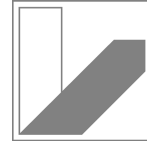




Swahili Colloquium
Bayreuth



UNIVERSITÄT
BAYREUTH

25. SWAHILI COLLOQUIUM

&

DUNIA YAO

Utopia/Dystopia: Imagining Society in Swahili Fiction

Bayreuth, 17th-20th May 2012

Iwalewa-House

18th April 2012

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you very much for your vivid interest in our Swahili Colloquium and your inspiring suggested contributions! Attached to this second letter is the preliminary programme of this year's Colloquium. The schedule is slightly different compared to the last Swahili Colloquiums. So we kindly ask you to take some time and have a look at the programme.

Firstly, there is a workshop "Dunia yao: Utopia/dystopia: Imagining society in Swahili fictional writings" with a number of invited experts and performers. The workshop is going to take place before the Colloquium on 17th and 18th May 2012 (and on 19th May in the morning). Then the Swahili Colloquium will follow on Friday in the afternoon (continuing on Saturday 19th May in the afternoon and Sunday 20th May). If you wish to come earlier and listen to the workshop's presentations and discussions, you are welcome to do so. We would, however, kindly ask you to shortly register by writing an email to k.greven@gmx.de as soon as possible.

We would like to take the occasion of the workshop funded by the Fritz Thyssen foundation to pay tribute to our esteemed colleague, Said A.M. Khamis, the great scholar of Swahili literature and Said Ahmed Mohamed, the outstanding author, poet and playwright, who is going to retire at the end of the year. Given the workshop's thematic angle it will allow us to not only focus on Said Ahmed Mohamed's work but to put it into a wider context, considering a larger scope of Swahili literary writings and recent creative productions of popular literature and culture. The imaginary, futuristic dimension that the topic implies, also prepares the stage for the 25th anniversary of the Swahili Colloquium which is a good occasion to take a look back but also to discuss the future.

Both the workshop and the colloquium are going to take place at Iwalewa-House, the Africa centre of Bayreuth University (located in Münzgasse 9, see the map below). The workshop will start on **Thursday 17th May 8.30 a.m.** The opening of the Swahili Colloquium will take place on **Friday afternoon 18th May 1.30 p.m.** The admission fee will be 10 € (for students: 5 €). The time slot for each presentation is **30 minutes**: there will be **twenty minutes** for each presentation, followed by **ten minutes** of discussion.

Some further hints concerning the programme: A day before the symposium “Dunia Yao” starts, we will have an informal get-together in the Greek restaurant ‘Delphi’ (located in Badstr. 14, see the map). All those who will already be here on **Wednesday** (not Thursday!) **16th May** are welcome to join us **at 7. p.m.** We would kindly ask for your understanding that we shall not be able to take care of your bill on that day. On **Thursday 17th May at 8 p.m.**, after a snack in Iwalewa-House, the authors Kyallo Wamitila, Ken Walibora and Said Ahmed Mohamed will read from their novels. On **Friday 18th May** there will be a performance by the Kenyan-German artist Ingrid Mwangi before lunch. In the evening at **8 p.m.** we would like to kindly invite you to a reception in Iwalewa-House framed by performances of the renowned Kenyan rapper Abbas Kubaff celebrating also the 25th anniversary of the Swahili Colloquium. On **Saturday 19th May**, the Tanzanian photographer John Kiyaya from Sumbawanga (invited with the help of our French colleagues in Bordeaux) will present his work. *Karibuni sana* to all these events!

In case you have further questions concerning the Swahili Colloquium, do not hesitate to contact Sebastian Müller (swahili@uni-bayreuth.de). If you want to know more about the symposium “Dunia yao”, please write an email to Katharina Greven (k.greven@gmx.de).

We are looking forward to welcoming you here in Bayreuth!

Kind regards,

The organisation teams of the Swahili Colloquium and the symposium “Dunia yao”

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