

East Africa@50: A Celebration of Histories and Future - Programme for 9th-11th Sep. 2013

Date and time:

Tue, 2013-09-10 08:00

Location / Venue:

ED 213

East Africa at 50: A Celebration of Histories and Futures

East Africa at 50: A Celebration of Histories and Futures Conference

University of Nairobi, 10 ó 12 September 2013

Programme Tuesday, 10th September 2013

08h00-08h30: Registration

08h30-09h15: Conference opening/welcome addresses

09h15- 10h10: Keynote address: "Swahili Literature and Cultural Mobility" Prof. Euphrase Kezilahabi, University of Botswana ED2 (UoN)

10h15-11h00

Panel 1 a

Ecocritical interventions

Chair: Anna Kula Venue: ED213

Reclaiming the Destroyed Shrines ó An Ecocritical Analysis of Ngugi wa Thiong'o's Murogi wa Kangogo ó Mugo Muhia, Kenyatta University, Kenya

Towards an African Ecocentrism: Nature-human relations in Bukonya's A Hole in the Sky and Okoit's Voice of the People ó Eve Nabulya, Makerere University, Kenya

Panel 1b

Writing lives

Chair: Tobias O. Otieno Venue: KCC

The Intersection of the Self and History in Kenyan Autobiographies since 1963 ó Dr. Jennifer Muchiri, University of Nairobi, Kenya

Women's Experiences Re-Inserted into Literary History ó A Case Study of Wangari Maathai's Unbowed and Hillary Clinton's Living History ó Odhacha Pamela Ng'ong'a, Maseno University, Kenya

11h00-11h30: Tea/Coffee

11h30-13h00

Panel 2a

EA Literature and criticism

Chair: Dr. JKS Makokha Venue: ED 213

Stocktaking and Evaluation in Margaret Ogola's *Mandate of the People* ó Anna Kula, Marist International University College, Kenya

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Nostalgia and the Limits of Global Homeliness in Dinaw Mengestu's *Novels* ó Grace A. Musila, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

Edgy Edgars: *The Restless Youth* in Suzanna E. Nelson's

Nightmare along the River Nile ó Dr. Paul M. Mukundi, Kenyatta University, Kenya

Rewriting Socialism ó Navigating the East African Swahili Novel for Half a Century after Colonialism ó David Yenjela, University of Nairobi, Kenya

Panel 2b

Narrating the Nation and its limits

Chair: Dr. Alex Wanjala Venue: KCC

Exploring the limits of post-national identity in Kenyan literature fifty years after independence - Milton Obote Joshua, United States International University, Kenya

East African chronotopes and social roles ó the grounds of political malaise ó Prof. Annie Gagiano, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

Shifting Landscape: from Colonial Rupturing to Neo-colonial Distortions - Jairus Omuteche, Masinde Muliro University, Kenya

African Solidarity and Xenophobia in South Africa in D.E. Mutas'a's *Nyambo Dzejoni* (2000) ó Michael Mazuru, Great Zimbabwe University

13h00-14h00: Lunch

14h00-15h30

Panel 3a

Chair: Sinxolo Musangi Venue: BIEA

Musical histories I: The nation in song

Reflections on an Era: Freedom Songs and the Liberation Movements in Africa ó A Case of Kenya and South Africa ó Dr. Priscilla N. Gitonga, Kenyatta University, Kenya; Prof. Velile Notshulwana, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, South Africa.

õRevitalizing the Kalenjin Ethno-popular Music: the Significance of African Continental Consciousnessö Daudi Rotich, Kenya Oral Literature Association

Heroes and Villains of Uhuru: Orality, History, Identity and Transnationality on the Borderlands of Northern Kenya ó Dr. Fugich Wako, Egerton University, Kenya

Panel 3b

East African Indian writing

Chair: Raya Timammy Venue: ED213

Social Cartographies in Marjorie Oludhe's *Homing in* and M. G. Vassanji's *The in-Between World of Vikram Lall* ó Y. Mukoya Mwairumba, Kenyatta University, Kenya

Traversing East Africa ó Modes of Transport in MG Vassanji's *Fiction* ó Dr. Tina Steiner, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

The Little Gripe with History ó Moyez Vassanji and the Experience of India ó Dr. Godwin Siundu, University of Nairobi, Kenya
15h30-16h00: Tea/Coffee
East Africa at 50: A Celebration of Histories and Futures
16h00-17h00

Panel 4a
Mediating war and peace

Chair: A. Terah Ambala Venue: BIEA

The Journalism of war: Kenyan media and violence - Nicholas Anyuor, University of Nairobi, Kenya
Experimenting Peace Journalism on Kenya Television Networks
Diaspora Voices in the 2013 Electionsô Dr. Fredrick Oduor Ogenga

Panel 4b
Writing Somalia

Chair: Dr. Tina Steiner Venue: ED 213

Somalia: A Literary Perspective of 50 Years of Socio-Political Consciousness of the Bantu Jareer Community ó Mohammed Eno, Omar A. Eno and Mubarak O. Taj al Sir, St. Clement's University/ Portland State University/ADNOC Technical Institute
Poets as Muses of Migritude ó Prevalent Images of Contemporary Somalia in the Poetry of Ali Jimale Ahmed and Mohammed Eno - Dr. JKS Makokha, Kenyatta University, Kenya
17h30: Writers in Conversation: Panel I Venue: KCC

Wednesday 11th Sept 2013
08h30-10h30

Panel 5a
Writing violence

Chair: Dr. Godwin Siundu Venue: ED 213

Ruptured Bodies/Raptured Minds: The Narrative (in)capabilities of the Mutilated Body in The Last King of Scotland ó Nic van der Merwe, Stellenbosch University, South Africa
Representations of Vulnerable East African Childhoods - Dr. Edgar Nabutanyi, Makerere University, Uganda
Writing the Nation ó Post-Genocide Rwandan Literature ó Dr. Esther Mbithi, Kenyatta University, Kenya
Producing East African Geographies ó The Shadow of the Rwandan Genocide in the Kenyan Literary Journal Kwani?ô Kate Haines, University of Sussex, UK

Panel 5b
Swahili debates

Chair: Dr. Solomon Waliaula Venue: KCC

Insights into the Role and Function of Kiswahili as a Lingua Franca in Kenya ó Rose Mavisi and Florence Miima, Catholic University/Kenyatta University, Kenya

The Veneration of the Prophet through Qasida: A Performative Analysis of the Hamziyyah during the Lamu Maulidi Festival ó Dr. Tom Olali, University of Nairobi, Kenya

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Language, Socialisation and the Misrepresentation of Kenya's Literary Scene ó Prof. Kithaka wa Mberia, University of Nairobi, Kenya

Oral literature and nationhood ó Raya, Timammy University of Nairobi, Kenya

10h30-11h00: Tea/Coffee

11h00-13h00

Panel 6a

Performance traditions

Chair: Dr. Fugich Wako Venue: ED 213

Changing spectres: Interweaving loops in Kenyan Theatre - Emmanuel Shikuku, Freire Universitat, Germany

The Kenya National Drama Festivals and East African Popular Culture ó Prof. Monica Mweseli, University of Nairobi, Kenya

The Written Against the Oral: Aesthetic Feudalism in Kenya since 1968 - Japheth Peter Muindu and Gladys Kinara, Kabianga University, Kenya

Performing while Waiting in the Spaces of Informal Work ó The Case of the Kenyan Jua Kali Mechanic ó Dr. Joseph Basil Okong'o and Dr. Solomon Waliaula, Moi University/Maasai Mara University, Kenya

The Politics of Performance Space: Popular Arts, and politics in Postcolonial Kenya in Papa Shirandula Television Show ó Lawrence Oduki, Masinde Muliro University.

Panel 6b

African Languages

Chair: Dr. Tom Olali Venue: KCC

African Literature - Place, Language or Experience? ó Lencer Achieng Ndede, University of Nairobi, Kenya

The Resurgence of Interest in African Languages ó A Case of Mother-tongue Use in Kenya ó Dr. Lillian A Achieng and Dr. Vicky Khasandi, Egerton University; Laikipia University, Kenya

Mutiiri - Reclaiming the Dusty Little Road at Kamiriithu - Macharia Mwangi, Kenyatta University, Kenya

David vs Goliath: Indigenous Languages and Official Language Policy in East Africa ó Prof. Chege Githiora Kenyatta University, Kenya

13h00-14h00: Lunch

14h00-15h30

Panel 7a

The States of the East African State

Chair: Dr. Edgar Nabutanyi Venue: BIEA

I wish to quote myself in my Message to Your Excellency A Presidential Diplomatic Correspondence between the U.S. and Somalia (1974-76) ó Sinxolo Musangi, British Institute of Eastern Africa

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East Africa's Postcolonial Citizenship Crisis - The Tanzanian Exception? ó Jacob Akoko Akech, Makerere University, Uganda

Tribal Values, not Tribal Numbers, Count ó Prof. Taban Lo Liyong, University of Juba, South Sudan

Panel 7b

Social anthropologies

Chair: Emmanuel Shikuku Venue: EDU 213

The Rise of a Begging Nation ó The Discourse Patterns of Soliciting Offers Amongst Street Persons in Isiolo Township, Kenya ó David Asule Mukoba, Laikipia University, Kenya

The Samburu Traditional Communicative Ornamentation ó Identity and FGM ó Dr. Vicky Khasandi, Everlyn Mahero, Francis Ndegwa, Laikipia University; Egerton University, Kenya

Jigger, the Symbol of Shame: Relationships of Stigma Communication, Shame and Health Seeking Behaviours of Tungiasis Sufferers in Kenya ó Stephen Gichuhi Kimotho, Daystar University, Kenya

16h15 -17h00

Keynote address II: Dr. Susan Kiguli, Makerere University: óThe Term -Oratureø Its Origins, Practice and Potentialö Venue: ED 2

17h30: Writers in Conversation ó Panel II: KCC

Thursday 12th Sept 2013

08h30-10h30

Panel 8a

Critical trends and approaches

Chair: Dr. Fred Mbogo Venue: ED 213

In Search of Afrikology: Epistemological Case Studies From East Africa - Ronald Elly Wanda ó Marcus Garvey Pan-African Institute, Uganda

Where is Cultural Studies in Kenya 50 years on? ó Dr. Tom Odhiambo, University of Nairobi, Kenya

Literary Awards and Cultural Production ó Doseline Kiguru, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

Globalism, Cosmopolitanism and their Effects on the Language of Kenyan Literature ó Dr. Alex Wanjala, University of Nairobi, Kenya

Panel 8b

Crime, the city and cinematic insights

Chair: Dr. Tom Odhiambo Venue: KCC

Kenya Noir ó Kenya in African Crime Fiction ó Dr. Julia Augurt, University of Namibia
Re-Imaging Nairobi City-scape Through the Feature Film: An Example of Nairobi Half-Life ó
Marciana Nafula, Kenya Oral Literature Association

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Themes in Kenyan Film: Seasons and Reasons ó Dr. Rachel Diangø, Kenyatta University,
Kenya

Trauma Aesthetics in Documentary Films about Atrocities of the Lordø Resistance Army in
Northern Uganda ó Dr. Okaka Opio Dokotum, Kyambogo University, Uganda

10h30-11h00: Tea/coffee

11h00-13h00

Panel 9a

Writing Gender

Chair: Prof. Annie Gagiano Venue: ED 213

Beyond Equity: Alternative Political Leadership and the rise of the Aminatas -A gender
perspective of Imbugø play, Aminata - Samuel Furaha Gandi, University of Nairobi, Kenya

The Politics of Gayism, Gender and Morality in Adong Lucy Judithø Just Me, You and the
Silence ó Tobias Otieno Odongo, Moi University, Kenya

Que(e)rying girls and literary archaeology in Ugandan Short Stories by Doreen Baingana,
Monica Arac de Nyeko and Beatrice Lamwakaô Prof. Pumla Gqola, University of the
Witwatersrand, South Africa

Mother Africa Trope and the Aporia of Maps in Farahø Mapsô Neema Eliphias, University of
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Panel 9b

The serious business of laughter

Chair: Prof. Mbugua wa Mungai Venue: KCC

Urban folklore ó A literary analysis of mchongoano ó David Mwangi, Kenyatta University,
Kenya

Verbal Duels in Kenyan Primary Schools ó A Case Study of Mchongoano in Nakuru
Municipality Primary Schools ó Innocent Wandabwa, Laikipia University, Kenya

Who have we been laughing at?: Discussing gender in Kenyan television comedy ó Dr. Fred
Mbogo, Moi University, Kenya

Taking Margins to the Centre: A critical analysis of XYZ show and the social political
hegemony in Kenya ó Violet Oduor, Kenya

Panel 9c

Engaging Oral literatures

Chair: Dr. Okaka Opio Dokotum Venue: KCC Gallery

Tracking the Language Debate in the 21st Century ó Prof. Helen Mwanzi, University of Nairobi,
Kenya

Centering the Peripheral ó 50 years of Oral Poetry in Africa ó Dr. Joseph Muleka, University of

Nairobi, Kenya

Documentation of Kenyan Oral Literature and Traditions ó Prof. Chris Wanjala, University of Nairobi, Kenya

Oral Literature Education in Kenya, 50 Years Later ó Dr Rose A. Opondo, Moi University

13h00 ó 14h00: Lunch

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14h00-15h30

Panel 10a

Media histories

Chair: Jacob Akoko Akech Venue: ED 213

Youth Generated Media and the Contested Public Space in Kenya ó Eddie Ombagi, University of Kabianga, Kenya

Advertisements and Social Imaginaries in Popular Kenyan Women's and Youth Magazines ó

Prof. Bodil Folke Frederiksen, Roskilde University, Denmark

Chronicling the Kenyan broadcasting landscape: a legacy of elitist self-preservation, political profiteering and the 'big tribe' syndrome ó A. Terah Ambala, University of Johannesburg, South Africa

Panel 10b

Musica: Bongo, Benga, Genge and Zilizopendwa

Chair: Dr. Priscilla Gitonga Venue: KCC

From Bongo to Benga ó Makarios Wakoko, Laikipia University, Kenya

From zilizopendwa to Genge and Bongo Flava: Contemporary East African Popular music and the construction of Identity ó Vincent Odhiambo Oduor, University of Nairobi, Kenya

'Going to America' Contemporary Kenyan Pop Music as a Discourse on Modernity ó Prof.

Mbugua wa Mungai, Kenyatta University, Kenya

15h30: Closing remarks and future plans Venue: ED 213