

About CIHABlog.com

The Blog developed out of a conference of the same name organized by one of the editors at the University of California, Irvine, in January 2009. A grant from the Henry Luce Foundation in 2012 enabled us to solidify relationships among institutions in Africa and North America. A subsequent conference held in December 2012, "UCI and Africa: Expanding Engagements, Ongoing Dialogues," further expanded the Blog's network, formalizing the relationship by adding new co-editors and editorial assistants, as well as highlighting a number of ongoing questions about humanitarianism, aid, and religion that the Blog will continue to address.

Contribution Guidelines:

We invite comments on blog entries as well as your own contributions (usually between 500 and 1200 words) on any aspect of humanitarianism on the content, or comparisons between humanitarianism in Africa with other regions of the world. We especially encourage those submissions that incorporate analyses of religion, faith-based humanitarianism, or the ethics of mercy and charity. Submissions can be theoretical or conceptual, policy related, artistically inspired, commentaries on current events, or a combination of any of the above. We also welcome suggestions for additional participants; relevant news articles from around the continent, updates from NGOs, etc.

We recognize that the worlds of scholarship, faith-based institutions, NGOs, foundations, donors, international organizations, and policy-makers each have their own vocabularies and terminologies, some of which have become well-known to members internal to the group, some of which are shared among groups, and some of which can be difficult to decipher to those outside a given group. These terms and vocabularies have social and ethical as well as practical implications. We cannot always avoid the use of particular terms, but we can strive to make them understood across discourses whenever possible. Therefore, we encourage contributions that explain if they cannot avoid organizational terminology and that provide the necessary context for the issues addressed.

The CIHA Blog aims to continue to expand a network that includes faculty and graduate students across the African continent, at the University of California, Irvine, and at other institutions in North America, Africa and elsewhere. We also seek to establish ongoing relationships with religious groups, NGOs, and international organizations. If you or your institution would like to be part of this network, please contact one of the co-editors.

Editors

Akosua Adomako Ampofo (adomak0@gmail.com)

Cilas Kemedjio (cilaskemedjio@rochester.edu)

R. Simangaliso Kumalo (kumalor@ukzn.ac.za)

Cecelia Lynch (clynch@uci.edu)

General Inquiries:
cihablog@uci.edu

Critical Investigations into
Humanitarianism in Africa

CIHA BLOG



in partnership with

**The Institute of African Studies (IAS),
University of Ghana (UG), Legon**

workshop on

**Rethinking the Origins of Humanitarian Action in Africa:
Religion, Secularism, and the Nigerian Civil War (1967-1970)**

October 18-20 | 8:30AM

**Institute of African Studies
University of Ghana-Legon**



University of Ghana



I.A.S

Workshop organised by CIHABlog.com with generous
funding from The Henry Luce Foundation Initiative on
Religion and International Affairs

***List of Readings on the Nigerian Civil War/ Biafra:**

Achebe, Chinua. 2013. *There Was a Country: A Personal History of Biafra*.

Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozie. 2006. *Half of a Yellow Sun*.

Amadi, Elechi. 1973. *Sunset in Biafra: A Civil War Diary*.

Boltanski, Luc. 1999. *Distant Suffering: Morality, Media and Politics*.

Cheema, Pervaiz Iqbal. 1978. *Sanctuary and War*.

Emecheta, Buchi. 1994. *Destination Biafra*.

Fassim, Didier, and Mariella Pandolfi, eds. 2010. *Contemporary States of Emergency: The Politics of Military and Humanitarian Interventions*.

Forsight, Frederick. 1969. *Biafra Story: The Making of an African Legend*.

Heerten, Lasse, and A. Dirk Moses. 2014. "The Nigeria–Biafra war: Postcolonial conflict and the question of genocide." *Journal of Genocide Research* 16 (2–3): 169–203. (direct link: <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/14623528.2014.936700>; link to full special issue on Nigeria–Biafra war: <http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/cjgr20/16/2-3>)

Kalu, Anthonia C. 2003. *Broken Lives and Other Stories*.

Nwapa, Flora. 1992. *Never Again*.

Pérouse de Montclos, Marc-Antoine. 2009. "Humanitarian aid and the Biafra war: Lessons not learned." *Africa Development* 34 (1): 69–82.

Monday, October 19, 2015

09:00-09:30

WELCOME & CHAIR : Esi Sutherland(University of Ghana)

The CIHA Blog (Critical Investigations Into Humanitarianism in Africa)

Editorial Team:

On the Meaning of the CIHA Mission, the Henry Luce Foundation grant, and Humanitarianism in Africa

09:30-12:30

THE MEANING OF HUMANITARIANISM IN BIAFRA

Chair: **Cecelia Lynch** (University of California, Irvine)

Cilas Kemedjio (University of Rochester)

Decolonizing the Story of Humanitarianism: The Case of the Biafra War

Anthonia C. Kalu (University of California, Riverside)

Humanitarian Interventionism: Life, Beauty and Our Common Humanity

Mercy Amba Oduyoye (Trinity Theological Seminary)

The Humanitarian/Religious Encounter: Gender and Theologies of Care in Africa

Discussant: **Akosua Adomako Ampofo** (University of Ghana, & Concordia University, Irvine)

12:30-13:45

LUNCH

14:00-15:15

CRITICAL QUESTIONS ON THE HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION IN BIAFRA: SELECTED READINGS ON THE BIAFRA WAR BY LUCE/CIHA BLOG GRADUATE FELLOWS*

Chair: **Cilas Kemedjio**, University of Rochester

Readings:

- **Abena Kyere**, University of Ghana, Social Sciences
- **Albert Bangirana**, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Religion and Theology
- **Edwin Adjei**, University of Ghana, Social Sciences
- **Carrie Reiling**, University of California, Irvine, Political Science

15:30-16:00

Respondents and Discussants

- **Stephen Hendricks** (University of Pretoria)
- **Simangalisa Kumalo** (University of KwaZulu-Natal)
- **Anthonia C. Kalu** (University of California Riverside)

16:00-18:00

TEA/COFFEE BREAK

THE PRACTICE OF HUMANITARIANISM IN BIAFRA AND BEYOND: SECULAR AND RELIGIOUS PERSPECTIVES

Chair: **Michael Okyerefo** (University of Ghana)

Participants

- **Fr. Ralph Madu** (Catholic Secretariat, Nigeria)
- **Dr. Nigussu Legesse** (World Council of Churches, Switzerland)
- **Bishop Stephen Ransom** (Adamawa Peace Initiative, Nigeria)
- **Iman Dauda Bello** (Adamawa Peace Initiative, Nigeria)

Discussants

Mercy Oduyoye (Trinity Theological Seminary)
Simangaliso Kumalo (University of KwaZulu-Natal)

19:00

DINNER FOR CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

09:00-12:00

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

LEGACIES OF THE BIAFRA WAR

Chair: **Akosua Adomako Ampofo** (University of Ghana)

Participants

Philip Aka (Chicago State University)
The More Things Change, the More They Stay the Same?
Humanitarian Intervention in Africa 45 Years Since Biafra

Clement Adibe (DePaul University)
Humanitarian Ethics and the Conduct of Military Operations in Africa: Lessons for the Campaign Against Boko Haram in Northern Nigeria

Nwando Achebe (Michigan State University, East Lansing)
Re]Creating a Sense of Normalcy: Biafran Women's Wartime Strategies

Helen Chukwuma (Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi)
Humanitarianism in Biafra: Antecedent and Sequent

Discussants

Penda Ba (Gaston Berger University)
Cilas Kemedjio (University of Rochester)

12:00-13:30

LUNCH

HUMANITARIANISM INTERVENTIONS IN AFRICA: BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN PRACTICES AND DISCOURSES, A CONVERSATION BETWEEN ACADEMICS AND HUMANITARIAN AGENTS WORKING IN THE FIELD ON QUESTIONS AND ISSUES RAISED DURING THE WORKSHOP

Chair: **Cecelia Lynch** (University of California, Irvine)

- Fr. Ralph Madu (Catholic Secretariat Nigeria)
- Nigussu Legesse (World Council of Churches)
- Bishop Stephen Ransom (Adamawa Peace Initiative)
- Iman Dauda Bello (Adamawa Peace Initiative)
- Simangaliso Kumalo (University of KwaZulu-Natal)
- Helen Chukwuma (University of Port Harcourt)
- Philip Aka (Chicago State University)

16:00

DRAMATIC READINGS TO CLOSE THE WORKSHOP