

AFRICAN ECONOMIC HISTORY NEWSLETTER ISSUE #8 JULY, 2013

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 aehtnetwork@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 aehtnetwork@gmail.com and we will include your news in our bi-monthly round up.

Best regards,
The African Economic History Network

News and Announcements

The 5th European Conference on African Studies

The fifth European Conference on African Studies (ECAS 5) will take place in Lisbon, Portugal, on June 27 to 29, 2013. It is organized by the [Centro de Estudos Africanos - Instituto Universitário de Lisboa](#) (Center of African Studies of the University Institute of Lisbon) on behalf of [AEGIS](#), the Africa-Europe Group for Interdisciplinary Studies. Its general theme will be 'African Dynamics in a Multipolar World'. The panels include scholars from all over the world from different disciplines and methodological approaches. The list of panels is available [here](#).

African Economic History Conference Papers 2013

The conference on **African Economic Development: Measuring Success and Failure** and the 4th meeting of the Network was held at Simon Fraser University, Vancouver on 18-20 April 2013. Over the course of the event, the following three themes were discussed: evaluating the data base, historical perspectives, and sources and methods in analysing long term African economic development. On April 19th, Morten Jerven launched his book [Poor Numbers. How We Are Misled by African Development Statistics and What to Do](#) about it, followed by A.G. Hopkins' keynote speech on New African Economic History the next day.

The papers are available on the [conference website](#).

Working Papers Series

The network has published a new working paper. The new working paper as well as previous papers can be found [here](#).

Erik Green, 2013. "The economics of slavery in 18th century Cape Colony: Revising the Nieboer-Domar hypothesis", *African Economic History Network Working Paper No 9*. Download here: [AEHNWP 9](#).

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

Ọmọade Adunbi. Mythic Oil: Resources, Belonging and the Politics of Claim Making Among the Ịlàjẹ Yorùbá of Nigeria

This article examines the genealogies of the Ịlàjẹ and the narrative of belonging that reinforces claims to ownership of land and natural resources such as oil. The article maps how oil flow stations, pipelines and platforms have come to represent an ancestral promise of wealth to many members of Ịlàjẹ communities. This claim making is embedded in a mythic origin that continuously reinforces a distinct identity that projects an imagined community connected to the Yorùbá of southwest Nigeria as well as the oil-rich Niger Delta region. While many scholars have studied the myth of origin of the Yorùbá, in most cases focusing on rituals and political imagination that intersect with linguistic evidence in determining Yorùbá identity, these scholars have often neglected the centrality of these myths to oil resources. Thus, I investigate how the Ịlàjẹ narrative of belonging creates its own specificity of 'ownership' of natural resources through ritual performances connected to migration and dispersal of subject populations. I examine how such narratives create spaces of opportunity for the organization of protests against multinational oil corporations and the Nigerian state.

Ọmọade Adunbi, 2013. ["Mythic Oil: Resources, Belonging and the Politics of Claim Making Among the Ịlàjẹ Yorùbá of Nigeria"](#), *Africa: The Journal of the International African Institute*, 83 (2): 293-313.

Alicia Campos-Serrano. Extraction Offshore, Politics Inshore, and the Role of the State in Equatorial Guinea

Recent economic and socio-political dynamics in the territories that form Equatorial Guinea are related, in different ways, to the extraction of hydrocarbons from its Exclusive Economic Zone since the mid-1990s. These transformations are strongly mediated by specific social groups, especially the family that has held power since 1968 and transnational oil companies, whose relationships are central to the exclusive political configuration in the country. The article analyses this particular form of extraversion of power as part of a broader history of the region, in which the role of the state's sovereignty as articulated during decolonization is shown to be instrumental in the allocation of rights and the political economy of oil today. The article also discusses the spaces that the new political economy of oil has opened for alternative transnational connections around the country.

Alicia Campos-Serrano, 2013. ["Extraction Offshore, Politics Inshore, and the Role of the State in Equatorial Guinea"](#), *Africa: The Journal of the International African Institute*, 83 (2): 314-339.

James Ferguson. Declarations of dependence: labour, personhood, and welfare in southern Africa

Dependence on others has often figured, in liberal thought, as the opposite of freedom. But the political anthropology of southern Africa has long recognized relations of social dependence as the very foundation of polities and persons alike. Reflecting on a long

regional history of dependence 'as a mode of action' allows a new perspective on certain contemporary practices that appear to what we may call 'the emancipatory liberal mind' simply as lamentable manifestations of a reactionary and retrograde yearning for paternalism and inequality. Instead, this article argues that such practices are an entirely contemporary response to the historically novel emergence of a social world where people, long understood (under both pre-capitalist and early capitalist social systems) as scarce and valuable, have instead become seen as lacking value, and in surplus. Implications are drawn for contemporary politics and policy, in a world where both labour and forms of social membership based upon it are of diminishing value, and where social assistance and the various cash transfers associated with it are of increasing significance.

James Ferguson, 2013. "[Declarations of dependence: labour, personhood, and welfare in southern Africa](#)", *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institut*, 19 (2): 223-242.

Johan Fourie. The remarkable wealth of the Dutch Cape Colony: measurements from eighteenth-century probate inventories

How comfortable was the life of the average settler in the Dutch Cape Colony of the eighteenth century? The generally accepted view is of a poor, subsistence economy, with little progress being made in the 143 years of Dutch rule (1652–1795). This article shows that new evidence from probate inventory and auction roll records contradicts earlier historical accounts. These documents bear witness to a relatively affluent settler society, comparable to some of the most prosperous regions of eighteenth-century England and Holland. This detailed picture of the material wealth of the Colony should inspire a revision of the standard accounts. The causes and consequences of this prosperity are also considered briefly.

Johan Fourie, 2013. "[The remarkable wealth of the Dutch Cape Colony: measurements from eighteenth-century probate inventories](#)", *The Economic History Review*, 66 (2): 419-448.

Hyacinth Eme Ichoku, William M. Fonta and John E. Ataguba. Political Economy and History: Making Sense of Health Financing in Sub-Saharan Africa

This paper demonstrates that fundamental to lack of progress towards universal coverage in sub-Saharan Africa is an elitist post-colonial political economy that dominates the social organisation in the sub-region. Too often, it seems that analyses of these issues ignore history and take no or little account of these post-colonial influences that today still have a bearing on policy in various sectors, especially in health care. We conclude that the achievement of this objective has to be a long-term process but one that cannot forget history. Various influences are, however, already moving societies in the right direction.

Hyacinth Eme Ichoku, William M. Fonta and John E. Ataguba, 2013. "[Political Economy and History: Making Sense of Health Financing in Sub-Saharan Africa](#)", *Journal of International Development*, 25 (3): 297-309.

Kelfala M. Kallen. Growth Empirics: Evidence from Sierra Leone

In this paper, I use a novel approach to estimate Sierra Leone's aggregate capital stock from gross fixed investment and depreciation. Using Johanssen's maximum-likelihood

cointegration methodology, I then estimate the parameters of the country's long-run per capita aggregate production function. Thereafter, the sources of economic growth are calculated, the key finding being that economic growth in post-independence Sierra Leone has been propelled by mostly capital accumulation. The implications of this capital-driven growth on poverty reduction and income distribution are then discussed. Policy recommendations for how to simultaneously promote economic growth and improve the living standard of the average Sierra Leonean are also provided.

Kelfala M. Kallen, 2013. "[Growth Empirics: Evidence from Sierra Leone](#)", *African Development Review*, 25 (2): 215-230.

Alice N. Sindzingre. The ambivalent impact of commodities: Structural change or status quo in Sub-Saharan Africa?

Sub-Saharan African economies have been exposed to major global changes, in particular a long cycle of increase in commodity prices since the early-2000s, the growth of emerging countries, which are key drivers of high commodity prices and have become significant trade and investment partners, and since 2008, recession in their traditional export markets. These changes may generate structural transformation, hence requiring a reconceptualisation of the integration of Sub-Saharan Africa into the world economy. China is a major trade partner and investor in commodities, industrial sectors and infrastructures in Sub-Saharan Africa. Will this trade and investment pattern preserve the status quo and entrenchment of market and export structures characterised by the pre-eminence of commodities? Or, in improving governments' fiscal space, will it foster opportunities for structural change? It is argued that it is the presence of 'developmental' political economies that, in the end, creates opportunities for diversification, industrialisation and structural transformation.

Alice N. Sindzingre, 2013. "[The ambivalent impact of commodities: Structural change or status quo in Sub-Saharan Africa?](#)", *South African Journal of International Affairs*, 20 (1): 23-55.

Randy J. Sparks. Gold Coast Merchant Families, Pawning, and the Eighteenth-Century British Slave Trade

Elite African merchants accessed credit from European traders through a system known as pawning. Indigenous to Africa, the system required African traders to place family members, usually their sons, in the hands of Europeans as security for the trade goods advanced to them. Pawns could also be used to guarantee the fulfillment of diplomatic agreements. Under the system of pawning practiced by African and British traders on the eighteenth-century Gold Coast, if the African merchants did not return with the required number of slaves by a given date, then their children were considered slaves and could be sold off the coast. Generally, everyone involved tried to avoid that drastic measure, but some unscrupulous captains kidnapped pawns, an act that could have disastrous consequences for the conduct of the trade. Africans might respond by closing the trade or by retaliating against any British traders who fell into their hands. For that reason, the British often worked to prevent that outcome or retrieved kidnapped pawns from the Americas and returned them to their families, often years after their enslavement. As a result of this system, British traders tried to understand the family relationships among their African counterparts, and they often developed close relationships with these family members that worked to further the trade.

The slave trade had significant family and class dimensions, and pawning illustrates how closely the trade was bound to larger social, political, and economic structures.

Randy J. Sparks, 2013. "[Gold Coast Merchant Families, Pawning, and the Eighteenth-Century British Slave Trade](#)", *The William and Mary Quarterly*, 70 (2): 317-340.

Working Papers

Achyuta Adhvaryu and James Fenske. War, Resilience and Political Engagement in Africa

We test whether early-life war exposure influences later-life political engagement in Africa. We combine data on the location and intensity of conflicts since 1954 with nationally representative data on political attitudes and behaviors from 17 sub-Saharan African countries. Exposure from ages 0 to 14 has a very small (standardized) impact on later attitudes and behaviors. Our results are robust to migration, and hold across several definitions, specifications, and sources of data. Our results are consistent with recent studies demonstrating that, on average, individuals and localities recover quickly from the destructive effects of conflict, though those most exposed experience large and prolonged effects.

Achyuta Adhvaryu and James Fenske, 2013. "[War, Resilience and Political Engagement in Africa](#)", *Economics Series Working Papers* No WPS/2013-08.

Robin Burgess, Remi Jedwab, Edward Miguel, Ameet Morjaria, and Gerard Miquel. The Value of Democracy: Evidence from Road Building in Kenya

Ethnic favoritism is often seen as antithetical to economic development. This paper provides credible quantification of the extent of ethnic favoritism using data on road building in Kenyan districts across the 1963-2011 period. It then examines whether the transition in and out of democracy under the same president constrains or exacerbates ethnic favoritism. We construct a model where political leaders favor co-ethnics in order to secure their support and maximize rent extraction, under the constraints imposed by different political regimes. Across the 1963 to 2011 period, we find strong evidence of ethnic favoritism: districts that share the ethnicity of the president receive twice as much expenditure on roads and have four times the length of paved roads built. This favoritism disappears during periods of democracy. Democratic change in Kenya mirrors the pattern seen across Sub-Saharan Africa. Our results suggest that democracy has value in imposing constraints on the executive and may be a factor in understanding the recent resurgence of economic growth in Africa.

Robin Burgess, Remi Jedwab, Edward Miguel, Ameet Morjaria and Gerard Miquel, 2013. "[The Value of Democracy: Evidence from Road Building in Kenya](#)".

Estian Calitz, Stan du Plessis and Krige Siebrits. Fiscal sustainability in South Africa: Will history repeat itself?

Several empirical studies have found that fiscal policy has been sustainable in South Africa since 1960. This paper complements these studies by providing perspective on the manner in which fiscal sustainability was maintained. It discusses two episodes of significant increases and one period of substantial reduction in the public debt burden to show that periods of rising deficits and government debt in South Africa were followed by returns to sustainable levels, thereby preventing major domestic economic crises and external interventions. The paper also provides a projection of the fiscal outlook for South Africa based on a structural VAR model. The results suggest that the discretionary fiscal decisions of 2007 to 2010 might pose a serious threat to the sustainability of fiscal policy unless the authorities respond as they did in the past by checking large budget deficits and concomitant rapid increases in the public debt burden promptly.

Estian Calitz, Stan du Plessis and Krige Siebrits, 2013. "[Fiscal sustainability in South Africa: Will history repeat itself?](#)", *Stellenbosch Working Paper Series No. WP07/2013*.

James Fenske and Vellore Arthi. Labour and Health in Colonial Nigeria

We examine the determinants of time allocation and child labour in a year-long panel of time-use data from colonial Nigeria. Using quantitative and ethnographic approaches, we show that health shocks imposed time costs on individuals. Whether individuals could recruit substitutes depended on social standing, urgency of work, and type of illness. Child labour did not systematically respond to temporary parental illness, but could replace a permanently disabled adult. Child labour was coordinated with parental work, aided childcare, and allowed children to build skills and resources. These decisions can be understood within an endogenous bargaining power framework with labour complementarities.

James Fenske and Vellore Arthi, 2013. "[Labour and Health in Colonial Nigeria](#)", *Economic Series Working Papers Discussion Paper Number 114*.

James Fenske and Namrata Kala. Climate, ecosystem resilience and the slave trade

African societies exported more slaves in colder years. Lower temperatures reduced mortality and raised agricultural yields, lowering slave supply costs. Our results help explain African participation in the slave trade, which predicts adverse outcomes today. We use an annual panel of African temperatures and port-level slave exports to show that exports declined when local temperatures were warmer than normal. This result is strongest where African ecosystems are least resilient to climate change. Cold weather shocks at the peak of the slave trade predict lower economic activity today. We support our interpretation using the histories of Whydah, Benguela, and Mozambique.

James Fenske and Namrata Kala, 2013. "[Climate, ecosystem resilience and the slave trade](#)", *Centre for Economic Policy Research Discussion Paper 9449*.

Johan Fourie, Robert Ross and Russel Viljoen. Literacy at South African Mission Stations

Measures of education quality – primarily, years of schooling or literacy rates – are widely used to ascertain the contribution of human capital formation to long-run economic growth and development. This paper, using a census of 4,678 mission station residents, documents for the first time literacy and numeracy rates of non-white citizens in nineteenth-century South Africa. The 1849 census allows for an investigation into how the mission stations influenced the growth of literacy in the Cape Colony. We find that age, gender, duration of residence, whether the individual arrived at the station after the emancipation of slaves or was born there and, importantly, which missionary society was operating the station, matter for literacy performance. The results offer new insights into the comparative performance of missionary societies in South Africa and contribute to the debate about the role of missionary societies in the development of a colonial society.

Johan Fourie, Robert Ross and Russel Viljoen, 2013. ["Literacy at South African Mission Stations"](#), *Stellenbosch Working Paper Series No. WP06/2013*.

Erik Green. The economics of slavery in 18th century Cape Colony: Revising the Nieboer-Domar hypothesis

The Nieboer–Domar hypothesis has proved to be a powerful tool to identify the economic conditions under which slavery is more likely to emerge as a dominant form of labour. It states that in cases of land abundance and labour shortages the use of slavery was more likely to become a vital alternative to increase production. These conditions have been identified for large parts of pre-colonial and partly colonial Africa. The hypothesis has, however, not remained uncontested. Scholars have criticized it on both theoretical and empirical grounds. This paper discusses the validity of the Nieboer– Domar hypothesis using the eighteenth-century Cape Colony as our point of departure. We show that the hypothesis partly holds but needs modified. First, slavery emerged as an urban phenomenon. Second, the use of slaves increased parallel with other forms of labour and the role of slaves can only be understood in relation to a wide range of existing labour contracts. Once established, slavery came to play a significant role in facilitating increased production on the settler farms in the 18th century. Capacity for surplus production was the key factor, but why slaves became a major form of labour was partly a consequence of its' pre-existence in the urban areas and partly how it be combine slavery with other forms of labour.

Erik Green, 2013. ["The economics of slavery in 18th century Cape Colony: Revising the Nieboer-Domar hypothesis"](#), *African Economic History Network Working Paper No 9*.

J.Veronon Henderson, Mark Roberts and Adam Storeygard. Is Urbanization in Sub-Saharan Africa Different?

In the past dozen years, a literature has developed arguing that urbanization has unfolded differently in post-independence Sub-Saharan Africa than in the rest of the developing world, with implications for African economic growth overall. While African countries are more urbanized than other countries at comparable levels of income, it is well-recognized that total

and sector gross domestic product data are of very low quality, especially in Africa. When instead viewed from the perspective of effective technology, as suggested in endogenous growth frameworks (and as proxied by educational attainment), the African urbanization experience overall matches global patterns. There are differences, however, at the sector level. Agricultural trade effects that improve farm prices deter African urbanization, while they promote urbanization elsewhere. Potential reasons include differences in land ownership institutions and the likelihood of agricultural surpluses being invested in urban production. Positive shocks to modern manufacturing spur urbanization in the rest of the developing world, but effects are dependent on the level of development. Thus many countries in Africa, with their lower level of development, do not respond to these shocks. Finally, historical indicators of the potential for good institutions promote urbanization both inside and outside Africa.

J. Veronon Henderson, Mark Roberts and Adam Storeygard, 2013. ["Is Urbanization in Sub-Saharan Africa Different?"](#), *The World Bank Development Research Group, Policy Research Working Paper 6481*

Benjamin Marx, Thomas M. Stoker, and Tavneet Suri. The Political Economy of Ethnicity and Property Rights in Slums: Evidence from Kenya

We show that ethnic patronage and informal property rights provide an avenue for rent extraction in Kenyan slums. As is common across slums in the developing world, most households in our area of study have a landlord and pay a rent for their dwelling. Our identification relies on the exogenous appointment of local chiefs governing the area. We find that rents are higher, and investments lower, when the landlord and the chief belong to the same tribe, and the opposite when the tenant and the chief belong to the same tribe. These effects are stronger for households in areas with arguably weaker property rights. We interpret this as evidence that ethnic networks interact with the nature of property rights in the slum to determine rents and investment. A landlord and a chief are more likely to collude and extract rents from tenants if they belong to the same tribe, and a chief is more likely to side with a tenant against a landlord if he and the tenant belong to the same tribe. We provide several robustness checks to support these results.

Benjamin Marx, Thomas M. Stoker, and Tavneet Suri, 2013. ["The Political Economy of Ethnicity and Property Rights in Slums: Evidence from Kenya"](#), *Innovation for Poverty Action and MIT Sloan School of Management*.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN AFRICAN ECONOMIC HISTORY

Call for papers: Crossroads in African Studies Conference 4-6 September 2013

The conference 'Crossroads in African Studies', will take place in Birmingham on 4-6 September 2013. This Conference will coincide with CWAS's fiftieth anniversary and will launch a new annual lectures series, the Fage Lectures, named after CWAS founder Professor John Fage. To mark the occasion, the first Fage Lecture will be a double event focusing on Africa's role in the world economy in the longue durée, and featuring two lectures by Professor Gareth Austin (CWAS alumnus and currently Professor of International History at the Graduate Institute, Geneva) and Professor A.G. Hopkins (former Lecturer in African Studies at CWAS, and currently Walter Prescott Webb Professor of History and Ideas at the University of Texas at Austin).

Additional Information: please visit

<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/historycultures/departments/cwas/events/2013/fifty/calls.aspx>

Colonial and Postcolonial Urban Planning in Africa Lisbon, Portugal 5-6 September 2013

The Conference – Colonial and Postcolonial Urban Planning in Africa – aims to re-examine the history of colonial urban planning in Africa and its legacies in the post-independence period, to learn from contemporary African scholarship, and to discuss how postcolonial urban planning cultures can actually address these urban challenges and contribute effectively for the development of sustainable cities in Africa.

The Conference will explore two key themes in the history of urban planning in Africa:

- Theme I - 19th and 20th Century Colonial Urban Planning in Africa
- Theme II - Postcolonial Urban Planning in Africa.

We welcome country and cross-country approaches, studies of individual cities, and the comparison of African cities with one another.

Additional Information: please visit <https://sites.google.com/site/cpcup2013conference/>

Economic History Association 2013 Annual Meeting Washington D.C 20-22 September 2013

The Program Committee (Stephen Broadberry, London School of Economics (chair), together with Chris Meissner, Peter Coclanis, and Carol Shiue) welcomes submissions on all subjects in economic history, though some preference will be given to papers that specifically fit the theme. Papers should be submitted individually, but authors may suggest to the Committee that three particular papers fit well together in a panel.

Papers should in all cases be works in progress rather than accepted or published work. Submitters should let the program committee know at the time of application if the paper they are proposing has already been submitted for publication. Individuals who presented or co-authored a paper given at the 2012 meeting are not eligible for inclusion in the 2013 program.

Graduate students are encouraged to attend the meeting. The Association offers subsidies for travel, hotel, registration, and meals, including a special graduate student dinner. A poster session welcomes work from dissertations in progress. Applications for the poster session are due no later than 21 May 2013 online: <https://www.eh.net/eha/node/add/posters>. The poster submission system will open on March 1, 2013. The dissertation session convened by Ian Keay (Queen's University) and Dan Bogart (UC Irvine) will honor six dissertations completed during the 2012-2013 academic year. The submission deadline is June 11, 2013. The Alexander Gerschenkron and Allan Nevins prizes will be awarded to the best dissertations on non-North American and North American topics respectively.

Additional Information: please visit <http://eh.net/eha/meetings/2013-meeting> or contact Meetings Coordinator Jari Eloranta at: elorantaj@appstate.edu.

Call for papers: ECONOMIC HISTORY OF DEVELOPING REGIONS SPECIAL ISSUE: THE ECONOMICS OF APARTHEID

Deadline: November 30, 2013

ECONOMIC HISTORY OF DEVELOPING REGIONS SPECIAL ISSUE: THE ECONOMICS OF APARTHEID
Apartheid remains a contentious issue. Its political, social and economic causes remain open to debate; its consequences a popular vindication for the slow speed of convergence between white and black incomes nineteen years after South Africa became a democracy. Building on the 9th ERSA Workshop, this special issue hopes to attract high quality contributions that use new data sources, techniques and results on the economic causes, characteristics and consequences of South Africa's apartheid regime.

Contributions should not exceed 8000 words and should adhere to the normal journal guidelines. As is standard practice, each submission will be reviewed by two anonymous referees. All submissions should be submitted to Johan Fourie (johanf@sun.ac.za) before November 30, 2013.

The 8th 'New Frontiers in African Economic History' Workshop "Inequality and economic development in Africa in historical perspectives" Department of Economic History, Lund University 6-7 December 2013

The relationship between economic development and economic growth is a fundamental question in economic history. A vast body of scholarly work argues that high levels of inequality are detrimental to long-term growth (e.g. Deininger and Olinto 1999; Barro 2000; North, Wallis and Weingast 2009; Acemoglu and Robinson 2012). However, as shown in world economic history the causality between economic growth and inequality is far from clear and varies over time (see Kuznets 1955, the Brenner debate 1976). Not only levels, but types of inequality matter. Questions such as who are the property holders, which sectors are they involved in, does the society contain a class of landless etc. are crucial for investigating the causal mechanisms between inequality and economic development. The conventional view in African economic history is that inequality was more widespread in commercial areas and settler colonies.

In the latter inequality created growth impeding institutions (e.g. Arrighi 1969, Bowden et al. 2008, Leander and Robinson 2012), while increased inequality in the commercial areas is seen as an outcome of the growth processes (e.g. Hopkins 1973, Mandala 1990). It thus looks as if the relationship between inequality and growth can be both positive and negative depending on the type of economy. We know very little about inequality in non-commercial areas, especially during the pre-colonial and colonial times (van de Walle, N., 2009). The 8th 'Frontiers in African Economic History' workshop aims at increasing our knowledge and understanding of inequality and economic development in Africa – past and present.

Theme 1: Inequality and economic development in Africa

The aim of the session is to fill our gap in knowledge about the origins and evolution of inequality and economic development in Africa. The workshop invites papers that discuss inequality and economic development in pre-colonial, colonial and post-colonial Africa, from a wide range of perspectives and geographical settings. We especially welcome papers that try to detect the causal mechanisms between inequality and economic development.

Theme 2: PhD-research

The aim of the session is to give an opportunity for PhD-students to discuss their research in progress with scholars with a vast and divergent experience of doing research in African economic history. We invite PhD-students to present their research in progress or their research ideas. We welcome all kinds of papers as long as they deal with African economic history.

Outcomes

In order to document the workshop and contribute to the debate more broadly, we are aiming to compile papers that have a particular focus on the relationship between inequality and growth into an edited volume or a special issue. We have contacted publishers and journals and will update the participants as the work proceeds.

Additional Information: please contact

Erik Green, Associate Professor (main organiser)
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Jens Andersson, PhD-student (assistant)
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The 13th African Studies Conference: “Society and Politics in Africa: Traditional, Transitional, and New” 27-29 May 2014

On May 27-29, 2014 in Moscow the Research Council for the Problems of African Countries and the Institute for African Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences hold the 13th African Studies Conference titled “Society and Politics in Africa: Traditional, Transitional, and New.” The Conference will take place at the Institute for African Studies and the Institute for Linguistics of the Russian Academy of Sciences. The working languages are Russian and English.

The conference registration fee in Russian rubles, equivalent to \$150 (\$75 in rubles for students) is to be paid in cash onsite upon arrival. The registration fee includes the visa application support (Official Invitation), the Conference Book of Abstracts, stationary items, reception and coffee-breaks. The fee for an accompanying person, equivalent to \$50 in rubles, includes the visa application support (Official Invitation) and reception.

The Organizing Committee can assist in booking accommodation, but independent reservation is encouraged. Please note that early hotel reservation is strongly recommended, as the Conference is to take place in tourist high season.

All the correspondence should be sent by e-mail for the Conference Organizing Committee, to the attention of Mrs. Natalia Bondar, Head, Center of Information and International Relations, Institute for African Studies (conf2014@gmail.com; tel.: [+ 7 495 690 2752](tel:+74956902752)) – prospective international participants, or to the attention of Dr. Natalia Zherlitsyna, Secretary, Research Council for the Problems of African Countries (ns_inafr@mail.ru; tel.: [+ 7 495 690 6025](tel:+74956906025)) – prospective Russian participants.

Additional Information: please visit <http://www.inafran.ru/en/node/148>

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES AND VACANCIES

University of Cape Town, Department of Historical Studies Lecturer/Senior Lecturer: Economic History

Applications are invited for an appointment at Senior Lecturer/Lecturer level in Economic History in the Department of Historical Studies. The Department is currently engaged in developing an innovative curriculum in Economic History at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels, principally but not exclusively, for Humanities students. Information on the courses currently available can be found at www.historicalstudies.uct.ac.za

Requirements:

A PhD in an area of Economic History (in the case of a Lecturer, close to completion of the PhD)
A track record in research and publication appropriate to the level applied for
Successful undergraduate teaching experience
Willingness to contribute to building collegiality in an environment based on team-work
Interest in developing new areas of the Economic History curriculum and research
An interest in the economic history of developing regions would be advantageous.

Responsibilities:

Contribute to the development of the Economic History curriculum including e.g. a graduate course on Methodology
Teach at undergraduate and postgraduate levels
Promote Economic History across the university
Supervise Economic History research
Undertake research in Economic History
Carry out administrative responsibilities at departmental level

Application process:

To apply, please e-mail the completed UCT Application form (HR201) and all other relevant documentation as indicated on the form, with the subject line "Lecturer/Senior Lecturer: Economic History" followed by the reference number to Ms Abigail van Sensie at abigail.vansensie@uct.ac.za

The form is available here: <http://web.uct.ac.za/depts/sapweb/forms/hr201.doc>

Deadline to apply: 28 June 2013

Additional Information: please visit <http://www.historicalstudies.uct.ac.za/>

**University of Pennsylvania, The Lauder Institute
Postdoctoral Researcher in East Asia or Africa**

This post-doctoral position involves undertaking research, coordinating teams of student-researchers, and teaching a small semester-long seminar. The stipend for the academic year will be \$42,000.

Minimum Requirements: (1) Completed PhD or doctorate by the time of appointment. (2) Field open to any social-science discipline, e.g. anthropology, economics, history, political science, or sociology. (3) Empirical research focus on either East Asia (preferably China or Japan), or Africa.

Preferred Qualifications: Fluency in foreign languages.

Documents Required: A brief letter summarizing the applicant's qualifications for the position, a current CV, and three letters of recommendation.

Deadline to apply: Applications will be considered beginning February 15, 2013.

Additional Information: please contact Director, Lauder Institute, c/o kanorton@wharton.upenn.edu or visit <http://lauder.wharton.upenn.edu/>

**University of Akron, History
Sub-Saharan African History**

The Department of History at the University of Akron invites applications for a tenure-track assistant professorship in Sub-Saharan African History, specialization open. Teaching responsibilities include courses in colonial and post-colonial African history (and possibly pre-colonial as well) and classes in field of specialty. The successful candidate will also contribute to the History Department's World Civilization program (teaching World Civ: Africa) and the Humanities program (teaching Humanities in the World, 1300-present), and will also be active in the university's Program in Pan-African Studies. Ph.D. in History or related field must be completed before the appointment start date. Must demonstrate (1) the ability to provide instructional excellence in undergraduate and graduate courses; (2) an active, strong, and compelling research agenda; (3) a commitment to department and university service; (4) a willingness to enhance the department's online/distance-learning course offerings. Ph.D. should be completed by June 15, 2013. Salary is commensurate with background and experience.

The Department of History at the University of Akron is a vibrant community of scholar-teachers, graduate students, and undergraduate majors. The department operates Master's and Ph.D. programs, and maintains a 4-million dollar endowment for scholarships for graduate and undergraduate students. Additional information about the department and its programs can be found at: <http://www.uakron.edu/history/> and on facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/UofAHistory>. The

University of Akron is a state-assisted metropolitan university in northeastern Ohio with approximately 29,000 students.

Deadline to apply: review of application begins on March 1, 2013

Additional Information: please visit <http://www.uakron.edu/jobs> (job ID# 7718)

Virginia Commonwealth University African History, Faculty

The Department of History at Virginia Commonwealth University seeks to hire on a nontenure track basis an assistant professor beginning August 2013 to teach courses in sub-Saharan African history. The candidate must be eligible to work in the United States. No particular regional specialty is required, but the ability to teach courses in West African history and Southern African history would be an asset. The candidate must also be able to teach general education and advanced undergraduate courses. Teaching experience required. MA degree required; Ph.D. or progress toward a Ph.D. degree is preferred. Demonstrated experience working in and fostering a diverse faculty, staff, and student environment or commitment to do so as a faculty member at VCU is a requirement.

Send letter of application, curriculum vitae, transcript, and three letters of recommendation electronically (kmmurphy@vcu.edu), followed by hard copies to Kathleen M. Murphy, VCU Department of History, P.O. Box 842001, Richmond, VA 23284-2001.

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until position is filled. Position is available pending budgetary approval.

Deadline to apply: 27 July 2013

Additional Information: please contact Kathleen M. Murphy at kmmurphy@vcu.edu

Robert S McNamara Fellowship Program

Grants of up to \$25,000 are available to young researchers from developing countries working on their doctoral thesis as visiting scholars through the RSM Fellowship Program .

They are specifically looking for doctoral candidates whose field of research for their master's degree was related to development in fields such as economics, health, education, agriculture, environment, natural resource management, or other development- related subject, among other criteria .

Research grants cover residence costs for a 5 to 10 month period in a renowned university or research center.

Deadline to apply: 31 July 2013

Additional Information: please visit <http://www.worldbank.org/wbi/scholarships/>

Zentrum Moderner Orient, Germany Research Positions (Post-doc/very limited Doctoral) from January 2014

ZMO announces the opening of a number of three-year positions for postdoc researchers and a very limited number of doctoral positions for the second phase of the current research programme,

conditional on the confirmation of funding. Depending on the development of the programme, an extension of up to three more years may be possible at a later stage.

Zentrum Moderner Orient (ZMO) in Berlin is an independent research center devoted to a multidisciplinary study on the history, societies and cultures of the Middle East, North and sub-Saharan Africa and South, Southeast and Central Asia from the eighteenth century to the present.

Its main research programme is funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research. ZMO hosts international researchers from different disciplinary perspectives. It focuses on investigating social actors' experiences and perceptions of translocal connections as well as influences and processes of transformation in the above-mentioned regions. In the frame of the current research programme "Muslim Worlds – World of Islam? Concepts, Practices and Crises of the global", Muslim social actors and their (non-Muslim) neighbours are at the centre of attention.

Research will be organized in the following thematic fields:

Progress and its Discontents studies concepts which aim at a transformation of individual and society, as well as actors who intend to realise them and the semiotic materiality that represents them. Projects that investigate progress as a social project and probe the resistance to, and the negotiation of, its multifarious intellectual, practical and symbolic imprint on culture and politics are welcome here.

The Politics of Resources investigates contested and changing ways of appropriating, accessing and using material resources. We invite projects which explore historical and contemporary processes of transformation through which specific matters (land, water, minerals, forest etc.) are valorized/devalued and 'turned into' resources, as well as practices that challenge, reject or accommodate these processes by specific social actors.

Trajectories of Lives and Knowledge analyses biographical pathways of individual actors, and how these intersect with education, knowledge and expertise. Projects which closely link intellectual history with the social history of their carriers by investigating the role of knowledge for living within a given social, historical, religious or regional context are intended here

Cities as Laboratories of Change explores the socio-political dynamics and transformations of urban life, notably the development of new practices and formation of new ideas. Projects focusing on urban development past, present and future, as well as on the problem of the constitution of urbanity with a particular view to the margins and hinterland of cities are particularly welcome.

Applicants should relate their project to one of the four working fields within the overall ZMO programme. Applications should include a CV, a 5-page research project outline (including a working plan with time frame and necessary fieldwork), and a cover letter stating the relevant thematic field. Successful applicants will be expected to reside in Berlin. Working language at ZMO is English. Applications should be sent until **August 11th, 2013** to Dr. Silke Nagel at Zentrum Moderner Orient, Kirchweg 33, D-14129 Berlin.

Deadline to apply: 11 August 2013

Additional Information: please visit

http://www.zmo.de/Ausschreibungen/Call_Research_Positions_2013.pdf or contact Dr. Nagel at silke.nagel@zmo.de.

Queen's University
Queen's National Scholar in African History

The Department of History at **QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY** invites applications from outstanding scholars for a faculty appointment at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor under the Queen's National Scholar (QNS) Program. Appointments under this program will be either tenured or tenure-track. Applicants are sought in the area of African History with a preferred emphasis on Islam or Muslim societies in Africa (whether sub-Saharan or North African) but applications in the general field of African History will be considered.

The successful candidate will exhibit strong potential for innovative and high quality scholarly research leading to peer assessed publications, as well as for outstanding teaching contributions and an ongoing commitment to academic and pedagogical excellence, in support of the Faculty's academic goals. The successful candidate will also be expected to make substantive contributions through service to the Faculty, to the University, and/or the broader community and will be expected to teach survey and thematic courses in the history of Africa south of the Sahara. The Queen's National Scholar Program expects that the successful candidate will have demonstrated their ability to provide a rich and rewarding learning experience to all their students and have developed a research program that aligns well with the University's priorities. Further information can be found at: <http://www.queensu.ca/secretariat/index/QUniversityAcademicPlanFinal2011.pdf> and <http://www.queensu.ca/vpr/SRP/SRPMay2012Final.pdf>.

The successful candidate must hold a PhD in History or a cognate discipline; academic training and practice in an allied discipline (e.g., anthropology, archaeology, or cultural studies) will be beneficial as will experience in on-line teaching and teaching World History. Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. The review of applications will begin on August 1, 2013 and will continue until the position is filled. The preferred starting date is July 1, 2014.

The academic staff at Queen's are governed by a collective agreement, the details of which are posted at: <http://www.queensu.ca/provost/faculty/facultyrelations/qufa/collectiveagreement.html>.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada will be given priority. The University invites applications from all qualified individuals. The University is committed to employment equity and diversity in the workplace and welcomes applications from women, visible minorities, Aboriginal peoples, persons with disabilities, and persons of any sexual orientation or gender identity.

Please send a letter of application, a curriculum vitae, a statement of current and prospective research interests, a statement of teaching experience, a teaching portfolio, copies of recent publications, and a minimum of three letters of reference, of which one must be at arm's length, to Dr. James Carson, Chair, Department of History, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario K7L 3N6. E-mail: jc35@queensu.ca.

Deadline to apply: 15 August 2013

Additional Information: please visit <http://www.queensu.ca/history/index.html>

Connecticut College, History Visiting Instructor/ Assistant Professor, African History

The Department of History at Connecticut College seeks to hire a visiting instructor or visiting assistant professor in African History to fill a one-year sabbatical replacement for 2013-2014. Teaching responsibilities include one introductory course per semester, if possible, or both an introductory and intermediate-level class in the spring term of 2014. Candidates with expertise in early African history (Africa before 1850) preferred, but other periods will be considered. Specialization open. PhD completed preferred, ABD considered.

Connecticut College is a private, highly selective institution with a demonstrated commitment to outstanding faculty teaching and research. Recognizing that intellectual vitality and diversity are inseparable, the College has embarked on a significantly successful initiative to diversify its faculty, student body and curriculum. The College seeks creative scholars excited about working in a liberal arts setting, with its strong focus on engaged teaching, participation in shared governance, and active involvement in an institution-wide advancement of diversity. Applications will be considered immediately and until the position is filled, no later than September 1, 2013.

Please send cover letter, c.v., and sample syllabi to Professor Monique Bedasse, Department of History, Connecticut College, 270 Mohegan Avenue, New London, CT 06320 or electronically to Monique.Bedasse@conncoll.edu

Deadline to apply: 16 August 2013

Additional Information: please visit <http://www.univjobs.com/college/ct-com.html>

The American University in Cairo African History

The History Department at the American University in Cairo invites applications for a one-year replacement position in Sub-Saharan African history (19th – 20th century), for academic year 2013-2014. Regional and thematic specializations are open but preference will be given to Africanists whose teaching interests include world history, especially modern Europe.

The successful candidate will teach six courses per year including surveys in colonial and postcolonial Africa as well as upper-division undergraduate courses in her or his field of specialization.

Requirements: ABD or PhD by September 1, 2013, with evidence of teaching experience.

Application Instructions:

All applicants must submit the following documents: a current C.V; a letter of interest; a statement of teaching philosophy; and a completed Personal Information Form.

Also, please ask at least three referees familiar with your professional background to send reference letters to hussref@aucegypt.edu

Deadline to apply: 16 August 2013

Additional Information: please visit <http://www.Click2Apply.net/gnwk68r>

The Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies The Harvard Academy Scholars Program 2014-2015

The Academy Scholars Program identifies and supports outstanding scholars at the start of their careers whose work combines disciplinary excellence in the social sciences (including history and law) with a command of the language, history, or culture of non-Western countries or regions. Their scholarship may elucidate domestic, comparative, or transnational issues, past or present.

The Academy Scholars are a select community of individuals with resourcefulness, initiative, curiosity, and originality, whose work in non-Western cultures or regions shows promise as a foundation for exceptional careers in major universities or international institutions. Harvard

Academy Scholarships are open only to recent PhD (or comparable professional school degree) recipients and doctoral candidates. Those still pursuing a PhD should have completed their routine training and be well along in the writing of their theses before applying to become Academy Scholars; those in possession of a PhD longer than 3 years at the time of application are ineligible.

Academy Scholars are appointed for 2 years by the Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies and are provided time, guidance, and access to Harvard University facilities. They receive substantial financial and research assistance to undertake sustained projects of research and/or acquire accessory training in their chosen fields and areas. Some teaching is permitted but not required. The Senior Scholars, a distinguished group of senior Harvard University faculty members, act as mentors to the Academy Scholars to help them achieve their intellectual potential.

Post-doctoral Academy Scholars will receive an annual stipend of \$65,000, and pre-doctoral Academy Scholars will receive an annual stipend of \$31,000. Applications for the 2014-2015 class of Academy Scholars are due by **October 1, 2013**. Finalist interviews will take place in Cambridge on **December 5**. Notification of Scholarships will be made in January, 2014.

Deadline to apply: 1 October 2013

Additional Information: please visit www.wcfia.harvard.edu/academy.

Wheaton College, History Assistant Professor, Asian or African History

The History Department of Wheaton College (IL) seeks to appoint a tenure-track, assistant professor in Asian or African history beginning August 2014. Ph.D. required. Applicants should be prepared to teach both survey and upper-division courses in their field(s) of expertise; additional teaching fields are a plus. Standard teaching load is 3/3. Wheaton seeks a gifted teacher/scholar who shares the ideals of Christian liberal arts education and who can communicate a love for history to bright, motivated undergraduates. The successful candidate will have evidence of potential in teaching, research, and publication. To be assured full consideration, please send a letter of interest and c.v. by October 15 to history@wheaton.edu, attention Tracy McKenzie, chair.

Deadline to apply: 15 October 2013

Additional Information: please visit www.wheaton.edu

Washington and Lee University, History Assistant Professor, Sub-Saharan African History

Sub-Saharan African History. The History Department of Washington and Lee University invites applications for a tenure-track assistant professorship in Sub-Saharan African history beginning September 2014. Period and area of specialization are open. The successful applicant will be expected to teach introductory surveys of African history and intermediate and advanced undergraduate courses related to their areas of specialization. They will participate as well in Washington and Lee's Africana Studies Program. The department requires successful completion of the Ph.D by June 2014.

Apply electronically at our portal: <http://jobs.wlu.edu/postings/1586>. After filling out a cover sheet, you will be prompted to upload a letter of application, resume, graduate transcripts, and three letters of recommendation (or a credentials file). Review of applications will begin November 1, 2013. Finalists will be interviewed at the AHA convention. Address your application letter (and any questions) to Professor David Bello (jobs@wlu.edu), Chair, African History Search Committee,

Department of History, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA 24450. Washington and Lee and the Department of History are interested in candidates committed to high standards of scholarship and professional activities, and to the development of a campus climate that supports equality and diversity among its faculty, staff, and students. The University is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Deadline to apply: 1 November 2013

Additional Information: please contact David Bello (jobs@wlu.edu) or visit <http://jobs.wlu.edu/postings/1586>

