

SUMMARY

- Research and teaching interests: violence, popular justice, ritual murder, anthropology and history, ethnography of the state, anthropology of development, anthropological theory.
- Specialist areas: West Africa, youth, vigilantism, masquerade performance, models of sociality and colonial history.
- Extensive research experience in South-East Nigeria; comparative applied research in Ethiopia, Sudan and Mali.

APPOINTMENTS

- 2006 **Associate Professor in the Social Anthropology of Africa**
Fellow of St Antony's College, University of Oxford
My post is a joint appointment between the African Studies Centre and the Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology. I am responsible for teaching and supervision on the MSc in African Studies and for undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Social Anthropology. I was Senior Tutor of St Antony's College from 2014-2016 being responsible for student welfare and academic progress as well as sitting on the college management executive team.
- 2003-05 **Lecturer**
Department of Anthropology, University of Sussex.
I convened and taught on undergraduate and postgraduate anthropology courses and interdisciplinary programmes within the School of Social and Cultural Studies. In 2004 I completed fieldwork on a new youth masquerade in southern Nigeria. In 2005 I jointly convened an international conference on Global Vigilantes, and a workshop on the work of Michel de Certeau.
- 2000-03 **British Academy Post-doctoral Research Fellow**
Department of Anthropology and Sociology, School of Oriental and African Studies.
During my fellowship I conducted ethnographic fieldwork on vigilantism in south-eastern Nigeria. I also completed archival research on the Qua Iboe Mission archive and on colonial newspapers for my monograph *The Man-Leopard Murder Mysteries*. I taught undergraduate and postgraduate courses in West African Society and Culture.
- 1999-00 **Lecturer/Consultant**
University of Edinburgh, Social Anthropology Department
I was a lecturer on the undergraduate honours programme, teaching courses in Research Methods and Anthropological Theory as well as research supervision duties. I was also a member of the Social Development Resource Centre providing advice and reviews of NGO projects and programmes for DFID.

DAVID PRATTEN

1992-96 **Research Project Co-ordinator**

SOS Sahel International UK, London.

I designed and managed a four-year research programme entitled 'Rural-Urban Linkages: The Role of Migrant Associations in Sahelian Development' and conducted fieldwork in Sudan, Mali and Ethiopia.

EDITORSHIP

2010-16 Co-Editor AFRICA: Journal of the International African Institute.

2009- Series Co-editor, *Readings in African Studies*, Indiana University Press for International African Institute.

QUALIFICATIONS

1992-99 **Ph.D.** 'From Secret Societies to Vigilantes: Identity, Justice and Development among the Annang of South-Eastern Nigeria'
Department of Anthropology and Sociology, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

1990-91 **M.A. (Econ.) Development Studies**
Manchester University

1987-90 **B.A. (Hons.) Modern History**
Pembroke College, Oxford University

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

The Man-Leopard Murders: History and Society in Colonial Nigeria, Edinburgh & Indiana: Edinburgh University Press & Indiana University Press for the International African Institute, 2007. (Winner of 2007 Amaury Talbot Prize for African Anthropology awarded by the Royal Anthropological Institute)

Global Vigilantes: Perspectives on Justice and Violence, with A. Sen (eds.), London: Hurst, 2007.

Cooper, Elizabeth and David Pratten (eds.) (2014) *Ethnographies of Uncertainty in Africa* New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

'Perspectives on Vigilantism in Nigeria' *Africa* 78:1 2008. Edited special issue.

Including my own paper 'From Secret Societies to Vigilantes: the genealogy of justice in Nigeria.'

'Mystics and Missionaries: Narratives of the Spirit Movement in Eastern Nigeria', *Social Anthropology* 15(1), 2007.

'The Politics of Vigilance in Southeastern Nigeria', *Development and Change* 37(4), 2006, pp. 707-734.

'The Politics of Plunder: The Rhetorics of Order and Disorder in Southern Nigeria',

DAVID PRATTEN

African Affairs 102(407), 2003, pp. 211-240 (with C. Gore)

'Reconstructing Community: The Intermediary Role of Sahelian Associations in Processes of Migration and Rural Development' *African Rural and Urban Notes*, 3 (1), pp. 49-77, 1996.

BOOK CHAPTERS

'Currency and Conflict in Calabar Province' in Wale Adebani (ed.) *Beyond the Margins - Essays in Honor of Jane I. Guyer*, James Currey, 2017, pp. 72-91.

'Creole pioneers in the Nigerian provincial press' in Derek Peterson, Stephanie Newell and Emma Hunter (eds.) *Print Cultures in Africa*. Michigan University Press, Ann Arbor, 2016, pp.75-101.

'Policing boundaries: the cultural work of African policing' in Jonny Steinberg, Oliver Owen (eds) *Rethinking Policing in Africa*, Hurst, London, 2016.

with Cooper, Elizabeth 'Ethnographies of Uncertainty in Africa: An Introduction' in Cooper, Elizabeth and David Pratten (eds.) *Ethnographies of Uncertainty in Africa* New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2014.

'Retroversion, introversion, extraversion: three aspects of African anthropology', in Fardon, R., J. Gledhill, O. Harris, T. Marchand, M. Nuttall, C. Shore, V. Strang & R. Wilson (eds.) *Sage Handbook of Social Anthropology*. Published with the Association of Social Anthropologists of the United Kingdom and Commonwealth, 308-323, 2012.

"The Precariousness of Prebendalism." In *Democracy and Prebendal Politics in Nigeria: Critical Reinterpretations*. Edited by W Adebani and E Obadare. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 243-260, 2012.

'Bodies of power: narratives of selfhood and security in Nigeria', in Gratz, T. & T. Kirsch (eds.) *Domesticating African Vigilantism*. Oxford: James Currey Publishers, 118-138, 2010.

'Singing thieves: history and practice in Nigerian popular justice', in *Global Vigilantes: Perspectives on Justice and Violence*, Pratten, D. & A. Sen (eds.), London: Hurst, 2007.

'The 'rugged life': Youth and violence in Southern Nigeria', in *Violence and Non-Violence in Africa*, Ahluwalia, P., L. Bethlehem & R. Ginio (eds.), London: Routledge, in press, pp. 84-105.

'The District Clerk and the 'Man-Leopard Murders': Mediating Law and Authority in Colonial Nigeria', in *Intermediaries, Interpreters and Clerks: African Employees and the Making of Colonial Africa*, Roberts, R., B.N. Lawrance & E.L. Osborn (eds.): University of Wisconsin Press, 2006, pp. 220-247..

'Conversion, Conquest and the Qua Iboe Mission', in *Christianity and Social Change in Africa: Essays in Honor of J.D.Y. Peel*, Falola, T. (ed.), Durham, North Carolina: Carolina Academic Press, 2005, pp. 413-440.

'Biafra and Biaran War', in Poddar, P. & D. Johnson (eds.) *A historical companion to postcolonial thought in English* Edinburgh, Edinburgh University Press, 2005, pp. 64-66.

'Return to the Roots': Processes of Legitimacy in Sudanese Migrant Associations', (with Suliman Ali Baldo) in Michael Edwards and David Hulme (eds.), *Non-Governmental Organisations - Performance and Accountability: Beyond the Magic Bullet*,

DAVID PRATTEN

London, Earthscan, 1995, pp.119-129.

REPORTS

‘Return to the Roots? Urban Networks, Rural Development and Power in Sudan’
CAS Occasional Paper No. 82, University of Edinburgh, 2000.

‘Local Institutional Development and Relief in Ethiopia: A *Kire*-based Seed
Distribution Programme in North Wollo’, *Disasters*, 21 (2), pp.138-154, 1997.

‘Bamako Bound: The Social Organization of Migration in Mali’, SOS Sahel
International UK, London, 1996.

RESEARCH FUNDING

Oxford Martin School – Governing African Transitions (2018-20). Co-ordinating
Nigeria stream.

AfOx – workshop grant. Arts of Oil: The cultural history of Port Harcourt (April
2018).

British Academy/Leverhulme Small Research Grant, 2015, Militant Masks:
youth, performance and insecurity in Nigeria.

African Print Cultures Network Oxford University’s Fell Fund and by the
University of Michigan

ANR (French National Research Agency), part of a three year project which started in
2010 (ref: ANR-10-SUDS-0009) examines processes of xenophobic exclusion across
a selection of case studies.

British Academy

Small Research Grant (2007)

Wenner Gren Foundation

Workshop Grant, ‘Global Vigilantes’ (July 2005)

British Academy

Conference Grant, ‘Global Vigilantes’ (July 2005)

Nuffield Foundation Social Sciences Small Grant

‘Democracy and Disorder: Youth, Vigilantes and the 2003 Elections in Nigeria’
(February 2003 - September 2004)

British Academy Small Research Grant

‘The historical and cultural trajectories of ‘youths’ and ‘elders’ in Annang society,
Nigeria’ (July 2001 – November 2001)

ESRC Research Studentship

Rural-Urban Linkages in Action: Improvement Unions and Development in Nigeria
(October 1993 - June 1999)

Ford Foundation (with SOS Sahel)

‘Rural-urban linkages: the role of migrant associations in Sudanese development,’
funded by the Ford Foundation (Grant Number 930-1239) April 1993 - March 1996.

NOVIB (with SOS Sahel)

‘Rural-urban linkages: the role of migrant associations in Malian development,’
funded by Novib (Project No: MAL-049-93-002) October 1993 - Dec 1995.