

# Conference: Kenya at Fifty

The Paul Nitze School of Advanced International Studies,

The Johns Hopkins University

African Studies Program

Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup> and Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

- **Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup>**

**8:00-9:00 Breakfast.**

**9:00-9:15 Welcome and Introduction.**

*Peter Lewis*, Director, African Studies Center, Johns Hopkins SAIS.

*David Throup*, Professorial Lecturer, Johns Hopkins SAIS.

**9:15-10:45 Keynote Address.**

“Kenya’s History from Cambridge, by Candlelight”,

*John Lonsdale*, Professor of African History, Emeritus, and Fellow of Trinity College,  
University of Cambridge,

**10:45-11:00 Coffee Break.**

**11:00-1:00 Historians’ Perspectives.**

Chair: *Richard Downie*, Deputy Director, Africa Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies.

*Derek Peterson*, Professor, Department of History, and Associate Director of  
the African Studies Center, University of Michigan,

“Cultural Innovation in Mau Mau Detention Camps”.

*Emma Hunter*, Fellow of Gonville and Caius College, and Lecturer in History,  
University of Cambridge,

“Between *ujamaa na kujitemegea* and *harambee*: ethnicity, nationalism and political culture in post-colonial East Africa”.

*Tim Parsons*, Professor, Department of History, Washington University, St Louis,

“Mad Men in Nairobi: Syracuse University’s Role in the Competition to Shape the National Kenya Bureaucracy”.

*Mozella Brown*, Office of African Analysis, Department of State  
“Kenya: Preserving the Civil-Military Balance”.

**1:00-2:15 Lunch.**

**A conversation between former Assistant Secretary *Johnnie Carson*, Ambassador *Mark Bellamy*, *Sarah Margon* of Human Rights Watch, and *Karuti Kanyinga* of South Consulting on the US and Kenya, chaired by *Sarah Pray* of the Open Society Foundations.**

**2:15-4:15 Ethnicities, Land and Localism.**

Chair: *David Throup*, Professorial Lecturer, Johns Hopkins SAIS

*David M. Anderson*, Professor of African History, University of Warwick,  
“ ‘The Somali Question’: Disaffection and Dissent in Northern Kenya, 1963-2013”.

*Gabrielle Lynch*, Associate Professor of Politics, University of Warwick,  
“Ethnic Voting and Narratives of (In)justice: The Case of the Kalenjin”.

*Mai Hassan*, Ph.D. candidate, Department of Government, Harvard University,  
“A State of Change: District Creation in Kenya after the Beginning of Multi-Party Politics”.

*Kathleen Klaus*, Ph.D. candidate, Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin Madison,  
“Land and Patterns of Violence in Kenya’s Recent Elections”.

**4:15-4:30 Coffee Break.**

**4:30-6:30 Politics: The Grand Narrative.**

Chair: *Peter Lewis*, Director of the African Studies Center, Johns Hopkins SAIS.

*Charles Hornsby*, Author of *Kenya: A History Since Independence* and political scientist in private practice,  
“Politics, Ethnicity and Patriarchy: Kenya’s underlying political divisions and the evolution of political dynasties”.

*Dan Branch*,  
Professor in African History, University of Warwick,  
“Kenya’s Evolving Politics, 1963-2013”.

*John Harrington*, Professor of Law, Cardiff University, and Senior Fellow, British Institute  
Institute  
in Eastern Africa,  
“Satire and the Politics of Corruption in Kenya”.

*Susanne D. Mueller*, Research Fellow, African Studies Center, Boston University,  
“The Resilience of the Past: Government and Opposition in Kenya”.

*Ken Opalo*, Ph.D. candidate, Department of Political Science, Stanford University, and  
columnist on *The Standard*,  
“The Politics of Institutional Change and Development: The Case of the Kenyan  
Legislature”.

- **Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup>**

**8:00-9:00 Breakfast.**

**9:00-10:45 Economic and Social Changes.**

Chair: *Joel D. Barkan*, Professor of Political Science, Emeritus, University of Iowa, and Senior Associate, Center for Strategic and International Studies.

*Mwangi wa Githinji*, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Massachusetts at Amherst,  
“Ethnicity as Economic Identity: Politics and Economic Outcomes in Three Regimes”.

*Mwangi wa Kimenyi*, Senior Fellow and Director of the Africa Growth Initiative, The Brookings Institution, and  
*Josephine Kibe*, Professor, Department of Accounting, Strathmore University, Nairobi,  
“Kenya at Fifty: Development, Policies, Successes and Challenges”.

*Meghan Ference*, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, Brooklyn College, City University of New York,  
“Monopolizing Movement, Franchising Privilege: The Evolution of the Informal Transportation System in Nairobi, Kenya, 1963-2013”.

**10:45-11:00 Coffee Break.**

**11:00-1:00 Contemporary Political Issues.**

Chair: *Sabhita Raju*, ex-Commonwealth Secretariat, Interpeace and MSF

*Warigia Bowman*, Assistant Professor, William Jefferson Clinton School of Public Service,  
University of Arkansas,  
“Censorship and Violence: The Media, Messaging and Elections in Kenya”.

*Stephen Brown*, Professor, School of Politics, University of Ottawa,  
“Dire Consequences or Empty Threats? Western Pressure for Peace, Justice and Democracy in Kenya”.

*Sebastian Elischer*,  
Assistant Professor of Comparative Politics, Leuphana University, Luneburg,  
“Coming to Terms with the Imperial Presidency? Kenya’s New Formal Institutions in Comparative Perspective”.

*Christina Murray*, Professor of Law, University of Cape Town,  
“The Evolution of Devolution, 2000-2010”.

*John Harbeson*, Professor of Political Science, Emeritus, City University of New York,  
and Professorial Lecturer, Johns Hopkins SAIS,  
“Towards a Democratic State in Kenya at Fifty: A Preliminary Appraisal”.

**1:00-2:30 Lunch**

**“Present at the Creation”**: A Conversation with *Joel Barkan*, *John Harbeson*, *Frank Holmquist* and *Susanne D. Mueller*, chaired by *David Throup*.

**2:30-4:30 Prognosticating the Future: More Contemporary Political Issues.**

Chair: *David M. Anderson*, Professor of African History, University of Warwick.

*Elvis Melia*, Ph.D. candidate, Department of Political Science, University of Duisburg-  
Essen,  
“Devolution and Growth? Governors and Industrial Policy Strategies in Kenya’s New  
Counties”.

*James D. Long*, Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Washington,  
“The Impact of Elections on Kenya’s Path to Democratization”.

*Joel Barkan*, Professor of Politics, Emeritus, University of Iowa and Senior Associate,  
Africa Program, Center for Strategic and international Studies,  
“Kenyan Elections: What Have We and the Politicians Learned since 1992?”

*Karuti Kanyinga*, Professor, Institute of Development Studies, University of Nairobi, and  
Director, South Consulting,  
“Why Kenyans Voted the Way They Did”.

*Frank Holmquist*, Professor of Politics, Emeritus, Hampshire College, Amherst,  
“Reflections on Kenya and Nationhood at Fifty”.

**5:00-7:00 Cheese and Wine reception, with books’ launch and discussion** between Charles  
Hornsby, *Kenya: A History Since Independence*, and Sebastian Elischer, *Political Parties in  
Africa: Ethnicity and Party Formation*, chaired by *Jennifer G. Cooke*, Director, Africa Program,  
Center for Strategic and International Studies.