

**The
African
Association
for the
Study of
Religions**



STEERING COMMITTEE

Chairperson Jacob Olupona, University of California, Davis, African-American and African Studies Program, Davis, California, 95616, U. S. A.

Regional Representatives

West Africa: Dr. Friday M. Mbon, Dept. of Religious Studies and Philosophy, University of Calabar, P.M.B. 1115, Calabar, Nigeria; Dr. Christopher Ejisu, University of Port Harcourt, Port Harcourt, Nigeria.

East and Central Africa: Dr. Mary Getui, P. O. box 52979, Nairobi, Kenya Fax. 254- 2-726976

Southern Africa: Dr. Abdulkader I. Tayob, Dept. of Religious Studies, University of Cape Town, Private Bag, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa. **North and South America:** Dr. Rosalind I. J. Hackett, Dept of Religious Studies, 501 McClung Tower, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-0450, USA. **Europe:** Dr. Gerrie ter Haar, Dept of Social Sciences & Science of Religion, Katholieke Theologische Universiteit, Heidelberglaan 2, 3584 CS Utrecht, The Netherlands



The editors of the newsletters welcome any contributions and comments. Please submit entries to Gerrie ter Haar or Abdulkader Tayob, or any of the regional representatives who will pass them on. We would prefer, wherever possible, your contributions on computer disk format. E-mail messages may be sent to TAYOB@socsci.uct.ac.za. The information supplied in the Newsletter is accurate to the best of our knowledge. We, however, do not take responsibility for errors and omissions.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

We are pleased to publish another issue of our newsletter. This issue carries a number of items that will be of interest to you. First, it has a list of Institutes, departments and programs concerned with religion as an academic discipline. This is an incomplete list and we would like to know of other institutes or programs to include in our next issue. Another item of interest is the university of Edinburgh's project on Christianity in Non-Western World sponsored by the Pew Charitable Trusts and chaired by Dr. James Cox. You will recall that Dr. Cox played an important role in the founding of this association. The project serves as a model of what a cooperative venture between Africans and foreign institutions should look like. I will urge you to take a look at this project and the publications emanating from the conferences. The third item is Professor Adrian Hastings article on the Journal of Religion in Africa. The review contains not only the history of this important journal but also its publication policy. Last summer Professor Ulrich Berner, Bayreuth University hosted a meeting of the Steering Committee of the Association. In attendance were David Westerlund, Gerrie ta Haar, Ulrich Berner, Frieder Ludwig and myself. We deliberated on several matters affecting the association including finance and publication. It seems that we have devised a way of holding yearly meetings that we shall continue until such a time when we will be financially strong to travel to the continent for such meetings. I seize this opportunity to thank Ulrich and his secretary Mrs. Menchen for taking good care of us during our stay in Germany.

I went to Nigeria last summer and visited some of our Universities. Unfortunately, the strike prevented me from seeing a good number of our colleagues. However, I noticed that the Nigerian Association for the Study of Religion (NASR) has produced a significant number of books on Religion that should be of interest to all of us. Under the Chairmanship of Professor Deremi Abubakar, the Association obtained donations from the Federal Government of Nigeria with which they produced these publications. We

congratulate NASR for their efforts in keeping the study of Religion alive in Nigeria in spite of the hardships.

We announce with sadness the death of our colleague and friend Babs Mala. He was until his death a Reader in Islamic Studies and had served as the Head of the Department of Religious Studies. Babs Mala was a delightful person and a valuable scholar who contributed so much to Muslim-Christian dialogue in Africa. We will surely miss him. Our condolences go to his family and our colleagues at the University of Ibadan.

Prof. Jacob Olupona



PUBLICATIONS

In the previous issue of the Newsletter we reported that the Journal of Religion in Africa will now be published in cooperation with the AASR. We are thankful to the editor of JRA, professor Adrian Hastings, for providing some very useful information about the journal in the present issue of our Newsletter. At the time of writing this note (late September, 1996) the first two volumes of the AASR book series 'Religions of Africa', (1) 'The Study of Religions in Africa: Past, Present and Prospects', ed. by Jan G. Platvoet, James L. Cox and Jacob K. Olupona, and (2) Simeon Ilesanmi's 'Religious Pluralism and the Nigerian State', have not yet been published. Both will probably appear in November. For the information particularly of new readers of the Newsletter we publish here the foreword to the 'Religions of Africa' series that will appear in the first of these two volumes.

High priority was given to publication at the founding of the African Association for the Study of Religions. One of the first decisions taken in September 1992 was to form a publications subcommittee. This committee has launched a book series of first-rate studies on 'Religions of Africa'. In 1995, two editors, Jacob K. Olupona and David Westerlund, and an editorial advisory board of ten scholars representing various disciplines and continents, were appointed for a first period of five years.

'Religions of Africa' is open for scholarly contributions on indigenous or traditional African religions, Christianity and Islam, as well as for studies on minority religions such as Bahaism, Hinduism and Judaism. Volumes on religions of African origin in other continents may also be published in it. The series aims at maintaining a wide range of scholarly approaches. It is primarily, but not exclusively, intended for African scholars. Special attempts are also made to encourage and assist young and promising academics. The main language is English, but it is possible to include books written in French too. Volumes in the series are published in co-operation with publishers in various continents. In addition to supporting scholars in terms of publishing manuscripts, the AASR aims to contribute substantially to the distribution of these books in Africa. We are delighted to start the Religions of Africa series with the present volume, based on papers that were presented at the Harare conference of 1992. We hope that it will be followed by many inspiring and important works on the rich religious heritage of Africa."

David Westerlund & Jacob Olupona, Editors of the AASR series 'Religions of Africa'



SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED

The **Overseas Ministries Study Center**, New Haven, Connecticut, U.S.A. administers the Research Enablement Program for the advancement of scholarship in studies of Christian Mission and World Christianity. Scholars who are engaged in a research project, can apply for a grant for the 1997-1998 academic year.

Applicants must submit a complete application package to be considered for a grant award. The application package includes:

1. A completed Research Enablement Program application form
2. A cover letter from the applicant
3. A curriculum vitae of the applicant
4. A project proposal of 1200 words maximum. The proposal should indicate the theme, purpose and methodology and/or nature of the research program.
5. Letters of reference from the three scholars with recognized expertise in the applicant's field.

All application materials, including letters of reference, must be received by November 28, 1996. Grant recipients will be notified by March 1, 1997. Research Enablement Program grants awarded in 1997 will be for project to be undertaken during the 1997-1998 academic year. Grants are awarded directly to individuals and are normally non-renewable.

Contact address: Geoffrey A. Little, Coordinator Research Enablement Program Overseas Ministries Study Center, 490 Prospect Street, New Haven, Connecticut 06511-2196, U.S.A.



The **Overseas Ministries Study Centre** also administers the Research Advancement Grant program for the advancement of scholarship in studies of Christian Mission and Christianity in the non-Western world. The Religion Program of The Pew Charitable Trusts invites proposals for large-scale projects that will enhance team research and publication in studies of Christian Mission and non-Western Christianity. Grants will be made on a competitive basis for two-to three-year collaborative project that will contribute significantly to the advancement of scholarship on cross-cultural mission and/or the development of Christianity in the southern and eastern continent. grant will range from \$50,000 to \$100,000 (U.S.) per year.

Projects should be directed by one or more established scholars, have access to appropriate research facilities, involve scholars from two or more regions of the world, and contribute to the intellectual and cross-cultural vitality of the global Christian movement. Projects that are interdenominational and interdisciplinary and that elicit significant contributions from the non-Western world are particularly welcome. Two or three grants will be awarded at the end of 1997, subject to the quality of proposals received and the availability of funds. The deadline for receiving initial proposals is May 1, 1997. Contact Address: Geoffrey A. Little as above.

Oppenheimer Academic Fellowship Scheme. The Centre of African Studies, University of London, invites applications from relatively established South African academics, working in the broad field of African studies in the social science and humanities, for the January/February-April 1997 Fellowship, sponsored by the Ernest Oppenheimer Memorial Trust. For full details on application please contact the office of the Centre of African Studies. Address: Centre of African Studies, University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies, Thornhaugh Street, Russel Square, London WC1H 0XG.

Announcement of Research Fellowships. Centre for the Study of Christianity in the Non-Western World, University of Edinburgh.

The African Christianity Project invites applications for Research Fellowships in the Centre for the Study of Christianity in the Non-Western World, University of Edinburgh, Scotland. Three fellowships are available for a minimum period of 3 months up to a maximum of 6 months and can be assumed any time in 1998 so long as the Fellowship is completed by 31 December 1998.

The qualifications for applicants are as follows:

- 1) The applicant currently must be a staff member in an African institution (such as a University, theological college or educational training centre) and be planning to return to the institution after completing the Fellowship;
- 2) The applicant must be conducting research relevant to Christianity in Africa;
- 3) The applicant should be at a stage in the research that the time in Edinburgh can be used largely for the writing-up or completion of the research project.

The African Christianity Project pays return air fare from the Fellow's home country and provides an honorarium of £725 per month while the candidate is resident in Edinburgh up to a maximum of six months. The Fellow is responsible for paying for his/her own accommodation out of the monthly honorarium, but the Project is willing to help the candidate find a suitable and affordable living situation in Edinburgh. The Fellowship does not include support for any member of the candidate's family.

Those interested in applying should send a current curriculum vitae, a two page summary of the research topic to be completed in Edinburgh, a statement of the dates in 1998 in which the Fellowship will be assumed, and a letter of support from the relevant Department within the candidate's home institution to: Dr James Cox, Co-ordinator, African Christianity Project, CSCNWW, University of Edinburgh, New College, Mound Place, EDINBURGH EH1 2LX, Scotland, UK. **Application Deadline: 15 July 1997**

NEWS UPDATE

The **South African Academy of Religion** and the **Association for the Study of Religions (Southern Africa)** held a joint conference at the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, in June 1996. The theme of the Conference was Religion and Society, and attracted a large number of scholars. Plenary and parallel sessions discussed issues, ranging from the future of black theology to religious fundamentalism in Africa.

The Interact Research Centre, Selly Oak Colleges, Birmingham, U.K., has changed its name into CESNERM, acronym for the Centre for the Study of New Religious Movements. The section on Africa of the Centre's Turner Collection on Microfiche, unavailable for about a year has now been replaced 'with interest'. It includes an update; there are now 520 fiche's in place of the 360 of the previous collection. Nearly all the old material is there but many items have been added gathered from more recent controversies and discussions, from material sent by correspondents and from the proceedings of conferences in Africa. Also more of the items that are not in English have been translated.

Home Pages for your Interest

I have received the address of the home-page constructed by the Department of Religious Studies, University of Natal, South Africa. Tell me what you think of it, and inform me of other interesting homepages. For now, try
http://www.unp.ac.za/UNPDepartments/Religious_Studies/soc.htm

CAMP, the Cooperative Africana Microform Project, is a cooperative based around the US Centre for Research Libraries to promote the preservation of publications and archives on and from Africa and to make these

materials available in microform to researchers. To this end CAMP acquires expensive microform sets and authorises original filming of unique research materials in North America, Africa and Europe. Materials collected in microform include: selected newspapers, journals, government publications, personal and corporate archives, personal papers of scholars, government leaders and journalists, writings in European and African languages. General information can be obtained from CAMP's World Wide Web home page (<http://www.crl.uchicago.edu/crlhp.html>).

The first **Ghana International Book Fair** (GIBF) will be held at the international Trade Fair Centre, Accra, from 6 to 12 November, 1996. The theme is: 'Books- essential tools for development'. For application en further information: The Director-General, Ghana Trade Fair Authority, P.O. Box 111, Trade Fair Centre, Accra, West Africa.



African Books Collective is a major new self-help initiative by a group of African publishers to promote their books in Europe, North America, and in Commonwealth countries outside Africa. It is owned by its founding member publishers, is registered as a UK company limited by guarantee, and is governed by a Council of Management which is constituted on a broad regional basis and comprising elected representatives from East, West and Central/Southern Africa. African Books Collective is a donor organization supported and non-profit making on its own behalf and, because

of this, is in a position to offer its member publishers more favourable terms than those normally available under conventional commercial distribution agreements.

African Books Collective provides centralized billing and shipping from one service point, and a wide range of joint catalogues and other promotional material is being issued. For the time being, African Books Collective stocks only English-language material, with an emphasis on scholarly and academic books, creative writing by African authors and critical works on African literature; children's books and certain general interest titles are also stocked. Titles stocked are for the most part new and recently published, but a limited range of pre-1988 back-lists are also available. For more information: African Books Collective, The Jam Factory, 27 Park End Street, Oxford OX1 1HU, U.K., tel.:44-(0)965-726686.



The African Christianity Project. The African Christianity Project, located in the Centre for the Study of Christianity in the Non-Western World in the University of Edinburgh, is now in its second phase under a renewed grant from The Pew Charitable Trusts in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The Project, which is co-ordinated in Edinburgh by Dr James Cox, is linked with the Departments of Theology and/or Religious Studies in the Universities of Sierra Leone, Malawi, Zimbabwe and Botswana and with the Akrofi-Christaller Centre for Applied Theology and Mission Research in Akropong, Ghana. In addition, the Project cooperates in various aspects of its programmes with the University Twinning Project (UNITWIN) of Utrecht University and through it with the Department of Religion and Theology in the University of Namibia and with the Centre of African Studies in Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo, Mozambique.

The Project has created an International Committee comprised of representatives from all of the linked institutions (including the UNITWIN network). The first meeting, held in Gaborone, Botswana in late March of this year, elected Dr Leslie Shyllon of the University of Sierra Leone as Chair until April 1997. He will be succeeded for the next year by Dr Obed Kealotswe of the University of Botswana.

At the meeting of the International Committee, it was decided to hold two regional conferences on the theme: 'Christian Engagement with African Cultural Dynamics: Religious, Political and Societal Challenges'. The first conference will be held at Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone, from 4-7 April 1997. The second regional conference will be held at the University of Botswana from 14-17 April 1998. Each link institution will hold seminars on the theme in preparation for the conferences. It is hoped that publications will come from each of the conferences.

Two publications from conferences held under the prior grant are due shortly. The Role of Christianity in Peace, Development and Reconstruction: Southern African

Perspectives, edited papers from the Malawi Conference of December 1993, will appear in September 1996 under publication by the All African Conference of Churches in Nairobi. The Harare papers from June 1994, published by Cardiff Academic Press under the title Focus on Rites of Passage. The Interaction between Christian and African Traditional Religions, will be available in October 1997.

Another aspect of the Project approved at the International Committee was the Research Fellowship Programme. Six Fellowships will be awarded for scholars to come to Edinburgh for a period from three to six months. In addition, the link institutions can sponsor one Fellow from their respective Departments for a maximum of six months in another African institution. The first to take up one of these Fellowships is Dr Hilary Mijoga of the University of Malawi, who will be resident in the Department of Theology in the University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg, through February 1997.

The Bibliographic and Resource Sharing portion of the Project, under the direction of Mrs Elizabeth Leitch, has produced a cumulative bibliography listing materials on African Christianity held in the Centre in Edinburgh, in various locations throughout Malawi, at Fourah Bay College in Sierra Leone, and in the Akrofi-Christaller Centre in Ghana. The University of Zimbabwe is now beginning work on adding its holdings to the bibliography.

The next phase is to include unpublished and archival materials in the bibliography. The Department of Theology and Religious Studies in the University of Malawi has hired a librarian to help in cataloguing important unpublished materials. Mrs. Leitch has visited Ghana to assist in the same work there. In addition, while in Ghana, Mrs. Leitch used a scanner to place archival materials onto computer files. It is hoped that at the end of the Project a CD Rom will have been produced with a full bibliography and another with selected archival materials from certain of the link institutions.

The African Christianity Project will come to a conclusion at the end of 1998, but it is hoped that the link institutions will be able to produce grant proposals which may carry forward some aspects of the Project beyond the period covered by this grant.

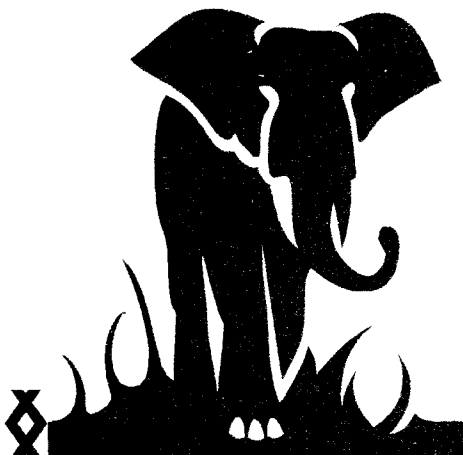


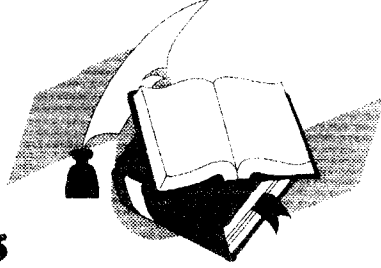
PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

Paul Isaak of the Department of Religion and Theology at the University of Namibia, is a Visiting International Scholar for the 1996-1997 academic year at Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa, USA. He will rejoin the Department in Namibia towards the end of June 1997. His courses at Wartburg will include: The Church and Social Change in Southern Africa, African Theology and Anthropology, and Religion, Mission and Ecumenism in a secular world. Address: Wartburg Theological Seminary, 333 Wartburg Place, Dubuque, Iowa 52003-7797, U.S.A.

Dr Isabel Phiri, from the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Malawi, has joined the Department of Religion and Theology at the University of Namibia. She will be responsible for courses in African Religion, Theology and Gender, and World's Religious Traditions.

Dr. Gerrie ter Haar will be on study leave during the last three months of 1996. She will be back in the office from January 1997 onwards.





PUBLIKATIONS

Scriptura, International Journal of Bible, Religion and Theology in Southern Africa, 1996, nr. 5+6, is a special edition about Religion in West Africa: Christianity, Islam and Traditional Religion in relation to colonial and post-colonial history, by Peter Clarke. Peter Clarke, King's College, London is visiting professor at Stellenbosch University, South Africa, Department of Religion. He published the following articles in Scriptura: Christianity and Nation Building in West Africa. p. 1-14.

The Islamic millenarian tradition in West Africa with special reference to Nigeria: aims and impact. p.15-39.

The response to prophecy: an African case study. p. 41-67.

Christian relations with Islam and African Traditional Religions in West Africa. p. 69-78.

Ilu, Revista de Ciencias de las Religiones, is the new journal published by the Instituto Universitario de Ciencias de las Religiones, Universidad Complutense of Madrid. Subjects to be published are in the field of sociology, anthropology, psychology and phenomenology of religion, history of religions, literature and religious fine arts and religious thought. The Review will pay special attention to papers on subjects about religious phenomena in Spain, particularly on Judaism, Christianity and Islam through the centuries. Please send your contributions to: Juan Antonia Alvarez-Pedrosa, Secretario de 'Ilu, Revista de Ciencias de las Religiones',

Departamento de Filología Griega y Lingüística Indoeuropea, Facultad de Filología, A-327, 28040 Madrid, Spain.

CD-ROM Black Studies on Disc has appeared. Black Studies on Disc is a library catalogue of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, the New York Public Library and GK Hall's Index to Black Periodicals on CD-ROM. Black Studies on Disc is distributed by GK Hall Products in the UK: Thompson Henry, London Road, Sunningdale, Berkshire, SL5 OEP. Fax: 01344 26120.

Studies in World Christianity (Editor: Professor James Mackey) is a new journal born of the conviction that for every branch of Christian theology (biblical, historical, systematic, pastoral), and for a discipline of religious studies largely created in the Christian or post-Christian West, new challenges are emerging from a changing world. The journal welcomes articles from those who can envisage a creative response to emergent challenges/opportunities from Christians in the Two-Thirds World, inter-religion encounters and in the political economy.

Emergent challenges in these three areas are being met with imagination in different places already; the journal provides a forum for their mutual information and enrichment. The journal is edited from the Faculty of Divinity at the University of Edinburgh. Send for Order forms and enquiries to :

Journals Marketing Department
Edinburgh University Press Ltd
22 George Square
Edinburgh EH8 9LF



BOOKS AND ARTICLES

Baldick, Julian. *Black God. The Afroasiatic Roots of the Jewish, Christian and Muslim Religions*. Tauris, 1996. ISBN: 1-86064-123-7.

Browne, Herman B., *Theological Anthropology. A dialectic study of the African and Liberation Traditions*. London: Avon Books, 1996. ISBN: 1-86033.233 1.

Burke, T. Patrick. *The Major Religions, An introduction with texts*, Blackwell Publishers, Oxford, 1996. ISBN: 1-55786-715-1.

Cheza, Maurice (ed), *Le Synode Africain. Histoire et textes*. Paris: Ed. karthala, 1995. ISBN: 2-86537-648-6, 1995.

Clarke, Peter B. *Mahdism in West Africa. The Ijebu Mahdiyya Movement*. London: Luzac Oriental, 1995.

Cox, James L. 'Ancestors, the sacred and God: reflections on the meaning of the sacred in Zimbabwean death rituals', *Religion*, 25, 4, 1995:339-355.

_____ 'The classification "Primal Religions" as a non-empirical, Christian theological construct', *Studies in World Christianity: The Edinburgh Review of Theology and Religion*, 2,1, 1996: 55-76.

Eide, O.M. *Revolution and Religion in Ethiopia. A study of Church and Politics with special reference to the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus, 1974-1985*. Uppsala Universitet, 1996. ISBN 91-85424-46-3.

Hansson, Guri. *Mwana Ndi Mai, Toward an understanding of preparation for motherhood and child care in the transitional Mberengwa District, Zimbabwe*. Doct. diss., Uppsala, Sweden, 1996. ISBN 91-85424 45-5.

Langworthy, Harry. *"Africa for the African": The life of Joseph Booth*. Kachere Monographs Series. Zomba, Malawi, 1996.

Maimela, Simon S.(ed.). *Culture, Religion and Liberation*. Nairobi: AACC. African Challenges Series.

Mana, Kä. *Wiederaufbau Afrikas und Christentum. Afrikanische Theologie für eine Zeit der Krise*. Luzern: Edition Exodus, 1996. ISBN 3-905577-01-1.

Matibag, Eugenio. *Afro-Cuban Religious Experience. Cultural Reflections in Narrative*. Iowa, USA: University Press of Florida, 1996. ISBN 0-8130-1431-X.

McCloud, Aminah Beverly, *African American Islam*. New York & London: Routledge Press, 1995. ISBN: 0-415-90785-3.

Mungazi, Dickson A., et al. *Islam in Africa. Proceedings of the Islam in Africa Conference*. Spectrum Books, 1993. ISBN: 9782461237.

Mungazi, Dickson A., *Gathering under the Mango Tree. Values in Traditional Culture in Africa*. New York: American University Studies. ISBN 0-8204-2336-X, 1996.

Ncozana, S.S. *Sangaya. A leader in the Blantyre Synod, Church of Central Africa Presbyterian*. Kachere Text Series, Zomba, Malawi.

Ross, Andrew C. *Blantyre Mission and the Making of Modern Malawi*. Kachere Monographs Series, Zomba, Malawi.

Ross, K.R. *Gospel Ferment in Malawi: Theological Essays*. Kachere Book Series, Zomba, Malawi.

Sindima, Harvey J. *Africa's Agenda. The legacy of liberalism and colonialism in the crisis of Africa Values*. New York: Greenwood Press, 1995.

Tedla, Eleni. Sankofa. *African Thought and Education*. New York: Studies in African and African-American Culture, 1995. ISBN: 0-8204-2526-5.

Theron, Stephen. *Africa, Philosophy and the Western Tradition. An essay in Self-understanding*. Frankfurt am Main, 1995. ISBN 3-631-48611-1.

FOCUS

The Journal of Religion in Africa

Prof. Adrian Hastings.

The Journal of Religion in Africa (published by Brill) was founded by Andrew Walls in 1967. It began with three issues a year, 240 pages in all. I took over the editorship from Andrew in mid-1985. By 1987 we were able to move to a total of 288 pages, in 1991 to four issues a year and in 1995 to 448 pages. The amount of good material coming in enables us to fill this extra space without difficulty and we may decide on further enlargement in the future.

The basic reason for growth is clear enough: we are the only journal in the world combining a genuinely international status and specialisation in this, very considerable, field. The JRA has become in consequence an absolutely essential tool of work. Nevertheless when one remembers that we are continually concerned with three major religious traditions - Africa's own non-literate traditional belief systems, Christianity and Islam - with historical, anthropological and sociological methods together with an attempt to review all relevant new literature (not only in English), then one may conclude that 448 pages is still too limited a space.

It has been my policy to produce wherever possible focused issues rather than randomly constructed ones, but the focus has been more deliberately planned in advance in some cases than others: issues on Literature (February 1989), Hymns (June 1990), Victor Turner (May 1994), Art and Religion (November 1994), the Sudan (February 1992) and Ethiopia (August 1992) represent the more carefully planned end of the spectrum.

We are open to a great variety of lengths and methodologies, often printing articles considerably longer than most comparable journals would accept. It seems to me that important work often requires fairly rapid publication when it is less in size than a book but more than the customary 20-page article. The central section of an outstanding PhD thesis can be an example. This enables the core of a piece of research likely otherwise to remain unpublished to see the light, and quite quickly. But shorter pieces are perfectly acceptable too. Methodologically it seems important not to be constrained by the orthodoxies of any one school - so long as the presentation is widely intelligible. The Journal wants to be a forum for sophisticated and wide-ranging theoretical discussion, such as Luc de Heusch's Malinowski lecture on 'Myth and Reality' (October 1988), or the dialogue between Richard Werbner and James Fernandez on the Body in Bwiti (February 1990). But the publication of interesting primary texts (including where possible the African language original), such as W A Hart's 'A West African Masquerade in 1815' (May 1993) or Donald Mackay's and Daniel Ntoni-Nzinga's 'Kimbangu's Interlocutor: Nyuvudi's Nsamu Mianguza' (August 1993) are no less welcome. What is

essential is that everything accepted by the Journal is, in some way, a fresh contribution to our subject.

The frontier with theology is a difficult one to delineate. The Journal is not one of theology and we regularly turn down articles whose interest is primarily theological, including the extended comparison between biblical and African religions. While theology is part of African religion, the more clearly theological, or biblically-based, an article is, the more likely I am to suggest it be sent elsewhere.

Circulation is uneven. Very few copies go outside Africa itself, North America, Western Europe and Japan. Neither Russia nor Portugal takes a single copy, and Australia only one. In Africa, sad to say, only six reach Nigeria, and not one gets to Cameroon, the Congo, Togo or Benin. We are in this simply part of Africa's book famine. The role of the Journal is obviously severely damaged by limitations in its African circulation, just as it is by its too small number of African contributors. An extended index of the first 26 volumes is now being prepared. When published, it will provide a major research tool for the subject.

Finally, a word about our companion monograph series: Studies of Religion in Africa. The first volume, H W Mobley, *The Ghanaian's Image of the Missionary*, was published by Brill in 1970. When in 1992, we published *Dreaming, Religion and Society*, edited by M C Jedrej and Rosalind Shaw, it was still only the seventh in the series: less than one book every three years. I then came to the conclusion that there was no point in continuing the series unless its profile was greatly raised. This Brill agreed to do. Since 1994 nine volumes have appeared, the latest being Dr Obeng's study of Asante Catholicism and Dr Fargher's *Origins of the New Churches Movement in Southern Ethiopia 1927-1944*. Other volumes are on the way. I hope that the series can develop with wide support as a mainstay for the study of African religion.

The Journal endeavours to be, to quote the February 1995 editorial, 'a central journal of reference . . . open to a full range of viewpoints . . . at the service of the international scholarly community for the study at the highest level of expertise, historical,

sociological and theoretical, of the religions of Africa'. That is the intention. Its achievement, however, depends upon the imaginative cooperation of a network of scholarly communities - a cooperation which will now, I hope, be enhanced by the support of the African Association for the Study of Religions, three of whose committee - Professors Olupona, Hackett and Westerlund - are now member of the Journal's Editorial Advisory Board. 08-09-96.

ADDRESSES OF AFRICAN INSTITUTES RELATED TO THE STUDY OF RELIGIONS.



La Voix de St. Gall, Grand Séminaire de Saint Gall-
Quidah, B.P. 15, Ouidah,
BENIN

Department of Theology and Religious Studies,
University of Botswana, P.B. 0022, Gaborone,
BOTSWANA

Ecoute, Afrique, Associat. Théologique Saint Augustin, B.P. 312, Bobo-Dioulasso,
BURKINA FASO

Au Coeur de l'Afrique, Secrétariat de l'Episcopat du Burundi, B.P. 1390, Bujumbura,
BURUNDI

Bulletin Bimestriel d'Information de la Faculté de Théologie Protestante de Yaoundé,
B.P. 4011, Yaoundé, CAMEROUN

Aube Nouvelle Ecole Théologique Saint-Cyprien, B.P. 11078, Yaoundé, CAMEROUN

Revue de l'Institut Catholique de l'Afrique de l'Ouest, 08 B.P. 22, Abidjan, COTE
D'IVOIRE

Department of Religious Studies, University of Cape Coast, GHANA

Akrofi-Christaller Centre, P.O. Box 76, Akropong-Akuapen, GHANA

Newsletter Tamale Institute of Cross-cultural Studies (T.I.C.C.S.), P.O. Box 1012, Tamale, GHANA

Department of *for the Study of Religions* Religious Studies, P.O. Box 66, University of Ghana, Legon- Accra, GHANA

- The Catholic University of Eastern Africa, P.O. Box 4002, Eldoret , KENYA
- AFER, African Ecclesial Review, AMECEA Gaba Publications, P.O. Box 4002, Eldoret, KENYA
- East Africa Journal of Evangelical Theology, P.O. Box 62157, Nairobi, KENYA
- Nairobi Evangelical Graduate School of Theology, P.O. Box 24686, Nairobi, KENYA
- Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, University of Nairobi, P.O. Box 30197, Nairobi, KENYA
- Christian Learning Material Centre, P.O. Box 24345, Karen, Nairobi , KENYA
- Africa; Journal of Evangelical Theology; c/o Scott Theological College, P.O. Box 49, Machakos, KENYA
- African Challenge, All African Conference of Churches, P.O.Box 14205, Nairobi, KENYA
- BICAM (Catholic Biblical Centre for Africa and Madagascar), P.O. Box 24215, Karen, Nairobi, KENYA
- Biblical Pastoral Bulletin (BICAM), P.O. Box 24215, Karen, Nairobi, KENYA
- Department of Religious Studies, Kenyatta University, P.O. Box 43844, Nairobi, KENYA
- C.U.E.A. African Christian Studies; Journal of the Catholic University of Eastern Africa, P.O. Box 24205, Karen, Nairobi. KENYA
- Hekima Review, Journal of Hekima College; The Jesuit School of Theology, P.O. Box 21215, Nairobi, KENYA

Department of Theology and Religious Studies, National University of Lesotho, P.O. Roma, LESOTHO

Aspects du Christianisme a Madagascar, Secrétariat de l'ACM; Institut Supérieur de Théologie, B.P. 6026, 101 Antananarivo, MADAGASCAR

ATISCA, Bulletin: The teaching of Church History and Ministerial Formation in Africa, P.O. Box 280, Zomba, MALAWI

Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Malawi, P.O. Box 280, Zomba, MALAWI

Universidade Eduardo Mondlane; Centro de Estudos Africanos, C.P 1993, Maputo, MOZAMBIQUE

Department of Religion and Theology, P.B. 13.301, Windhoek, NAMIBIA

Paulinum Theological Seminary, P.O. Box 1005, Karibib 9000, NAMIBIA

Department of Religion, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Anambra State, NIGERIA

Department of Religious Studies, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, NIGERIA

Orita (Journal), Department of Religious Studies, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, NIGERIA

Department of Religious Studies, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ileem Ife, NIGERIA

Department of Religions, University of Ilorin, Ilorin, NIGERIA

Department of Religious Studies, University of Jos, NIGERIA

Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, NIGERIA

Department of Islamic and Arabic Studies, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, NIGERIA.

Department of Religion and Philosophy, University of Calabar, P.M.B. 1115, Calabar, NIGERIA

African Journal of Biblical Studies; Nigerian Association of Biblical Studies, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, NIGERIA

Bigard Theological Studies; Bigard Memorial Seminary Theological Faculty, P.O. Box 327, Enugu, NIGERIA

TCNN Research Bulletin; Theological College of Northern Nigeria, P.O. Box 64, Bukuru, Plateau State, NIGERIA

The Nigerian Journal of Theology Spiritan International School of Theology, (S.I.S.T.), P.O. Box 9696, Enugu, NIGERIA

Bulletin of Ecumenical Theology; Spiritan International School of Theology, (S.I.S.T.) P.O. Box 9696, Enugu, NIGERIA

Bodija Journal, Seminary of Saint Peter and Paul, P.O. Box 5171, Ibadan, NIGERIA

JOS Studies, St. Augustine's Major Seminary, P.O. Box 182, Jos, NIGERIA

Centre for Applied Religion and Education 11, Agbegbanla Layout, P.O. Box 9270, Ibadan, NIGERIA

Journal of Inculturation Theology, Faculty of Theology, Catholic Institute for West Africa (CIWA), P.O. Box 499, Port Harcourt, NIGERIA

Institute for Contextual Theology, P.O. Box 32047, Braamfontein 2017, Johannesburg, SOUTH AFRICA

Faculty of Theology, University of the Western Cape, P.B. X17, Bellville 7530, SOUTH AFRICA

Journal of Black Theology, P.O. Box 287, 0008 Atteridgeville, SOUTH AFRICA

Department of Religion, University of Stellenbosch, P.B. X1, Matieland 7602, SOUTH AFRICA

Scriptura; International Journal of Bible, Religion and Theology in South Africa, Private Bag X1, Matieland 7602, SOUTH AFRICA

Department of Religious Studies, University of South Africa, P.O. Box 392, 0001 Pretoria, SOUTH AFRICA

Islamic Studies, Department of Semitic Studies, University of South Africa, P.O. Box 392, 0001 Pretoria, SOUTH AFRICA

Centre for Arabic and Islamic Studies, University of South Africa, P.O. Box 392, 0001 Pretoria, SOUTH AFRICA

Department of Religious Studies, University of Natal, P.O. Box 375, Pietermaritzburg, 3200, SOUTH AFRICA

Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, P.B. X 1106, Sovenga 0727, SOUTH AFRICA

Journal for the Study of Religion, Private Bag X01, Scottsville, Pietermaritzburg, 3209, SOUTH AFRICA

Faculty of Theology, University of Zululand, P.B. X-1, Kwa Dlangezwa 3886, SOUTH AFRICA

BCT; Bulletin for Contextual Theology in S.A. & Afr.; School of Theology, Private Bag X01, Scottsville 3209, SOUTH AFRICA

Department of Historical and Contextual Theology, University of Fort Hare, P.B. X 1314, Alice, Eastern Cape, SOUTH AFRICA

Department of Religious Studies, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, Cape, SOUTH AFRICA

Research Institute of Christianity in South Africa, Department of Religious Studies, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, Cape, SOUTH AFRICA

Institute of Comparative Religions in South Africa, Department of Religious Studies, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, Cape, SOUTH AFRICA

Centre for Contemporary Islam, Department of Religious Studies, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, Cape, SOUTH AFRICA

Journal of Theology for Southern Africa; Department of Religious Studies, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, Cape, SOUTH AFRICA

Missonalia, 31, 14th Street Menlo Park, 0081 Pretoria, SOUTH AFRICA

Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Swaziland, Private Bag 4, Kwaluseni, SWAZILAND

- > Africa Theological Journal, ALICE, P.O. Box 314, Arusha, TANZANIA

- > Africa Theological Journal, Faculty of the Lutheran Theological College Makumira, P.O. Box 55, Usa River, TANZANIA

Journal of Africa Religion and Philosophy, P.O. Box 16144, Wandegeya, Kampala,
UGANDA

Department of Religious Studies and Philosophy, Makerere University,
P.O. Box 7062, Kampala, UGANDA

Bulletin de Theologie Africaine, B.P. 823, Kinshasa XI, ZAIRE

Telema, Avenue P. Boka 7-9, B.P. 3724, Kinshasa-Gombe, ZAIRE

Bulletin d'information de l'université protestante au Zaire, B.P. 4745, Kinshasa-2, ZAIRE

Cahiers des Religions Africaine (C.E.R.A.), B.P. 712, Kinshasa/Limete, ZAIRE

Revue Africaine de Theologie, Facultés Catholiques de Kinshasa. B.P. 1534,
Kinshasa/Limete, ZAIRE

Department of Religious Studies, University of Zambia, P.O. Box 32379, Lusaka,
ZAMBIA

Reformed Theological College, P.O. BoX 310.199, Lusaka, ZAMBIA

Mindolo Ecumenical Foundation, P.O. Box 21493, Kitwe, ZAMBIA

Department of Religious Studies, University of Zimbabwe Mount Pleasure,
P.O. Box MP 167, Harare, ZIMBABWE

Crossroads, Box CY 2220, Harare, ZIMBABWE

**Remember to send your
contributions
to the Editors or your
Regional Representatives**

0