

## FROM THE EDITORIAL TEAM

Dear Readers and friends of CJAS:

On behalf of the editorial team, I am pleased to introduce you to this, the second CJAS issue of 2019, volume 6, number 2. Starting from this issue we have begun our goal of expanding our editorial team to beyond the shores of Ghana so we can be a truly pan-African journal. We welcome Drs. Faisal Garba from the University of Cape Town, South Africa and Oghenetaja Okoh from Loyola University in Maryland, USA. As always, we would like to thank our anonymous pool of reviewers whose intellectual contributions enable us to continue this difficult but intensely satisfying academic work. Yedaase! Thank you!

At the time of going to press we in Ghana seem to be getting hit by another wave of the national ailment—dumsor (power outages) – that plagued us a few years ago. I have the good fortune to have a solar back up to work by. Not all are as fortunate, and the ability to negotiate the dumsor is heavily dependent on economic class and education, two highly correlated variables. In many ways, however, the discourse and expressions around the socio-politics of dumsor override social and economic class. In “Lexical inventiveness in Ghanaian socio-political discourse: The form, meaning and motivation for dumsor and dumsor-based neologisms”, Clement Kwamina Insaadoo Appah and Jemima Asabea Anderson discuss what they refer to as the dumsor lexicon and the morphological and sociolinguistic motivations for the formation of the dumsor-based neologisms, themselves, one could argue, based in class structures. However, that argument may be left for another day.

There are two other original empirical pieces in this issue of CJAS. In “Ku Nseke and Ku Mpèmba: The Dikènga Theory as Evinced Through Content and Function of Akan Ananse Stories and Yorùbá Ìjàpá Tales”, Qbádélé Kambon highlights parallels between Akan Ananse Stories and Yorùbá Ìjàpá tales from the perspective of both function and content. And Akosua Darkwah looks at issues of othering and migration in “Fluid Mobilities?: Othering in a Borderless West Africa”. Darkwah draws on Spivak’s (1985) concept of othering to explore the intersections between and among Ghanaian othering of Nigerians and Nigerian responses. Sadly, even in the home of the continent’s pan-African champion, Nkrumah, migrants are often reminded of their status as the other and we are reminded that if not confronted, no society is immune.

The challenges and complexities inherent in living out this pan-African identity are highlighted in this issue of CJAS’s interview with Professor Akilapa Sawyerr, erstwhile Vice Chancellor of the University of Ghana, former president of CODESRIA, and former Executive Secretary of the Association of African Universities, among several other roles. In this detailed interview to celebrate Professor Sawyerr’s 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, we learn a lot about Ghana’s democratic, and not-always democratic paths, and challenges of statehood. Ghana’s renegotiation of its relationship with the American Kasier Aluminium company, is one of the stories that should reignite our faith in the strength of the possible.

This issue of CJAS also brings readers a thoughtful and timely piece by Professor Bill Buenaar Pupilampu, Vice Chancellor of Central University, titled “A critical look at

Ghana’s Human Capital development Agenda: Where do we go from here?” This article was first delivered as a lecture at the 6th National Development Forum of Ghana’s National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) on October 30, 2019. In this article, Pupilampu explores the extent to which Ghana has paid strategic attention to the development of skills, competencies and capacities which would propel consistent socio-economic development. He argues that many good initiatives have been unfocused, disparate, not strategic and wasteful. Five policy and implementation gaps are identified and five recommendations are proffered for urgent consideration by policy makers.

As we began doing in volume 5, number 2, in this issue we dig into the past and bring readers an article by the foremost sociologist, Max Assimeng, “Prepositions in the Study of African Social and Political Thought” that first appeared in the then Research Review in 1986 (Vol. 2 No. 2).

Finally, this issue brings us Colter Harper’s review of Highlife Time 3, by the most influential highlife scholar (and practitioner) John Collins.

We thank our readers, contributors, reviewers, editors, board and all the staff in the Publications Office at the Institute of African Studies for their continuing support and engagement with us.

Editor-in-Chief, CJAS.