

Notes on Contributors

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Aito, Ofure is Senior Lecturer in the Department of English and Literary Studies, Federal University, Lokoja, Kogi State, Nigeria. She holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Mass Communication, MA in Literature in English and PhD (University of Lagos, Akoka). Her research and teaching interests include African Literature, Gender Studies, Contemporary American Literature, War Literature and African Cultural Studies. She has attended a number of International conferences and presented papers and has been a recipient of an American Fulbright Summer Fellowship (2007). She has published several articles in journals, both international and local, and has chapters in books on gender studies and poetry for conflict resolution. She currently has on Amazon.com and Morebooks.com a book of essays: *Female Identity: The Dynamics of Culture in African Women-Authored Novels*. Among her essays is 'The Poet as a Town-Crier*: Poetry as Conflict Resolution in Okigbo and Ojaide' in *BRNO Studies in English* (2014). She is also the editor of *HIRENTHA: Journal of the Humanities*. She is currently working on a documentation of the 'Edo Pantheon of gods, Rituals and Female Worshipers'.

Alabi, Adetayo is Associate Professor of English at the University of Mississippi, where he teaches and researches world literatures and cultures in English, particularly African, African American, and Afro-Caribbean. He studied in Nigeria and Canada and obtained his PhD from the University

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Anyanwu, Ogechi E. is Associate Professor of history at Eastern Kentucky University. He received his PhD in African history from Bowling Green State University, Ohio. He also holds a Master's degree in International Affairs and Diplomacy and a Bachelor of History degree, both from Nigeria. Anyanwu's research interests and focus have been on Africa's intellectual history, criminal justice system, and identity formation with particular focus on Nigeria in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. He is the author of *The Politics of Access: University Education and Nation Building in Nigeria, 1948–2000* (University of Calgary Press, 2011), and co-edited the anthology, *(Re)tracing Africa: A Multi-disciplinary Study of African History, Societies, and Cultures* (Kendall Hunt, 2012). Among other publications, his articles have appeared in several peer-reviewed journals such as *Journal of Law and Religion*, *International Journal of Social and Management Sciences*, *Journal of Nigerian Languages and Culture*, *Journal of Humanities*, *International Journal of African Studies*, *American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences*, *Journal of Colonialism & Colonial History*, *Journal of Nigerian Studies*, *History of Education*, and the *International Journal of Igbo Studies*. Anyanwu serves as editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Retracing Africa*, devoted to deconstructing the prevailing myths, stereotypes, and misconceptions held in the western world about Africa and Africans.

Bateman, Fiona is based at the National University of Ireland Galway, where she teaches in the discipline of English and on the MA in Culture and Colonialism, and coordinates the MA in Public Advocacy and Activism. Her research has focused on Irish popular history and writing in the twentieth century, especially issues of identity, race, and modernization, as well as the Irish missionary movement and its texts. She is also interested in postcolonial writing generally, and specifically from Africa. She wrote her PhD thesis on Ireland's foreign missions to Africa in the twentieth century. She co-edited *Studies in Settler Colonialism: Politics, Identity and Culture* (Palgrave Macmillan 2011). Her postdoctoral research on 'Ireland and Biafra' is ongoing; one article which draws on this work is: 'Ireland and the Nigeria Biafra War (1967–1970): Local Connections to a Distant Conflict' (*New Hibernia Review*, 16: 1, 2012).

Bryce, Jane is Professor of African Literature and Cinema at the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill. Born in Tanzania, she was educated there and in the UK before gaining her PhD in Nigeria. She has been a

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Coffey, Meredith is a PhD candidate in the Department of English at the University of Texas at Austin. Her dissertation focuses on nationalism, globalization and resistance in contemporary Nigerian fiction.

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Falola, Toyin is the Jacob and Frances Sanger Mossiker Chair in the Humanities and University Distinguished Teaching Professor at the University of Texas at Austin. Author and editor of over a hundred books, he has honorary doctorates from Monmouth University, Lincoln University, City University of New York, Staten Island, Lead City University, Adekunle Ajasin University, and Tai Solarin University of Education. His memoir, *Counting the Tiger's Teeth* (University of Michigan Press, 2014) recounts the story of his life as a teenager.

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Jeyifo, Biodun is Emeritus Professor of English at Cornell University and Professor of Comparative Literature and African and African American Studies at Harvard University. He was educated at the University of Ibadan

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Njoku, Raphael Chijioke graduated with a first class honours from the University of Nigeria Nsukka and was Nigeria's sixteenth Rhodes Scholar-elect in 1992. He received his PhD in African history from Dalhousie University Canada in 2003. Previously, he had earned a doctorate in Political Science from Vrije University, Belgium in 2001. His research specialty is African history, politics, and culture, including the intersection between literature and African studies. He has also been working on themes related to international studies since 1997. Njoku is the author of *Culture and Customs of Morocco* (Greenwood, 2005), *African Cultural Values: Igbo Political Leadership in Colonial Nigeria 1900–1966* (Routledge 2006), and *The History of Somalia* (Greenwood, 2013); co-editor with Chima J. Korieh of *Missions, States, and European Expansion in Africa* (Taylor & Francis, 2007) and *African history* (2010); with Toyin Falola of *War and Peace in Africa* (Carolina Academic Press, 2010); and with Hakeem Ibikunle Tijani of *Africa and the Wider World* (2010). He has also authored 35 scholarly articles in international journals and edited volumes. Some of his awards include: Eleanor Young Love Award for Distinguished Scholarship (2006), Distinguished Research Award in the Category of Social Sciences (2009), Indiana University Library Residency Award (2009), Victor Olurunsola Endowed Research Award (2007), and the Schomburg Center award for Research in Black Studies (2006–07). Njoku is currently the Director of International Studies and Chair of the Department of Languages and Literature at Idaho.

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Ojeleye, Olukunle currently teaches African History at the University of Calgary, Calgary Alberta Canada. He has also worked as a management consultant in Nigeria, United Kingdom, and Canada. His research has focused on globalization, resource control, governance, development, conflicts and conflict resolution in Sub-Saharan Africa. He has published on such topics as reintegration of militarized combatants into post-civil war African societies, migration, and the African diaspora. His most recent book is the *Politics of Demobilisation and Reintegration in Nigeria* (Ashgate, 2010).

Okwu, Austine (Augustine) was, during the last few years of the British Colonial Administration in Nigeria, an Assistant Divisional Officer. He was a senior diplomat in the Nigerian Foreign Service, serving in Nigerian High Commissions in London, Accra, and Ghana; in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania as Nigeria's Acting High Commissioner and Nigeria's first diplomat in East and Central Africa; and at the Embassy Washington DC. During the Nigeria-Biafra War, he was Biafra's pioneer Special Representative in the United Kingdom, Ambassador in Dar es Salaam, and Special Representative in East and Central Africa, achieving the epic distinction of securing two of the four recognitions for Biafra by African nations. Now he is an emeritus college administrator/professor at Bloomfield College New Jersey; Naugatuck Valley Community College, Waterbury, Connecticut; and State University of New York, Oswego. He has a PhD in History from the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University, MA from Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven and BA (Durham) from Fourah Bay College Freetown, Sierra Leone. He is published in learned journals both in Europe and the United States and is the author of *The Igbo Culture and the Christian Missions 1857–1957* (University Press of America, 2009), and *In Truth For Justice And Honor: A Memoir of a Nigerian-Biafran Ambassador* (Sungai, 2011).

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Oyeniya, Bukola is Assistant Professor of African History at the Missouri State University. He has published on social and cultural history of Africa, conflict and peace building, Yoruba dress and identity, national and international migration of African peoples, and on African historiography. His recent essay on terrorism, entitled 'One Voice, Multiple Tongues: Dialoguing with Boko Haram', appears in *Democracy and Security Journal*, 10:1, 2014. His current research focuses on conflict memories, sacred spaces, and on the history and trajectory of the growth and development of the Nigerian state.

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Ugochukwu, Françoise, habilitée à diriger des recherches and a Chartered linguist, has been lecturing in Higher Education in Nigeria, France, and the UK for more than 40 years. An Africanist affiliated to the Open University, UK, a Senior Research Fellow, IFRA (Nigeria) and a collaborator to the Paris CNRS-LLACAN, with special interest in Nigerian and Inter-cultural Studies, she is the author of the first Igbo-French dictionary (a Franco-Nigerian joint venture), and of several books and some hundred book chapters and articles in journals worldwide. Her qualifications, professional career path, and areas of expertise have placed her at the crossroads between language studies, literature, translation, anthropology, and cinema. She is a member of several learned societies including the Chartered Institute of Linguists (UK), the African Studies Association of the UK, the Société des Africanistes (France), and a Fellow of the British Higher Education Academy. Her pioneering work in the field and her longstanding contribution to the strengthening of cultural and educational ties between France and Nigeria awarded her the national distinction of Chevalier des Palmes Académiques in 1994.

Uzoigwe, G.N. (DPhil, Oxon) is Emeritus Professor of History. A widely published scholar and university administrator, he has authored and edited several works on modern Nigerian history including *History and Democracy in Nigeria; Foundations of Nigerian Federalism, 1900–1960* (Esther Thompson, 1989); *Inter-Ethnic and Religious Conflict Resolution in Nigeria* (with Ernest Uwazie, *et al.*, Lexington Books, 1999); *Troubled Journey: Nigeria Since the Civil War* (with Levi Nwachuku, University Press of America, 2004); *Visions of Nationhood: Prelude to the Nigerian Civil War, 1960–1967* (Africa World Press, 2010). he is a fellow of the Historical Society of Nigeria and a former president of that Society.