AFRICA ECONOMIC HISTORY NEWSLETTER
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Your bi-monthly update from the African Economic History Network

The AEHN newsletter brings you up to date with current and forthcoming events in African Economic History. It gives you a chance to publicise your new research and opportunities to the right audience.

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Do you want to become a member of the network and receive this monthly email? Send a message to the African Economic History Network at aehnetwork@gmail.com with ‘member’ in the subject line.

Anything we missed? Want to publicise your own research, events or organizing a panel for an upcoming conference? Send a message to aehnetwork@gmail.com and we will include your news in our bi-monthly round up.

Best regards,
The African Economic History Network
News and Announcements


A website for the has now been launched (http://aehworkshop2014.weebly.com). The program (put together by Leigh Gardner) looks very promising.

The renaissance of African economic history

That is the title of the introduction to a special issue by Gareth Austin and Steven Broadberry soon to be published by Economic History Review. The special issue will be launched at the LSE, 25-26 October at the African Economic History Workshop. Many of the articles are already available online.

Working Papers Series

The network has published a new working paper:


If you have a paper you would like to submit for our consideration please send us an email. For questions regarding the WPS please contact Erik Green at Erik.Green@ekh.lu.se.
NEW ABSTRACTS IN AFRICAN ECONOMIC HISTORY

Articles

Gareth Austin. Vent for surplus or productivity breakthrough? The Ghanaian cocoa take-off, c. 1890–1936

Through a case study of cocoa-farming in Ghana, this article takes up the long-running but recently neglected debate about the ‘cash crop revolution’ in tropical Africa during the early colonial period. It focuses on the supply side, to test the much criticized but never superseded ‘vent-for-surplus’ interpretation of the export expansion as a substitution of labour for leisure. The article argues that while the model captured certain features of the case, such as the application of labour to underused land, its defining claim about labour is without empirical foundation. Rather, the evidence points to a reallocation of resources from existing market activities towards the adoption of an exotic crop, entailing a shift towards a new, qualitatively different and more profitable kind of production function. This innovation is best understood in the context of the long-term search of African producers for ways of realizing the economic potential of their resource of relatively abundant land, while ameliorating the constraints which the environment put upon its use.


Jörg Baten and Johan Fourie. Numeracy of Africans, Asians, and Europeans during the early modern period: new evidence from Cape Colony court registers

The lack of accurate measures of human capital formation often constrains investigations into the long-run determinants of growth and comparative economic development, especially in the developing world. Using the reported ages of criminals in the Court of Justice records in the Cape Archives, this article documents for the first time numeracy levels and trends for inhabitants of the Cape Colony born between the late seventeenth and early nineteenth century: the native Khoesan, European settlers, and imported slaves from other African regions and Asia. This variety of origins allows us to compare contemporaneous levels of early modern development across three continents. By isolating those slaves born at the Cape, we also provide a glimpse into the dynamics of human capital transfer in a colonial setting. The Colony's relatively high level of human capital overall had implications for what was later to be the richest country on African soil, but the very unequal attainment of numeracy also foreshadowed extreme income inequality.

Jörg Baten and Johan Fourie, 2014. “Numeracy of Africans, Asians, and Europeans during the early modern period: new evidence from Cape Colony court registers”. The Economic History Review.
Daniel Berger, William Easterly, Nathan Nunn and Shanker Satyanath. Commercial Imperialism? Political Influence and Trade during the Cold War

We provide evidence that increased political influence, arising from CIA interventions during the Cold War, was used to create a larger foreign market for American products. Following CIA interventions, imports from the US increased dramatically, while total exports to the US were unaffected. The surge in imports was concentrated in industries in which the US had a comparative disadvantage, not a comparative advantage. Our analysis is able to rule out decreased trade costs, changing political ideology, and an increase in US loans and grants as alternative explanations. We provide evidence that the increased imports arose through direct purchases of American products by foreign governments.


Michael Burawoy. The Colour of Class Revisited: Four Decades of Postcolonialism in Zambia

Ethnographic revisits have become an increasing practice in the social sciences, designed to advance the understanding of history through the linking of micro processes and societal structures. In this article I revisit my study of Zambianisation on the Copperbelt, conducted between 1968 and 1972. The methodology of the extended case method is used first to represent the original study and then to reassess it critically in terms of what has happened over the last 40 years. Four types of revisit are considered: revisit as refutation of the original study, revisit as an approach to historical change, revisit as comparative analysis, and revisit as reconstructing social theory. My reassessment relies on other studies of the Zambian mines, but also on ethnographic research I conducted in the US, Hungary and Russia during the same 40-year period.


Ewout Frankema and Morten Jerven. Writing history backwards or sideways: towards a consensus on African population, 1850–2010

This article aims to make an empirical and theoretical contribution towards the creation of a continent-wide dataset on African population extending into the pre-1950 era. We investigate the reliability and the validity of the current population databases with the aim of working towards a consensus on the long-term series of African total population with a reliable 1950 benchmark. The cases of Kenya, Nigeria, and Ghana are explored to show the uneven coverage of census taking in colonial and post-colonial Africa and to demonstrate the need for an upward adjustment of the conventional 1950 benchmark. In addition, we discuss the advantages and disadvantages of Manning's approach of projecting population growth estimates backwards in time by adopting the available Indian census data as African ‘default
growth rates’, and we propose an alternative approach by incorporating the demographic experiences of tropical land-abundant countries in South-East Asia.


James Fenske. The battle for rubber in Benin

Nigerian rubber exports expanded rapidly during the Second World War ‘battle for rubber’. This was achieved by overcoming obstacles to greater exploitation of both wild and planted rubber. This article outlines Nigeria's wartime experience, focusing on the Benin region that dominated smallholder production after the war. British policies initially restricted rubber planting. After Japan occupied South-East Asia, Britain encouraged maximum production. Late in the war, officials struggled with the planting boom that had occurred. The war was a period of both continuity and change for Benin, and exposed the limited capacity of the colonial state.


Johan Fourie and Dieter von Fintel. Settler skills and colonial development: the Huguenot wine-makers in eighteenth-century Dutch South Africa

The institutional literature emphasizes local conditions in explaining divergent colonial development. We posit that this view can be enriched by an important supply-side cause: the skills with which the settlers arrive. The Huguenots who arrived at the Cape Colony in 1688/9, we argue, possessed skills different from those of the incumbent farmers, and this enabled them to become more productive wine-makers. We demonstrate this by showing that this difference is explained by none of the standard factors of production, nor by any institutional differences between the French and the Dutch. We observe that a group of Huguenot descendants from wine-producing regions maintained their advantage in wine-making at the Cape over several generations. This disparity cannot be satisfactorily explained as resulting from first-mover advantage or social capital. Specialized skills gave the Huguenots from wine-producing regions a sustained competitive advantage. Our results show that colonial institutions are shaped not only by whether immigrants settle or not, which legal system they adopt, or their language, religion, or beliefs, but by the set of skills, knowledge, and experience brought from their country of origin. As such, cross-country comparisons may blur much of the detail when we analyse the effect that settlers have on the destination country.


Leigh A. Gardner. The Rise and Fall of Sterling in Liberia, 1847-1943
Recent research on exchange rate regime choice in developing countries has revealed that a range of factors, from weak fiscal institutions to high costs of borrowing in their own currencies, limits the range of options available to these countries. This article uses the case of Liberia to illustrate that new states in Africa during the gold standard era faced similar limitations, even in the absence of formal colonial rule. The rapid depreciation of the Liberian dollar in the nineteenth century led to the adoption of sterling as a medium of exchange and store of value. This initially made it easier for Liberia to service its sterling-denominated debt and for Liberians to purchase imports from Britain. However, as economic relations with the US deepened during the twentieth century, instability in the pound–dollar exchange rate created serious dislocations in the Liberian economy, ultimately leading to the official adoption of the US dollar in 1943. The story of Liberia illustrates the long-standing challenges of globalization for peripheral economies and suggests the need for a reassessment of the origins and impact of colonial monetary regimes.


Jack Hogan. ‘What Then Happened To Our Eden?’: The Long History of Lozi Secessionism, 1890–2013

This article contributes to revisionist interpretations of Zambian history by exploring both the development of Lozi secessionism over the course of the twentieth century and its present manifestations. Starting with the origins of Lozi particularism in the challenges mounted by the Lozi elite to Northern Rhodesia’s early colonial dispensation, it traces the dynamics of subsequent contests between the Lozi, colonial and imperial governments, and emerging African nationalists. Following the negotiations which culminated in the signing of the Barotseland Agreement on the eve of independence, the article describes the movement’s postcolonial trajectory from its apparent collapse in the face of an antagonistic Zambian state to its resurgence following the end of the one-party state. Lozi secessionism draws deeply on notions of a powerful precolonial polity to articulate an alternative political vision, but, as this article contends, persistence of Lozi secessionism over the twentieth century, and into the twenty-first, does not reflect a primordial attachment to ethnicity and polity. It is instead a movement fed by a particularism bred of resentment and poverty. The course of Lozi secessionism over the twentieth century, and its persistence into the twenty-first, must be understood in light of this history and the ends to which successive generations of Lozi secessionists have put their interpretation of it in the face of changing political and economic circumstances.


There has been a recent surge in research on long-term African development. For this research agenda to be fruitful and its theories tested, it is crucial to have consistent estimates of economic change. However, there is a lack of reliable time series data for the
colonial period in Sub-Saharan Africa. This article contributes new time series data for the Gold Coast and Ghana between 1890 and 2010 and in particular a new GDP time series for Ghana for the years 1891–1957. The series implies a sustained period of economic expansion from the late nineteenth century. This suggests a revision of some prevalent truths about the history of economic growth in Sub-Saharan Africa, and points the way forward for expanding the database to cover the colonial period for other African economies.


Hugh Macmillan. The University Of Zambia and the Liberation of Southern Africa, 1966–90

This article examines the role of the University of Zambia (UNZA) in relation to the liberation of southern Africa, and seeks to cast light on Zambia’s often ambivalent role. A contradiction emerged between the Zambian government’s support for liberation abroad and its intolerance of criticism at home. The university came to be seen as a centre of opposition and was often a place of conflict. I seek to answer a number of questions. What was the role of exiled academics and intellectuals, such as Jack Simons, Ben Magubane, Ezekiel Mphahlele, Lewis Nkosi and Fay Chung, at the university in the first two decades of its existence? Why did issues relating to the liberation struggle become points of conflict in the major crises of 1971 and 1976? What was the role of the founders of the Chikwakwa Theatre – and the exponents of ‘theatre for development’, John Reed, Michael Etherton and Fay Chung – in the radicalisation of the student body? What role did UNZA staff such as Simons, Magubane and Chung play in the life of the liberation movements to which they belonged? What was the role of UNZA in the training of students who went on to play important roles in liberation movements and in government on their return to their home countries? What were the links, from an UNZA perspective, between the liberation struggles waged by exile groups based in Zambia and the demand for democracy in Zambia itself?


Scholars have struggled to understand the role of investment in the slow growth of post-Independence sub-Saharan Africa. Existing research has largely relied on national accounting data, which suggests low returns on investment in the region. This article uses data gathered during fieldwork to investigate the quality of the investment data in the national accounts of Nigeria, Africa’s most populous economy. It proposes a new investment series which can be compared to those in Nigeria’s national accounts for 1976–85. It provides an alternative view of investment and productivity during the country's crucial oil boom period, when Nigeria had significant funding available for investment but this investment did not result in long-term economic growth. Data are drawn from construction surveys, publicly listed and privately held construction company financial records, and industry publications. The new series suggests that for many years of the oil boom, approximately two-thirds of what was recorded as having been investment in Nigeria’s national accounts was not

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investment at all. Much of this was ‘ghost construction’, projects paid for but never completed. This indicates that actual investment was far more productive than has previously been appreciated.


Protestant missionaries have recently been praised for their comparatively benign features concerning their support of women's education in Africa. Using a novel dataset of 5,202 Protestant brides born between 1880 and 1945 from urban and rural Uganda, this paper offers a first pass at analysing empirically the role of mission education on African women's socio-economic position within the household. The paper finds that although mission education raised the sampled brides' literacy skills way above female national levels, they were largely excluded from participating in the colonial wage labour market. In this context, the missionary society presented an almost exclusive source of female wage labour in areas of religious service, schooling and medical care. While literacy per se did not affect women's marriage behaviour, women who worked for the missionaries married significantly later in life and married men closer to their own age, signalling a shift in the power balance between parents and daughters and between husband and wife. On average, daughters of fathers deeply entrenched in the missionary movement had the highest chances to access wage employment, emphasizing the importance of paternal mission networks for Protestant women’s work outside the household during colonial times.


Public policy in relation to alcohol consumption is still a contested terrain in southern African cities characterised by a heavy-drinking culture that tends to manifest itself in the form of shebeens. Many such cities have well-known histories of colonial regulation that aimed to control alcohol production and consumption around African towns. This article analyses another socio-political trajectory that has been unfolding in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe’s second city, which is known for its widespread shebeen operations. Since independence in 1980, politicians and a range of civic/residents’ associations in the city have campaigned for the legalisation of shebeens. In particular, shebeens have been defended as necessary to address lack of economic opportunity in the city, as institutions that should be celebrated because of their supportive role during the nationalist era, as offering alternative, more respectable, drinking venues than beer halls for the middle class, and as part of an urban African tradition that should be celebrated in independent Zimbabwe. Some of these leaders have also argued that Matabeleland Province in which Bulawayo is located, which is dominated by the Ndebele-speaking people and other minorities, is being marginalised and sidelined in the allocation of financial resources for development because of ethnic bias and
regionalism. This article, based on archival, newspaper and interview sources, argues that these unique campaigns by Bulawayo's politicians are embedded in the intricate politics of regionalism and ethnicity. The shebeen campaigns mask the articulation of broader dissent against both central and local government authorities, who remain opposed to shebeen operations.


A. Mugera and A. Ojede. Technical Efficiency in African Agriculture: Is it Catching Up or Lagging Behind?

This article uses recent advances in data envelopment analysis, bootstrap data envelopment analysis, to investigate whether technical efficiency in the agricultural sector of 33 African countries improved (catching up) for the period 1966–2001. We also investigate whether there is evidence of efficiency catching-up within the five regions of Central, Eastern, Western, Northern and Southern Africa. Overall, the results show no evidence for efficiency catching-up in the entire sample. However, efficiency differed across countries and regions with evidence of catching-up within the East African countries. Our analyses point to the need for policies that improve technological uptake in African agriculture. Copyright © 2013 John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.


This article explores achievements and shortfalls in the development of national educational policy in Zambia since independence, with a focus on the relationship between education and employment, as part of the economic planning process. It draws on primary and secondary research related to national school enrolments, academic progression and educational finance, as well as contemporary trends in labour force participation. I argue that while the formulation of education policy and its implementation since independence have demonstrated deeper awareness of and commitment to expanding educational access and quality, Zambia's education system has yet to utilise educational policy directly and more effectively to strengthen linkages between schooling and employment. This phenomenon is observed particularly in the formal employment sector. Ultimately, transformative educational and economic opportunities for the majority of Zambians are unlikely in the absence of more targeted initiatives to address issues of educational attainment after basic education, as well as formal employment opportunities beyond the public sphere.

Laura Panza and Jeffrey G. Williamson. Did Muhammad Ali Foster Industrialization in Early Nineteenth-century Egypt?

Muhammad Ali, who ruled Egypt between 1805 and 1849, intervened in Egyptian markets in an attempt to foster industrialization, especially between 1812 and 1840. Like a modern marketing board, the state purchased agricultural commodities (cotton and wheat) at low prices and sold them on world markets at much higher prices, a policy equivalent to an export tax. Ali also replaced tax farming with his own land taxes. The revenues so derived were used in part to finance manufacturing investment and to build irrigation canals. In addition, Ali supplied flax and cotton at those cheap purchase prices to domestic textile manufacturing, thus subsidizing the industry. He also used non-tariff barriers to exclude foreign competition from domestic markets. Were Ali's state-led policies successful in fostering industry? The answer is no easier to extract from this phase of Egyptian history than from that of other poor countries at that time. This is because Egypt faced the same terms of trade boom typical of most poor commodity exporters, which was causing de-industrialization everywhere else in the poor periphery. Ali picked a very difficult time to pursue his agenda, but we show that his policies were successful.


Iva Peša. ‘We Have Killed This Animal Together, May I Also Have a Share?’ Local–National Political Dynamics in Mwinilunga District, Zambia, 1950s–1970s

Zambian political history has been viewed predominantly through the prism of the national, by focusing on high politics, official ideology and Big Men. The local level equally has to be taken into consideration, as local forces and interests have shaped the translation of national politics in the everyday lives of voters. Moreover, considering the local context can facilitate an understanding of national politics itself. Through the case of Mwinilunga District, the dynamics of the local–national interplay before and after independence will be examined. What were the origins, motives and long-term implications of political opposition in the area? This article analyses the personal objectives behind political agitation, the role of chiefs as mediators between politicians and the population, geopolitical connections to Angola and Congo, and the contrast between postcolonial development policies and local claims of neglect. Paradoxically, understanding local opposition can shed light on the appeal of UNIP’s broad nationalist coalition in other parts of Zambia.


Klas Rönnbäck. Climate, conflicts, and variations in prices on pre-colonial West African markets for staple crops

Very little is known about the dynamics of pre-colonial markets in Africa. This article presents a new set of data series on the pre-colonial price of staple crops on the Gold Coast. Six hypotheses for the behaviour of market prices, found in the previous literature, are tested in this article. The results show conclusively that market prices did respond to shifts in demand and supply, for example, from climate-induced scarcity, or to external shocks such as war. It
is argued that the markets studied seem to have functioned remarkably well, given the socio-economic and political context in which they were operating.


**Klas Rönnbäck. Living standards on the pre-colonial Gold Coast: a quantitative estimate of African laborers’ welfare ratios**

This paper is an attempt to estimate living standards on the pre-colonial Gold Coast (in current-day Ghana) quantitatively, looking at the welfare ratios of indigenous laborers – in particular canoemen – working for the British Royal African Company in the early eighteenth century. This is the first time such a study has been undertaken for an indigenous population in any part and period of pre-colonial Africa. The data indicate that living standards were at least on a par with those in many other parts of the world, including large parts of Asia and Southern and Eastern Europe. No large gap in material affluence between the Gold Coast of West Africa and most of the rest of the world seems to have developed by this time.


**Gilbert Tarugarira. A comparative analysis of the post-colonial culture and democratization processes in Kenya and Zimbabwe to 2012**

During the past four decades, no international political phenomenon has been more significant than the worldwide call and expansion of democratic governance. Holding elections in almost all of Africa has turned out to be a norm. Clearly observable has been a gradual evolution of democratic institutions and consolidation of democratic practices. The prospects for fostering democracy in Kenya and Zimbabwe have taken domestic and foreign-induced efforts. The basis of comparison between the two countries appears evident and tempting in a number of ways. Diagnoses of the causes of Kenya and Zimbabwe’s ailments might vary spectacularly but human rights activists have accused the governments of bullying opponents in the name of preventing enemies of the state from destabilizing the nations. The presidency continued to acquire too much power. The fear that an iron grip was slowly being applied to the nations led to a steady stream of criticism of the governments with intellectuals, professionals and the churches being vocal in condemning what they felt was an erosion of human rights. A political culture which encapsulates violence, intimidation and detention of the opposition, manipulation of both the constitution and electoral processes in favour of incumbents ultimately leading towards the consolidation of dictatorial tendencies emerges from analyzing the trends of these two countries. Even though the political experiences have not all been the same, commonalities have existed.

Julia Tischler. Cementing Uneven Development: The Central African Federation and the Kariba Dam Scheme

Using the Kariba dam project as a case study, this article examines some of the biases and interdependencies of development planning in 1950s Northern Rhodesia in order to consider Zambia's trajectory into independence. The Kariba dam, a highly controversial hydro-electricity scheme in the short-lived Central African Federation, crystallises the ambivalent practices of building nations – materially, politically and ideologically. Colonial imbalances of development planning, most notably its 'urban bias', were bound to have a profound effect on the postcolonial period. I illustrate this, first with regard to Kariba's materiality. Given that infrastructures remain long after the planners and decision-makers leave, one must explore their potential for pre-structuring social change, including some types of change and excluding others. Secondly, Kariba is a prime example of the priorities in development politics that characterised both the colonial and postcolonial eras, particularly the neglect of rural populations in remote areas. At a more ideological level, the final section discusses how the dam project was contested by nationalist leaders and the resettled Gwembe Tonga peasants, drawing out the intricacies and ambiguities involved in ‘resisting’ a large-scale development project that promised to bring ‘light and power for a nation’.


Working Papers

Oana Borcan, Ola Olsson and Louis Putterman. State History and Economic Development: Evidence from Six Millennia

All since the rise of the first civilizations, economic development has been closely intertwined with the evolution of states. In this paper, we contribute to the literature on state history and long-run economic development in four ways. First, we extend and complete the state history index from Bockstette, Chanda and Putterman (2002) by coding the experience with states from the first state origins, 3500 BCE, up until 2000 CE. Second, we explore empirically the relationship between time since transition to agriculture and state age, as well as subsequent state history. Our estimated unconditional correlation implies that a 1000 year earlier transition to agriculture is associated with a 470 years earlier emergence of state institutions. We show how this relationship differs between indigenously- and externally- originated states. Third, we show that the relationship between our extended state history index and current ! levels of economic development has the shape of an inverted u. The results reflect the fact that countries that were home to the oldest states, such as Iraq, Egypt and China, are poorer today than younger inheritors of their civilizations, such as Germany, Denmark and Japan. This pattern was already in place by 1500 CE and is robust to adjusting for migrations during the colonial era. Finally, we demonstrate a very close relationship between state formation and the adoption of writing.
Denis Cogneau and Yannick Dupraz. Questionable Inference on the Power of Pre-Colonial Institutions in Africa

In their paper “Pre-Colonial Ethnic Institutions and Contemporary African Development” [Econometrica 81(1): 113-152], Stelios Michalopoulos and Elias Papaioannou claim that they document a strong relationship between pre-colonial political centralization and regional development, by combining Murdock’s ethnographic atlas (1967) with light density at night measures at the local level. We argue that their estimates do not properly take into account population effects. Among lowly populated areas, luminosity is dominated by noise, so that with linear specifications the coefficient of population density is biased downwards. We reveal that the identification of the effect of ethnic centralization very much relies on these areas. We implement a variety of models where the effect of population density is non-linear, and/or where the bounded or truncated nature of luminosity is taken into account. We conclude that the impact of ethnic-level political centralization on development is all contained in its long-term correlation with population density. We also abstract from the luminosity-population nexus by analyzing survey data for 33 countries. We show that individual-level outcomes like access to utilities, education, asset ownership etc. are not correlated with ethnic-level political centralization.


Taryn Dinkelman and Martine Mariotti. Does labor migration affect human capital in the long run? Evidence from Malawi

Circular labor migration within and across national borders is a central feature of labor markets across Africa, and yet little is known about impacts on sending communities. This paper estimates the net effects of labor migration on long run human capital accumulation in Malawi. Malawi is one of many labor reservoirs in the region that historically supplied workers to South African mines, and where the potential for children to substitute for missing male labor is large. We study the effects of large circular migration shocks generated by two events in this country: the removal of labor migration quotas in 1967, and a ban on mine labor in 1974. We use proximity to historic mine recruiting stations to capture spatial variation in exposure to the resulting expansion and contraction of foreign employment. Using newly digitized Census data, we compare differences in educational attainment across high and low migration shock areas, among adult cohorts eligible and ineligible for primary school between 1967 and 1977. Both expansion and contraction of labor migration had large, positive and lasting impacts on education of those left behind. Age eligible cohorts with the greatest exposure to migration shocks gain 0.08 to 0.135 more years of schooling and are 2 to 3 percentage points more likely to have ever attended school. These positive effects of labor migration income are significantly smaller where local agricultural production offered more opportunity for child labor.
Frederick Golooba-Mutebi. Politics, political settlements and social change in post-colonial Rwanda

Until 1994 Rwanda's post-colonial history was marked by episodes of political violence, attempted wars, and wars of different durations. Feeding the violence was the absence of an elite consensus about how best to take Rwanda forward after colonial rule ended, the rules for doing so, and the roles to be played by the holders and losers of power. This paper explores key aspects of Rwanda’s political evolution from independence to-date. The critical stages are the events popularly known as the 1959 social revolution that preceded independence in 1962; the period from 1962 to the overthrow of Kayibanda's First Republic in 1973; from the Habyarimana-led military coup to 1994; and the Rwanda Patriotic Front led post-genocide period. The paper examines the different political coalitions that have ruled the country since independence, their impact on political stability and their role in catalysing or influencing the cycles of turmoil with which it is associated. In the case of the current coalition, this paper also provides a glimpse into the efforts they have made to promote the wellbeing of ordinary Rwandans. It first charts the historical origins and the current state of drivers of instability and elite fragmentation. It then identifies the nature of interactions between drivers of instability and political settlements over time, and their impact on governance and the pursuit of development.


Steven Kyle. How Important Was Marxism for the Development of Mozambique and Angola?

Mozambique and Angola both had nominally Marxist governments after independence in 1975. This paper discusses the extent to which this may have had an effect on development policies in subsequent years. The conclusion is that while there may have been some influence, the colonial history and material conditions of the countries had a far greater impact than did the ideological affiliations of ruling parties.


Mario Mansour. A Tax Revenue Dataset for Sub-Saharan Africa: 1980-2010

This paper presents a unique tax revenue dataset for Sub-Saharan Africa, which main innovation is the level of detail it provides about tax revenue sources for a large number of countries (41) and over a long time period (1980-2010). The paper describes how the dataset was constructed, identifying along the way problem areas in tax revenue statistics in Sub-Saharan Africa and possible improvements. A graphical analysis highlights revenue
performance over time and across three dimensions: income levels, the relative importance of tax revenue from extractive industries, and trading groups (free-trade areas and customs unions). The dataset, available at www.ferdi.fr, should be useful to a wide range of users and researchers, including academics, tax policy practitioners and advisers, and revenue and customs administrations.


Kostadis J. Papaioannou. Climate Shocks and Conflict: Evidence from colonial Nigeria

This paper offers a historical micro-level analysis of the impact of climatic shocks on the incidence of conflict in colonial Nigeria (1912–1945). Primary historical sources on court cases, prisoners and homicides are used to construct an index of socio-political conflict using principal component analysis and measure climatic shocks through deviations from long-term rainfall patterns in a nonlinear (U-shaped) relation, capturing both drought and excessive rainfall. We find a robust and significant relationship between rainfall deviations and conflict intensity, which tends to be stronger in agro-ecological zones that are least resilient to climatic variability (such as Guinean savannah) and where (pre-) colonial political structures were less centralized. We find tentative evidence that the relationship is weaker in areas that specialize in the production of export crops (such as cocoa and palm oil) compared to subsistence farming areas, suggesting that agricultural diversification acts as an insurance mechanism against the whims of nature. Additional historical information on food shortages, crop-price spikes and outbreaks of violence is used to explore the climate–conflict connection in greater detail.


The colonial legacy of African underdevelopment is widely debated but hard to document. We use occupational statistics from Protestant marriage registers of historical Kampala to investigate the hypothesis that African gender inequality and female disempowerment are rooted in colonial times. We find that the arrival of Europeans in Uganda ignited a century-long transformation of Kampala involving a gender Kuznets curve. Men rapidly acquired literacy and quickly found their way into white-collar (high-status) employment in the wage economy built by the Europeans. Women took somewhat longer to obtain literacy and considerably longer to enter into white-collar and waged work. This led to increased gender inequality during the first half of the colonial period. But gender inequality gradually declined during the latter half of the colonial era, and after Uganda’s independence in 1962 its level was not significantly different from that of pre-colonial times. Our data support Boserup’s view that gender inequality was rooted in native social norms: daughters of African men who worked in the traditional, informal economy were less well educated, less frequently
employed in formal work, and more often subjected to marital gender inequality than daughters of men employed in the modernized, formal economy created by the Europeans.


UPCOMING EVENTS IN AFRICAN ECONOMIC HISTORY

UNU-WIDER Development Conference 2014: Call for Papers
Conference name: Inequality - measurement, trends, impacts, and policy
5-6 September 2014

Many low- and middle-income countries are achieving good rates of economic growth, but high inequality remains a priority concern. Some countries meanwhile have low growth, high inequality, and pervasive poverty—often linked to their fragility. There is now an active debate on whether countries should set themselves goals for not only achieving absolute poverty reduction, but also lower inequality. But policy action needs to be better served by analysis and data.

The UNU-WIDER Development Conference ‘Inequality – measurement, trends, impact, and policies’ focuses in exploring the latest developments in the measurement of inequality in income, wealth, and human development, drawing also on advances in measurements in the advanced economies. It will also examine what we know about trends in inequality and discuss the impact of inequality on development, and the impact of development on inequality. And as the global development debate moves from the Millennium Development Goals to the post-2015 development agenda, the conference will draw out the implications of inequality for development policy and poverty reduction.

Additional Information: please visit http://www.wider.unu.edu/events/2014-conferences/en_GB/inequality_2014_09/

Fourth European Congress on World and Global History
4-7 September 2014

Under the theme “Encounters, Circulations and Conflicts" the next ENIUGH congress seeks to:
• Challenge the problematic opposition of centres and peripheries, which is still influential in historical research,
• Analyse the multitude of places and centres from where history is written and the plurality of the languages in which historical artefacts are conveyed
• Stimulate a discussion on the meaning and relevance of relations, comparisons, transfers, and entanglements between states, peoples, communities, and individuals in a ‘long durée’ perspective
• Address the destructive effects of international and global connectivity, given the centenary of the beginning of the First World War
• and to integrate the historical interactions between man and environment, including cultural and economic processes as well as the various aspects of material and social life.

Generally, our intention is to transcend the confines of national history writing. While the majority of the contributions deals with particular historical subjects, some concentrate on questions of theory and methodology. In addition to the panels in the thematic sessions, roundtables and special events offer room for joint discussions. We look forward to welcoming to Paris historians interested in transnational and global history, from Europe as well as from non-European countries, and representing various disciplines involved in the field, ranging from political science to archeology, from economic to art history.


Additional information: Please visit http://www.uni-leipzig.de/~eniugh/congress/programme/

Uppsala, Sweden 26-27 September 2014
Misbehaving States and Behaving Citizens? Questions of Governance in African States
Keynote Speakers: Dr Mo Ibrahim and Dr Morten Jerven

The Nordic Africa Days (NAD) is the biannual conference of the Nordic Africa Institute organised for the past 15 years in the Nordic Countries, with participants representing the state of the art in African Studies and Africa related knowledge production. The Nordic Africa Days 2014 has a thematic focus on different assumptions of governance. It cuts across research topics covering most African developments and processes, including, but not restricted to, conflict, security and democratic transformations; rural and agrarian changes, properties and resources; urban dynamics; and African international links in the global world. It is thus clearly multidisciplinary. This theme goes beyond the common reading of governance in political science or international relations. It aims to connect the formal state with other non-state forms of governance. Often, the state is discussed as an evil entity preying on its ethical citizens. Citizens are then described as the victims of state power. But are states not run by the same people that, looking at it from the opposite angle, are viewed as victims? The conference is particularly inviting panels discussing governance in different ways. The suggested panels should not just be looking at the state structures and sub-national government levels, but also at the formulation and governance in alternative structures such as ethnic and religious groups and socio-economic networks, which may at times compete and at times cooperate with state orchestrated governance. Contributions focusing on measuring and assessing governance and discussing criteria for governance and leadership are also especially encouraged. Although NAD 2014 has a special focus on the topic of governance it is thematically open and proposals for panels within other subject areas are welcome as well. PhD candidates and other young scholars are strongly
encouraged to participate in the conference. The conference aims to be a forum for academic exchange and intellectual development, where contributions from a new generation of researchers are important and welcome. The conference also provides a venue for dialogue between Africa specialists within academic and policy arenas.

Additional information: Please visit http://www.nai.uu.se/events/nad-2014/#

African Economic Development over the Long Run  
London School of Economics and Political Science  
25-26 October, 2014

Recent efforts to link current development outcomes with historical events such as colonialism and the slave trade have been criticized for ignoring the dynamics of long periods of Africa's past. In response to this criticism, a growing body of research has endeavored to track African economic performance over time using measures such as historical national accounts and real wages. At the same time, work focusing on the development of African institutions has studied instances of continuity and change at critical periods of transition, including the beginning and end of the colonial period.

The workshop aims to bring together PhD students, early career researchers and established scholars in African economic history to present work in progress in a supportive environment. Papers will address the question of African economic performance in the long run, either through new methods of measurement or new contributions to the understanding of individual periods of African history.

The workshop is hosted by the Economic History Department at the London School of Economics and Political Science with the support of the Economic History Society.


Additional information: Please visit http://aehworkshop2014.weebly.com/ or contact Dr Leigh Gardner, Department of Economic History, London School of Economics and Political Science l.a.gardner@lse.ac.uk

57th Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association  
RETHINKING VIOLENCE, RECONSTRUCTION, AND RECONCILIATION  
JW Marriott Indianapolis Hotel, Indianapolis, IN  
November 20-23, 2014

Violence has long been at the center of African Studies. We encounter its presence whether we study conflict, poverty or representations of the continent and its diaspora in literature, media, and popular opinion. Africa has seen protracted conflicts as well as creative efforts at reconstruction and reconciliation that offer the wider world models of working through traumatic pasts. Scholars across disciplines have called attention to the importance of
understanding violence and the changing nature of conflict as well as the efforts of people, communities and organizations to rebuild civil society, including novel forms of witnessing and memorialization. They have called for the study of forms of conflict generated by extractive industries, non-governmental actors, and neoliberal economic policies. And, crucially, they have raised powerful questions around the study of the structural (silent) violence of poverty, including its relationship to military conflict and to the broader forces shaping the continent.

The 57th Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association offers a unique opportunity for scholars across diverse fields to critically examine the locations of violence in Africa’s past, present and future, and the creative responses to these forms and sites of violence, including new opportunities for reconstruction. We look forward to panels exploring the ways in which violence has been conceptualized, from Fanonian ideas of revolutionary resistance to genocide, and the forms of responses these may have generated in and outside the African continent; the emergence of new types and patterns of violence, including terrorism, and their connection to local, regional, and global forces; and to reflect on the narratives and other forms of artistic expression that have emerged from these times and how these may have evolved over the years.

Program Chairs
Odile Cazenave, Boston University
Clifton Crais, Emory University

Local Arrangements Committee
Bessie House-Soremekun, Indiana University-Purdue University
Maria Grosz-Ngate, Indiana University

Inquiries: ASameeting2014@gmail.com. You can follow the ASA on Twitter, @ASAOnline and follow our Annual Meeting page on LinkedIn for updates and announcements for the 2014 Annual Meeting.

OPPORTUNITIES IN AFRICAN ECONOMIC HISTORY

University of Basel
Professorship in Urban Anthropology (with a thematic focus on Africa)

The University of Basel, Switzerland, invites applications for a full time tenure track or tenured Professorship in Urban Anthropology (with a thematic focus on Africa) at the assistant, associate, or full professor level.
We are seeking candidates with an internationally recognised research and teaching record in social or cultural anthropology or a neighbouring discipline. The candidate should be specialized in the social articulation of and aesthetic practice in urban spaces, particularly in African contexts, and be able to apply a reflected comparative approach to the study of urban spaces.

The University of Basel is establishing this position within a new interdisciplinary MSc program in Urban and Landscape Studies. The successful candidate will collaborate with colleagues from anthropology, geography, art history, and further disciplines in designing this program and participate in PhD programs. He or she will also contribute to developing architectural and social science competences at the University of Basel, especially within the frame of a collaboration with the University of Cape Town, South Africa.

Required is a doctorate in social or cultural anthropology, African Studies, sociology or neighbouring disciplines. Teaching experience to support research and Master-level students is expected. Experience in empirical research is a desideratum.

Responsibilities include teaching duties, student supervision and support, Master degree examinations, involvement in the research groups, and limited administrative tasks. Rank and salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

The position will begin August 1, 2015.

To ensure that your application is given full consideration, all necessary files should be submitted by September 15, 2014. Applications must be sent electronically to: urban@unibas.ch

Deadline to apply: 15 September 2014

Additional Information: Please contact Dr. Amrita Zahir (amrita.zahir@unibas.ch), Prof. Dr. Till Förster (till.foerster@unibas.ch)

University of British Columbia
Assistant Professor, African History

Assistant Professor, African History

The Department of History at the University of British Columbia (Vancouver) invites applications for a tenure-track position as an assistant professor in the field of African history, effective 1 July 2015. The search committee invites applicants working in all fields and periods of African history except North Africa/Maghreb. We are looking for candidates whose research and interests will complement and enhance those of our current faculty. One such example would be a focus on the pre-modern period.

Candidates must possess a Ph.D. (or provide solid indication of imminent completion), and they should provide evidence of excellence in research, as demonstrated by their published contributions or by potential contributions to the scholarship of their field. The successful candidate will be expected to teach a 12-credit (2-2) load, and thus a strong commitment to teaching excellence at the undergraduate as well as graduate level also is required. In addition to offering courses within his or her area of specialization, the successful candidate

www.aehnetwork.org
will have the opportunity to contribute to the university’s interdisciplinary undergraduate program in African Studies. For further information on the academic programs of the UBC history department, candidates should visit the departmental website, www.history.ubc.ca, as well as its page on “Research Clusters,” http://www.history.ubc.ca/clusters/thematic.

UBC hires on the basis of merit and is strongly committed to employment equity and diversity within its community. We especially welcome applications from visible minority group members, women, aboriginal persons, persons with disabilities, persons of minority sexual orientations and gender identities, and others with the skills and knowledge to engage productively with diverse communities. We encourage all qualified persons to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents of Canada will be given priority.

This position is subject to final budgetary approval, and the salary will be commensurate with the qualifications and experience of the successful candidate.

The closing date for the receipt of applications is 15 September 2014. Applicants must apply only through the UBC faculty careers website, www.facultycareers.ubc.ca/18779 and they must upload (in the following order): a cover letter or letter of application, a curriculum vitae, a summary of current and future research interests, no more than three samples of their written scholarship, and evidence of teaching effectiveness. Only completed applications will be considered by the search committee; in this matter, there can be no exceptions.

The applicants also should arrange to have three confidential letters of reference sent by email to Ms. Janet Mui, the coordinator of the search, at janet.mui@ubc.ca. Alternatively, the letters of reference may be mailed to: Ms. Janet Mui, African History Search, Department of History, University of British Columbia, #1297-1873 East Mall, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1, Canada. Questions may be directed to the chair of the search committee, Prof. Paul Krause, krause@mail.ubc.ca.

Deadline to apply: 15 September 2014
Additional Information: Please contact Prof. Paul Krause, krause@mail.ubc.ca

Brown University

Assistant Professor, African History

The department of History at Brown University invites applications for a tenure-track appointment at the rank of Assistant Professor in the area of African history. Research interests may be in any region exclusive of Lusophone or Anglophone southern Africa. The successful candidate will be able to offer graduate and undergraduate courses that cross regional and chronological divisions. The appointment will begin on July 1, 2015 or as soon as possible thereafter. Ph.D. or equivalent is required by time of appointment.

Interested candidates should send a letter of application, curriculum vitae, and three letters of reference via Interfolio https://apply.interfolio.com/25172 Queries may be addressed to Nancy J. Jacobs, Chair, African History Search, at Nancy_Jacobs@brown.edu. Review of applications will begin October 1, 2014. To ensure full consideration applications should submit materials by that date. Brown University is committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive academic global community; as an EEO/AA employer, Brown considers applicants
Arizona State University, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies
Assistant Professor, History of Capitalism and Political Economy

The School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies (SHPRS) at Arizona State University invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor specializing in the history of capitalism and political economy in Europe and/or the United States, from the 18th century to the present. Anticipated start date: August 2015. In addition being a member of the School's history faculty, the successful candidate will be affiliated with the Center for Political Thought and Leadership at ASU, working closely with colleagues in program development and advancing the Center's involvement in the wider community in Phoenix and Arizona.

**Required qualifications:**

- Ph.D. in History or an appropriately adjacent field, specializing in the history of capitalism and political economy in Europe and/or the United States, 18th-century to the present, at the time of appointment.

**Desired qualifications:**

- Broad command of the economic, political, and intellectual history of capitalism and political economy, in modern Europe and/or the United States
- Demonstrated ability to teach introductory, upper-division, and graduate courses in the above fields, as evidenced in cover letter and CV
- Research focus on (a) the relations between free-market institutions and political liberty in modern history; (b) on the contribution of economic theories and ideologies to the formation of public policy related to major sectors of modern economies such as industry, healthcare, housing education and related topics; or (c) on the intellectual history of the leading normative principles of modern political economy—economic freedom, growth and efficiency; distributive justice; political liberty, and constitutionalism.

To apply, submit the following application materials: 1) curriculum vitae; 2) contact information (name, address, email) for three references and 3) a cover letter stating qualifications, experience, accomplished research and future research plans, and teaching interests. The application should be submitted as a single pdf to shprsjobs@asu.edu with “Assistant Professor-History, Job #10823” in the subject line. Application deadline is September 30, 2014; if not filled, reviews will occur every two weeks thereafter until search is closed. Background check is required for employment.

**Deadline to apply:** 30 September 2014

**Additional Information:** Please visit [http://shprs.clas.asu.edu/](http://shprs.clas.asu.edu/)

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**for employment without regard to, and does not discriminate on the basis of, gender, race, protected veteran status, disability, or any other legally protected status.**

**Deadline to apply:** 29 September 2014

**Additional Information:** Please contact Nancy_Jacobs@brown.edu
University of California -- Riverside, Department of History
Assistant Professor in African History, Tenure track position

The Department of History at the University of California, Riverside, invites applications for a tenure track position at the Assistant Professor level in African History. We seek candidates specializing in sub-Saharan Africa in any period after 1400 CE, with particular interest in scholars who address the history of Africa and Africans in innovative regional, global or comparative contexts. Appointment begins July 1, 2015, with salary commensurate with education and experience. Desired qualifications: Ph.D. in History or a relevant field; documented research record and strong agenda for future research; evidence of teaching excellence and mentoring experience. We welcome candidates who also participate in the dissemination of historical knowledge to broader publics via diverse channels. To apply: Applicants must use UCR’s online portal [https://aprecruit.ucr.edu/apply/JPF00197] to submit the following material: cover letter; curriculum vitae; three letters of recommendation; writing sample. Evidence of teaching and mentoring should be submitted if available. Letters and inquiries should be addressed to: Professor J.P. Brennan, Chair, Search Committee, Department of History, University of California, Riverside, at james.brennan@ucr.edu. Review of applications will begin on November 5, 2014, and continue until the position is filled. The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

Deadline to apply: 30 June 2015
Additional Information: Please visit http://www.history.ucr.edu/ or contact James P. Brennan at james.brennan@ucr.edu

Rice University, Department of History
Assistant Professor of African History

Assistant Professor of African History

The History Department at Rice University seeks a historian of Africa at the rank of assistant professor. Open to all periods and subfields. Applicants must have received the Ph.D., or fulfilled the requirements for the Ph.D., by 1 November of the year employment commences, in History or a related field.

The successful candidate will conduct high-quality research, participate in both the undergraduate and graduate programs, and contribute service. A 2-2 course load is standard. Rice University is located in Houston, Texas.

The deadline for submitting applications is 15 October 2014. Applicants should send a letter of application, a sample article-length publication or dissertation chapter, and c.v., and arrange for three letters of reference to be sent, all to this address: African History Search Committee, Department of History MS-42, Rice University, P.O. Box 1892, Houston, Texas 77251-1892, USA. Electronic submissions welcome via hist@rice.edu. Rice University is an
Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Minorities, women, and international scholars are encouraged to apply.

**Deadline to apply:** 15 October 2014

**Additional Information:** Please visit [http://history.rice.edu/](http://history.rice.edu/) or contact Beverly Konzem at konzem@rice.edu

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**Texas A&M University -- College Station, The Bush School of Government and Public Service**

**Tenure-track Assistant Professor or Advanced Assistant Professor in International Development and Economic Policy**

The Department of International Affairs in The Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University invites applications and nominations for a tenure-track assistant professor or advanced assistant professor in the field of international development and economic policy (IDEP). Successful applicants should have a Ph.D. by the beginning of employment in September, 2015 and demonstrate evidence of a commitment to excellence in research and teaching. Candidates must have a PhD in Economics, Political Science, Sociology or a related discipline. The individual selected will teach in the Quantitative Methods sequence of courses and other IDEP courses, and must demonstrate a strong commitment to research in the context of a public policy graduate school environment. Possible research areas might include but are not limited to micro-finance, global health, immigration, political economy of development, poverty and social welfare, and international trade. Academic affiliation with the Norman Borlaug Institute for International Agriculture and/or the Conflict and Development Center at Texas A&M University is possible if interested. Individuals with expertise in developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America are especially encouraged to apply.

Applicants should send a formal letter of interest that includes reference to the relevant position, a curriculum vitae, three letters of recommendation and a samples of written work to:

Professor Gregory Gause  
c/o Ms. Janeen Wood (preferably as electronic attachments to bushschoolmpia-facultysearch@tamu.edu)

The Bush School of Government & Public Service  
Texas A&M University  
4220 TAMU  
College Station, TX 77843-4220

The review of applications will begin on October 1, 2014 and continue until the position is filled.
Deadline to apply: until filled
Additional Information: Please visit http://bush.tamu.edu.

Bucknell University
Open Rank, Tenure-Track, Professor of History of Modern Sub-Saharan Africa

The Department of History and the Department of International Relations at Bucknell University seek a historian of Modern Sub-Saharan Africa for a full-time, tenure-track, joint appointment to begin in July 2015. This is an open-rank search.

The successful candidate's scholarship and teaching must operate from within the historical experience of Sub-Saharan Africa. She or he will teach undergraduate courses in history and international relations on the history of Modern Africa in general, courses on more specialized topics in history and international relations, and courses in her/his area of research or regional specialization. The candidate should have a Ph.D. in History at time of application and a commitment to diversity. Exceptional candidates may be eligible for a MacArthur Professorship in History, which would include guaranteed research funding for five years.

The Department of History offers courses on a variety of regions and historical themes, and its major requires students to explore history broadly. The Department of International Relations is composed of faculty representing different disciplines and offers a carefully constructed, multidisciplinary major in international relations.

Submit a letter of application; a curriculum vitae; a teaching portfolio; a statement of research; a sample of scholarship; and, three letters of recommendation. Review of applications will begin on October 17, 2014. The position is open until filled.

Applications are only accepted through Interfolio ByCommittee. Please go to http://apply.interfolio.com/25503 to apply.

Deadline to apply: 30 October 2014
Additional Information: Please visit http://www.Click2Apply.net/j3h9gqh

University of the South, International and Global Studies
Assistant Professor of International and Global Studies

The International and Global Studies (IGS) program at Sewanee: The University of the South invites applications for two tenure-track assistant professorships to begin August 2015. We seek candidates who demonstrate a strong commitment to teaching and research on global issues such as the capitalist world system, media and the arts, migration, postcoloniality, social movements, urbanization, or youth cultures, with a preference for individuals who work on the Middle East, Africa or South or Central Asia. Candidates in any social science or humanities field are encouraged to apply.
IGS is a growing interdisciplinary program dedicated to the study of global issues from a variety of regional, transnational, and theoretical perspectives. The selected candidates will be expected to offer classes in their areas of expertise as well as to teach core courses in the program.

The University of the South comprises a highly-regarded College of Arts and Sciences and a distinguished School of Theology. It is an institution of the Episcopal Church that welcomes individuals of all backgrounds. It is located on a striking, 13,00-acre campus on Tennessee’s Cumberland Plateau within driving distance of Nashville and Chattanooga.

**Deadline to apply:** 9 November 2014  
**Additional Information:** Please visit [http://www.sewanee.edu](http://www.sewanee.edu)