveld on Human.nl about the ‘outbreak’ of Ebola in Uganda

8 July

Michiel van den Bergh (former PhD candidate) in *SPUI* about his career

28 July

Marleen Dekker in *Algemeen Dagblad* about the imaging of Africa

1 August

Jon Abbink cited in *Time Magazine* about the historical background in Netflix's 'The Red Sea Diving Resort'

7 August

Abeer Abazeed (PhD candidate Leiden University Institute of Security and Global Affairs) in Voertaal about her research on hydropolitics in the Eastern Nile Basin

9 August

Tycho van der Hoog in *Reformatorisch Dagblad* about ties between North Korea and Southern Africa

12 August

Marleen Dekker in *De Volkskrant* about unconditional cash relief

27 August

Tycho van der Hoog in Voertaal about the links between Africa and North Korea

6 September

Jan-Bart Gewalt in *Metro* about Robert Mugabe's death

6 September

Jan-Bart Gewalt on TV show 'EenVandaag' about Robert Mugabe's death

8 September

Jan-Bart Gewalt on Radio 1 about violence against women in Cape Town

11 October

Jon Abbink on NOS about the Nobel Peace Prize for Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali

16 October

Tycho van der Hoog in Voertaal about his book on the history of Namibian beer

31 October

Charles Foster (guest speaker) in *Mare* about his book on animals

7 November

Tycho van der Hoog in *Mare* about the history of Namibian beer

20 November

Mirjam de Bruijn in *NRC* about extremists in Mali and Burkina Faso

22 November

Paolo de Mas (former visiting researcher) in *NRC* about relations between Morocco and the Netherlands

28 November

Mirjam de Bruijn and Modibo Galy Cissé in *Trouw* about jihadist leader Hamadoun Koufa

2 December

Bert van Pinxteren (PhD candidate Leiden University Centre of Languages) in Voertaal about African identities

28 December

Jon Abbink in NOS Journaal about al-Shabab attacks in Mogadishu, Somalia

28 December

Jon Abbink on Radio 1 about 60 years of independence for 17 African countries in 2020

COLOPHON

84

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