

# AFRICA

JOURNAL OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL AFRICAN INSTITUTE

REVUE DE  
L'INSTITUT AFRICAIN INTERNATIONAL

---

*Editor*

**J. D. Y. PEEL**

*Associate Editor*

**P. T. W. BAXTER**

*Reviews Editor*

**PAUL RICHARDS**

*Associate Reviews Editor*

**MURRAY LAST**

**Volume 53**

**1983**

**IAI**

**LONDON**

# Contents

## Rank and wealth among the Akan

Rank and class among the Asante and Fante in the nineteenth century KWAME ARHIN	1.1
Accumulation, wealth and belief in Asante history. I. To the close of the nineteenth century T. C. McCASKIE	1.2
Le status des forgerons et ses justifications symboliques: une hypothèse cognitive PASCAL BOYER	1.44
Populations, economy and domestic groups: the Kitui case MICHAEL O'LEARY	1.64
Notes and news	1.77
Reviews of books	1.80
Recent publications	1.107
Contributors to No. 1	1.63
Defunct labour reserve? Mambwe villages in the post-migration economy JOHAN POTTIER	2.2
The Sefwi Wiawso riot of 1953: the deposition of an Omanhene in the Gold Coast P. A. ROBERTS	2.25
Le Gbe est une langue unique HOUNKPATIN C. CAPO	2.47
The inheritance of private property among the Nama of southern Africa reconsidered PETER CARSTENS	2.58
Notes and news	2.71
Obituary: Yves (Erwan) Person, 1925–82	2.74
Reviews of books	2.76

Recent publications	2.91
Contributors to No. 2	2.24
<b>Christianity and the local community</b>	
One hundred and fifty years of Christianity in a Ghanaian town JOHN MIDDLETON	3.2
Dreams of power: social process in a West African religious movement RICHARD CURLEY	3.20
'Come vero Prencipe Catolico': the Capuchins and the rulers of Soyo in the late seventeenth century RICHARD GRAY	3.39
Mission L.M.S. et Mission Jésuite face aux communautés villageoises Merina: fondation et fonctionnement des paroisses entre 1869 et 1876 FRANÇOISE RAISON-JOURDE	3.55
The social context of Ibibio witch beliefs DANIEL OFFIONG	3.73
Obituary: Monica Wilson, 1908–82 An appreciation by DAVID BROKENSHA	3.83
Reviews of books	3.88
Recent publications	3.109
Contributors to No. 3	3.19
<b>Oral tradition and early colonial politics</b>	
Karnu's message and the 'War of the Hoe Handle': interpreting a Central African resistance movement PHILIP BURNHAM and THOMAS CHRISTENSEN	4.3
Chiefs of rain – chiefs of ruling: a reinterpretation of pre-colonial Tonga (Zambia) social and political structure DAN O'BRIEN	4.23
'Ceux qui refusent le maître': la conception du pouvoir chez les Minyanka du Mali JEAN-PAUL COLLEYN and DANIELLE JONCKERS	4.43

Cattle and class? Rights to grazing land, family organization and class formation in Msengezi	
A. P. CHEATER	4.59
Notes and news	4.75
Obituaries: Professor Meyer Fortes, 1906–83, and Jan Voorhoeve, 1923–83	4.80
Headpanners and dredgers: theory in Plateau studies A review article by BARRIE SHARPE	4.84
Reviews of books	4.92
Recent publications	4.105
Contributors to No. 4	4.2
Index to Vol. 53	4.109

# AFRICA

Vol. 53 No. 1 1983

*Editor · Rédacteur*

J. D. Y. Peel

*Associate Editor · P. T. W. Baxter · Rédacteur associé*

*Reviews Editor · Paul Richards · Rédacteur, comptes rendus*

*Associate Reviews Editor · Murray Last · Rédacteur associé, comptes rendus*

*Consultant Editors · Rédacteurs consultatifs*

Kwame Arhin · Boubacar Barry · Maurice Bloch · Peter Ekeh · Steven Feierman

Luc de Heusch · Goran Hyden · Ntole Kazadi · B. E. Kipkorir · Harriet Ngubane

David Parkin · T. O. Ranger · William A. Shack · Emmanuel Terray

Abdelkader Zghal

---

## Rank and wealth among the Akan

Rank and class among the Asante and Fante in the nineteenth century · *Kwame Arhin* 2

Accumulation, wealth and belief in Asante history

I. To the close of the nineteenth century · *T. C. McCaskie* 23

---

Le status des forgerons et ses justifications symboliques: une hypothèse cognitive ·  
*Pascal Boyer* 44

Population, economy and domestic groups: the Kitui case · *Michael O'Leary* 64

Notes and news 77

Reviews of books · Comptes rendus 80

Marc Augé, *The anthropological circle* (PETER GESHIERE); Luc de Heusch, *Why marry her?* (RICHARD FARDON); Polly Hill, *Dry grain farming families* (BARBARA HARRISS); Shula Marks and Anthony Atmore (eds.), *Economy and society in pre-industrial South Africa* (DAVID HEDGES); Howard Lamar and Leonard Thompson (eds.), *The frontier in history* (RICHARD RATHBONE); Reginald Green et al. (eds.), *Namibia: the last colony* (CALESTOUS JUMA); Lucien Demesse, *Changements technico-économiques et sociaux chez les Pygmées Babinga*, Serge Bahuchet (ed.), *Pygmées de Centrafricaine* and Lucien Demesse, *Techniques et économie des Pygmées Babinga* (NTOLE KAZADI); David Birmingham, *Central Africa to 1870* (JAN VANSINA); Jens Müller, *Liquidation or consolidation of indigenous technology* (BEN WISNER); Marguerite Jellicoe, *The long path* (BEN WISNER); Carl Christiansson, *Soil erosion and sedimentation in semi-arid Tanzania* (PAUL TEMPLE); Claire Polakoff, *African textiles and dyeing techniques* (PHILIP J. SHEA); Vinigi L. Grottanelli, *Una società guineana II* (P. P. VIAZZO); Tom W. Shick, *Behold the promised land* (CHRISTOPHER FYFE); Aldo Albert Benini, *Community development in a multi-ethnic society* (JENNIE DEY); Anthea Dickie, *Group farming in north-west Nigeria* (MARY TIFFEN); Barbara Rogers, *The domestication of women* (MAILA STIVENS); Stefano Santandrea, *Ethnogeography of the Bahr el Ghazal (Sudan)* (CHARLES JEDRE); Gabriel Warburg, *Islam, nationalism and trade unionism in a traditional society* (ROBIN COHEN); Marina Ottaway, *Soviet and American influence in the Horn of Africa* (FRED HALLIDAY); R. S. O'Fahey, *State and Society in Dar Fur* (LAMIN SANNEH); IDAF, *Namibia: the facts* (BEN WISNER).

Recent publications 107

---

Journal of the International African Institute  
Revue de l'Institut Africain International