COME CHAT WITH US

January 2014
Preface

The Department of History is one of the oldest academic departments in the University, having been established in 1957 when the University was still the Royal Technical College. Its syllabus was geared to inculcate a deep interest, among its students, of the origins, growth and development of human societies and cultures. Our coverage has always been world wide for we believe that there is no human culture whose history cannot contribute to a deeper understanding of human development.

Our programmes are available at undergraduate and postgraduate diploma, bachelors, masters and Ph.D. levels. The department opens its doors to all prospective students with the relevant university entry qualifications and a good history background. This is because we believe in the efficacy of the study of history in the broadening of the mind both for those who wish to pursue the study of history to the highest levels and those who merely wish to be informed citizens. The Department has diversified its curriculum to include a number of interrelated fields. They include:

- Diploma in Cultural Tourism
- Diploma in Armed Conflict in Eastern Africa
- BA History
- BA Archaeology
- BA Conflict and Peace Studies
- BA Tourism
- MA History
- MA/PGD Women in History
- MA/PGD Islamic Civilizations
- MA/PGD Conflict and Peace Studies
- MA Archaeology
- Ph.D

In 2013, the Department recorded the highest number of appointments of its members to senior academic positions. They included:

- Chancellor- Kisii University – **Prof. Godfrey Muriuki**
- Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) – University of Nairobi – **Professor Henry Mutoro**
- Chairman, Multi-Media University Council – **Dr. Herbert Misigo**
- Principal- Kenya Utalii College (re-appointment) – **Dr. Kenneth Ombongi**
CONFERENCES ATTENDED BY MEMBERS OF STAFF IN 2013

Prof. Godfrey Muriuki
- 23rd to 24th September, 2013. IFRA/ BIEA conference on The 50th Anniversary of Kenya’s Independence
  **Paper Presented**: Keynote Address on ‘Marginalized, forgotten and Revived Political Actors’
  **Paper Presented**: ‘Build-up to liberation in Kenya’

Prof. V.G. Simiyu
  **Paper Presented** ‘Building Safe Environments: Overcoming Violent Conflict and Insecurity in Africa’.
  **Paper presented**: ‘Dini ya Msambwa and its legacy in Kenya’.

Prof. Milcah Amolo Achola
- Participated in colloquium on Women’s Right and the Kenya Constitution (2010) and

Dr. Ephraim W. Wahome
- Sensitization Workshop on Post-graduate Matters – UON (CCU) -10th Dec. 2013
- International Conference on liberation Movements- **Karatina University**, 5th to 7th December, 2013
  **Paper Presented**:
  - Ephraim W. Wahome, Felix Kiruthu and Susan Owino -The Forgotten heritage: The place of Mau Mau material and immaterial culture in Kenya
  - Odera Oruka Symposium. 19th to 21st Nov. 2013. Nairobi, Goethe-Institut Auditorium
  - Sensitization workshop for senior management 20th November, 2013, **University of Nairobi**, CCU Hall
  - UNESCO Conference on Conceptualization of historical concepts - 21st October 2013Coconut Grove Regency Hotel, Accra - Ghana
  - UNESCO Conference on Pedagogy, 22-25th October 2013, Coconut Beach Resort, Elmina -Ghana
  - School of Architecture SABS Conference at **JOMO Kenyatta University** (JKUAT) – 10th-13th Oct 2013 at JKUAT:
    **Papers to be presented**:
    o B.N. Mugwima and E.W. Wahome—‘Perceptions in a Commons: A case of Old Town Mombasa’
    o Wahome, E.W., Mugwima, B.N. and Nyanchwaya W.N.—‘Reflections on Conservation of Urban Heritage Attractions: The case of Nairobi 1898 to 1948’.
  - French Institute for Research in Africa Seminar Theme 50Years of Kenya’s Independece – 23rd to 24th September2013:
    **IFRA/British Institute in Eastern Africa**
    -Discusssant: ‘The challenges of Teaching Archaeology in a Department of History’
  - Adopting a Human Rights-based Approach to Kenya’s Development Plan Seminar held at **Centre for Human Rights, University of Nairobi**, on 28/06/2013

Dr. George Gona
- 14th – 18th July 2013 –The Church and Mosque in the 4th March Elections.
- 17th July 2013 – Academic Writing Workshop, Mombasa. Guided MA History
Dr. Mary Mwiandi

- February 15-17 2013: Participated in International Project Proposal preparatory Workshop on Water and Society, held at Esella Hotel, Kampala.
- January 27-30 2013 attended Goodwill Ambassadors workshop held at Great Rift Valley Lodge, Naivasha.
- Been involved in many workshops as a member of the task force with the Ministry of Housing’s project on: National Slum Upgrading and Prevention Policy Formulation Process” especially on issues of security and safety since 2012 to date.

Dr. Herbert Misigo

- 24 -29 September - 2013Corporate governance Training in Mombasa,

Dr. Ben Nyanchoga

- December 2013 – e-learning workshop held at Multimedia University in December 2013

Margaret Gachihi

- 3rd -7th June, 2013. Attended 3rd ESARBICA General Conference in Nairobi

David Mwanza Kyule

- Conference organized by American visiting sponsors of the Children of Kibera Foundation at Ngong Hills Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya. 29 May 2013.
  - Paper presented: ‘Archaeology and Anthropology of Human Origins in East Africa’
- East African Association for Paleoanthropology and Paleontology (EAAPP) conference 28 July to 1 August 2013. Leisure Lodge, Mombasa, Kenya.
- Effective Customer Relationship Management (CRM) in Kenyan Small and Micro Enterprises (SME’s) Conference, Gibbun Woori World graduates, at the GWW center, Ongata Rongai, Kenya 19 November 2013
  - Paper presented: Developing capacity for GWW graduates to venture into profitable SME business.”

Gilbert Wafula:

- September 22-30, 2013 -Workshop held at KWS in Naivasha to write a module.
- December 2013 – e-learning workshop at Multi-Media University

George Odeny


Pamela Ngesa

- February 14th-16th, 2013, Participation in Collaborative Conference between the University of Nairobi and Linkoping University, Sweden. Theme: Uplifting the poor to improved livelihoods
- Sept- 23rd to 24th. Attended IFRA conference on the anniversary of African Independence: Marginalized, Forgotten and revived political actors

  - Paper presented: The responses of African women traders to the vulnerabilities of the 1960s
PUBLICATIONS (2013)

Prof. Henry Mutoro

Prof. Milcah Amolo Achola
- Book Chapter: ‘Poverty Conflict and destitution: Nairobi Street Children 1946 -62. For "Essays in honour of the First Anniversary of the Death of Prof. E.S. Atieno Odhiambo

Prof. V.G. Simiyu

Dr. Ephraim W. Wahome

Dr. George Gona
- ‘He talked for us: Moi and structural adjustment programmes in Kenya’. In MIZIZI: A collection of essays on Kenya’s history’. Nairobi: UONPS, pp. 297-316

Dr. Mary Mwiandi
Dr. Ken Ombongi

Dr. Herbert Misigo

Dr. Ben Nyanchoga

Margaret Gachihi

David Mwanza Kyule

Gilbert Wafula

George Odeny
ONGOING RESEARCH

Prof. Milcah Amolo Achola
- Carried out a baseline survey of the food security situation in Migori County and presented a report to the Governor

Dr. Ephraim W. Wahome
- History of natural heritage conservation in Kenya
- Conservation and Mau Mau cultural heritage tourism in Kenya

Dr. Mary Mwiandi
- “Jeanes School, Kabete since World War II, 1945-1961”

Esther Omondi
- Preparing Ph.D Proposal

Margaret Gachihhi
- Completion of Final PhD draft
- Compilation of E. Gachukia’s Biography

Pamela Ngesa
- PhD fieldwork on: ‘A history of African women traders in Nairobi, 1945-2005’
- Research on African women traders in the first decade after WW I, 1919-1929

George Odeny

Gilbert Wafula
- Archaeology and Socio-economic Development of Local Communities in the Coast Region (Heritage Conservation and Human Rights multi-disciplinary Project)

Mary W. Wanyoike
- Completing Chapter 3 of PhD. Thesis on ‘A history of non-normal education in Nairobi County, 1963-2005’

CONSULTANCIES

Dr. Mary Mwiandi
- (b) Water and Society Consultative workshop held at UON - Chiromo Campus -October 2013.

Ms. Esther Omodi
- Consultancies – Leadership Training of church workers – Nairobi Diocese.

Margaret Gachihhi
- Ford Foundation: Compilation of Eddah Gachukia’s Biography
- Rehabilitation of historical monuments sponsored by House of History (Private Consortium of scholars)
OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Prof. G. Muriuki
- Radio Interview: at Kameme FM on Kikuyu History
- Chancellor Kisii University – Presided over Graduation ceremony on 18/12/2013
- Special Student Advisor - UON
- Patron- Magina Secondary School

Prof. Henry Mutoro
- DVC (Academic) – University of Nairobi
- Presidential Advisory Committee on Archives
- Member and Liaison Officer, OSSREA
- Member, BOG National Museums of Kenya

Prof. V.G. Simiyu
- Chairman, Chuna Housing Co-operative Society Limited.
- Chairman, Board of Governors, (BOG), Nairobi School.
- Member, BOG, Luyia Girls’ Secondary School, Bungoma.
- Chairman, PTA, Teremi Boys’ Secondary School, Bungoma.
- RADIO COMMENTARY.: “Kenya’s Fifty Years of Independence: an assessment of the performance in the economic, political and social development on the Occasion of The Fiftieth Jubilee Anniversary”. Aired on the BBC Focus on Africa Programmme on 12the December, 2013 at 6p.m.
- Chairman Nairobi County Board of Examination
- External Examination – Moi University
- External Examination – Karatina University

Prof. Milcah Amolo Achola
- Management Committee Member - African Women Studies Centre (UON) – Involved in Sensitization & Advocacy
- External examiner – University of Dar-es-Salaam – Mkawa University College of Education

Dr. Mary Mwiandi
- Board Member- Board of Management of Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute.
- Community Service
  - Served as Treasurer of Meru Professional Association.
  - Gave Civic Education – on Devolution and Constitution matters to Larger Meru Community
  - Guest speaker – to several High schools before the National Examination.
  - Treasurer- Meru Professionals Association

Dr. Herbert Misigo
- Chairman – Multi-Media University Council
- Board Member- Kenya National Library Council

Dr. Ephraim W. Wahome
- External Examiner- Kenyatta University

Dr. Kenneth Ombongi
- Principal – Kenya Utalii College
- Principal, Kenya Utalii College
- School Boards- Nyamagwa and Boitang’are Sec. Schools
- Secretary, CDF committee- Mvita Constituency
- Chair, Kenya-India Friendship Association.

Dr. Ben Nyanchoga
- Member – KEBS Technical Committee on tourism

David M. Kyule
- Chairman BOG- Tutini sec. sch.
- Member- BOG- Mulala Girls sec Sch.
- Patron- Makueni Consortium for Development and Resource Centre
Margaret Gachihi
- Media Appearance in 12th Dec, 2013: Deutsche Wella and NTV: Topic: ‘Reparations for the Mau Mau Freedom Fighters’

Esther Omondi
- Board Chair- St. Martin’s Sec. School –Teso
- Board Member- Bishop Sulemeti School
- Patron – Bakoromo Pry. School
- Member- Scream Street Children Rehab

Mary Wanyoike
- Helping the Poor as a Church Member
- Initiating Process for Helping the Disadvantaged to be Economically Independent.

Pamela Ngesa
- PTA member- Maranda Boys School
- PTA member- Nyamira Girls School
- Participant- Church development projects
- Advisor- Women Group Projects in Bondo

AFFILIATE RESEARCHERS
- Dr Anne-Marie Deisser- University College London
- Dr. Geoffrey Belknap, Harvard University
- Ramadhani Magoti- University of Dar-es-Salaam
- Caleb Edwin Owen - Michigan State University
- Feisel Farah – University of Hull, UK
- Moritz Schuberth – University of Bradford, UK
- Luca Peloso – Insubria University, Cormo-Varese, Italy

Other Activities
1) DEPARTMENTAL BOOK PROJECT -2013

2) NEW JOURNAL
2013 The Department started a new Journal entitled: Nairobi Journal of Historical Studies.

3) MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH GROUP
A multidisciplinary research group was formed in 2013. The group incorporates the fields of conservation. It is known as Heritage Conservation and Human Rights (CHCR). It works in close collaboration with the Centre of Human Rights. It also collaborates with JKUAT and a number of disciplines in the Faculty of Arts. The Group will hold an authors workshop on 31st January, 2014.