

Contributors

Remmy Shiundu Barasa teaches in the Faculty of Education, St. Augustine University of Tanzania. His research interests are in narrative theories and contemporary African literature. He holds MA (Literature) and B.Ed. (Hons) degrees from Kenyatta University in Kenya.

Fella Benabed teaches English at Badji Mokhtar University, Annaba in Algeria. She holds a Master of Arts degree in Comparative Literature. She has a Magister Degree (equivalent to Master of Arts) in Comparative Literature. In her thesis, she adopted a post-colonial approach to the novels of Wole Soyinka and Cheikh Hamidou Kane, and studied the issues of colonialism, neocolonialism, interculturality and hybridity in Africa. She is presently writing a doctoral thesis on Native American literature, using a multidisciplinary approach, particularly postcolonial and ecocritical, to study the issues of internal colonialism and environmental racism in the United States of America. She is equally interested in the study of globalisation and ICTs to keep track of international academic advancements.

Jens Elze-Volland holds a BA in English and Spanish and an MA in English Studies from the Free University Berlin. He has studied at the Free University Berlin, University of Potsdam and Georgia State University and has been a visiting academic at the English and African Studies Departments at the University of Cape Town in 2009. He is currently working on his PhD in English at the Friedrich Schlegel Graduate School for Literary Studies at the Free University Berlin. His areas of research and teaching include the history of the novel, narratology, 18th century British Literature, Modernisms, Postcolonial Literatures, Sociology and Urban Studies.

Simon Gikandi is Robert Schirmer Professor of English at Princeton University. He graduated with a first class degree in literature from the University of Nairobi, was a British Council Scholar at the University of Edinburgh, and got his PhD in English from Northwestern University. His major Fields of Research and Teaching are the Anglophone Literatures and Cultures of Africa, India, the Caribbean, and Postcolonial Britain, the “Black” Atlantic and the African Diaspora. He also has a special interest in the relation between literature and the production of knowledge and the history of English as a field of study. His many books include *Reading the African Novel*, *Reading Chinua Achebe*, *Writing in Limbo: Modernism and*

Caribbean Literature, Maps of Englishness: Writing Identity in the Culture of Colonialism, and Ngugi wa Thiong'o. He is the general editor of *The Encyclopedia of African Literature* and co-editor of *The Cambridge History of African and Caribbean Literature*.

Mikhail Gromov was born in Moscow on 27.08.1967. After graduating from the Department of African Studies, Moscow Lomonosov State University, with MA in African literature and Swahili language, he joined a PhD course at Gorky Institute of World Literature (Moscow), which he completed successfully in 1993. Since 2003 he has been living and working in Kenya, where he currently holds the post of Assistant Professor of Literature at the United States International University in Nairobi. His works have been published in such journals as *Kiswahili* and *Nairobi Journal of Literature*, he is a regular contributor to the journal *Swahili Forum* and a regular participant of the Swahili Colloquiums at the University of Bayreuth since 1995. Recently he participated as one of the authors in the international project *Outline of Swahili Literature*, published by Brill in 2008. His areas of interest are literatures of Eastern and Southern Africa in English and Indigenous languages, Swahili literature, comparative literature.

Emilia Ilieva is Associate Professor in the Department of Literature, Egerton University, Kenya. She is a prolific critic and has published widely on African literature. Her contributions appear in *The Encyclopaedia of World Literature in the 20th Century* (1999), *The Companion to African Literatures* (2000), *The Historical Companion to Postcolonial Literatures in English* (2005) and *Encyclopaedia of Post-Colonial Literatures in English* (2005) among others. Her publications also appear in Bulgarian and Russian learned journals. She has translated a number of African fiction into Bulgarian notably, Ngugi wa Thiong'o's *Petals of Blood* (1977).

Sim Kilosho Kabale is lectures in the Foreign Languages Department, Kenyatta University, Kenya. He also gives seminars periodically at the l'institut supérieur pédagogique de Bukavu and the University of Bukavu in the Democratic Republic of Congo. He holds a PhD in the science of language and communication from the University of Rouen (France). Professor Kilosho is interested in Francophone Literature and Popular Culture. He has published learned articles prolifically in these domains.

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