

## Derek R. Peterson

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### **Education**

- 2000 Ph.D. in History, University of Minnesota
- 1994, 1995 Diplomas in Swahili and Gikuyu languages, Church of the Province of Kenya Language School, Nairobi, Kenya
- 1993 B.A. in History and Political Science, University of Rochester

### **Academic employment**

- 2012- Professor of History and Afro-American and African Studies, University of Michigan
- 2012-13 Director (pro tem) of the African Studies Center, University of Michigan
- 2009-12 Associate Professor of History and Afro-American and African Studies, University of Michigan
- 2009-12 Associate Director of the African Studies Center, University of Michigan
- 2009- Research Associate, Centre of African Studies, Cambridge University
- 2007-09 Senior Lecturer in African History, Cambridge University
- 2005-09 Director of the Centre of African Studies, Cambridge University
- 2004-09 Fellow and Director of Studies in History, Selwyn College, Cambridge
- 2004-07 University Lecturer in African History, Cambridge University
- 2000-04 Assistant Professor, Dept. of History, The College of New Jersey

### **Honors and awards**

- 2014 Visiting Fellowship, Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame
- 2013 Melville Herskovits Prize of the African Studies Association, for *Ethnic Patriotism and the East African Revival*

- 2013 Martin Klein Prize of the American Historical Association, for *Ethnic Patriotism and the East African Revival*
- 2013 First runner-up for the Phillip Schaff Prize of the American Society for Church History, for *Ethnic Patriotism and the East African Revival*
- 2009 Elected Fellow of the Royal Historical Society
- 2006 Philip Leverhulme Prize in Modern History. Awarded by the Leverhulme Trust for accomplishments in scholarship to U.K.-based academics under 36 years old

**Grants (selected)**

- 2013 Center for Research Libraries/Cooperative Africana Microfilms Project grant to fund the 'Project to Preserve the Archives of the Tooro Kingdom and the Hoima District Archives', \$40,000
- 2013 Co-PI, Mellon Foundation grant for 'Rethinking the Humanities in Africa: A Trans-Continental Collaboration', with the Wits Institute of Social and Economic Research, \$1,500,000
- 2012 Center for Research Libraries/Cooperative Africana Microfilms Project grant to fund the 'Project to Preserve and Digitize the Kabarole District Archives in Western Uganda', \$25,000
- 2012 Google Corporation grant to fund travel of four Michigan students to Juba, South Sudan, to catalogue the National Archives of South Sudan, \$20,000
- 2011 Center for Research Libraries/Cooperative Africana Microfilms Project grant to fund the 'Project to Preserve and Digitize the Kabarole District Archives in Western Uganda', \$40,000
- 2011 Experiential Learning Fund (U-M International Institute) grant to support travel of five Michigan graduate students to Entebbe, Uganda, to catalogue the Ugandan National Archives, \$10,000
- 2010 Seed Grant (U-M African Studies Center) to fund the 'Project to Preserve and Digitize the Kabarole District Archives in Western Uganda', \$12,000
- 2009 Co-PI, Mellon Foundation 'Sawyer Seminar' award for 'Ethnicity in Africa: Historical and Contemporary Investigations' at the University of Michigan, \$158,000
- 2007 Principal Investigator, Leverhulme Trust 'International Network' grant for the 'Cambridge/Africa Collaborative Research Programme', £260,000 over five years
- 2007 Principal Investigator, Isaac Newton Trust grant for the 'Cambridge/Africa Collaborative Research Programme', £125,000 over five years

## **Publications**

### **Books**

*Ethnic Patriotism and the East African Revival: A History of Dissent, c. 1935-1972* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012).

*Creative Writing: Translation, Bookkeeping, and the Work of Imagination in Colonial Kenya* (Portsmouth, N.H.: Heinemann, 2004).

### **Edited books**

*The Politics of Heritage in Africa*

Under review at Cambridge University Press. With Kodzo Gavua and Ciraj Rassool.

*Abolitionism and Imperialism in Britain, Africa and the Atlantic* (Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 2010).

*Recasting the Past: History Writing and Political Work in Modern Africa* (Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 2009). With G. Macola.

Henry Muoria Mwaniki, *Writing for Kenya: Henry Muoria's Life and Works* (Leiden: Brill, 2009). With Wangari Muori-Sal, J. Lonsdale and B. Frederiksen.

Charles Muhoro Kareri, *The Life of Charles Muhoro Kareri* (Madison: University of Wisconsin African Studies Center, 2003).

*The Invention of Religion: Rethinking Belief in Politics and History* (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2002). With D. Walhof.

### **Edited journals**

‘Uganda in the 1970s’

Special issue of the *Journal of Eastern African Studies* 7 (1) (2013). With E.C. Taylor.

‘Africans Meeting Missionaries: Rethinking Colonial Encounters’

Special issue of the *Journal of Religious History* 23 (1999). With J.M. Allman.

### **Book chapters**

‘Introduction: The Management of Heritage in Africa’

In Peterson, Rassool, and Gavua (eds.), *The Politics of Heritage in Africa* (under review at Cambridge University Press).

‘Ethnography and Cultural Innovation in Mau Mau Detention Camps: Gakaara wa Wanjau’s *Mihiriga ya Agikũyũ* (The Clans of the Gikuyu)’

In I. Hofmeyr and A. Burton (eds.), *Ten Books that Changed the British Empire* (Durham: Duke University Press, forthcoming).

## 'Religion'

In P. Levine and J. Marriott (eds.), *Ashgate Research Companion to Modern Imperial Histories* (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2012), 489-509.

## 'Revivalism and Dissent in Colonial East Africa'

In K. Ward and E. Wild-Wood, eds. *The East African Revival: History and Legacies* (Kampala: Fountain Publishers, 2010), 162-182.

## 'Introduction: Abolitionism and Political Thought in Britain and Africa'

In Peterson (ed.), *Abolitionism and Imperialism in Britain, Africa and the Atlantic* (Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 2010), 1-37.

## 'States of Mind: Political Vision in the Rwenzururu Kingdom, Western Uganda'

In Peterson and Macola (eds.), *Recasting the Past: History Writing and Political Work in Modern Africa* (Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 2009), 171-190.

## 'Introduction: Homespun Historiography and the Academic Profession'

In Peterson and Macola (eds.), *Recasting the Past: History Writing and Political Work in Modern Africa* (Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 2009), 1-28. With G. Macola.

## 'Language Work and Colonial Politics in Eastern Africa: The Making of Standard Swahili and "School Kikuyu"'

In D. Hoyt and K. Oslund (eds.), *The Politics of Language Study* (Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield, 2006), 181-210.

## 'Making the Chikunda: Military Slavery and Ethnicity in Southern Africa, 1750-1900'

In P. Morgan (ed.), *The Arming of Slaves from the Classical Era to the American Civil War* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2006), 95-119. With A. Isaacman.

## 'The Rhetoric of the Word: Bible Translation and Ethnic Debate in Colonial Central Kenya'

In B. Stanley (ed.), *Missions, Nationalism, and the End of Empire* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2004), 165-179.

## 'Writing in Revolution: Independent Schooling and Mau Mau in Central Kenya'

In Atieno Odhiambo and J. Lonsdale (eds.), *Mau Mau and Nationhood: Arms, Authority, and Narration* (London and Ohio: Ohio University Press, 2003), 76-96.

## 'Autobiography as History and Literature'

In C. Muhoro, *The Life of Charles Muhoro Kareri* (Madison: University of Wisconsin African Studies Center, 2003), iv-xix.

## 'Gambling with God: Rethinking Religion in Central Kenya'

In Peterson and Walhof (eds.), *The Invention of Religion: Rethinking Belief in Politics and History* (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2002), 37-58.

## 'Rethinking Religion'

In Peterson and Walhof (eds.), *The Invention of Religion: Rethinking Belief in Politics and History* (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2002), 1-16. With D. Walhof.

**Journal articles**

- 'Rethinking the State in Idi Amin's Uganda: The Politics of Exhortation'  
*Journal of Eastern African Studies* 7 (1) (2013). Special issue on 'Uganda in the 1970s', edited by D.R. Peterson and E.C. Taylor.
- 'The Work of Time in Western Uganda'  
*Citizenship Studies* 16 (8) (2012), 961-977. Special issue on 'Secularism and Citizenship in the Non-European World', edited by D. Lehmann and H. Iqtidar.
- 'Conversion and the Alignments of Colonial Culture'  
*Social Sciences and Missions* 24 (2-3) (2011), 207-232. Special issue marking the twentieth anniversary of J. and J. Comaroff's *Of Revelation and Revolution*.
- 'The Intellectual Lives of Mau Mau Detainees'  
*Journal of African History* 49 (1) (2008), 73-91.
- 'Culture and Chronology in African History'  
*Historical Journal* 50 (2) (2007), 483-497.
- 'Morality Plays: Marriage, Church Courts and Colonial Agency in Tanganyika, c. 1880-1928'  
*American Historical Review* 111 (4) (2006), 983-1010.
- 'Casting Characters: Autobiography and Political Imagination in Colonial Kenya'  
*Research in African Literatures* 37 (3) (2006), 176-192. Special issue on 'African Languages and Literatures', edited by K. Barber and G. Furniss.
- '"Be Like Firm Soldiers to Develop the Country": Political Imagination and the Geography of Gikuyuland'  
*International Journal of African Historical Studies* 37 (1) (2004), 71-101.
- 'Making the Chikunda: Military Slavery and Ethnicity in Southern Africa, 1750-1900'  
*International Journal of African Historical Studies* 36 (2) (2003), 257-281.  
With Allen Isaacman.
- 'Wordy Women: Gender Trouble and the Oral Politics of the East African Revival in Gikuyuland'  
*Journal of African History* 43 (2001), 469-489.
- 'Translating the Word: Dialogism and Debate in Two Gikuyu Dictionaries'  
*Journal of Religious History* 23 (1999), 31-50.
- 'New Directions in the Social History of Missions in Africa'  
*Journal of Religious History* 23 (1999), 1-7. Co-authored with J. Allman.
- 'Colonizing Language? Missionaries and Gikuyu dictionaries, 1904 and 1914'  
*History in Africa* 24 (1997), 257-72.

**Short Articles**

'Language: Government and Mission Policies'

In J. Middleton and J. Miller *et. al.*, eds., *New Encyclopedia of Africa* (New York: Scribner, 2007).

Introduction to 'Ngo ya Tuiritu [Shield of the Girls]: Letter Concerning Female Circumcision'

In F. Howe (ed.), *Women Writing Africa: The Eastern Region* (New York: The Feminist Press, 2007).

'Mau Mau'

In K. Koschorke (ed.), *Kirchengeschichte VII: Asien, Afrika, Lateinamerika*, in the series *Religion in Geschichte und Gegenwart* (Tubingen: J.C.B. Mohr, 2002).

**Reviews**

N. Creary, *Domesticating a Religious Import: The Jesuits and the Inculturation of the Catholic Church in Zimbabwe, 1879-1980* (New York: Fordham University Press, 2011).

*Journal of African History* 53 (2) (2012), 263-65.

N. Kodesh, *Beyond the royal gaze: clanship and public healing in Buganda* (Charlottesville and London: University of Virginia Press, 2010).

*American Historical Review* 115 (5) (2010), 1561-62.

P. Larson, *Ocean of Letters: Language and Creolization in an Indian Ocean Diaspora* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009).

*Slavery and Abolition* 31 (4) (2010), 558-60.

A. Stambach, *Faith in Schools: Religion, Education, and American Evangelicals in East Africa* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2010).

*International Journal of African Historical Studies* 43 (2) (2010), 394-95.

D. Branch, *Defeating Mau Mau, Creating Kenya: Counterinsurgency, Civil War, and Decolonization* (Cambridge, Cambridge: University Press, 2009).

*Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History* 38 (2) (2010), 337-39.

D.L. Robert, ed., *Converting colonialism: visions and realities in mission history, 1706-1914* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2008).

*The Catholic Historical Review* 95 (3) (2009), 581-583.

P. Harries, *Butterflies and Barbarians: Swiss Missionaries and Systems of Knowledge in South-East Africa* (Oxford: James Currey, 2007).

*African Studies Review* 51 (3) (2008), 183-185.

K. Barber, ed., *Africa's Hidden Histories: Everyday Literacy and Making the Self* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2006).

*Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 14 (3) (2008), 682-683.

- K. Mutongi, *Worries of the Heart: Widows, Family, and Community in Kenya* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007).  
*Journal of African History* 49 (1) (2008), 152-154.
- B. Straight, *Miracles and Extraordinary Experience in Northern Kenya* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2006).  
*Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 76 (1) (2008), 225-228.
- S. Durrani, *Never Be Silent: Publishing and Imperialism in Kenya* (London: Vita, 2006).  
Forthcoming in *African Research and Documentation*.
- J.G. Deutsch, *Emancipation Without Abolition in German East Africa, c. 1884-1914* (Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 2006).  
*Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History* 35 (4) (2007), 644-646.
- H. Tilley, ed., *Ordering Africa: Anthropology, European Imperialism, and the Politics of Knowledge* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2007).  
*Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History* 35 (4) (2007), 639-641.
- G. Maddox and J. Giblin, eds., *In Search of a Nation: Histories of Authority and Dissidence in Tanzania* (London: James Currey, 2006).  
*American Historical Review* 112 (2) (2007), 629-630.
- S. Doyle, *Crisis and Decline in Bunyoro: Population and Environment in Western Uganda, 1860-1955* (London: James Currey, 2006).  
*Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History* 35 (1) (2007), 169-171.
- J. Harper, *Western-Educated Elites in Kenya, 1900-1963* (New York: Routledge, 2006).  
*Journal of African History* 47 (3) (2006), 527-528.
- A. Burton, *African Underclass: Urbanisation, Crime, and Colonial Order in Dar es Salaam* (London: James Currey, 2006).  
*Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History* 34 (4) (Dec. 2006), 641-643.
- E. Steinhart, *Black Poachers, White Hunters: A Social History of Hunting in Colonial Kenya* (London: James Currey, 2006).  
*Journal of African History* 47 (2) (2006), 343-345.
- T. Kanogo, *African Womanhood in Colonial Kenya, 1900-1950* (London: James Currey, 2005).  
*Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History* 34 (3) (2006), 474-476.
- D.W. Cohen and E.S. Atieno Odhiambo, *The Risks of Knowledge: Investigations Into the Death of the Hon. Minister John Robert Ouko in Kenya, 1990* (Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 2004).  
*Africa Today* 52 (3) (2006), 118-120.
- D.L. Hodgson, *The Church of Women: Gendered Encounters Between Maasai and Missionaries* (Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2005).

- Journal of Ecclesiastical History* 57 (2) (2006), 413-414.
- D. Lovatt-Smith, *Kenya, the Kikuyu and Mau Mau* (East Sussex: Mawenzi Books, 2005).  
*Journal of African History* 47 (1) (2006), 165-166.
- O. Kalu, ed., *African Christianity: An African Story* (Pretoria: University of Pretoria, 2005).  
*Journal of Ecclesiastical History* 57 (1) (2006), 87-89.
- C. Elkins, *Imperial Reckoning: The Untold Story of Britain's Gulag in Kenya* (New York: Henry Holt, 2005).  
*Journal of British Studies* 44 (4) (2005), 913-915.
- T. Asad, *Formations of the Secular: Christianity, Islam, Modernity* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2003).  
*Religion* 34 (4) (2005), 372-375.
- S. Greene, *Sacred Sites and the Colonial Encounter: A History of Meaning and Memory in Ghana* (Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2002).  
*Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 72 (4) (2004), 1037-1040.
- N. Sobania, *Culture and Customs of Kenya* (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2003).  
*International Journal of African Historical Studies* 36 (3) (2003), 641-643.
- C. Gray, *Colonial Rule and Crisis in Equatorial Africa: Southern Gabon, ca. 1850-1940*. (Rochester, NY: University of Rochester Press, 2002).  
*Journal of Colonial and Postcolonial History* 4 (2) (2003).

### ***Work in progress***

Martin Shikuku, *The People's Watchman: The Life of Martin Shikuku* (Dar es Salaam: Mkuki na Nyota, forthcoming in 2013). Edited, with an introduction.

Co-editor, *African Print Cultures*.

In preparation for the University of Michigan's African Studies series. With S. Newell and E.L. Hunter.

'Theology, Medicine, and Dissent in 1920s Buganda'

In preparation for J. Cabrita, F. Becker and M. Rodet, eds., *Religion, Media, and Marginality in Africa*.

### **Conference Organizing**

- 2013 Member of the Program Committee for the African Studies Association's annual meeting and Convener for the 'Religion and Spirituality' stream.
- 2012 Organizer, 'African Print Cultures' workshop, University of Michigan.
- 2011 Co-organizer, 'Archives in Uganda' workshop, Makerere Institute for Social Research, Kampala, Uganda.



- 2011 Organizing Committee Chair, 'The Politics of Heritage' conference, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa.
- 2011 Organizer, 'The Making of the Yoruba' conference, University of Michigan.
- 2011 Faculty advisor, 'Reframing Knowledge on 1970s Uganda' conference, University of Michigan.
- 2010 Chair, 'Intellectual Work and Social Order in Western Kenya' panel, African Studies Association (USA) annual conference, San Francisco, CA.
- 2010 Member of the Program Committee for the African Studies Association's annual meeting and Convener for the 'New Directions: History' stream.
- 2009 Chair, 'Uganda's History from the Margins' panel, African Studies Association (USA) annual conference, New Orleans, LA.
- 2009 Organizer, 'Heritage Matters!' conference at the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana.
- 2009 Organizer, 'The Production of Knowledge in Africa' conference, University of Michigan.
- 2008 Co-organizer, 'Religion and Public Culture in Africa' conference, University of Cambridge.
- 2007 Chair, 'Citizenship and Sovereignty in late colonial East Africa' panel, African Studies Association (USA) annual conference, New York, NY.
- 2006 Organizer, 'Literature and the Historical Imagination' symposium, University of Cambridge.
- 2006 Co-organizer, 'Ethnohistory and the Construction of Identity in Africa' conference, University of Cambridge.
- 2003 Chair, 'Rethinking Ngugi's Writing in Gikuyu' panel, African Studies Association (USA) annual conference, New Orleans.
- 2000 Co-organizer, 'After Secularism/Religion: Interpretation, History, and Politics' conference, University of Minnesota.
- 1997 Organizer, 'Africans Meeting Missionaries: Rethinking Colonial Encounters' conference, University of Minnesota.

**Professional Activities** (selected)

- 2000- Reviewer for Cambridge University Press, Ohio University Press, Heinemann Publishers, Ashgate Publishers, the University of Wisconsin Press, C. Hurst and Co., the International African Library, Palgrave-MacMillan, the *Journal of Anglican Studies*, *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, the *Historical Journal*, the *African Studies Review*, the *Journal of Modern African Studies*, the *Journal of African History*, the *Catholic Historical Review*, the *Journal of Historical Biography*, the *Journal of Eastern African Studies*, *African Affairs*, the *Journal of Material Studies*, and *Africa: The Journal of the International African Institute*.
- 2013- Co-editor, 'New African Histories' series, Ohio University Press.
- 2012- Member of the Publications Committee, African Studies Association (USA).
- 2009- Co-editor, 'Cambridge Centre of African Studies Series', Ohio University Press.
- 2006- Member of the Publications Committee, International African Institute.
- 2006- Member of the editorial boards of *African Affairs*; *Africa: The Journal of the International African Institute*; and *Journal of Modern African Studies*.
- 2009-2013 Elected faculty representative to the Executive Committee, Cooperative Africana Materials Project, Center for Research Libraries, Chicago.
- 2006-09 Elected member of the Governing Council, African Studies Association (UK).
- 2006-09 Elected member of the Organizing Committee, Cambridge Historical Society.

**Memberships**

American Historical Association	Royal African Society
African Studies Association (USA)	Uganda Studies Association
African Studies Association (UK)	Royal Historical Society

**Languages**

Swahili	Kikuyu (Gikuyu)
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