

PREFACE

This book is the fruit of two workshops held in Nairobi. The first workshop was titled 'Approaches and Methodologies of Field Research in Africa' held on September 2011, the second was 'Mobility, Hybridity, and the Way to Co-existence: Re-structuring Daily Life in Rural and Urban African Societies' held on February 2013. The line-ups of the presentations are shown below.

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Approaches and Methodologies of Field Research in Africa

Held on the 1st and 2nd of September, 2011

Opening Remarks

Saichiro SHIRAISHI, Center for African Area Studies, Kyoto University/ Nairobi Research Station, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science

Introduction

Wakana SHIINO, Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa (ILCAA), Tokyo University of Foreign Studies

Session 1 Being Together with Researchers

Differences of the Methodologies and Findings: An Overview

Michael Oloka OBBO, World Vision Uganda

Ugandan Sociologists Met a Japanese Anthropologist: Experience of the Decade

Paul OWORA, World Vision Uganda

Asking about Land Issues: Unveiling Hidden Agendas?

Kiprotich MATANY Solomon and Saichiro SHIRAISHI

Session 2 Exploring Ways of 'Joint' Research

How Do We Start a Joint Research?: Its Framework and Methods

Charles NDEGWA, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) and Wakana SHIINO

The Stage Performance as Research Methodology: Being a Researcher and an Actor

Midori DAIMON, Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies, Kyoto University

Neither Emic nor Etic: Collaborative Research in Ethnomusicology and Music Anthropology

Sylvia NANYONGA-TAMUSUZA, Faculty of Arts, Makerere University (read by Midori Daimon)

Session 3 Viewpoints of Japanese Researchers

The High Mobile People and National Resource Use in Rural Zambia: Toward an Understanding of Migrants and Refugees by Diverse Actors

Rumiko MURAO, ILCAA, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies

Rethinking Cognition and Culture: Melodic Self-Domestication of Eastern Nilotic Pastoralists in Uganda

Itsuhiko HAZAMA, Graduate School of International Health Development, Nagasaki University

Comment & Discussion

Commentator: Tom ONDICHIO, Institute of Gender, Anthropology and African Studies, University of Nairobi

Session 4 Approaches and Methodologies of Ethno-biological Research in Africa

Ideas for Collaborative Research on Ethnobotany in Africa: Bananas and Trees

Yasuki SATO, Osaka Sangyo University

Contribution of Indigenous Fruit Trees to Enhancing Food Security: A Case Study of Chegere Sub-county Rural Communities, Apac District

Richard OLWA, Makerere University

The Role of herbs in Maasai society

Oliver WASONGA, University of Nairobi

Comment & Discussion

Commentator: Itsuhiko HAZAMA

General Discussion: Approaches and Methodologies of Field Research in Africa
Discussant Mike KURIA, Department of Language and Performing Arts, Daystar University

Mobility, Hybridity and the Way to Co-existence: Re-structuring Daily Life in Rural and Urban African Societies

Held on the 8th and 9th of February 2013

Opening Remarks

Wakana SHIINO, ILCAA, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies

Session 1 Restructuring Urban Spaces and Places

An Integrated Urban GIS Framework for Informal Settlement Upgrading

Charles N. MUNDIA, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology

Powers of Private Cities: Mobility and Governmentality in the Liquid City, Johannesburg

Yohi MIYAUCHI, Center for Asian Area Studies, Rikkyo University

Women's Awareness of Their Land Rights as Enshrined in the New Constitution: A Study in Kibera Slums, Nairobi

Esther Alice GUYA, Institute of Gender, Anthropology and African Studies, University of Nairobi

Comment

Sidhiro SHIRAIISHI, JSPS Nairobi Research Station

Session 2 Development Programme, Nation-State and the People

Reorganization of "We/ Community" under Global Wildlife Conservation: From the Case of Loitokitok Maasai in Southern Kenya

Toshio MEGURO, JSPS/ The University of Tokyo

Flexible and Cooperative Management among Local Residents and Public Institutions in the Encounter of People and Wildlife around the National Park, Tanzania

Mariko FUJIMOTO, JSPS/ Kyoto University

Climate Change: Effects and Trends Evaluation Using NDVI, LST and LULC Analysis in the Masai Mara Ecosystem

Eunice W. NDUATI, Department of Geomatic Engineering and Geospatial Information Systems, JKUAT

Comment

Tom ONDICHO, Institute of Gender, Anthropology & African Studies, University of Nairobi

Session 3 View Points from Daily Life of the People (1) Farmers on the move

Sustainable Slash-and-burn Cultivation: The Invention of an Agroforestry System Utilizing Black Wattle (*Acacia mearnsii*) by the Bena People in Tanzania

Fumi KONDO, Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies, Kyoto University

Successful Economy of Self-settled Refugees?: Mobility and Flexibility in Rural Zambia

Rumiko MURAO, ILCAA, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies

Tracing Family Ancestry and Movements: A Case of a Hunter's Descendant in Zambia

Munukayimbwa MUNYIMA, Institute of Economic and Social Research, University of Zambia

Comment

Charles N. MUNDIA

Session 4 View Points from Daily Life of the People (2) Pastoralists in trouble?

Changing or Coping with Change? An Analysis of Pastoralists' Responses to Climate Variability in North-western Kenya

Oliver WAZONGA, University of Nairobi

How Pastoralists Cope with Extreme Weather Conditions Especially Droughts

Francis OPIYO, University of Nairobi

Comment

Yohi MIYAUCHI

Closing Remarks

Sidhiro SHIRAIISHI

The title of this book, *Re-Finding African Local Assets and City Environments: Governance, Research and Reflexivity*, is the umbrella of the themes and topics of the discussion in these workshops, based on current research among authors.

The term ‘re-find’ carries the meaning of ‘re-discover other aspects of things/ phenomena’ or sometimes simply means ‘find what we know/ have, but gone out of our scope’. Since entering the 21st century, we have begun to re-find the various aspects of Africa (including agrarian societies, rural cities, and metropolitan areas). Although there are still reports of ‘African crises’ that have been focused on for decades, such as poverty, infectious diseases, low-intensity conflicts, refugees, etc., the image of a new Africa has started to be reported in Japan.

Since 1993, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan has held a TICAD (Tokyo International Conference on African Development) every five years, and the sixth event will be held in August 2016 in Nairobi, showing the increasing focus on the economic growth and natural resources of Africa. Furthermore, in 2010, a three-part NHK (Japan Broadcasting Cooperation) television series entitled ‘African dream’ depicted Africa as ‘the final frontier of capitalism’. The series showed scenes such as Maasai people using mobile phones to converse and deposit and remit funds, African migrants in developed countries who invest in their home countries, the potential of underground resources, and the economic advance of China in Africa; the series revealed socio-economic phenomena in Africa that most Japanese people could not have previously imagined.

In this book, we would like to discuss what researchers are critically re-finding about Africa. Over the past quarter of a century, one of the most common characteristics of social changes in Africa had been the influence of scientific technology, especially communications technology (most prominently the Internet and mobile phones). And the rise of international/ local NGOs as agents closer to local communities have contributed to social changes than ever. Through these, opportunities for people to become aware of indications of social changes have become commonplace. Moreover, the reason why opportunities to obtain vision of alternative ways of living, named ‘development’ have increased for everyone is because of the rapid increase in opportunities to come into contact with specific information — nowadays information presented in a photo or video format. Agents of change, such as incoming NGOs and tourists, and products and goods from foreign-owned companies bring the information. Then, at the same time, people in Africa find the way those agents see their societies.

In light of these circumstances, it appears that the response to the question ‘what are researchers critically re-find?’ is clear. Although the direction of change and opportunities has become more diverse and complicated, it is a fact that people who live in both metropolitan and rural areas increasingly have the opportunity to reflect on their own traditions as they experience a renewal of the status quo as a result of social change that occurs at a dizzying pace. This is a trend in which people act reflexively toward society. The idea of reflexivity spoken of by Anthony Giddens does not only refer to the later modern age of developed countries, but is also a key concept to understand current African societies. What is obvious is the fact that social research itself is one of the motors that enhance this reflexivity.

Another feature of this book is that it was made in collaboration between Japanese and African researchers. African area studies by Japanese researchers had not been well-known in academia in Europe, the United States, or Africa for a long time even though the population of Japanese researchers who majored in African Studies is not small. Since its foundation in 1964, the

Japan Association for African Studies has increased their individual membership to more than 800 members in recent years. However, publications were not widely introduced to African academics, mainly because of the language barrier — most of the papers and books were published in Japanese. We simply would like to know how African colleagues evaluate the works of Japanese researchers. We Japanese researchers are also eager to learn about the academic situation of field research in the social sciences and multi-disciplinary sciences in Eastern African universities. Are they under the tyranny of issue-oriented short-term surveys of development studies, using expressions such as ‘crisis in Africa’, ‘poverty reduction’, ‘peace building’ and so forth?

Our first trial was a symposium held at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda titled ‘Re-Contextualizing Self/ Other Issues: Toward a Humanics in Africa’ in November 2007. About a half of the Japanese attendants of the Nairobi workshops in 2011 and 2013 attended this symposium, including two of the editors of this book, Soichiro SHIRAISHI and Wakana SHIINO. From those discussions, Wakana and other researchers planned annual workshops to develop good academic communication and further collaboration.

Assistance of a different kind made possible these symposiums and workshops in East Africa. First of all, all field researches were done under the auspices of research councils, Uganda National Council for Science and Technology (U-NCST), National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI) of Kenya and Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH). The symposium in Kampala 2007 was supported by the Center for African Area Studies of Kyoto University, the JSPS Nairobi Research Station (the then Director, Itsuhiro HAZAMA) and the Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa (ILCAA) of the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies. Equally vital support came from Professor Edward KIRUMIRA, the then Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences at Makerere University (currently the Principal of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at Makerere University). The JSPS Nairobi Research Station (the then Director, Soichiro SHIRAISHI) and the ILCAA of the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies supported workshops in Nairobi 2011 and 2013, as well as this publication. Available space is not enough to thank everyone whose interest and patience made these meetings. Lastly, I am grateful to the authors whose contributions have made this publication possible. We editors owe much to all of above-mentioned attendants, authors and institutions in many ways.

SOICHIRO SHIRAISHI

Hiroaki University

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