

# Zoe Cormack

African Studies Centre | University of Oxford | 13 Bevington Road | OX2 6LH  
Linacre College | University of Oxford | St Cross Road | OX1 3JA  
[zoe.cormack@africa.ox.ac.uk](mailto:zoe.cormack@africa.ox.ac.uk) | +44 (0) 1865 613914

## HIGHER EDUCATION

- 2010 - 2014      **History PhD** Durham University. [\*The Making and Remaking of Gogrial: Landscape, history and memory in South Sudan\*](#). (funded by AHRC).
- 2009 – 2010      **Oxford University (St Antony's College)** African Studies MSc. Dissertation title: *Between the Town and the Cattle-Camp: Community Animal Health Workers in Lakes State, Southern Sudan*
- 2005 – 2008      **University College London** Anthropology BSc. First Class Hons. Dissertation title: *Discursive Constructions of the Government in Local Peace Processes in Southern Sudan*.

## EMPLOYMENT

- May 2017 to date      **Leverhulme Early Career Fellow at the African Studies Centre and Junior Research Fellow at Linacre College, Oxford University.**
- Research for a book on art, death and memory in South Sudan. Teaching and supervision on African Studies MSc.
- Jan 2015 – July 2016      **Post-doctoral Research Associate at The British Institute in Eastern Africa**
- Scoping research on collections of South Sudanese material culture in European museums and preparation of an external funding proposal. (0.25 time)
- Sept 2014 – Aug 2016      **Post-doctoral Research Associate in History at the Open University**
- Research on ESRC-funded project *Cultural Rights and Kenya's New Constitution*. Developed a case study on attempts to secure cultural rights for pastoralists in northern Kenya. Responsibilities included: field and archival research, organising stakeholder workshops in Kenya, publishing academic articles and policy briefings. (0.75 time)
- Oct 2012 – May 2014      **Part time tutor in History, Durham University**
- Led seminars on *The Making of Modern Africa 1880-2005* (1st year undergraduate module) and *Interpreting Conflict and Mass Violence in Post-colonial Africa* (3rd year undergraduate module).
- Oct 2010 – Aug 2013      **Consultant for Feinstein Centre, Tufts University** (project *Pastoralism and Markets in Sudan*)
- Built a database of sources on pastoralism in Sudan and desk-review of policy towards pastoralism in Sudan. Wrote a desk study of the political economy of pastoralist migrations in Sudan-South Sudan borderlands.
- Nov 2007 - May 2009      **Rift Valley Institute, London/Sudan/Nairobi**
- Responsibilities included: co-ordinating a project to digitize the late Richard Grey's personal archive on South Sudan, Administrator for Horn of Africa Field Course in Djibouti, Oct 2008;

Administrator for Sudan Field Course, Rumbek, May 2008; field co-ordinator for Sudan Field Course, Rumbek, May 2009.

#### GRANTS AND AWARDS

- May 2017-Aug 2018 Co-Investigator of AHRC-funded international network [New Explorations into Collections of South Sudanese Material Culture in European Museums](#).
- 2016-2017 **Rome Fellow** at the **British School at Rome**. Residential award to support research into South Sudanese collections in Italian ethnographic museums.
- July 2011 **Royal Historical Society Martin Lynn Scholarship** (£1000) to support doctoral fieldwork in South Sudan.

#### PUBLICATIONS: PEER REVIEWED

- 2017 [The Spectacle of Death: visibility and concealment at an unfinished memorial in South Sudan](#) in **The Journal of Eastern African Studies** 11 (1).
- 2016 [The Promotion of Pastoralist Heritage and Alternative 'Visions' for Development in Northern Kenya](#) in **The Journal of Eastern African Studies** 10 (3) 2016.
- 2016 [Borders are Galaxies: Interpreting contestations over local administrative boundaries in South Sudan](#) in **AFRICA: Journal of the International Africa Institute** 86 (3) 2016.
- In press* with Abdikadir Kurewa (National Museums of Kenya), *The Changing Value of Land in northern Kenya: The case of Lake Turkana Wind Power* in **Critical African Studies** (2018).

#### PUBLICATIONS: REVIEWS

- March 2017 [The Politics of Independence in South Sudan](#). Review essay on Samson Wassara (ed.) 'Post-referendum Sudan: National and Regional Questions' and Matt LeRiche and Mathew Arnold 'South Sudan: From Revolution to Independence' in **AFRICA: Journal of the International Africa Institute**.
- 6 May 2016 Review of *Magnificent and Beggar Land: Angola since the Civil War* by Ricardo Soares de Oliveira, *The Looting Machine* by Tom Burgis and *Africa's New Oil* by Celeste Hicks in **The Times Literary Supplement (TLS)**.
- 12 June 2015 Review of *Jebel Marra* by Michelle Green in **The TLS**.
- Dec 2014 Audio review of *Songs of the Dinka of South Sudan* by Angela Impey in **The Yearbook for Traditional Music** 2014.
- Dec 2013 [A Dinka Moral World: reading an ethnographic account of an agro-pastoralist community in South Sudan](#) in **The Rift Valley Institute Review**.
- 28 Sept 2012 Review of 'Sudan, South Sudan and Darfur: what everyone needs to know' by Andrew Natsios in **The TLS**.

## PUBLICATIONS: POLICY, OTHER

- Dec 2013 [\*Pastoralism in Practice: monitoring livestock mobility in contemporary Sudan\*](#) with Helen Young, Hussein Sulieman, Roy Benke et al. **Tufts/UNEP Sudan**.
- May 2013 [\*Pastoralism in the new borderlands: a humanitarian livelihoods crisis\*](#) **Humanitarian Exchange**. Special Issue on South Sudan No.57 (co-authored with Helen Young).
- June 2011 *Fashion, Flirting and Fighting: Dance in the 'Dinka Districts' of Southern Sudan 1929-1950* in **Sudan Studies**\_2011.

## EXHIBITIONS

- March – Oct 2014 [\*Curator of Shifting Sands: Babanusa to Abyei 1953/54\*](#). An exhibition of Ian Cunnison's ethnographic photographs at **The Oriental Museum, Durham**.

## INVITED SEMINARS, CONFERENCES AND PUBLIC LECTURES (LAST 3 YEARS)

- August 2017 *Untangling the connections between European museums and slavery in nineteenth century South Sudan* at **Arts Council of the American African Studies Association Triennial Conference**. University of Ghana, Legon.
- May 2017 [\*'An Infinity of Curious Things: unpacking collections from Eastern Africa in Italian Museums'\*](#) at **The British School at Rome**, Rome.
- May 2017 *From the zariba to the museum: globalisation, violence and material culture in nineteenth century South Sudan* at **African Studies Seminar**, Oxford University.
- May 2017 *Memory and memorialisation in South Sudan* a public lecture at **The Catholic University of South Sudan**, Juba.
- Jan 2017 *Gone with the Wind? Local grievances and conflicting historical claims at Africa's largest wind energy project* at **The Centre for Contemporary African History**, Durham University.
- Dec 2016 *New Directions for Museum Cooperation and Research between Europe and South Sudan* at **Museum Cooperation between Europe and Africa: Opportunities, Challenges, Modalities**. University of Zurich Ethnographic Museum, Zurich.
- Sept 2016 *The Dead Poets of Godfrey Lienhardt's Archive: Exploring the ethnographic archive and the poetics of history* at **The Ethnographic Archive Conference**, Durham University.
- June 2016 Convenor of a panel on 'Subversion and Heritage in Contemporary Africa' at the **Association of Critical Heritage Studies**, Biennial Conference, Montreal.
- Sept 2015 *Heritage and Alternative Visions for Development in Northern Kenya* at the **International Development Departmental Seminar**, The Open University.

- July 2015 *Heritage and Alternative Visions for Development in Northern Kenya* (part of a panel on reconfiguring landscapes in northern Kenya and southern Ethiopia) at **European Conference on African Studies (ECAS)**, Paris.
- March 2015 *Counting missing bodies in civil conflicts in South Sudan* invited paper at Legacies of Struggle in Eastern and Southern Africa at **The British Institute in Eastern Africa**.
- March 2014 *Borders are Galaxies: nodal territorialities in South Sudan* at Reconfiguring Landscapes in Eastern Africa Symposium at the **British Institute in Eastern Africa**, Nairobi.
- Feb 2014 *Visible and Invisible Memories: dealing with the difficult past in a small town in South Sudan* at **The Horn of Africa Seminar**, Oxford University.

#### **POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY**

- Sept 2014 to date Committee Member of SSSUK (The Society for the Study of the Sudans, UK).
- Sept 2014 to date Research Associate at the Pitt Rivers Museum.
- Oct 2017 to 2019 Linacre College mentor for post-graduate students.

#### **LANGUAGES**

English	<i>Fluent</i>	Dinka (Rek dialect)	<i>Advanced</i>
Italian (reading)	<i>Intermediate</i>	Swahili	<i>Basic</i>