

Contributors

Issue Co-Editors

Hakima Abbas is a political scientist, policy analyst and activist. She has been active in struggles for social justice for over fifteen years. Her work as a trainer, strategist and researcher has focused on strengthening and supporting movements for transformation in Africa and the Middle East. Hakima is the editor and author of various publications and articles, including: *Africa's Long Road to Rights, Aid to Africa: Redeemer or Coloniser?* (with Yves Niyiragira), *From Roots to Branches: The African Diaspora in a Union Government for Africa, People-led Transformation: African futures* and the *Queer African Reader* (with Sokari Ekine). She is on the editorial collective of The Feminist Wire and serves as a board member to the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Eastern Africa office, the African Sex Workers Alliance and Greenpeace Africa.

Amina Mama, founding editor of *Feminist Africa*, researcher, scholar and feminist, has worked in various European, African and U.S. tertiary institutions, developing transformative research and teaching methodologies. She authored *Beyond the Masks: Race, Gender and Subjectivity* (Routledge 1995), many articles, and co-edited *Engendering African Social Sciences* (CODESRIA 1997). Following ten years as the University of Cape Town's first Chair in Gender Studies (1999-2009), she was the first Barbara Lee Distinguished Chair at Mills College (2007-2009). She is currently Professor in Women and Gender Studies and Director of the Feminist Research Institute at University of California, Davis. Key teaching and research areas are feminist theory and methodology, colonialism, militarism, globalisation, and women's movements.

Simidele Dosekun, Reviews Editor, has a PhD in gender and cultural studies from King's College London and will be taking up a postdoctoral fellowship at the London School of Economics in September 2015. Her current research concerns new styles of feminine dress and subjectivity among young Nigerian women in the city of Lagos. She is a member of the *Feminist Africa* editorial team and will be guest editing a forthcoming issue of the journal on fashion and beauty politics in Africa.

Contributors

Kerubo Abuya is a leadership development, organisational and transformation scholar-practitioner of a humanistic-values striving to inspire-enable more humane, equitable and sustainable social/human activity systems. A PhD candidate at Saybrook University studying 'Organisational Systems'. Areas of interest include but are not limited to the intersection of leadership, organizational/community culture, human rights, gender justice, systems thinking, transformation, organizing and transformative learning based interventions for social change. A human rights, gender equity and social activist, participatory/action researcher, educator, organizer, communications expert, writer, poet, performance artist; Kerubo is a proud mother of one daughter.

Josephine Ahikire is Associate Professor and Dean of the School of Women and Gender Studies at Makerere University. She is also a Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Basic Research. Josephine has wide experience in research and has extensively published in the area of Feminist Political Theory and Cultural Studies. She is the author of the book: *Localised or Localising Democracy: Gender and the Politics of Decentralisation in Contemporary Uganda* (2007) and Co-editor of *Gender, Poverty and Social Transformation: Examining Fractures and Continuities in Contemporary Uganda* (2014).

Peace Musiimenta holds a PhD (Gender Studies), a MA (Women Studies) and a BA (Education – upper class division) all from Makerere University, Uganda. Peace has wide experience in training and teaching at different levels and currently teaches and coordinates undergraduate programmes in the School of Women and Gender Studies at Makerere University. Peace represents the School of Women and Gender Studies on the Uganda Women's Network (UWONET). Peace is a senior researcher who has done many researches individually and collaboratively. Some of the research includes: *Redefined Subordination: Interrogating the Lived Experiences of Educated Women in Contemporary Urban Uganda* (2014); *Uganda@50: Amplifying Citizens' Voices Project* - Centre for Basic Research (CBR) (2013); *Strengthening Women's Participation in Local Governance and Capacity to Demand for Accountability at Local Government level in Busia district Uganda under the Institute for Social Transformation (IST)*; *Towards Effective Participation of Women in Multiparty Politics in Uganda: Documenting Experiences in 2006 Elections*.

Amon Ashaba Mwiine is an Assistant Lecturer at the School of Women and Gender Studies, Makerere University. He graduated with a Bachelor of Social Sciences (First Class) in 2005; a MA Gender Studies (MAK) in 2011. He is a PhD Student at Makerere University, focusing on the question of Men in Parliament while interrogating the influence of masculinities in the Legislative Processes and the plausible role of men in championing gender sensitive legislations.

Amon has eight years experience in teaching and research in Gender mainstreaming, Masculinities and Development. He has also done research and training in gender and education, Shame, exclusion and how these widen prospects of poverty. His recent publication is a book chapter on “Poverty the invisible and inseparable ‘shadow’: Reflections from the media and the better off in rural Uganda” in Chase, E and Bantebya-Kyomuhendo (eds) 2015. *Poverty and Shame: Global Experiences*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Gabeba Baderoon is the author of *Regarding Muslims: from slavery to post-apartheid* (Wits, 2014) and the poetry collections *The Dream in the Next Body and A hundred silences*. She received a PhD in English from the University of Cape Town, and has held fellowships in the African Gender Institute, the Nordic Africa Institute, and the Centre for Contemporary Islam. Gabeba is an Associate Professor of Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies and African Studies at Pennsylvania State University, and an Extraordinary Professor of English at Stellenbosch University. She co-directs the African Feminist Initiative at Penn State.

Cheryl Hendricks is the Head of the Department of Politics and International Relations at the University of Johannesburg (UJ). Prior to her appointment at UJ, she was a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Security Studies. She holds a Doctorate in Government and International Relations from the University of South Carolina and a Masters in Southern African Studies from the University of York, England.

Her research interests are on Gender, Peace and Security, Security Sector Reform, Human Security and Peacebuilding. She currently teaches courses on International Conflict and Co-operation and Peace and Security in Africa. She has worked extensively with civil society organisations on gender and security in Africa.

Juliet Kamwendo received her initial teacher training in Malawi. She then proceeded to earn B. Ed (University of Botswana) and M. Ed (Gender Studies) also from the same university. Her paper published in the current volume of *Feminist Africa* had its earlier version initially presented in 2011 at a conference on African Renaissance, Integration, Unity and Development hosted by UNISA in Pretoria. She is currently pursuing her PhD in gender studies.

Gregory Kamwendo is a Malawian national and currently works in the School of Education at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. He took special interest in women leaders when his home country (Malawi) became the first country in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) to have a woman president.

Luam Kidane is an African communications strategist, curator and writer. Luam's research, writing and work examines contemporary African movement building at the intersections of communications, decolonial aesthetics, Indigenous governance models, art, articulations of self-determination, and media.

Delali Kumavie is in the Ph.D programme in English and African Studies at Northwestern University in Chicago. Last year, she was an International Fellow with the American Association of University Women. Her research interests include: African women's literature and culture, migration and transnationality and contemporary cultural phenomenon in Ghana and West Africa.

Lyn Ossome is a researcher in feminist political economy, specialising in land and agrarian studies, political theory, labour sociology, and postcolonial feminist studies. She currently holds a postdoctoral fellowship position at the Unit for the Humanities at Rhodes University.

Brenda Nyandiko Sanya is an advanced Ph.D student at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Brenda holds a dual B.A. in Philosophy and Psychology, and an interdisciplinary M.A. in Gender/Cultural Studies. Broadly, her current research explores discretionary implementation of immigration laws with a focus on race, gender, and sexuality. She researches formal and informal structures as spaces where identities, rights, and documentation are contested, produced, and reproduced, and circulated in and through global landscapes.

Anne Namatsi Lutomia is a doctoral student of Human Resource Development with a minor in Gender and Women's Studies at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. She received her MA in Non-profit Management from Hamline University in Minnesota. Anne completed her Bachelor in Education in French and Secretarial Studies at Kenyatta University. Her research interest spans gender, race, labour mobility, leadership development and community based non-profits. Her current research focuses on social capital formation and leadership development amongst new non-profit leaders of small community based non-profits.

The Weaving Kenya Women's Collective ("The Weavers") is a feminist collective formed in 2012 as a staging ground for women's collaborative and cooperative creativity. In a cyber-space anchored in Nairobi in 2014, a group from amongst "The Weavers" convened the virtual round-table that was the genesis for this essay, in order to revisit ideas of belonging and identity, and to see what happens if - and when - we take women's lives, experiences, and memories seriously as a mode of being-in-the world.

Participants: Akitelek Mboya, Aleya Kassam, Dayo Foster, Garnette Olouch-Olunya, Kerubo Abuya, Marziya Mohammedali, Mshai Mwangola, Ngwatilo Mawiyoo, Wambui Mwangi, Wangui wa Goro and Wanjiru Kamau-Rutenberg.

Sehin Teferra has just submitted her PhD thesis titled: A feminist analysis of violence against sex workers in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Following a year's coursework at the Centre for Gender Studies at SOAS, Sehin conducted her fieldwork research and completed her write-up while raising two small children. In the last year, Sehin has also co-founded a feminist project - Setawet ('Of Woman') - which engages with schools and the non-profit sector to challenge gender inequality in Ethiopia. Setawet provides feminist training and research and its hallmark project is the #Arif Wond ('Good Man') campaign which challenges normative masculinity in the Ethiopian context.

Helen Yitah is Associate Professor and Head of the Department of English at the University of Ghana. Her research interests are in postcolonial and gender identity in literature. She has published work on oral and written African literature, American literature and children's literature in Ghana. Her recent publications include: *New Perspectives on African Humanity: Beliefs, Values*

& *Artistic Expression* (2014), which she co-edited, as well as critical essays in *The Journal of Postcolonial Writing*, *The Southern Quarterly* and *The Journal of African Cultural Studies*.