

UFAHAMU
JOURNAL OF THE AFRICAN ACTIVIST ASSOCIATION
JAMES S. COLEMAN AFRICAN STUDIES CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
LOS ANGELES, CA 90095-1310

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editors-in-Chief: Shobana Shankar (sshankar@ucla.edu) and Alhaji Maina Gimba (gimba@humnet.ucla.edu)

Production Editor: Susanna D. Wing (swing@ucla.edu)

Editorial Staff: Leslie Devlin, Mary Dillard, L. Lloys Frates, Chitra Golestani, Kristin Haynes, Matt Hopper, Rebecca VanDyck Laumann, Fatou Ndiaye, Masangu D. M. Matondo, Kristin Randall, Lahra Smith, Judy Stevenson

Advisor: Teshome H. Gabriel

Former Editors: Ali Jimale Ahmed, J. Ndukaku Amankulor, I. N. C. Aniebo, Louis D. Armand, Joyce E. Boss, Matthew J. Christensen, Lezlee Cox, Fassil Demissie, Kandioura Drame, Teshome H. Gabriel, Kyalo Mativo, Angaluki Muaka, Ahmed Nassef, Niko M. Ngwenyama, P. Godfrey Okoth, Edward C. Okwu, Renee Poussaint, Kipkorir Aly Rana, Kier Riemersma, Nancy Rutledge

CONTRIBUTIONS

UFAHAMU accepts contributions from anyone interested in Africa and related subject areas. Contributions may include scholarly articles, political-economic analyses, commentaries, review articles, film and book reviews, poetry, prose fiction, and artwork. Manuscripts must be no more than 30 pages, clearly typed, double spaced, with a brief abstract and a brief biographical note, including position, academic or organizational affiliation and recent significant publications, etc. We request that, when possible, articles be submitted on one 3.5 inch diskette or as an e-mail attachment to the Editors-in-Chief.

The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit any manuscript to meet the objectives of the journal. All correspondence—manuscripts, subscriptions, books for review, inquiries, etc.—should be addressed to the Editors-in-Chief at the above address. We regret that once submitted, materials cannot be returned.

Articles appearing in this journal are abstracted and indexed in the International Bibliography of the Social Sciences.

Partial funding for the publication of *UFAHAMU* is provided by the Graduate Students Association of UCLA and the James S. Coleman African Studies Center.

Cover: Black and white photograph of an algaita player for the District Head of Gashua, Nigeria taken in Gashua, 1974 by Russell G. Schuh.

**UFAHAMU
JOURNAL OF THE AFRICAN ACTIVIST
ASSOCIATION**

VOLUME XXV NUMBER III
Copyright © 1997 by the Regents of
the University of California

CONTENTS

Contributors

Editorial.....1

ARTICLES

Translating Orality to Literacy: Writing Both an Audible Text and an Oral Narrative Situation

Leif Lorentzon.....3

Alekwu Poetry as a Source of Historical Reconstruction: The Pursuit of Idoma-Otukpo Origin, Genealogy and Migration

Idris O.O. Amali.....17

Trend Parameters of the History of Kiswahili Short Stories

F.E.M.K. Senkoro and Masangu D.M. Matondo.....50

Nationalism and the East African Writer: The Position of Nuruddin Farah

Raymond Ntalindwa.....67

Black Americans and Africa: The Racial Hermeneutics of Popular Response to Keith Richburg

Tunde Adeleke.....86

POETRY AND FICTION

- The Veiled Vase
Mehdia Ait Daoud.....110
- The Literary Circus
Alfred J. Matiki.....114
- Hope '93
Contrast
Trial
Adebayo Oyebade.....116
- The Urban Vultures
Kwabena Opare Akurang-Parry.....118
- My Name is Juba
J.S. Hunter.....121

REVIEWS

- Paul Tiyambe Zeleza. *Manufacturing African Studies and Crises* (Dakar: CODESRIA Book Series, 1997).
Guy Martin.....123
- Opal Palmer Adisa. *It Begins With Tears* (Portsmouth: Heinemann, 1997).
Leslie Devlin.....131
- Jean Boyd and Beverly B. Mack, eds. *Collected Works of Nana Asma'u, Daughter of Usman 'dan Fodiyo* (East Lansing: Michigan State University Press, 1997).
Shobana Shankar.....134