



MIASA
Merian Institute for Advanced Studies in Africa

Maria Sibylla Merian Institute for Advanced Studies in Africa

University of Ghana, Legon-Accra

International workshop on:

**ISSUES OF RESTITUTION AND REPATRIATION OF LOOTED AND ILLEGALLY
ACQUIRED AFRICAN OBJECTS IN EUROPEAN MUSEUMS**

13-14 December 2018

Institute of African Studies, Conference Room, University of Ghana

Thursday 13 December

9.00 – 9.30 Registration

9.30 – 11.00 Welcome

Speeches by the Directors of MIASA: Abena D. Oduro (University of Ghana) and Gordon Crawford (University of Freiburg)

Keynote Speech I:

Wazi Apoh, Department of Archaeology and Heritage Studies, University of Ghana

'Mainstreaming the Discourse on Restitution and Repatriation Within African History and Heritage Studies'

11.00 – 11.30 Break

11.30 – 1.00 Country/Regional Experiences and Issues I: Cameroon, Togo, Namibia, and Ghana

Albert Gouaffo, Département des Langues étrangères appliquées, Université de Dschang, Cameroon

'Provenance Research as Pre-condition for Restitution or Sharing of Colonial Objects in German Museums: the Case of Cameroon'

Kokou Azamede, Faculté des Lettres et Sciences Humaines, Université de Lomé, Togo

'Objects from Togo and Danhome (today Bénin) in German Museums'

Steven Isaack, Heritage Watch, Namibia

'Issues of Restitution and Repatriation of Looted and Illegally Acquired African Objects in European Museums in The Context of Namibia'

Togbe Opeku V, Chief of Kpando-Agbenoxoe and Regent of Kpando Paramount Chief Palace, Ghana

'Sustaining Traditions, Heritage Institutions and Indigenous Identities with Royal Objects and Cultural Rituals'

Mamaga Ametor II, Paramount Queen of Alavanyo Traditional Area, Ghana

The Role of Queen Mothers in Issues of Restitution and Heritage Development

1.00 – 2.00 Lunch

2.00 – 3.30 Country/Regional Experiences and Issues II: Nigeria, Benin, and Namibia

Zacharys Gundu, University of Ahmadu Bello, Nigeria

'Looted Nigerian Heritage: An Interrogatory Discourse around Repatriation.'

Emery Patrick Effiboley, Department of History and Archaeology, University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin

'Reflections of the issue of repatriation of looted and illegally acquired African materials in Western museums'

Dag Henrichsen, Centre for African Studies, University of Basel, Switzerland

'Restitution – a recent phenomenon? Traditions of Critique of Scientific Practices and early Histories of Claims for Restitution by Namibian communities'

3.30 – 4.00 Break

4.00 – 5.30 Keynote Speech II: **(with live stream to FRIAS, tbc)**

Andreas Eckert, Institute for Asian and African Studies, Humboldt University Berlin, Germany

'Decolonizing the Museum? African Objects and the Politics of Restitution'

Evening: Dinner and Cultural Programme (by invitation only)

Friday 14 December

9.00 – 11.00 The Role of African and European Museums in Restitution Issues: Universal and Encyclopaedic Models

Gertrude Aba Eyifa-Dzidzienyo, Department of Archaeology, University of Ghana

'Looted and illegally acquired African objects in European Museums: Issues of Restitution and Repatriation in Ghana.'

Thomas Laely, Ethnographic Museum at the University of Zurich, Switzerland

Restitution and Beyond in Contemporary Museum Work. Re-imagining a Paradigm of Knowledge Production and Partnership.

Alexis von Poser, Landesmuseum Hannover – Das Weltenmuseum, Germany

'The Lower Saxon State Museum's Strategy on Dealing with its Colonial Collections'

11.00 – 11.30 Break

11.30 – 12.30 Legal Issues: International Law versus Colonial Law of Appropriation

Kofi Baku, Department of History, University of Ghana

'Righting the Wrongs of the Past: What We Must Do'

Kwame Larbi, Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana

'Positioning African Governments/Museums to Request and Receive Restituted and Repatriated Art Objects'

12.30 – 1.30 Lunch

1.30 – 4.30 Round Table Discussion: Next steps? Research Proposals and Funding

(closed session)

Location (tbc): MIASA Bungalow at University of Ghana, Legon Hill 26

Chaired by the Directors of MIASA: Abena D. Oduro (University of Ghana) and Gordon Crawford (University of Freiburg)