

African

Studies Review

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Amina Mama

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Christopher Wise

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Kenneth P. Lohrentz

Africana at the Center for Research Libraries: A Survey of Collections and Access

Review Essays

Book Reviews

African Studies Review

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From the Editors

Dear Colleagues,

This issue is the first of three currently in various stages of production scheduled to be published by Fall 1999. Due to the volatile political situation in Africa, and especially in Central Africa, and to publishing delays, several of the articles in this issue are of more historical interest than either we or their authors originally intended. We felt these to be of such high quality as to warrant publication even if subsequent events have cast some of the issues they raise in a slightly different light.

If we can keep to schedule we will be up to the date on the cover of the Fall issue and will finally be working in “real time”. We would like to thank our many colleagues who took time out of busy lives to review manuscripts and give us advice over the last year as we struggled to get the ASR on track. Many people, both here and elsewhere, have had input into the editorial process; we would especially like to thank Elliot Fratkin, Frank Holmquist, Leonce Ndikumana, and Sean Redding for their wisdom and help. Our office manager, Rita Reinke, deserves more credit than we can possibly give her in a sentence. We owe her much and thank her for her good work and advice.

Finally, a very warm thanks to all of you who have taken the time to submit manuscripts as well as to those who have participated in the review process. The quality of the manuscripts we have received and the reviews of these have been encouraging. We hope the *African Studies Review* can continue in a tradition of excellence, and with your help it can.

Ralph Faulkingham
Mitzi Goheen
Amherst MA
April 1999

Erratum. The French translation (résumé) for the abstract of Timothy Longman's essay that appeared on page 49 in the *African Studies Review*, volume 41, number 1 (April 1998) was not inserted correctly. The correct insertion follows:

Résumé: Les églises catholiques jouent un rôle très contradictoire dans les sociétés africaines, aidant à la fois la classe au pouvoir à maintenir sa domination sur les masses et les masses à résister contre la domination. Une analyse du Rwanda, du Burundi et du Congo révèle que diverses formations sociales rivalisent auprès des églises pour faire supporter leurs propres programmes. Au Rwanda, par exemple, aussi bien les supporters du génocide que ceux qui en sont les victimes ont reçu l'assistance des églises. Les églises n'ont aucune relation prédéterminée avec les structures du pouvoir, mais elles représentent d'importants lieux de contestation politique, un fait qui remet en question le point de vue selon lequel la société civile, au sein de laquelle les églises constituent un segment vital, sert nécessairement les intérêts de la société dans son ensemble.

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