

EDITOR'S NOTE

This is the sixth issue of *Modern Africa*, with which we are closing its third volume. We are proud to announce that the journal was included into ERIH Plus and we applied for inclusion into the Scopus database. The flow of submissions increases and the pool of our peer reviewers grows. We are also improving our copy editing by harnessing the services of Dr. Han Vermeulen, specialising in language and content editing. The editorial board has met on the margins of the 9th International Conference on African Studies “Viva Africa” held in Prague on 22-23 October 2015, where we agreed on a number of measures aimed at enhancing the professional quality of the journal.

This issue of *Modern Africa* is dedicated to Otakar Hulec on the occasion of his 80th birthday. Dr. Hulec has been an outstanding historian of southern Africa and the author of numerous publications in Czech and English. The issue also carries two obituaries, of Jack Goody (1919-2015) and Stephen Ellis (1953-2015). We shall miss these two towering figures of European Africanist research.

The international character of *Modern Africa* is further evidenced by research articles that appear in the present issue. Getnet Tamene, an Ethiopian political scientist based in Slovakia, explains how inequities in the production of knowledge about and in Africa are reproduced. Irina Turner of Bayreuth University in Germany presents her most recent research concerning the politics of language choice in South Africa, exemplified by research in the Eastern Cape. Henry Kam Kah of Buea University in Cameroon analyses modern abuses of the age-old fosterage, whereby the rich accept the children of poor parents children into their households. Primus M. Tazanu's contribution problematises the usage of mobile telephones in keeping contact among Cameroonians in Germany and Cameroon. Instead of enjoyment by contacting family and friends, frustration, misunderstandings and insecurities can emerge from it. Meron Eresso discusses cyber spirituality and online religious activism in Ethiopia.

Furthermore, there is a report about the 2015 conference “Viva Africa” and we present a summary of the keynote address delivered at this conference by Daniel Bach, a leading specialist in the field of

international relations. Five reviews conclude the issue. The editorial board and our team at the University of Hradec Králové wishes our readers the very best in the New Year 2016.

Petr Skalník