

Militarism has had devastating effects on the African continent.

Speaking during a public lecture at the 8.4.4 multipurpose hall, visiting Prof. Amina Mama from the University of California said that militarism had underdeveloped Africa and destroyed its cultures and value systems. Prof Mama decried Africa's and the world's preoccupation with investments in militarism.

The professor pointed out that militarism should not be Africa's agenda, "The real security need is not military security but social security such as security against poverty and violence." She added that it was important for Africa to secure and promote social-economic development and democracy.



Prof. Mama addressing the audience at 8.4.4 lecture hall



The audience keenly follows the public lecture

The professor was concerned that many people across the world have died in wars more than other misfortune. She said, "The challenge for us now is how to make a difference this century by reducing militarism and global military expenditure."

Prof. Mama also noted that the military involvement of African women in post colonial conflicts had dramatically increased against the backdrop of gendered and ethnicized violence. The scholar praised the African woman for her resilience in conflict situations in the continent.

The public lecture titled, "Global Militarism and Resilience of Women in Africa" was organized by the [Institute for Development Studies](#) (IDS) together with the African Leadership Centre (ALC) and the African Peace building Network of the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) of New York. Prof. Mama is also the director of Women and Gender Studies Programme, University of California. She is also the founding editor of Feminist Africa, published by the African Gender Institute in Cape Town.