

DAVID AND HELEN KIMBLE PRIZE

THE JOURNAL OF
**MODERN
AFRICAN
STUDIES**



2019

The *Journal of Modern African Studies* is proud to announce the winner of the David and Helen Kimble Prize for the best article published in the journal in the previous year.



The prize is named in honour of David and Helen Kimble (pictured above), who co-founded the *Journal of Modern African Studies* in 1963, when both were living in Dar es Salaam due to David's appointment as a professor of political science at what was then the Tanzanian campus of the University of East Africa. However, the original idea for the journal had been conceived while both were living in Ghana. David and Helen jointly edited the journal in its formative years, thus establishing it as one of the leading academic journals in African Studies. The journal's home for its first thirty-five years was in, among other places, Tanzania, Morocco, Lesotho, Malawi and finally, England.

David passed away in 2009; Helen took an active interest in African affairs until her death in December 2019.

THE WINNER

The winner for 2019 is **Gretchen Baldwin**, for her article 'Constructing identity through commemoration: *Kwibuka* and the rise of survivor nationalism in post-conflict Rwanda,' published in vol. 57, issue 3. Based on intensive fieldwork, and combining empirical observation with critical analysis, Baldwin's article is in the best tradition of the journal. She details how official commemoration of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda paradoxically focuses on questions of ethnicity i.e. 'the genocide of the Tutsis,' even as official policy actively avoids discussing ethnic identity. In doing so, the characterisation of the 'Tutsi' as sole victims and implicit survivors has engendered a potentially destabilising self-image and a form of 'survivor nationalism' among 'Tutsi' youth, which aggravates societal friction. The article's theoretically-informed analysis makes a solid contribution to our understanding of current dynamics in Rwanda, as well as broader questions relating to identity politics in contemporary Africa.

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONTRIBUTORS

Detailed instructions on how to submit your manuscript if it is accepted for publication can be found at: cambridge.org/moa

Editorial Statement

The *Journal of Modern African Studies* offers a quarterly survey of developments in modern African politics and society. It seeks to publish original empirical research, which helps to illuminate broader issues affecting Africa. Papers derived from fieldwork in Africa are particularly welcome. Its main emphasis is on current issues in African politics, economics, societies, and international relations, seeking to benefit from the work of specialists in different academic disciplines, and of those who are currently engaged in the affairs of the continent. It does not normally publish general overviews, literature surveys, or expressions of personal opinion. While recognising that sound research is an essential prerequisite for public policy, its central concern is with understanding, rather than with policy implications. Historical studies will normally be accepted only when they are directly relevant to the understanding of modern Africa.

The *Journal*, which is fully refereed, seeks to promote a deeper understanding of what is happening in Africa today. It is intended not only for students and academic specialists, but also for general readers and practitioners with a concern for modern Africa, living and working both inside and outside the continent. Contributions should therefore be presented in such a way as to be accessible to any informed and interested reader, and papers which take a narrowly technical or disciplinary approach will not be accepted.

Editorial policy avoids commitment to any political viewpoint or ideology, recognising that a wide range of different approaches are needed in order to understand developments in Africa, and that approaches which are unfashionable at one moment may well become widely accepted at another. Controversial papers, and papers which seek to challenge current orthodoxies, are therefore welcome, subject only to the recognition that the purpose of the *Journal* is to promote understanding, rather than to act as the mouthpiece for polemic.

Contributions are invited from all over the world, and those from scholars and practitioners working in Africa are particularly welcome. Articles should not be longer than 10,000 words, including references and notes. Articles submitted to the *Journal* should be original contributions and not under consideration for any other publication at the same time. Exceptions to this rule should be clearly indicated at the time of submission. Following publication, authors are entitled to republish their articles elsewhere, in original or amended form, provided that prior publication in *The Journal of Modern African Studies* is acknowledged.

All correspondence and contributions should be addressed to the Editors.

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Correspondence by email is greatly preferred, and manuscripts should if possible be submitted in an electronic form (preferably as an email attachment in any format readable on Word-95 – **not** in Microsoft Vista), directly to the editor.

Unsolicited book reviews are not accepted. Book reviews and occasional review articles are commissioned by the Book Review Editor.

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