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ISAPS 2011
The Ohio State
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**VIOLENCE AND REPRESENTATION IN AFRICA AND
THE AFRICAN DIASPORA**

The 17th ANNUAL CONFERENCE of
The International Society of African Philosophy and Studies

VENUE:

The Ohio Union

Hosted by

**Department of French and Italian
Department of African American and African Studies
Center for African Studies**

At

The Ohio State University

17th to 20th April 2011

Sunday, 17 April 2011

Guest Arrival and Conference Registration

Monday, 18 April 2011

Opening Session (The Cartoon Room)

09:30 — 10:00

Registration

9:30-Welcome:

Welcome Address

Cheikh Thiam, The Ohio State University

Introductory Remarks

Ike Newsum, Chair of the Department of African American and African Studies, The Ohio State University

ISAPS Presidential Address

Obi Oguejiofor, Nnamdi Azikiwe University.
Subliminal Violence and Political Instability in Nigeria

Opening Plenary Session

Moderator: Barry Hallen, Morehouse College

James Upton, The Ohio State University. Citizen Participation & Democratic Theory: The 1965 & 1992 Los Angeles Rebellions

Nkiru Nzegwu, Binghamton University. AKP, Critical African Studies, and Western Epistemic Violence

Adeleke Adeeko, The Ohio State University. Ogu'n Laye' (Existence is War): Violent Resolutions in African Fiction

Closing Remarks

Kelechi Kalu, Director, Center for African Studies

12:00 — 13:30

Lunch Break

PARALLEL SESSIONS

All **Option 1** sessions will take place in Hayes Cape Room

All **Option 2** sessions will take place in Suzanne M. Scharer Room

All **Option 3** sessions will take place in Tanya R. Rutner Room

Parallel Sessions 1: Monday 18 April 2011, 14:30 – 16:15

Option 1:

Session 1-A: Post-colonial Discourse: Engaging the Spectre of Fanon

Moderator: Olúfẹ́mi Táíwò, Seattle University

- 1) Fouad Kalouche, Albright College. Ontological Violence, Capitalism, and Post-Colonial African Philosophy
- 2) Philip Armstrong, The Ohio State University. Derrida, Algeria, and Fanon's Cry
- 3) Yaw Asante, Mount Royal University. Complicity of the West in Postcolonial African Violence: Ayi Kwei Armah's *Why Are We So Blest?*
- 4) Bernard Forjuor, Northwestern University. Tarrying with *the political*: Rethinking the Intersection of Race/Colonialism and Violence

Option 2:

Session 1-B: Violence and Society

Moderator: Besi Brilliant Muhonja, James Madison University

- 1) Caaminee Pandit, Princeton University. A Comparative Study of Urban Revitalization and Displacement through Slum Clearance Policies in Cape Town, South Africa and Philadelphia, PA
- 2) Stephanie Ponsavady, New York University. Everybody Was Kung-Fu Fighting: Post-colonial Francophone Africa and the Consecration of Asian Martial Arts
- 3) Samuel Ekanem, Cross River State University of Technology. Social Conflict and Political Violence: A Philosophical Appraisal of the Nigerian Situation
- 4) Brilliant Besi Muhonja, James Madison University. Emotions, Displacement, and the New Citizen

Option 3:

Session 1-C: Violence, Music, and Self-Representation

Moderator: Danielle Marx-Scouras, The Ohio State University

- 1) Marvin Brown, The Ohio State University. Avec ma gueule de métèque: Redefining Colonized French Identity Through Music
- 2) Michael Gott, University of Texas, Austin. Burning and looting? : French Hip-Hop and Non-violent Identity Construction
- 3) RaShelle R. Peck, The Ohio State University. The Thing and its Troubles: Hip-Hop, Satire, and Political Violence

18:00 – 20:00 Cocktail Reception & Poetry

Parallel Sessions 2: Tuesday 19 April 2011, 9:30 – 11:15

Option 1:

Session 2-A: Strategy and Reform

Moderator: Monika Brodnicka, The Ohio State University

- 1) Bernard L. Misigo and Hezborn M. N., Moi University. An Investigation of Post-Traumatic Stress Level among Secondary School Students Affected by Post-Election Violence in Uasin Gishu District, Kenya
- 2) Buchere Philip Brightone, Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST), Hamid Mohamed, Middlesex University, and Francis K. Mwangi, University of Nairobi. Competency-Based Training In Conflict Management Training As Means Of Mitigating Ethnic Based Violence In Kenya
- 3) Buchere Philip Brightone, Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST), Hamid Mohamed, Middlesex University, and Francis K. Mwangi, University of Nairobi. Security Sector Reforms As A Strategy Of Addressing Violence In Africa: A Critical Analysis Of The Kenyan Case

Option 2:**Session 2-B: Violence and Imagined Communities**

Moderator: Cheikh Thiam, The Ohio State University

- 1) Maina Mutonya, El Colegio de México. The Unfinished Narratives: Re-membering the 2007 Post-Election Violence in Kenya
- 2) Virginie Ems-Bleneau, University of Missouri. Conflicting Narratives and Constructed Identities: Transnational Violence and Genocide in Rwanda
- 3) Toussaint Kafarhire Murhula, Loyola University, Chicago. Globalization, Democratization and Political Violence In Post-Cold War Africa: The Tragedy of the Rwandan Genocide and its Aftermaths

Option 3:**Session 2-C: Violence, Representation, and the African Self**

Moderator: Sarah Van Beurden, The Ohio State University

- 1) John Petrus, The Ohio State University. Ambivalent Visions: How Subjects are Embodied but Humanized in a Problematized Paradise Lost in *Vers le sud*
- 2) Thomas Albright, The Ohio State University. Nightmare at the Museum: Problematic Representations of Africanness at the American Museum of Natural History
- 3) Amy Selby, The Ohio State University. Connecting the Global South to the Cyber North: African Art in the Age of Global Media

Option 4:**Session 2-D: Law**

Moderator: Kólá Abímbólá, University of Leicester

- 1) Ngozi Stewart, University of Benin, Nigeria, University of Leicester, UK. Conserving Culture and Nature: Environmental Ethics versus Cultural Claims in the Jurisprudence of Biodiversity Regulation in Nigeria
- 2) Priscilla Schwartz, University of Leicester. The Force of Economic Law and Africa's Development
- 3) Kólá Abímbólá, University of Leicester. Virtues and Cultures in Medical Ethics

11:15 – 11:30 Tea Break

Parallel Sessions 3: Tuesday 19 April 2011, 11:30 – 13:15**Option 1:****Session 3-A: Constructing Identity through Violence**

Moderator: Karen Gagne, University of Wisconsin-Platteville.

- 1) Ronke A. Oke, The Pennsylvania State University. Violence: A Quest for Identity
- 2) Theo Katundano, The Catholic University of Eastern Africa. Violence as an Approach to Recover Self-Confidence
- 3) Gail Presbey, University of Detroit Mercy. Kwame Nkrumah, Positive Action and the Debate with Fanon on Violence
- 4) Monika Brodnicka, The Ohio State University. The Violence of Dis-connection: Separation from the World of Spirit as a Loss of Personal Identity in Africa

Option 2:

Session 3-B: Violence and Non-violence, Justice and Injustice in Colonial Struggles

Moderator: Fouad Kalouche, Albright College

- 1) Evaristus E. Ekweke, University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria. Science, Technology and Violence Towards Africa: A Philosophical Approach
- 2) Franziska Dübgen, Goethe University Frankfurt/Main. The Epistemic Realm as a Site of Transnational Justice
- 3) Afisi Oseni Taiwo, Lagos State University, Ojo. Tracing Contemporary Africa's Conflict Situation To Colonialism: A Breakdown Of Communication Among Natives

13:15 – 14:30

Lunch Break

Parallel Sessions 4: Tuesday 19 April 2011, 14:30 – 16:30

Option 1:

Session 4-A: Women, Race and Violence

Moderator: Nkiru Nzegwu, Binghamton University

- 1) Regina O. Arisi, Delta State University Abraka. Violence and Culture on Women Role Performance in Economic and Sustainable Development in Nigeria
- 2) Gaius Anonaba Umahi, Babcock University. Paulinism in African Patriarchal Society and the Culture of Violence Against Women
- 3) Brian Yates, Oberlin College. From White Males to Black Females: Understanding the National Bodies of Ethiopia (1896-1936)
- 4) Adrienne Barbo, The Ohio State University. Agenda and Possibility: A commentary on Oyeronke Oyewumi's Presentation of Gender in Yorubaland

Option 2:

Session 4-B: State, Democracy, and Power

Moderator: Judson Jeffries, The Ohio State University

- 1) Zubairu Wai, Lakehead University. On the Banality of Violence: State, Power and the Everyday in Postcolonial Africa
- 2) Agatha Alidri, Makerere University. The State, Democracy and the Changing Form of State Violence in Africa: The Case of Uganda
- 3) Michele Gerring, The Ohio State University. Investigating Violence: a Study of the Causes of the Riots of 2005 in France

Option 3:

Session 4-C: Violence in African Literature

Moderator: Adeleke Adeeko, The Ohio State University

- 1) Ng'ang'a wa Muchiri, University of Miami. Violence, Trauma, and Recovery in Literature from the Congo
- 2) George MacLeod, University of Pennsylvania. Comment écrire de la fiction sur le génocide rwandais cinquante ans après l'Holocauste: Une étude sur la littérature du projet "Rwanda: écrire par devoir de mémoire"
- 3) Jarrett Anderson, The Ohio State University. Abdellah Taïa: to whom does he owe his success?

18:00 – 20:00 Cocktail Reception & Performance by Ryan Skinner

Parallel Sessions 5: Wednesday 20 March, 09:30 – 11:15

Option 1:

Session 5-A: Philosophical Reflections on the Expression of Violence

Moderator: Evaristus E. Ekweke, University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria.

- 1) Bernard Matolino, University of KwaZulu-Natal. Ethnophilosophy as Epistemic Violence
- 2) Tunde Bewaji, University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica. Violence and Society – Cultural Constructions, Use and Abuse of Violence
- 3) Aderibigbe, Akure, Ondo state, Nigeria. Distributive Justice and the Manifestation of Violence in Africa: an Application of Rawls's Difference Principle as a Rescue

Option 2:

Session 5-B: Violence, Power, and Knowledge

Moderator: Linda J. Meyers, The Ohio State University

- 1) Karen Gagne, UW-Platteville. Combating Academic Violence: Africa New World Studies
- 2) Roxanne Burton, University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados. The Hidden Curriculum, Knowledge and Identity
- 3) Sahra Ahmed, The Ohio State University. Education in Colonial Africa: The American Connection through the Phelps-Stokes Educational Committee

Option 3:

Session 5-C: Violence and Representation

Moderator: Cheikh Thiam, The Ohio State University

- 1) James Genova, The Ohio State University-Marion. Representations of Systemic and Individual Violence in the Early Films of Ousmane Sembène
- 2) Moussa Kane, Binghamton University. Violence in Sembene Ousmane's Films
- 3) Dosinda Alvite and John Jackson, Denison University. Unlikely Hero: Rapping with Petey Greene
- 4) Kibujjo M. Kalumba, Ball State University. Western Terminology and Violent Distortions of an African Culture: The Case of Edward Wamala's Portrayal of Buganda's Political System

11:15 – 11:30 Tea Break

11:00 – 13:00 Closing Plenary Session (The Cartoon Room)

Olúfẹ́mi Táíwò, Seattle University. What, after all, is Aid?: a Philosophical Analysis

Kwaku Korang, The Ohio State University. "Pessimism of Intellect"? A Critique of Achille Mbembe's Violent (African) Postcolony

Vote of Thanks:

Cheikh Thiam

ISAPS Conference Coordinator

The Ohio State University, Columbus, USA

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch Break

14:30 – 15:30 ISAPS Business Meeting

List of Presenters

Kólá Abímbólá, School of Law, University of Leicester. *Session 2-D.*

Adeleke Adeeko, The Ohio State University. *Opening Session. Session 4-C.*

Aderibigbe, Ondo State University, Nigeria. *Session 5-A.*

Sahra Ahmed, The Ohio State University. *Session 5-B.*

Thomas Albright, The Ohio State University. *Session 2-C*

Agatha Alidri, Makerere University, Uganda. *Session 4-B.*

Dosinda Alvite, Denison University. *Session 5-C.*

Jarrett Anderson, The Ohio State University. *Session 4-C.*

Regina O. Arisi, Delta State University Abraka, Nigeria. *Session 4-A.*

Philip Armstrong, The Ohio State University. *Session 1-A.*

Yaw Asante, Mount Royal University, Canada. *Session 1-A.*

Adrienne Barbo, The Ohio State University. *Session 4-A.*

Tunde Bewaji, University of the West Indies Mona Campus, Jamaica. *Session 5-A.*

Monika Brodnicka, The Ohio State University. *Session 2-A. Session 3-A.*

Marvin Brown, The Ohio State University. *Session 1-C.*

Buchere Philip Brightone, Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST). *Session 2-A.*

Roxanne Burton, University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus, Barbados. *Session 5-B.*

Franziska Dübgen, Goethe University Frankfurt/Main, Germany. *Session 3-B.*

Samuel Ekanem, Cross River State University of Technology, Nigeria. *Session 1-B.*

Evaristus E. Ekweke, University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria. *Session 3-B. Session 5-A.*

Virginie Ems-Bleneau, University of Missouri. *Session 2-B.*

Bernard Forjwuor, Northwestern University. *Session 1-A.*

Karen Gagne, University of Wisconsin, Platteville. *Session 3-A. Session 5-A.*

James Genova, The Ohio State University-Marion. *Session 5-C.*

Michele Gerring, The Ohio State University. *Session 4-B.*

Michael Gott, University of Texas, Austin. *Session 1-C*

Barry Hallen, Morehouse College. *Opening Session.*

John Jackson, Denison University. *Session 5-C.*

Jadson Jeffries, The Ohio State University. *Session 4-B.*

Fouad Kalouche, Albright College. *Session 1-A. Session 3-B.*

Kelechi Kalu, The Ohio State University. *Opening Session.*

Kibujjo M. Kalumba, Ball State University. *Session 5-C.*

Moussa Kane, Binghamton University, SUNY. *Session 5-C.*

Theo Katundano, The Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Kenya. *Session 3-A.*

Kwaku Korang, The Ohio State University. *Closing Session.*

George MacLeod, University of Pennsylvania. *Session 4-C.*

Danielle Marx-Scouras, The Ohio State University. *Session 1-C.*

Bernard Matolino, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. *Session 5-A.*

Linda J. Meyers, The Ohio State University. *Session 5-B.*

Bernard L. Misigo, Moi University, Kenya. *Session 2-A.*

Hezborn M. N. Koderu, Moi University, Kenya. *Session 2-A.*

Hamid Mohamed, Middlesex University. *Session 2-A.*

Ng'ang'a wa Muchiri, University of Miami, OH. *Session 4-C.*

Besi Brillian Muhonja, James Madison University. *Session 1-B.*

Toussaint Kafarhire Murhula, Loyola University. *Session 2-B.*

Maina Mutonya, El Colegio de México, Mexico. *Session 2-B.*

Francis K. Mwongo, University of Nairobi. *Session 2-A.*

Ike Newsum, The Ohio State University. *Opening Session.*

Nkiru Nzegwu, Binghamton University. *Opening Session. Session 4-A.*

Obi Oguejiofor, Nnamdi Azikiwe University. *Opening Session.*

Ronke A. Oke, The Pennsylvania State University. *Session 3-A.*

Caaminee Pandit, Princeton University. *Session 1-B.*

RaShelle R. Peck, The Ohio State University. *Session 1-C .*

John Petrus, The Ohio State University. *Session 2-C.*

Stephanie Ponsavady, New York University. *Session 1-B.*

Gail Presbey, University of Detroit Mercy. *Session 3-A.*

Priscilla Schwartz, School of Law, University of Leicester. *Session 2-D.*

Amy Selby, The Ohio State University. *Session 2-C.*

Ngozi Stewart, University of Benin, Nigeria and University of Leicester, UK. *Session 2-D.*

Afisi Oseni Taiwo, Lagos State University, Ojo, Nigeria. *Session 3-B.*

Olúfẹ́mi Táíwò, Seattle University. *Session 1-A. Closing Session.*

Cheikh Thiam, The Ohio State University. *Opening Session. Session 2-B. Session 5-C.*

Gaius Anonaba Umahi, Babcock University. *Session 4-A.*

James Upton, The Ohio State University. *Opening Session.*

Sarah Van Beurden, The Ohio State University. *Session 2-C.*

Zubairu Wai, Lakehead University, Canada. *Session 4-B.*

Brian Yates, Oberlin College. *Session 4-A.*

This conference is made possible by the generous support of The Ohio State University's Division of Arts & Humanities, the Department of French and Italian, the Department of African American and African Studies, The Center for African Studies, the Department of Women's Studies, and the Department of Linguistics