

African

Studies

Review

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**Diane Ciekawy and
Peter Geschiere**

Containing Witchcraft: Conflicting
Scenarios in Postcolonial Africa

Birgit Meyer

The Power of Money: Politics,
Occult Forces, and Pentecostalism
in Ghana

Adam Ashforth

Reflections on Spiritual Insecurity
in Soweto

**Peter Geschiere and
Francis Nyamnjoh**

Witchcraft in the "Politics of
Belonging"

Isak A. Niehaus

The ANC's Dilemma: Three
Witch-Hunts in the South African
Lowveld

Diane Ciekawy

Witchcraft in Statecraft: Five
Technologies of Power in Coastal
Kenya

Cyprian F. Fisiy

Witchcraft Trials In Cameroon

Elias K. Bongmba

Toward a Hermeneutic of
Wimbum Tfu

Peter Pels

Reflections on a Western
Commonplace

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From the Editors

Two of the best attended sessions at the 1997 annual meeting of the African Studies Association in Columbus, Ohio focused on witchcraft in Africa. Several of the papers presented in those sessions have been selected and edited for this issue of the *ASR* by our guest editors Diane Ciekawy and Peter Geschiere, so that the subject of witchcraft may now have a wider audience.

The nine essays are more than we usually include for any issue of the *ASR*, and as a consequence, we have not included book reviews. Nonetheless, the three issues of Volume 42, now in production and scheduled to be sent to subscribers before the end of 1999, will include all the book reviews received in our offices as of August 1, 1999.

We are pleased with the strong support we have received from the Executive Board of the African Studies Association, allowing us to hire Ella Kusnetz to edit the manuscripts we accept for publication. Rita Reinke, who worked heroically as our office manager for the past two years, is now fulfilling her long-time ambition of practicing historical archaeology. Rita has been replaced by Debbie Rotman, a UMass graduate student in anthropology, who like Rita, came to the job with an abundance of administrative experience and savvy.

We continue to be enormously grateful for the external peer reviews our manuscripts have received. The strength and quality of the *ASR* continues to depend most on the thoughtful, detailed, and constructive reviews sent in by hundreds of Africanists from around the world. Even when we decide not to accept a manuscript for publication, we send its author the comments from our peer reviewers, and almost always the author writes back expressing appreciation for the constructive feedback.

We have been able to find peer reviewers for nearly all the manuscripts we have received to date, and we continue to welcome new submissions.

Ralph Faulkingham
Mitzi Goheen
Amherst MA
August 1999

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