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Luttes de conceptions pour l'accès à l'eau potable entre collectivités locales et ONG internationales au Bénin

Morgane Anziani-Vente

Lors de la mise en place de projets d'accès à l'eau potable, les collectivités locales béninoises et les ONG internationales doivent travailler ensemble. Cependant, elles ont des conceptions du développement différentes et des ressources incomparables, ce qui suscite des rapports de pouvoir que cette recherche souhaite mettre en lumière.



Réparation d'un forage à Sô-Ava, 2013

Questions de recherche

Comment les collectivités locales et les ONG internationales influencent-elles la mise en place des projets et la gestion des infrastructures d'accès à l'eau potable ?

De quels capitaux disposent les collectivités locales pour influencer la réalisation des projets ?

Quelles formes prennent les *waterscapes* en fonction des différentes influences ?

Importance du projet de recherche

La thèse met en lumière les relations de pouvoir autour des projets d'accès à l'eau potable et offre une analyse critique de la mise en place de ces derniers.



Localisation des cas d'étude au Bénin

Approches théoriques

La théorie de l'action de Pierre Bourdieu permet de conceptualiser ces rapports de pouvoir qui prennent la forme de luttes entre acteurs dans le champ du pouvoir pour la reconnaissance de leur capital symbolique comme « principe de domination légitime » et ainsi influencer la réalisation du projet d'accès à l'eau potable. L'écologie politique de l'eau permet d'étudier l'influence de ces relations de pouvoir sur les *waterscapes* locaux.

Méthodes

Trois projets d'accès à l'eau potable seront comparés :

- Le PCSEN dirigé par Emmaüs International dans la commune de Sô-Ava
- Le Projet QualiEau mis en place par Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation dans la commune de Nikki
- Le Projet ACCES géré par CareFrance dans les communes de Nikki et d'Akpro-Missérété.

La récolte des données se fera grâce à des entretiens, à l'observation et au recueil de données secondaires.

Les données récoltées seront traitées grâce à une analyse de contenu.



Usagère et fontainier à Sô-Ava, 2013

Directeurs : Pr. O. Graefe et Pr. M. Doeverspeck
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SSEA/octobre 2014

Potentials for Sustainable Biomass Fuel Production in East Africa: Assessment of the Rural-Urban Areas of Kitui and Moshi

Background

In East Africa wood-based biomass is today the prime source of cooking energy for about 90% of rural and low-income urban households and the absolute number of consumers of wood-based energy will further increase over the next fifteen years.

The current patterns of consumption are often unsustainable leading to local and regional deforestation, environmental degradation and wood fuel scarcity. Demographic developments are expected to further increase the environmental pressure, to intensify the resource use competition and to reinforce existing dependencies between urban and surrounding rural areas.

Policies, however, have often neglected the dominant role of wood-based biomass. As a consequence, there is a lack of adequate data and tools supporting decision-making for sustainable biomass energy strategies at the subnational level.



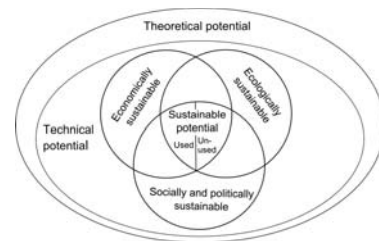
Objective

The objective of this research project is to assess the potential for sustainable biomass cooking fuel production in two Eastern African cities and their surrounding areas considering resource demand trade-offs and different biomass energy scenarios until 2030. The leading research questions are:

- What is the theoretical biophysical potential for producing different biomass fuels in these areas?
- What are the trade-offs between biomass fuel production and the provision of other ecosystem goods and services?
- What is the potential in the case study areas for sustainably producing different biomass fuels?

Research approach

The research is conducted in Moshi (Tanzania) and Kitui (Kenya) and is mainly based on spatially explicit modelling using Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and statistical methods. The required data is obtained through remote sensing, tapping available databases, expert interviews and literature research. Biomass energy scenarios are developed in the framework of a participative workshop with regional stakeholders.



Expected results

The research project will provide data, knowledge, and a tool for assessing the potential of sustainable supply of different biomass fuels in rural-urban contexts in Kenya and Tanzania.

Thereby it will contribute to the formulation and implementation of knowledge-based energy policies at subnational and national decision-making levels, and will help to clarify and raise awareness of the role of biomass energy within overall energy strategies.

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Project information:

Knowledge support for sustainable renewable energy policies: The prospects of pro-poor biomass energy value chains in rural-urban contexts in East Africa

Funding: Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) and Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

Duration: December 2013 - December 2016

Project partners:

CETRAD (Centre for Training and Integrated Research in ASAL Development)

Quantis

Practical Action

TaTEDO (Tanzania Traditional Energy Development and Environment Organization)

Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

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Speciation patterns in the lowland forests of East Africa

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Introduction

The Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa (CFEA) are a global biodiversity hotspot (Figure 1). It is uncertain how biodiversity accumulated in this region, and there have been no studies to date on this (Burgess & Clarke, 2000). It is unclear whether the present distribution of CFEA diversity is mainly: A) The result of recent colonisation from adjoining refugial areas due to habitat instability and inundation (e.g. Dimitrov et al. 2012), or B) the result of radiations from relicts within which were present in suitable climatically stable environments (e.g. Hochkirch, 2010). We are using amphibians to test these predictions using next generation sequencing methods and SDMs (Species Distribution Models).

Methods

A comparative demographic approach and tree-based methods will provide a first evaluation of speciation in the CFEA. We investigate three widespread amphibian species and adopt a RAD-seq strategy to examine this question.

- Collect and barcode amphibian samples from across the CFEA
- RAD-seq to estimate phylogenetic relationships, divergence times and migration rates
- SDMs of each study species. Using distributional patterns through time (e.g. LGM, LIG) we will interpret patterns of genetic divergence with measures of habitat stability

Initial Results

To confirm species identities, individuals of our study taxa were barcoded using partial 16S mtDNA gene prior to RAD-seq sample selection. Figure 2 shows trees from our available sampling which exhibit phylogeographic structuring in three species complexes. Support for some nodes are poor and using RAD-seq will better elucidate these relationships. Evaluation of our data will confirm hypotheses (see Table 1).

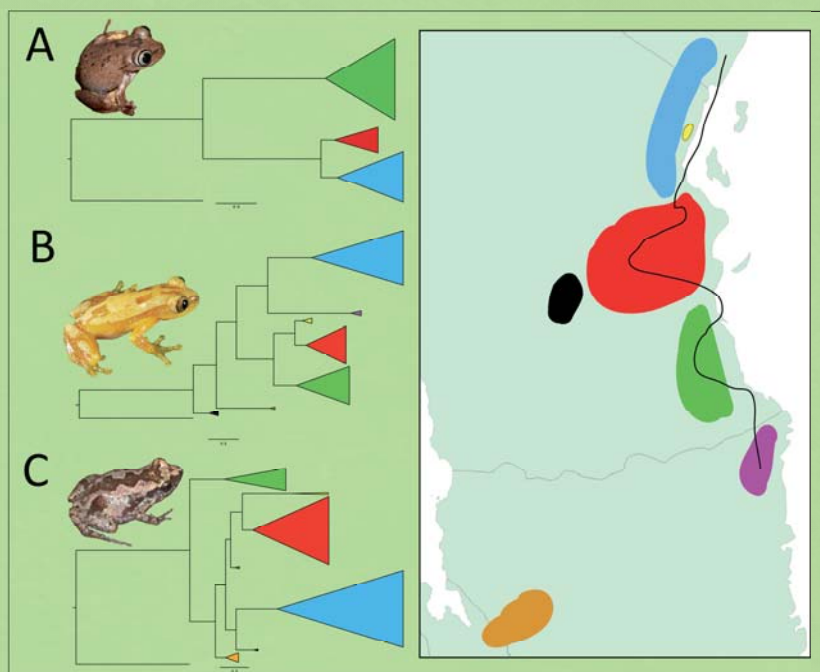


Figure 2. Bayesian gene trees for each species based on partial 16S mtDNA sequence data. (A) *Leptopelis argenteus*, (B) *Afrixalus stuhlmanni*, (C) *Arthroleptis xenodactyloides*. Coloured clades correspond to polygons on the map, line demarcates potential extent of Miocene inundation (Kent et al. 1971).

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Figure 1. The CFEA (Conservation International, 2012)

Perspective

Complementing RAD-seq with SDMs the data can explain the current distribution of genetic diversity in CFEA. We will address colonising or refuge CFEA hypotheses across taxonomic groups.

Table 1. Hypotheses for CFEA origins of diversity and their expected associated indicators.

	A) Recent colonisation from refugial areas	B) Radiations from CFEA relicts
RAD-seq	Phylogenies	Poor phylogeographic structure
	F_{ST} values	Low
	Divergence dates	Recent (~21,000 years)
	Migration rates	High
SDMs	Habitat stability	Low stability
		High stability

Overall, we seek to explain what makes this area an important biodiversity hotspot. This work also complements an existing project with which we are categorising phylogenetic diversity in the CFEA.

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Ein Expat kommt selten allein - Lebenswelt(en) Mitausreisender PartnerInnen in Kampala, Uganda

Julia Büchele Basel (j.buechele@unibas.ch)

„Wir sollen den Dienst begleiten. Und vielleicht liegt das daran, dass wir in dieser Zwischengeneration sind und das liegt am System. Das hab ich noch nicht ganz rausgekriegt. Dass wir in so nem Konflikt stehen, ob wir das mögen oder nicht. Ob mir was fehlt? Ich wusste gar nicht, was auf mich zukommt, ich war verliebt.“

[Ehefrau eines Botschafters, Kampala 2012]

I have so much power and privilege and I have a difficult time reconciling that on a daily basis here. So it's holding that in a serious tension I have all this power and privilege and sometimes I hate it and sometimes it really works for me.

[Ehefrau eines EZ-Beraters, Kampala 2014]



Forschungsinteresse und Fragestellung

Ausgangsthese dieser Arbeit ist, dass die Rolle „Mitausreisender PartnerInnen“ durch Entsendepraxen und -diskurse konstruiert wird. Die Erwartungen an „Mitausreisende“ sind mit ganz bestimmten Vorstellungen von Weiblichkeit und Männlichkeit, von Ehe und Familie, Mobilität, klassenspezifischen Bedürfnissen sowie Erfolg von Auslandsentsendungen verknüpft. Und sie gehen einher mit dem sich hartnäckig haltenden „Mythos hoher Abbruchraten“ (Harzing 1995). Konsens besteht darüber, dass Mitausreisende entscheidend zum Erfolg und Scheitern von Entsendungen beitragen, weshalb Entsendeorganisationen besonderes Augenmerk auf EhepartnerInnen von entsandten Fachkräften legen. Personalentwicklungsmethoden und Dienstleistungen - bestehend aus Vorbereitungstrainings und monetären sowie nicht-monetären Zuwendungen an mitausreisende Familien - prägen die Erfahrungen von Expats (Hindman 2007). Durch diese institutionelle Einbindung werden sie zu „Quasimitgliedern“ der Entsendeorganisationen. Häufig erleben „Mitausreisende“ ihre Situation als ambivalent; an der Schnittstelle von (ökonomischen) Privilegien und gleichzeitiger Abhängigkeit und Einschränkung. In meinem Dissertationsprojekt gehe ich der Frage nach, wie „Mitausreisende PartnerInnen“ ihre Lebenswelt narrativ rahmen und dadurch ihre Position beschreiben und reflektieren, Widerstand gegenüber normativ (empfundene) Erwartungen leisten und sich damit identifizieren.

Diese Arbeit leistet einen Beitrag zur Methodologie der Intersektionalität. Trotz der Popularität dieses Ansatzes ist nach wie vor offen, wie diese Überschneidungen methodisch fassbar gemacht werden können (McCall 2005) und, über eine reine Addition von Diskriminierungskategorien oder der Schaffung neuer Kategorien hinaus, Gleichzeitigkeiten von Diskriminierungsformen verstanden werden können. Ausserdem stellt sich die Frage, wie ein intersektionaler Ansatz dazu dienen kann nicht nur Schnittstellen von Diskriminierungen, sondern auch die Gleichzeitigkeit von Abhängigkeiten und Privilegien bzw. Macht und Ohnmacht zu fassen?

Fallstudie

Die Studie ist qualitativ angelegt. Daten (narrative Interviews) wurden in drei mehrwöchigen Aufenthalten zwischen 2012 und 2014 in Kampala erhoben. InformantInnen konnten über Blogs, die International Women's Organisation in Kampala, über persönliche Kontakte und in der Folge durch Snowballsampling kontaktiert werden. Die interviewten Personen sind mit Organisationen der Entwicklungszusammenarbeit, Botschaften und transnationalen Firmen affiliert und für eine Dauer von 2-6 Jahren nach Kampala entsandt. Die Herkunft der InformantInnen ist heterogen. Sie kommen u.a. aus den USA, Indonesien, Südafrika, Nigeria, Holland, Deutschland, England.

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Dissertationsprojekt Julia Büchele
Zentrum für Afrikastudie Basel
Betreuer: Prof. Elisio Macamo
Zeitraum: 2011 - 2015

“

I think the supi is something great. If you are doing supi with someone, you can love the person very well.

Janet Asante, 25 years, Feb 2006

I took her as my baby and I'm her mama.

Evelyn Obimpe, 62 years, Jan 2008

Because I love her I had to learn what she does. We became one, siblings, one blood ... doing everything together.

Adwoa Boateng, 34 years, Dec 2007



“

The woman who has snatched away the poor man's wife must be treated as a thief. 'Supi-supi' lesbianism in Ghana must be stopped.

Lesbianism is the outcome of 'supi-supi' practices seen on the campuses of especially female teacher training colleges and secondary schools.

Such practices are socially widespread, abnormal and immoral, and offend the sensibilities of decent Africans who consider it an ancient taboo.

The Mirror, January 17, 1998

“Doing Everything Together”

Female Friendship and Same-Sex Intimacy in Postcolonial Ghana

Local practices of female same-sex desire and intimacy

Global models of LGBT identity and sexual rights politics

Research Question: How are the everyday practices and the intimate discourses of female same-sex lovers informed by local and globalized notions of kinship, gender, friendship and desire?

Data/Methods:

- Queer reading and discourse analysis of historical and cultural texts (newspapers, films, religious pamphlets, market literature).
- Participant observation in Accra and a smaller Akan town (e.g. in the market place and in female football clubs).
- 60 audio-recorded ethnographic indepth interviews (oral history and life hi/story approach).

Results:

- Women's narratives of having been “taught” how to eroticize, reciprocate, and veil same-sex passion, frame “supi” love as a learning process and a **knowing practice**.
- Homosocial spaces are vital to the forging of informal groups of same-sex lovers who relate to each other using **kinship** terms, as sibling or (sugar) mothers.
- When a working-class woman invokes herself as “the man” within an intimate relationship this does not entail visual markers of masculinity, but claims to **age-based** power.

Conclusion:

The principle of **seniority** is crucial to the dynamics of female same-sex networks. Through exchanges of gifts and girlfriends, “knowing women” consolidate group ties, which both facilitate and constrain intimate same-sex pairings. These social networks do much of the affective work, which in Euro-American contexts is typically accomplished by couples and nuclear (lesbian) families.

Keywords: queer anthropology, post-colonial feminism, sexuality, kinship, gender, friendship, affect, Africa

Conference Interpreter Training in Africa

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Interpreter Training & the Resource Gap

- Conference interpreter training requires considerable **human, financial and technological resources**. [1, 2, 4]
- In the current **public higher education environment in sub-Saharan Africa**, these resources are increasingly scarce. [6, 5, 3]
- Can **North-South Cooperation** help close the resource gap?

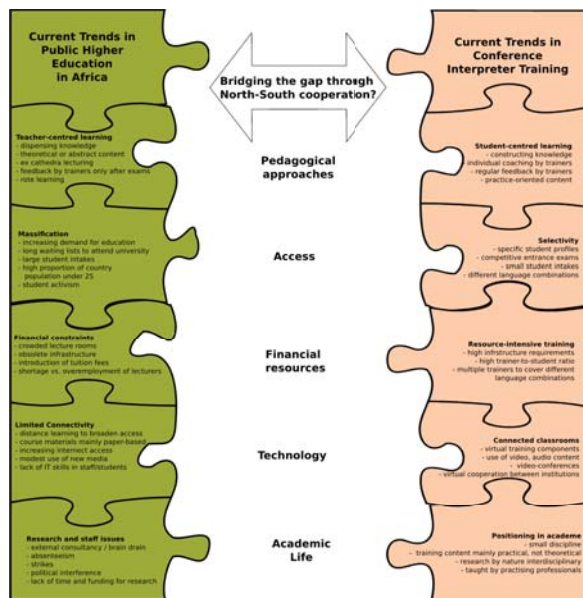


Figure 1: Public Higher Education in Africa vs. Interpreter Training: The Resource Gap

Introduction & Stakeholders

- In 2010 the University of Nairobi (UoN) launched an interpreter training programme including training in consecutive & simultaneous interpreting

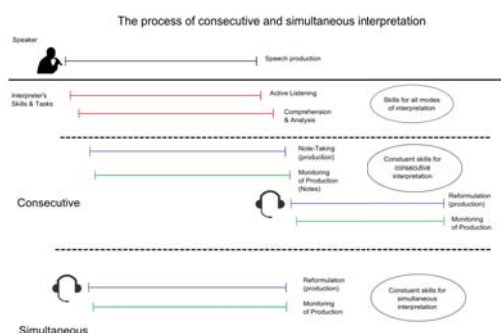


Figure 2: Modes of interpreting

- From the outset, different external stakeholders participated in the project
- Contributions include student & teacher training, assistance in kind etc.

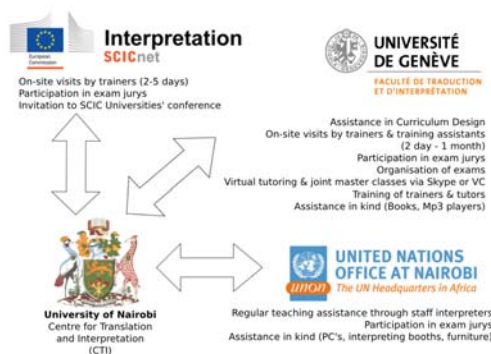


Figure 3: The Stakeholders of the "Nairobi Project"

Research Approach & Research Objectives

- Interdisciplinary case study: Interpreting & Development anthropology
- Period under study: Pilot stage (June 2010 to February 2013)
- Researcher: participating in project as trainer, 7 on-site visits (2-5 weeks)
- Methods of data collection:
 - ▷ observation & participant-observation
 - ▷ semi-structured interviews
 - ▷ focus group interviews
- Research objectives:
 - ▷ improved understanding of challenges associated with conference interpreter training in African public higher education
 - ▷ identification of strategies used by different stakeholders to overcome these challenges
 - ▷ improved understanding of the usefulness and the limits of North-South cooperation in bridging the resource gap

Challenges & Lessons learnt

Throughout the project, a number of challenges emerged as relevant - some linked to the structure of the project (North-South cooperation between universities), some to its content (conference interpreter training), others to individual stakeholders.



Figure 4: Challenges and Lessons learnt

Sharing of information and coordination amongst multiple stakeholders has emerged as a central and recurrent challenge, alongside pedagogical approaches and human resources inside the University of Nairobi. The material challenges we anticipated, such as infrastructure and technology, were solved relatively swiftly.

In light of these challenges, the contribution of North-South cooperation needs to be assessed taking into account the motivations of individual stakeholders and the patterns of ownership and decision making in the project.

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Logiques et itinéraires thérapeutiques de femmes atteintes du cancer du col utérin au Burkina Faso

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Au Burkina Faso, pays enclavé d'Afrique de l'Ouest, le cancer du col de l'utérus est la première cause de mortalité par cancer chez les femmes. La prise en charge médicale de cette pathologie est marquée par un manque d'infrastructures, de médicaments et de spécialistes. Les traitements biomédicaux sont centrés sur la chirurgie et la chimiothérapie – la radiothérapie étant indisponible dans le pays – et s'effectuent principalement dans certains centres de soins de la capitale. **Dans ce contexte précaire/de précarisation, comment organiser, assurer et assumer l'accès aux soins ?**

Objectif

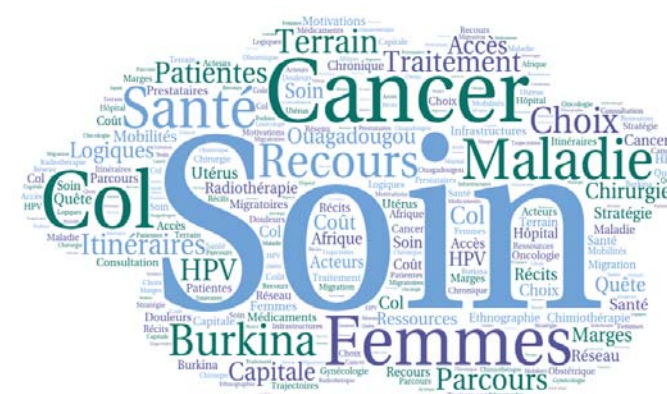
Rendre compte de la maladie et du soin, notamment des modalités d'accès aux soins, de prise en charge et d'accompagnement des femmes atteintes du cancer, une maladie non transmissible, de type chronique, dans un pays où le système de santé publique est en cours de développement.

Méthodes

Inspirée de la démarche inductive et de la Grounded Theory, l'approche du terrain se fonde sur des méthodes qualitatives classiques en anthropologie: observations *in situ* et entretiens semi-directifs. Après une ethnographie institutionnelle dans les milieux hospitaliers, associatifs et institutionnels, les parcours biographiques et thérapeutiques d'une quinzaine de femme forment le corpus principal des données.

Axe de recherche 1 : Modalités de prises en charges

- Définir les différentes dynamiques de soins, décrire les itinéraires thérapeutiques des femmes, argumenter leurs choix parmi les recours possibles et/ou envisagés.
- Documenter la prise en charge en milieu hospitalier, notamment les relations entre les malades et les prestataires de soins.
- Développer les questions de mobilités thérapeutiques dans le cadre du cancer en Afrique de l'Ouest.



Axe de recherche 2 : Gestion sociale de la maladie

- Analyser les ressources et réseaux mobilisés pour répondre à la quête de soins et de santé.
- Démontrer les impacts de la maladie sur la vie de couple et de famille.
- Se pencher sur les conséquences physiques de la maladie et des traitements, et sur le ressenti des femmes malades.

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Early Nineteenth-Century German Naturalists in the Cape Colony

Patrick Grogan (Basel Graduate School of History)

This PhD project focuses on an oft-neglected link between the German-speaking world and the early nineteenth-century Cape Colony – the participation of southern Africa-based German naturalist-collectors in a global trade in preserved plants, animal specimens, and even human bones. This transnational context provides a valuable case-study for exploring the conditions under which knowledge travels through time and space as well as the way in which it is influenced, altered, distorted, appropriated and reconstituted in the process.



Glekia krebsiana – a plant named after Ludwig Krebs
[<http://prairiebreak.blogspot.ch>]

Supervisors: Prof. Patrick Harries (University of Basel) and Prof. Nigel Penn (University of Cape Town, South Africa)

Archives: The most important archives for this research are the National Library of South Africa, Cape Town and the Historische Arbeitsstelle, Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin.

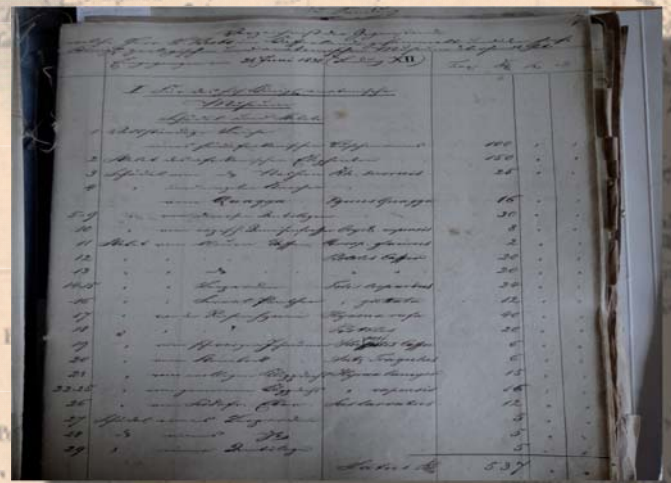
Funding: This research is generously supported by a 28-month *Doc.CH* grant from the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)

Duration: 2012/13-2015/16

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Context

In the first half of the nineteenth century, the Cape Colony was a popular destination for participants in the increasingly commercially attractive trade in natural history specimens. Germans were among the most common collectors, amassing vast collections of plant and animal specimens and even the occasional human skull or skeleton, many of which would go on to be exhibited in contemporary European museums of natural history. I will focus on two collectors in particular – Ludwig Krebs (1792-1844) and Carl Drège (1791-1867) – both of whom arrived at the Cape to work as apothecaries before turning their attentions to commercial collecting. With their subsistence largely dependent on the number of specimens which they collected, they worked with particular zeal, attempting to accumulate as many specimens as possible to satisfy the demand amongst European natural scientists and museum-goers alike for the 'rare' and 'exotic'.



A list detailing specimens collected by Ludwig Krebs, 1830 (Museum für Naturkunde Berlin, Zool. Mus. S I, Krebs III)

Approach

Previous works on nineteenth-century travelers and collectors in southern African have often tended to be either celebratory or accusatory in tone – the former lauding their perseverance and achievements in the face of various adversities and the latter attacking them for aiding and abetting colonial expansion. A re-examination of the archival documents relating to German collectors at the Cape – letters and journals as well as collection lists and auction catalogues – from another perspective, namely through the prism of the social history of science and knowledge, may reveal important insights which overwhelmingly acclamatory or condemnatory accounts have overlooked.

Aims

This research poses crucial questions about how knowledge travelled in a colonial context: in a linear and predictable manner from European centres of knowledge to the periphery and back again or dynamically, inexorably moulded by, altered or created anew in the colony as a product of colonial encounter? An equally important objective is to recapitulate the cosmopolitan commercial, social and intellectual world which collectors and traders inhabited in the Cape, including focussing on their role in the commercialisation of science, their interaction and competition amongst each other, and the extent to which they cooperated with and relied upon local informants. The collection of human skulls and skeletons, a particularly dark chapter in the history of the trade, will also be examined in its socio-cultural, political and scientific context.



Homosexuality and the African: Attitudes of Cameroonian Migrants in Switzerland towards Homosexuality

Frida Lyonga, frida.lyonga@unibas.ch

How does living in a relatively gay-friendly European country like Switzerland, compared to living in a context where homosexuality is criminalized, affect the attitudes of African migrants, specifically Cameroonian migrants towards homosexuality?

There are marked differences in attitudes towards homosexuality in Cameroon and in Switzerland. Article 347 bis of the Cameroonian penal code criminalizes homosexuality and stipulates a sanction of six months to five years imprisonment and a fine that ranges from CFA20,000 to CFA200,000 francs. The restrictive legal context in Cameroon fosters the stigmatization of lesbians and gays and forces many homosexuals to keep their sexual identity secret; and some even feel ashamed of their sexual orientation. Unlike Cameroon, Switzerland decriminalized homosexuality far back in 1942, and subsequently introduced bans on anti-gay discrimination. Switzerland in 2007, introduced legislation recognizing same-sex registered partnerships. In addition, homosexuality is openly celebrated during gay pride festivals.

The legalization of same-sex relationships in Switzerland does not imply a total absence of homophobia. However, compared to the Cameroonian context, Switzerland is significantly open towards homosexuality.

Theory and Objective

While dynamic social impact theory posits that people will be influenced to adopt the views of the majority when they are in close and frequent contact with individuals from the majority group, institutional theory contends that rules, values, and norms that people adhere to are stable and resistant to change.

This study engages the two theories to examine the above research question and the following two objectives:

- Assess and compare quantitatively the attitudes towards homosexuality of Cameroonians at home and those of Cameroonian migrants who have lived for at least three years in Switzerland.
- Identify and analyse the sources and forms of social communication that contribute to the persistence or change of attitudes towards homosexuality among the two population groups.

Methodology

Survey research based on Herek's (1998) attitudes towards lesbians and gay men scale (ATLG).

Qualitative interviews to understand persistence of attitudes or triggers and process of attitude change.

Data collection is planned from January to December 2015.

Supervisor

Prof. Dr. Manfred Max Bergman

Pictures

Solidarity campaign in Bern for a Nigerian whose application for asylum in Switzerland was turned down. O. argued that he suffered homophobic violence and repression (picture: Roberta Orlando, 02.04.2014).



Nollywood inspires Switzerland

Audio-Visual Forms of Self-Representation by African Migrants

Point of Departure

A growing number of young African migrants in Switzerland feel an urgent need to express their views and opinions to the public with the help of new media. This desire of representation mainly derives from their feeling of being under-represented or even misrepresented in the dominant Swiss media discourse. In order to interact with the dominant society they live in, some of these migrants – inspired by their transnational consumption of video films from the Nigerian film industry Nollywood – have started to produce their own films. This Nollywood-inspired use of audio-visual media by African migrants in Switzerland is the point of departure of this study.

Objectives

By studying migrants' self-representations through media anthropological methods, and in particular by employing *Performance Ethnography*, I intend to learn more about the transnational use of audio-visual media. I am especially interested in examining the ways in which the Nigerian video films from Nollywood are applied by African migrant in Switzerland as an inspirational source for their filmmaking. In this respect, I intend to observe in particular how migrants negotiate their concerns among each other and perform their everyday life experiences during a film project which is partnered by a social anthropologist. During this partnership I follow their negotiations closely and expect to find out more about audio-visual forms of (re-)presentation as socially embedded transactions among the group members and in regard to their country of residence, their country of origin, the Nollywood film industry and their lives in the transnational space.

Research Questions

In what ways do African migrants living in Switzerland represent themselves as a community through audio-visual media? How do migrant filmmakers refer to Nollywood and how is Nollywood retained, amended and changed in this process of transnational filmmaking?

Current Project Status

To realize my research idea, I have established a partnership with the African Mirror Foundation. Together with this organization I have initiated the film project "Paradise In My Mind" which is expected to be completed in spring 2015.



photographie: African Mirror Foundation

Jan 2013 – Dec 2015

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UNIVERSITÄT
BERN

Education in Spaces of Exception: Exploring Schooling in Congolese Refugee Camps (Rwanda, Tanzania)

Adeline Payot, PhD candidate, University of Neuchâtel
Andreas von Känel, PhD candidate, University of Neuchâtel

RESEARCH TOPIC

This research is part of a wider SNSF project on "Education in spaces of exception." The two PhD theses examine **educational interventions in refugee camps**, a recent phenomenon in Africa that has emerged at the crossroads of two global trends since the late 1980s: the rapid expansion of humanitarian space on the one hand, and the globalization of school on the other hand.

Over the last three decades, refugee camps have become the privileged means to deal with massive forced migration in Africa. At the same time, the globalization of school has increasingly affected humanitarian space. In 2007, the United Nations have recognized education as the "fourth pillar" of humanitarian intervention.

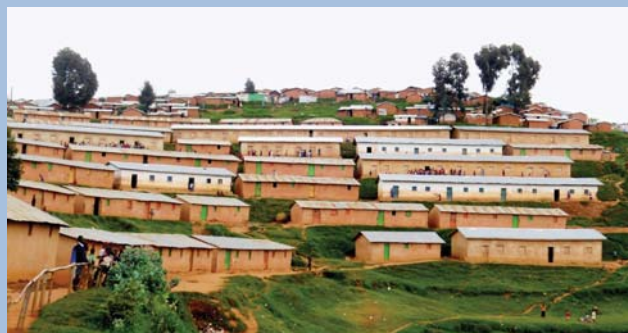
In protracted refugee situations in the Great Lake Regions, refugee schools in camp settings, funded and supervised by humanitarian actors, have since the 1990s contributed to the schooling of thousands of children over two generations.

The concrete institutional arrangements, the politics of curriculum and the multiple uses of these schools still remain to be fully understood. Research has often focused on the exceptionality of the camp, leaving other, more ordinary logics, such as the routine of schooling, under-examined. In parallel, research on education in Africa has often focused on stable and ordinary contexts, while overlooking the increasing role played by humanitarian actors in the governance of schools.

This raises empirical questions as to **how the logics of humanitarian aid articulate with logics of schooling**. How do politics of curriculum connect with politics of exception and mobility? What subjectivities, aspirations and trajectories take shape within these educational arrangements? And how do teachers and students navigate the opportunities and constraints of camp schools?

AIMS

- > To shed light on the **articulation of humanitarian space and the globalization of school** through the prism of two case studies in Congolese refugee camps in Rwanda and Tanzania.
- > To look at refugee camps beyond representations of exceptionality and bare life, and explore **processes of social transformation, politicization and citizen-making** at work within schools
- > To gain better understanding of the **role played by humanitarian actors in the current transformation of school systems in Africa**



RESEARCH DESIGN

The two theses will be articulated around three main research axes with the aim of understanding the concrete modes of governance of refugee schools, as well as the ways they are mobilized and invested with meaning and goals by various social actors at different scales.

Axis 1: Institutional structure and governance

We examine the creation and development of refugee schools in order to understand the underlying logics of legitimation and their formal mode of governance

- > Panorama of institutional actors & formal regulations
- > Discourses of legitimation
- > Politics of curriculum

Axis 2: Teaching practices and daily school management

We explore the translation of institutional objectives into every-day practices of teaching and school management

- > Teaching staff's profiles and status
- > Teachers' appropriation of the curriculum
- > Practical and conflicting norms of regulation

Axis 3: Uses of schooling: students and families

We look at students' perceptions of and practices relating to school, as well as to the articulation of school with families' strategies

- > Students' perceptions of schools and trajectories
- > Articulation of schooling with social and economic strategies and aspirations

METHODS

Ethnographic fieldwork of 12 months in the refugee camps of Gihembe (Rwanda) and Nyarugusu (Tanzania)

- > **In-depth interviews** with the different actors involved in schooling in the two camps (NGOs, UNHCR, government staff, school staff, students, parents)
- > **Participant observations** in classrooms and in refugee families
- > **Longitudinal follow-up** of a small number of students

- Supervision: Prof. Dr. Marion Fresia & Prof. Dr. Anne-Nelly Perret-Clermont
- Funding: SNSF (100017_140474 / 1)
- Duration: September 2012-September 2015
- Keywords: education, forced migration studies, Rwanda, Tanzania, humanitarian intervention
- Link: http://www2.unine.ch/ethno/page-28438_en_US.html

Growing Old in Urban Tanzania: Aging, Health and Transnational Care

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Sandra Staudacher, Institute of Social Anthropology (sandra.staudacher@unibas.ch)

Especially in sub-Saharan Africa we do not yet know much about aging, health and care from the perspectives of the older people themselves. Driven by accelerated demographic change and the associated health transition that is also observable on the African continent, new visions and solutions are needed in order to care for the rising number of older people. Two PhD projects contribute unique insights into how the aging population of East African cities copes with changing environments due to accelerated urbanization processes, globalization, political changes, shifts in population growth and transforming health concerns. Using a qualitative comparative approach, the PhD projects focus on the Tanzanian cities of Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar, respectively, and follow transnational links from Tanzania to the United States of America and Oman.



Zanzibar 2012

Dar es Salaam

Andrea Grolimund examines meanings of growing old in Dar es Salaam, the industrial, commercial and governmental center of Tanzania. In a first step she interviewed 50 people aged 60 years and above in four wards of the city to gain an overview. In a second step, she focused on 11 older persons and their caregivers in a particular middle class area and followed them for almost two years. She found that especially in the middle class milieu, many older people have appropriated Western concepts such as 'Active Aging'. For them 'good old age' includes living a healthy life by consuming 'good food' and doing physical exercises. Moreover, they prepare for a 'good old age' by offering 'good education' to their own children and saving money.

Zanzibar

Sandra Staudacher investigates what it means to grow old on the island of Zanzibar, the former center of the Swahili mercantile civilization under the Omani rule. She interviewed 50 older people in four city wards to gain an overview of their health and care arrangements. In a second step she selected 11 older people with transnational links and followed them up for almost two years. She found that their life is to a large extent oriented towards the Islamic world and Arabian and Asian countries. Moreover, people's experience of growing old is grounded in perceptions of their body and mind mediated by social agency and societal discourses. Self-reported health conditions as well as care arrangements can change through agentic, intersubjective processes of doing elder care, gender and kinship and are heavily influenced by transnational relations, Islamic belief, economic capital and education.

USA

Many young Tanzanians travel to the USA for further education. Some return home and others remain – with or without permission to stay. How are adult children of older people living in the USA involved in the aging process of their parents back home? To examine these transnational links, Andrea Grolimund interviewed 27 Tanzanian migrants in the USA, participated in their activities and followed them on Facebook and Internet blogs. She found that transnational care usually takes place within a triangle of care: An adult child or relative staying close to the older person in Tanzania serves as an 'observing eye' and mediates the contact between the older person and the relative abroad by using social media tools, such as WhatsApp, Viber or Skype.

Oman

Over the past centuries, a transcultural space has been created between Oman and Zanzibar through political expansion and an exchange of goods, people and ideas. Focusing on 20 relatives of older Zanzibari in Muscat, Sandra Staudacher studied transnational practices of long-distance care giving and health-related aging experiences linked to transnational care arrangements. How do transnational ties between older Zanzibari and their social network influence their aging, health and care? How do these influences manifest themselves in practices and identities? She found that transnational care relations are kept alive through regular and long visits, frequent phone calls, picture sharing through WhatsApp and through sending gifts, medication and money. These reciprocal bonds are reinforced by nostalgic feelings for Zanzibar and a sense of Muslim duty, since one can only reach paradise by providing care for ones' elders.

Supervisors: Brigit Obrist, Till Förster, Andrea Maihofer

Collaboration: University of Dar es Salaam, State University of Zanzibar

Funding: Swiss National Science Foundation SNSF (2012-2014)

Duration: 2012 – 2016

Homepage: <http://socialresilience.ch/old-age-agency/>

The Quality of Democracy in Africa

The Significance of Legacies of Cleavages and Opposition Competitiveness

Author: Jonathan van Eerd | jonathanvaneerd.wordpress.com

Supervisors: Prof. H. Kriesi (European University Institute), Prof. D. Ruloff (University of Zurich)

Defense: February 21, 2014

Funding: Foundation for Scientific Research at the University of Zurich, Swiss National Science Foundation

Abstract

My thesis makes two original contributions to the literature on democratization and political parties in sub-Saharan Africa: First, it shows that democratization in sub-Saharan Africa can be successful, even if the government remains dominated by one major political party for a long time: If an institutionalized and relatively strong opposition party—even if it is too weak to take power—challenges the dominant government party, the quality of democracy improves substantially. This finding stands in contrast to the grain of recent literature on democratization in Africa, which generally views dominant government parties as incompatible with democratic consolidation, considers opposition parties in dominant party systems homogeneously weak and champions electoral turnovers as the single most effective route towards democratic consolidation. Second, the book shows that contemporary competitive opposition parties in African party systems with a dominant party are rooted in the historical legacy of cleavages that preceded the third wave of democratization and have survived the instability of post-independence political developments in Africa to the present day. The thesis identifies the center-periphery cleavage, i.e., the historical cleavage between the urban, secular nationalist elites and the traditional, rural ruling elites, as the decisive cleavage.

Contribution and Argument

Research on democratization and party systems in Africa has observed the prevalence of dominant party systems in Africa after the beginning of the late third wave of democratization and the introduction of multiparty elections in the majority of African countries after 1990 and the end of the Cold War (Bogaards, 2000; 2004; Van de Walle, 2003; Erdmann and Basedau, 2007; Doorenspleet and Nijzink, 2013). In many cases, the party that won the first multiparty elections subsequently dominated the presidency and the parliament for several elections in a row. The existing literature claims that this prevalence of dominant party systems is problematic for the democratic consolidation of Africa's electoral regimes (Bogaards, 2000; 2004; Van de Walle, 2003; Manning, 2005; Giliomee and Simkins, 1999). The opposition party system within dominant party systems, in turn, has either been completely neglected in the literature or been described as homogeneously weak and volatile. Dominance of one party has been regarded as problematic because recurring electoral victories of the same party can lead to arrogance, lack of accountability, abuse of power, and corruption.

My thesis provides a new and challenging perspective on party systems and democratization in Africa by showing that—on the one hand—not all dominant party systems are problematic for the democratic consolidation of African electoral regimes and—on the other hand—not all turnovers through the ballot lead to democratic consolidation.

The thesis offers an original explanation for the varying consequences of African dominant party systems for democratic consolidation by looking into the neglected variance of the competitiveness of opposition parties in contemporary dominant and former dominant party systems. The electoral confrontation with a relatively institutionalized and strong opposition gives the dominant party the incentive to be responsive to voter demands, uphold internal elite cohesiveness, and underutilize more costly authoritarian means of power that limit civil liberties and reduce the quality of democracy.

Second, the thesis shows that the competitiveness of contemporary opposition parties has to be rooted in the historical legacy of cleavages that preceded the third wave of democratization and have survived the instability of post-independence political developments in Africa to the present day in order to have positive consequences for the contemporary quality of democracy. The thesis identifies the center-periphery cleavage, i.e., the historical cleavage between urban, secular nationalist elites and the traditional, rural ruling elites, as the decisive cleavage. Salient ethnopolitical cleavages, in turn, are aligned to the dominant center-periphery cleavage and of secondary importance, at least in the cases analyzed in the thesis.

The thesis distinguishes two critical junctures that are decisive for the formation and the long-term survival of the historical center-periphery cleavage: the first national pre-independence election represents the first critical juncture of indigenous nationalization and triggers the installation of the historical party system according to the center-periphery cleavage.

The termination of the post-independence electoral regime constitutes the second critical juncture. Whether the center-periphery cleavage survives until the reintroduction of multiparty elections in the 1990s and provides the foundation for more competitive contemporary opposition parties depends on the occurrence, timing and the way in which the suppression of the electoral system occurred after independence. The principal idea is that the longer the timespan between the introduction of pre-independence indigenous multiparty elections and the post-independence suppression of the new electoral regime, the higher the chance for the routinization and establishment of party politics according to the center-periphery cleavage. This increases the chance for the survival of the symbolic content of the historical cleavage and allows contemporary opposition parties after the end of the Cold War and the reintroduction of multiparty-elections to build their identity around it and become more cohesive and competitive. Figure 1 summarizes the overall argument of the thesis.

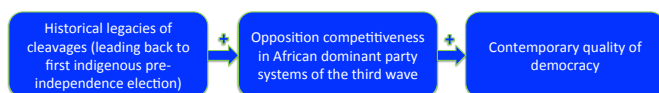


Figure 1: Argument of the thesis

Methods and Findings

The thesis adopts a mixed-method approach. First, it relies on statistical evidence from 19 African countries with dominant party systems, and 55 elections overall. Based on the results of the quantitative analysis, the thesis selects four crucial case studies: two countries with contemporary dominant party systems, one with a competitive opposition (Botswana) and one with a weak opposition (Lesotho), and two countries with formerly dominant party systems, again one with a competitive opposition (Ghana) and one with a weak opposition (Mali).

The quantitative analysis confirms the hypothesis that dominant party systems with more competitive opposition parties lead to a higher contemporary quality of democracy and democratic consolidation and are indeed rooted in the historical center-periphery cleavage (cf. with the bivariate correlations in figures 2 and 3).

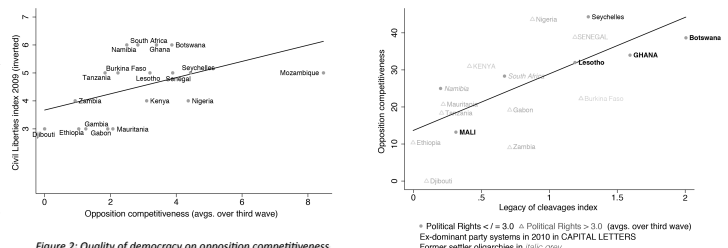


Figure 2: Quality of democracy on opposition competitiveness

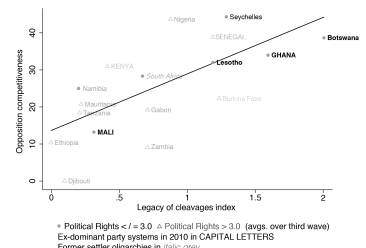


Figure 3: Opposition competitiveness on legacy of cleavages

In countries where this legacy has been destroyed along the way opposition parties are less competitive, in turn. The hypothesis is tested against competing explanations such as the modernization theory or the saliency of clientelism and ethnopolitics.

The qualitative comparison tracks the historical formation and development of the center-periphery cleavage and the party systems in detail from the first pre-independence national elections over authoritarian suppression until the third wave of democratization after the end of the Cold War. The qualitative analysis not only confirms the quantitative results, but also illuminates the consequences of the different party system trajectories for the contemporary quality levels of democracy in the four cases. It is based on both secondary sources and field research that includes interviews conducted by the author in Lesotho, Botswana, Ghana, and Mali with high-ranking parliamentarians, ministers and party representatives of the most important national political parties, as well as political experts and area chiefs of the traditional system.

The qualitative analysis shows that when salient legacies of cleavages manage to survive until the advent of the third wave in 1990, they make opposition parties more cohesive and stabilize their support pattern despite the unfavorable context of a dominant party system. Opposition parties that can rely on historic ideological and symbolic capital are comparatively more successful and stable than opposition parties that have to compete with the dominant party from scratch. They profit from an established 'brand identity' that increases voters' trust in both programmatic mobilization strategies as well as clientelistic promises.

While survival of the historic territorial cleavage in Mali was almost impossible due to 29 years without multiparty elections, and rather stable authoritarianism, and survival in Botswana was more easy, because the electoral cycle was never interrupted since the first pre-independence elections (cf. with figure 4), a juxtaposition of the cases of Lesotho and Ghana teaches us additional lessons: It is rather the element of collective identity of the territorial cleavage, which has to survive over time for third wave party system structuring to viably rely on than the actual survival of the organizational shell and/or party name. In Ghana, the authoritarian phase was interrupted by two democratic interregnums, which forced politicians to reinvigorate the collective and symbolic identity related to the historic territorial cleavage and helped to sustain cleavage-based party system structuring (cf. with figure 4). In Lesotho, in turn, no such democratic interregnum took place during the authoritarian phase. Accordingly, the lack of electoral competition for the hegemonic one-party as well as the opposition in exile or insurgent underground led to the fading of the respective collective and symbolic identity despite the survival of the organizational shell and party names of the two sides of the historic cleavage.

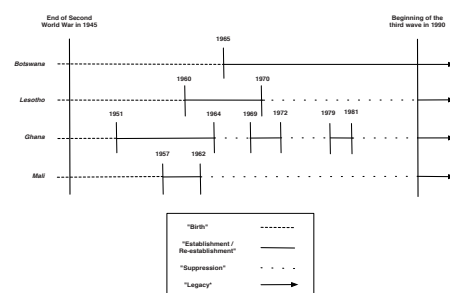


Figure 4: Length of phases for establishment and suppression of routinized party competition according to the center-periphery cleavage in Botswana, Lesotho, Ghana, and Mali between the first indigenous pre-independence elections and the beginning of the third wave of democratization in 1990

JOSEPH CONRAD'S OTHERS: ANOTHER POSTCOLONIAL PERSPECTIVE

Victoria Moffatt, Victoria.moffatt@unibas.ch

Background

The writing of Polish born Joseph Conrad (1857 - 1924) is significant for its ability to capture and represent the rather inscrutable complexities of human thoughts and actions. In his own words, "A writer without interest or sympathy for the foibles of his fellow man is not conceivable as a writer." Thus spurred on by his curiosity about banal yet intricate motivations, his writing subtly compares and scrutinizes the human frame of mind in various states of existence. For such an enquiry, he places his characters in liminal geographical and psychological spaces and then demonstrates their tendency to drift, if unchecked or unrestrained, towards vice. In this way Conrad exposes the feared Other capable of asserting itself through every individual. It is this Other that is the focus of my research.

Methodology

Working on a selection of Conrad's works and examining how the Other is represented in these works, I intend to then compare these different representations. Through a postcolonial and critical analytical approach, I hope to work out who these Others are, where they find themselves, what relations they share with others and how they are constructed in their form of Otherness.

Preliminary Findings

So far I have found that even though Conrad's depiction of the African Other is different in some ways from his depiction of the European Other, I also note that his underlying technique of 'othering' is fundamentally the same. Thus, he would use the same technique of 'stripping away' the humanity of his subject in order to Other it.

An African Other

In *Heart of Darkness*, Conrad describes the African subjects in demeaning terms thereby Othering them. He refers to them as "a camp of natives ... [or] enemies"; "criminals" to whom the outraged law had come, "rebels" whose heads had been chopped off to adorn the stakes around Kurtz's compound, "savages" or "niggers" whose "black rags were wound round their loins, and the short ends behind wagged to and fro like tails;" and there is "an improved specimen" who looked like "a dog in a parody of breeches and a feather hat, walking on its hind legs."

An European Other

On the other hand, in his description of an European Other in *An Outcast of the Islands*, Conrad equally demeans his subject and also refers to him in animalistic terms. Thus, he describes Willems as a character who "... was not particularly interesting in himself. [He had a] dependent [dis]position, [and the] strange, dubious status of a mistrusted,



disliked, worn-out European ... With ... hollow, clean-shaved cheeks, a heavy grey moustache and eyes without any expression whatever ... his lean neck wholly uncovered, and ... his bare feet in a pair of straw slippers, ... he wandered silently amongst the houses in daylight, almost as dumb as an animal and apparently much more homeless. I don't know what he did with himself at night. He must have had a place, a hut, a palm-leaf shed, some sort of hovel ... An air of futile mystery hung over him, something not exactly dark but obviously ugly.

Career

I am an early stage academic at the University of Ghana, Legon, where I work as an Assistant Lecturer at the Department of English. I teach literature in English at various levels and across different genres and periods, and it is in this respect that I hope to make my analysis of Conrad's writings relevant for the teaching and analysis of African Literature.

Funding:

Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships for Foreign Scholars and Artists (ESKAS)

Supervisors:

Prof Philipp Schweighauser (Department of English, University of Basel)
Prof Therese Steffen (Department of English, University of Basel)



Medical Practices at Lambarene Hospital, 1913-1965

Background

There are various angles from which to study the history of medicine in Africa. One can focus on the importance of public healing, follow the "quest for therapy", depict local medical practices and their relation to cosmology, disclose the colonizing power and ambivalent penetration of biomedicine, investigate the arguably particular position of mission medicine, or depict a social history of a specific disease. Newer approaches include the study of middle figures or the role of pharmaceuticals as "global objects".

A study of Albert Schweitzer's hospital in Lambarene, Gabon, contributes to numerous of these tropes, and the survey of medical practices adds a fresh dimension. Much has been written about Schweitzer and his thinking. However, his hospital rarely is mentioned in modern scientific studies on colonial medicine, even though Lambarene has had a significant impact on Westerners' perception not only of Schweitzer himself, but of medicine in Africa in general.

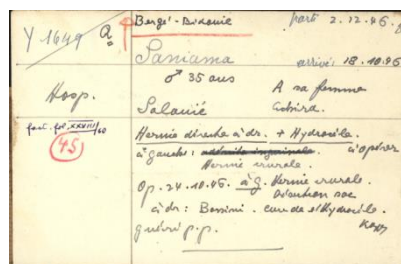
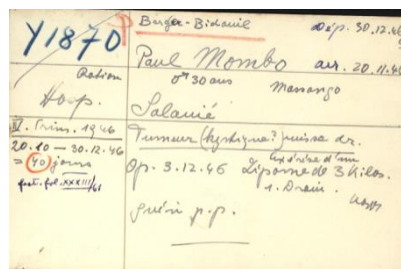
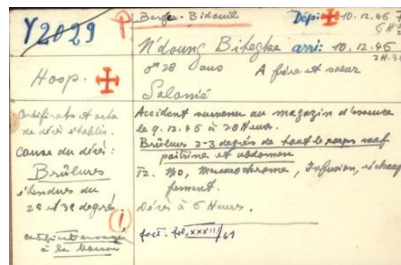


Dr. Percy, Pierre Plebye, and Albert Schweitzer examine a patient, 1950s.

Approach & Objectives

This study of medical practices will use a praxeological approach and thus pay particular attention to the plurality of options, the openness of situations, reciprocity and interaction. Besides the general description of daily procedures and measures, details of lodgings, physical examination, diagnosis and treatment it will ask for the consistency of these practices, the alleged stagnation of medical and hygienic standards and the importance of various categories such as religion and authority. Numerous institutions of Lambarene, such as the leper-village, the maternity ward or the quarters for the mentally ill, provide varied and fruitful points of investigation.

Various valuable sources will be combined to conduct the study: patient records, Schweitzer's numerous notebooks, his large international correspondence, as well as interviews with doctors, nurses, domestic workers and patients of Lambarene.



Three Patient Cards from December 1946.

The Ph.D. is part of a SNF-Project, wherein Dr. Hines Mabika explores the international networks of Schweitzer and Prof. Hubert Steinke investigates the iconography of Lambarene. Combined, an "analytical biography" of the hospital will be created and thus located in the realm of Christian missionary, colonial, and humanitarian endeavours. The research attempts to shed new light on the general tension between concept and action, ideology and reality, local practices, communication and international perception in medical projects in a colonial setting. It will also highlight the wider social, cultural and therapeutic history of the region, explain the local ecology of disease and reveal local attitudes towards medical technologies and practices.

Supervisors:

Prof. Dr. med. Dr. phil. Hubert Steinke,
Institut für Medizingeschichte, Uni Bern.
PD Dr. med. Walter Bruchhausen,
Medizinhistorisches Institut, Uni Bonn.

Funding:

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