

History in Africa

A Journal of Debates,
Methods, and Source
Analysis

PUBLISHED ANNUALLY FOR THE AFRICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 45, 2018

History in Africa

A Journal of Debates, Methods, and Source Analysis

History in Africa: A Journal of Debates, Methods, and Source Analysis, focuses on historiographical and methodological concerns and publishes textual analysis and criticism, historiographical essays, bibliographical essays, archival reports and articles on the role of theory and non-historical data in historical investigation, is a journal of the African Studies Association, published by Cambridge University Press.

© African Studies Association, 2018. All rights reserved.

Subscription information

History in Africa (ISSN 0361-5413) is published annually in June by Cambridge University Press, One Liberty Plaza, New York, NY 10006. Annual subscription rates for Volume 45, 2018: Institutions, print and online: US \$262.00 in the U.S.A., Canada, and Mexico; UK £163.00 elsewhere. Institutions, online only: US \$217.00 in the U.S.A., Canada, and Mexico; UK £136.00 elsewhere.

Prices include postage.

For customers in North America

Email: subscriptions_newyork@cambridge.org; Phone (800) 872 7423, option 4

For customers outside of North America

Email: journals@cambridge.org; Phone +44 (0)1223 32 6070; Fax +44 (0)1223 32 5150

Manuscript submissions

Manuscripts should be sent electronically to Jan Jansen, the managing editor of *History in Africa*, at jansenj@fsw.leidenuniv.nl.

Advertising

To advertise in the journal please email USAAdSales@cambridge.org or telephone +1(212) 337 5053 in the USA, Canada, or Mexico; email ad_sales@cambridge.org or telephone +44 (1223) 325083 in the rest of the world.

Abstracting and indexing

Articles published in *History in Africa* are indexed by America: History and Life; Anthropological Index Online; ArticleFirst; Current Abstracts; Dietrich's Index to Philosophicus; Electronic Collections Online; Historical Abstracts (Online); Humanities Module; International Bibliography of the Social Sciences; IBZ- Internationale Bibliographie der Geistes- und Sozialwissenschaftlichen Zeitschriftenliteratur; Internationale Bibliographie der Rezensionen Geistes- und Sozialwissenschaftlicher Literatur; International Index to Black Periodicals; MLA International Bibliography; Periodica Islamica; PIO- Periodicals Index Online; Professional ProQuest Central; ProQuest 5000; ProQuest 5000 International; ProQuest Central; ProQuest Research Library; PubMed; RILM Abstracts of Music Literature; TOC Premier

Permissions: All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, in any form or by any means, electronic, photocopying, or otherwise, without permission in writing from Cambridge University Press. Policies, request forms and contacts are available at: <http://journals.cambridge.org/action/rightsAndPermissions>

Permission to copy (for users in the USA) is available from Copyright Clearance Center <http://www.copyright.com>, email info@copyright.com.

Reprints of individual articles may be ordered. For information on reprints, please contact Cambridge University Press.

Postmaster: Send address changes in the USA, Canada, and Mexico to: *History in Africa*, Cambridge University Press, Journals Fulfillment Department, One Liberty Plaza, New York, NY 10006. Send address changes elsewhere to *History in Africa*, Cambridge University Press, Journals Fulfillment Department, University Printing House, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8BS, England.

Cover: Cover design by Craig Malone. Cover image based on Bambara discharge-dyed mud cloth, from African Designs by Rebecca Jevell. A British Museum Pattern Book. London: British Museum Press, 1994, Plate 55. Used by permission.

Printed in the United States of America

History in Africa

A Journal of Debates, Methods,
and Source Analysis

VOLUME 45

2018

African Studies Association

Rutgers University
54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue
Piscataway, NJ 08854-8045 USA

History in Africa

A Journal of Debates, Methods, and Source Analysis

History in Africa- A Journal of Debates, Methods, and Source Analysis (HiA) is published annually (in June) for the African Studies Association by Cambridge University Press. *HiA* is an international, peer-reviewed academic journal that publishes original research and review essays on methodological and historiographical matters pertaining to African history. It has been at the forefront of critical discussion of these topics for more than four decades. It seeks submissions that suggest new methodological approaches, provide insights into source materials, and reflect critically on themes in existing literatures or emerging fields of inquiry. *HiA* is a venue for rigorous analysis of both established and emerging research practices as well as of the resulting scholarly production about the African past.

HiA does not pay authors for their manuscripts, nor does it provide retyping, drawing, or mounting of illustrations, or other such services. Those are the responsibility of the author. The editors reserve the right to reject or return for revision any material submitted on the grounds of inappropriate subject matter, quality, or because of nonconformity with this style guide.

Authors must recognize that they (and not the African Studies Association, nor the editors of *HiA*) are responsible for the content of their articles, for the accuracy of quotations and their correct attribution, for the legal right to publish any materials submitted, for the inclusion of mandatory acknowledgements and/or disclaimers, and for submitting their manuscripts in proper form for publication.

A manuscript submitted to *HiA* may not be under simultaneous consideration by any other journal or have been published elsewhere.

Format requirements are explained in the Style Guide published at the end of this volume.

Editors

Michel R. Doortmont
University of Groningen

John H. Hanson
Indiana University

Jan Jansen
Universiteit Leiden

Dmitri van den Berselaar
Universität Leipzig

History in Africa

Jan Jansen
Managing Editor

Pieter de la Court building, rm 3A36
Wassenaarseweg 52, 2333 AK
Leiden, The Netherlands
Tel: (+31) (0) 71 5273996
jansenj@fsw.leidenuniv.nl

Editorial Board

Mariana P. Candido *University of Notre Dame*

David C. Conrad *SUNY-Oswego*

David Henige *University of Wisconsin-Madison*

Shamil Jeppie *University of Cape Town*

Adam Jones *Universität Leipzig*

Lidwien Kapteijns *Wellesley College*

Robin Law *University of Stirling/University of Liverpool*

Katherine Luongo *Northeastern University*

Thomas C. McCaskie *University of Birmingham*

Joseph C. Miller *University of Virginia*

Carina E. Ray *Brandeis University*

Suzanne Schwarz *University of Worcester*

Michael Twaddle *University of London*

History in Africa

VOLUME 45, 2018

1 Editors' Introduction

Michel R. Doortmont, Jan Jansen, John H. Hanson,
Dmitri van den Berselaar

CRITICAL HISTORIOGRAPHY

5 The Challenge of Studying Inflation in Precolonial Africa

Klas Rönnbäck

19 The Challenge of Studying Inflation in Precolonial Africa

by Klas Rönnbäck – A Response

Toby Green

29 The Hidden History of the West African Wager: Or, How

Comparison with Ghana Made Côte d'Ivoire

Elisa Prosperetti

59 Where is My Name? – Contemporary Funeral Posters as

an Arena of Contestation and (Re)negotiation of Chiefly
Relations Among the Ewe of Ghana and Togo

Edem Adotey

71 "The War, like the Wicked Wand of a Wizard, Strikes Me and

Carry Away All that I Have Loved:" Soldiers' Family Lives and
Petition Writing in Ijebu, Southwestern Nigeria, 1943–1945

Oliver Coates

JAN VANSINA REMEMBERED

99 Crafting Early African Histories with Jan Vansina

David L. Schoenbrun

Published for the African Studies Association by Cambridge University Press

- 113 **Motion with Caution: Jan Vansina and the Last Two Thousand Years of the Southern African Past**
Shadreck Chirikure
- 131 **Words and Things and “The Kuba Miracle”**
Colleen E. Kriger
- 145 **Rivals No More: Jan Vansina, Precolonial African Historiography, and Archaeology**
Peter Robertshaw
- 161 **Compelling Vansina: Contributions to Early African History**
Kathryn M. de Luna

INSTITUTIONAL LIFE IN UGANDA

- 175 **Researching Institutional Life in Modern Uganda**
Katherine Bruce-Lockhart and Jonathon L. Earle
- 193 **Diplomatic Gifts: Rethinking Colonial Politics in Uganda through Objects**
Alison Bennett
- 221 **The Alur-ization of Aidan Southall – Contested Ethnonyms in North-Western Uganda**
Adrian J. Browne
- 245 **The Archival Afterlives of Prison Officers in Idi Amin’s Uganda: Writing Social Histories of the Postcolonial State**
Katherine Bruce-Lockhart
- 275 **Local Intellectuals: Lacito Okech and the Production of Knowledge in Colonial Acholiland**
Patrick W. Otim

TOWARDS MULTISPECIES HISTORY

- 307 **Introduction: Ethnic Formation with Other-Than-Human Beings**
David L. Schoenbrun and Jennifer L. Johnson

- 347 *Nabuzaana Omunozzi w'Eddagala*: Hearing Kiganda Ecology in the Music of *Kusamira* Ritual Healing Repertoires

Peter J. Hoesing

- 373 Political Activism and Other Life Forms in Colonial Buganda

Jonathon L. Earle

- 397 Ethnic Formation with Other-Than-Human Beings: Island Shrine Practice in Uganda's Long Eighteenth Century

David L. Schoenbrun

- 445 Fish, Family, and the Gendered Politics of Descent Along Uganda's Southern Littorals

Jennifer L. Johnson

ARCHIVAL REPORTS

- 473 American Evangelicals and African Politics: The Archives of the Fellowship Foundation, 1960s–1987

Nancy J. Jacobs

- 483 Kikongo in the High North: Swedish Sources on Moyen Congo

Manon Schouten

STYLE GUIDE