



IN MEMORIAM
PROFESSOR
IAN TAYLOR

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TAKEHIKO OCHIAI

MATACONG ISLAND: A SHORT HISTORY OF
A SMALL ISLAND ON THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA

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The paper aims to examine how Matacong Island, a small island just off the coast of the Republic of Guinea, West Africa, was claimed its possession by local chiefs, how it was leased to and was used by European and Sierra Leonean merchants, and how it was colonized by Britain and France in the 19th century.

DIANA SFETLANA STOICA

TO BE, TO MOVE, TO REACT
REFLECTIONS ON POSSIBLE NEO-POSTCOLONIAL
READINGS OF THE AFRICAN AGENCY

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Focusing on African agency, this paper debates around a constructed triad of concepts found at the roots of African ways of expressing the struggle for identification, recognition and also the rise of a continent in worldly discourses, in a holistic and rather philosophical approach. The constructed triad is represented by narratives of dynamic verbs such as to be, to move and to react, in a post-structuralist intent to express the concept of following Africa, an alternative token for the changes in the perception of African agency. The aim of this concept is to symbolize, in a neo-postcolonial reading, the consciousness of self-consciousness, as a possible complex process of African becoming and the African continent's rise in the global narratives.

FORMELLA COLLINS NKAPNWO

POLITICAL LEGITIMACY AND DEMOCRACY
IN CENTRAL AFRICA: A LOOK AT
CAMEROON, CHAD, THE CENTRAL AFRICAN
REPUBLIC AND GABON

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The paper offers evidence of the intrinsic relationship between political legitimacy and democracy and scrutinizes the factors that provoke a crisis of political legitimacy and democracy in Central Africa. It contends that there is a need for the reconceptualization of political legitimacy and democracy in Africa as the conventional lines between democracy and totalitarianism seem to be clouding. It then concludes that despite the fact that democratic foundations in the region suffer from daunting challenges, demands for democratization continues to grow, resulting in the need to pay close attention to state legitimacy to ensure a democratic consolidation.

ESZTER GOLUBICS

POPULAR MEDIA AND ITS ABILITY TO (RE)FORM
PERCEPTIONS ABOUT AFRICA AND BLACKNESS:
BLACK PANTHER

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This reflection essay, with the help of studying Black Panther, describes how popular media form or potentially reform our perceptions about Africa and Blackness. The introduction creates a base for understanding the movie's place in public opinion and how critics have reviewed it; and raises the issues that are to be addressed. Ultimately the paper asks the question: Does Black Panther deserve to be called a milestone for Black people in cinema or is it just another form of white exploitation?

REVIEWS

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DEMOCRACY, CONSTITUTIONALISM,
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