

## Conference Announcement - Nordic Africa Days 2014

*Misbehaving States and Behaving Citizens?*

*Questions of Governance in African States*

**26-27 September 2014, Uppsala, Sweden**

**Organiser: The Nordic Africa Institute**

**Keynote Speakers:**

**Dr Mo Ibrahim and Dr Morten Jerven**

### **Call for Panels**

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.

### **Submission of Panel Proposals**

Panel abstracts should include a description of the topic not exceeding 300 words, list of potential presenters and titles of papers, as well as name and contact details of the panel organizer. Panel organizers are expected to be the chair of their panels and should present a paper. A person can only propose one panel and present one paper at the conference.

**Panel proposals should be submitted to [nad2014@nai.uu.se](mailto:nad2014@nai.uu.se) no later than 28 February 2014.**

### **Conference Registration**

The conference registration fee is EUR80 in general and EUR40 for registered students and participants with residence in Africa. Conference registration opens as of April 2014.

NAD 2014 conference web page: [www.nai.uu.se/events/nad-2014/](http://www.nai.uu.se/events/nad-2014/)