

IMPERIAL CULTURE IN COUNTRIES
WITHOUT COLONIES:
AFRICA AND SWITZERLAND.



CONFERENCE:
University of Basel, Switzerland, October 23-25, 2003.

THURSDAY, 23. OCTOBER

SESSION 1

Intellectuals: missionaries, anthropology and linguistics.
Centre for African Studies Basel, Rheinsprung 9

- 14:00 Greetings and Introduction.**
- 14:30 David Coplan** (University of the Witwatersrand):
A Grand Quixotic Intellectual Quest: Western Switzerland
and Missionary Anthropology in 19th century Lesotho.
- 15:00 Tom McCaskie** (University of Birmingham):
Perregaux among the Akan.
- 15:30 David Birmingham** (University of Kent) & **Didier Péclard**
(Universität Basel):
Héli Chatelain and the colonial encounter in Angola.
- 16:00** Break.
- 16:30 Erika Eichholzer** (Universität Hamburg):
Language and misrepresentation: Swiss Missionary
Linguists and the Non-European Other.
- 17:00 Alain Ricard** (CNRS, Paris):
The Ellenbergers (David-Frederic, Victor, Paul):
interpreting sesotho.
- 17:30 Final Discussion.**
- 18:30** *Conference-Apéro, Centre for African Studies Basel.*

FRIDAY, 24. OCTOBER

SESSION 2

Intellectuals: between science and romance.
Centre for African Studies Basel, Rheinsprung 9

- 09:00 Nigel Penn** (University of Cape Town) & **Roland Kaehr**
(Musée d'ethnographie, Neuchâtel):
Gen. Charles-Daniel de Meuron at the Cape and in
Switzerland.
- 09:30 Wolbert Smidt** (Universität Hamburg):
A Swiss in Africa: Munzinger between scholarship,
political reform and imperialism.
- 10:00 Bernhard Gardi** (Museum der Kulturen, Basel):
René Gardi (1909-2000): Traveller, Writer, Photographer
and Filmmaker.
- 10:30** Break.
- 11:00 William Beinart & Daniel Gilfoyle** (St. Antony's College,
Oxford University):
A Swiss vet in South Africa: Arnold Theiler, the South
African stock industry and the lamsiekte problem.
- 11:30 Giorgio Miescher** (Basler Afrika Bibliographien):
From Rinderpest to the Basel Zoo – Markus Zschokke
or how Vets, Monuments and Nature Conservation
opened a line against dark Africa.
- 12:00 Final Discussion.**
- 12:30** *Lunch: Harmonie Restaurant, Petersgraben 71.*

SESSION 3

Science and Exploration.
Englisches Seminar, Nadelberg 6

- 14:30 Guy Thomas** (Mission 21, Universität Basel):
Spatial Transformation in Colonial Cameroon: Cantons,
Chiefdoms and Missionary Cartography.
- 15:00 Werner Korte** (Independent Scholar):
Expeditions into an Unknown Country: The Journeys
of Johann A. Büttikofer through Liberia in the Years
1880-1882 and 1886.
- 15:30** Break.
- 16:00 Dag Henrichsen** (Basler Afrika Bibliographien):
Classifying colonial territory and mapping out an
academic career. The example of Hans Schinz, botanist
in southwestern Africa and Zurich.
- 16:30 Jürg Schneider** (Universität Basel):
Photographs and Findings: Carl Passavant's travelling
and exploring in West Africa.
- 17:00 Final Discussion.**
- 17:30 SAG – SSEA – Swiss Society for African Studies:
Annual Meeting.**
- 19:00** *Conference-Dinner in the Tante-Schuggi-Tram.
Meeting point: 18:45 at Schiffplände.*

SATURDAY, 25. OCTOBER – PARALLEL SESSIONS

Financial support from:

Carl Schlettwein-Stiftung, Basel.
SAG – SSEA – Swiss Society for African Studies.
Max Geldner-Stiftung, Basel.
Freiwillige Akademische Gesellschaft, Basel.

SESSION 4A

Institutions and intellectuals.
Englisches Seminar, Nadelberg 6

- 09:00 Paul Jenkins** (Mission 21, Universität Basel):
What is a missionary society? A systematic view
of a key institution in imperial and post-imperial culture.
- 09:30 Ulrike Sill & Sara Janner** (Universität Basel):
From India via Basel to the Gold Coast – the Basel
Women's Mission in the nineteenth century.
- 10:00 Eric Morier-Genoud** (Universität Basel and
Binghampton, SUNY):
Missionary Mismatch: H.-P. Junod's politics in South
Africa and Switzerland, ca. 1930-1980s.
- 10:30** Break.
- 11:00 Cephias Omenyo** (University of Ghana, Legon):
The legacies of the Basel Mission in Ghana revisited.
- 11:30 Alpheus Manghesi** (formerly Centre for African Studies,
UEM, Maputo):
Out of Bounds: Control, Discipline and Passive
Resistance in a Mission College.
- 12:00 Final Discussion.**
- 12:30 Lunch: Storchen Restaurant, Fischmarkt 10.**

SESSION 5A

Christianity and Transculturation.
Englisches Seminar, Nadelberg 6

- 14:30 Sonia Abun-Nasr** (Basler Afrika Bibliographien):
Patterns of life: Christian biographies from Switzerland
and Ghana.
- 15:00 Tim Couzens** (University of the Witwatersrand):
Edward Jacottet and the Development of an indigenous
pastorate in Lesotho.
- 15:30** Break.
- 16:00 Gaby Fierz** (Museum der Kulturen, Basel):
Swiss African chief and Queenmother: Auf den Spuren
transkultureller Identitäten.
- 16:30 Final Discussion.**
- 17:00 End of Conference.**

SESSION 4B

Africa in Switzerland/Servitude and Freedom.
Englisches Seminar, Nadelberg 6

- 09:00 Wolbert Smidt** (Universität Hamburg):
Africans in Switzerland: The example of Basel in the
19th century.
- 09:30 Patrick Minder** (Université de Neuchâtel):
Le 'zoo humain' en Suisse, objet de curiosité populaire
ou instrument de propagande coloniale?
- 10:00 Patrick Harries** (Universität Basel):
Taming domestic savages: the image of Africa
in Sunday Schools of Western Switzerland,
ca. 1860-1960.
- 10:30** Break.
- 11:00 Hans Fässler** (Independent Scholar):
The third chapter is the first – unravelling Switzerland's
slavery past.
- 11:30 Bothale Tema** (DACST, South African Government):
Henri Gonin and Welgeval farm: from Servitude to
Salvation.
- 12:00 Final Discussion.**
- 12:30 Lunch: Storchen Restaurant, Fischmarkt 10.**

SESSION 5B

African Images and Swiss Identities.
Englisches Seminar, Nadelberg 6

- 14:30 Bouda Etemad** (Université de Genève) & **Thomas David**
(Université de Lausanne):
Mouvements abolitionnistes et valeurs culturelles.
Le cas de la Suisse.
- 15:00 Marcel Dreier** (Universität Basel):
Africa is fighting: a Swiss anti-imperialist solidarity
movement and its models of liberation in the 1970s.
- 15:30** Break.
- 16:00 Monica Kalt** (Universität Basel):
«Entwicklung heisst Befreiung» – kritisches ent-
wicklungspolitisches Engagement in der Schweiz der
70er und 80er Jahre.
- 16:30 Final Discussion.**
- 17:00 End of Conference.**

For further information:

www.unibas.ch/afrika/nocolonies
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Links:

Centre for African Studies Basel: www.unibas.ch/zasb/
Historisches Seminar der Universität Basel: www.histsem.unibas.ch/
Basler Afrika Bibliographien: www.baslerafrika.ch/
IG Afrikastudien Basel: www.unibas.ch/afrika/