

Authors

Abdilatif ABDALLA is a Kenyan writer, political activist and scholar. He is based in Germany, where he was teaching at the Institute for African Studies, University of Leipzig, from 1995 until his retirement in 2011. Before that he taught at School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. From 1986 to 1994 he held a position as Managing Director and Editor-in-Chief of *Africa Events* magazine, an international current affairs monthly on Africa, published in London. Abdalla also worked at Kiswahili Department of the BBC World Service in London from 1979 to 1986. Prior to that, for seven years he was a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Kiswahili Research, University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. From December 1968 to March 1972 he was imprisoned at the Kamiti Maximum Security Prison, Kenya, for political activism against the Kenya government, after he wrote, published and distributed the political pamphlet *Kenya: Twendapi?* (Kenya: Where Are We Heading To?). While in solitary confinement he wrote the poems collected in *Sauti ya Dhiki*, published in 1973, which was subsequently awarded the Kenyatta Literary Award.

Email: abdalla@rz.uni-leipzig.de

Eric BURTON is Assistant Professor for Global History at the Institute for Contemporary History at the University of Innsbruck. Following studies in international development and cultural and social anthropology at the Universities of Vienna and Dar es Salaam, he wrote his dissertation in history on African socialism in Tanzania and the development policies of the GDR and the FRG. In 2019 he was a guest lecturer at the University of Ghana in Legon. He also worked as an academic project collaborator, lecturer and guest researcher at the University of Vienna, the SFB 1199 of the University of Leipzig and the University of Exeter, specialising in the fields of development policy, socialism and educational migration. Current research project on “Hubs of Decolonization: Cairo, Accra and Dar es Salaam, 1956-65”.

Email: Eric.Burton@uibk.ac.at

Birgit ENGLERT is Associate Professor in African History and Society at the Department of African Studies, University of Vienna, where she also obtained her PhD in 2005. She has published widely on a broad range of topics within African Studies, notably among them land rights issues and popular cultural practices in East Africa as well as in diasporic contexts. Her most recent research is situated at the crossroads of Mobility Studies and African Studies. From 2016-2021, Englert served as Deputy Head of the Research Platform *Mobile Cultures and Societies* at the Vienna University. Further, she has been a founding member and managing editor of *Stichproben. Vienna Journal of African Studies* since 2001.

Email: birgit.englert@univie.ac.at

Sebastian FORST is a Doctoral Candidate at the African Studies Department of the University of Vienna, Austria. Holding a Master Degree in African Studies with a focus in 19th century West Africa, he works in the areas of Social History and History of Religions. His fields of interest are pre-colonial history, history of intercultural encounters, oral traditions, and biographies.

Email: forst_sebastian@yahoo.com

Immanuel R. HARISCH is a Doctoral Candidate in History at the Research Platform *Mobile Cultures and Societies* at the University of Vienna, Austria, working on the topic of African trade unionists in the global South as well as in East and West during the Cold War. He holds Master degrees in African Studies as well as International Development Studies. Among his fields of interests are Socialisms in Africa, knowledge production processes in the global South and the former Eastern bloc, and the history of trade unionism in Africa. His studies and research interests led him frequently to the Campus of Dar es Salaam University.

Email: immanuel.harisch@gmail.com

Doseline KIGURU is a postdoctoral research fellow at Rhodes University. She has a PhD in English from the University of Stellenbosch, was a Humanities Research Fellow at the British Institute of Eastern Africa (BIEA) in Nairobi and a Research Associate at the University of the Free State. Her research engages with issues of cultural and literary production in Africa with a major focus on literary prizes and the production of African literary and cultural value. Before embarking on an academic career, she was a journalist and editor. She has published various short stories as well as children's story books and is interested in literature both as a critic and as a writer.

Email: dosiekiguru@gmail.com

Martina KOPF is a Senior Lecturer in African Literatures at the Department of African Studies, University of Vienna and Elise Richter Fellow with a research project on 'Concepts of development in postcolonial Kenyan literature', funded by the Austrian Science Fund (FWF). Her work focuses on development theory and criticism in literary studies; African and postcolonial feminisms; memories of violence and ethics of representation. She has published in peer-reviewed journals and books including the *Routledge Handbook of African Literature*, *The Journal of Commonwealth Literature*, *Feminist Review* and *Matatu: Journal for African Culture and Society*.

Email: martina.kopf@univie.ac.at

Tom Michael MBOYA is an Associate Professor of African Literary and Popular Culture Studies in the School of Arts and Social Sciences of Moi University, Kenya. He is a poet and an award-winning short story writer who has published extensively in the Kenyan mass media. As an academic, Mboya mainly researches the popular culture of the Luo of East Africa, focusing on popular music, which he uses as a lens through which to perceive the complex social and political movements in the east African region from below. His most recent book is the monograph *Popular Music, Ethnicity and Politics in the Kenya of the 1990s: Okatch Biggy Live! at "The Junction"* (Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2019).

Email: tommichaelmboya@gmail.com

Dominik SPÖRKER hat Geschichtswissenschaften (2011-2016) und Afrikawissenschaften (2013 - 2019) an der Universität Wien studiert. Aktuell ist er Mitarbeiter beim Forschungsprojekt "Sammlung Emmerich Billitzer" im Weltmuseum Wien.

Email: domi.spoerker@gmail.com

C.F. Neels SWANEPOEL (BA, LLB, LLM, LLD) is an associate professor at the Department of Public Law, University of the Free State (UFS), South Africa. His legal career includes a stint as public prosecutor and a number of years as general law practitioner. In 1999, he was appointed as the Director of the University Law Clinic at the University of the Free State. His LLD (2006) highlighted his interest and passion towards the development of an international order of criminal justice. It has led him towards his interest in researching post-colonial human-and humanitarian rights protection in Africa, particularly, in post-democratic South African context. In 2013, he designed and introduced an international criminal law and justice post-graduate module at the UFS with design inputs from Justice Richard Goldstone, former constitutional court judge and chief prosecutor at the ITCY. In 2006 he was appointed as head of the department of law of evidence and procedure, and in 2015, as head of the department of public law. He retires in December 2020 and has been appointed as a research fellow in the department of public law at the UFS.

Email: SwanepCF@ufs.ac.za

Daniela WALDBURGER is a Senior Lecturer for Swahili and Lecturer for Linguistics at the Department of African Studies at the University of Vienna. She has a background in African Linguistics, General Linguistics and Social Anthropology. Her research interests include language in a societal context, the intertwining fields of language (mis)use and power (abuse), and Swahili Studies including Swahili varieties and Literature in Swahili. She has a strong interest in methodological questions, especially in participatory research approaches as well as in communication processes in knowledge production. Her regional focus is on Tanzania, Kenya and the DR Congo.

Email: daniela.waldburger@univie.ac.at