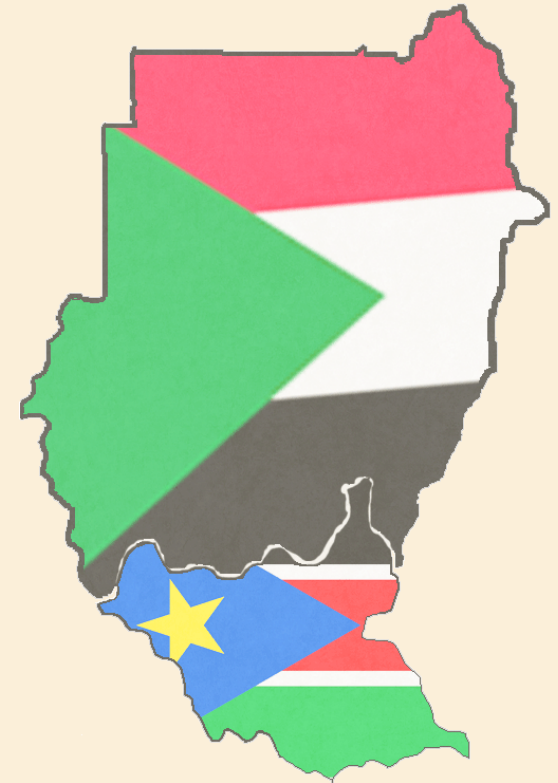


# Sudan/South Sudan Series



An initiative by the Sudan Studies Society of the UK and the Centre of African Studies at SOAS

Centre of African Studies, SOAS

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SUDAN STUDIES  
SOCIETY OF THE UK



The Centre of African Studies at SOAS, University of London, and the Sudan Studies Society of the UK are pleased to announce the

**Sudan/South Sudan  
Seminar Series 2015/16**

The series brings together academics and practitioners concerned with contemporary Sudan and South Sudan to deliver an interdisciplinary series of seminars. We shall discuss a range of legal, economic, political and cultural issues, and seek insights into current and future developments in the Sudans.

*All the events will start at 5.15 pm in Room 4429, SOAS, University of London, Russell Square Campus.*

**Series convenors:**

Lutz Oette (Centre for Human Rights Law, SOAS)  
Gillian Lusk (SSSUK)  
Charlotte Martin (SSSUK)  
Mawan Muortat (SSSUK)  
Angelica Baschiera (SOAS)

For more information and to register interest, contact:  
[cas@soas.ac.uk](mailto:cas@soas.ac.uk)

The four Seminars for the academic year 2015/16 are as follows:

**Monday 16th November 2015  
Arms and the men: Who sells weapons, who uses them, who is killed by them**

Arms now flow unchecked around both Sudan and South Sudan and they kill thousands of civilians each year in both countries. Conflict has raged in South Sudan for over half a century, both before and after independence from Sudan in 2011, while since the Islamist regime seized power in Khartoum in 1989, it has been at war with its own citizens and has become one of Africa's biggest arms producers, partly thanks to its military pact with Iran. The panel will discuss who is circulating these weapons and why.

**Speaker:** Mike Lewis (Lead Investigator, Conflict Armament Research)  
**Chair:** Gill Lusk (SSSUK)

**Monday 7th December 2015  
Agricultural Potential in the Sudans:  
Past experience and future outlook**

The prospects for Sudan and South Sudan to become major agricultural producers have been deliberated for over a century. Modern schemes began in the Anglo-Egyptian period. Most have failed or had limited success.

Experts from the field will discuss the failures and successes of these projects and evaluate the pros and cons of the continued pursuit of modern intensive crop production. Both countries intend to build more dams along the Nile and to attract foreign producers through competitive land lease and tax breaks. The panelists will highlight the likely social, environmental and economic impacts of these policies.

**Speakers:** Maurits Ertsen (Delft University of Technology, NL)  
**Mohamed Al Nour Adam (Sudanese Marine Biologist)**  
**Chair:** Mawan Muortat (SSSUK)

**Monday 11th January 2016  
Telling the Story their Way: The Arts and Social Action in the Sudans**

Culture in the Sudans has for some time been relegated to the scholarly margins, yet the expressive arts play an important role in inspiring reflection, challenging power, promoting identities and restoring individual and community morale. This panel will feature Ali Mahdi Nouri and John Martin, two prominent practitioners of theatre for social development, whose work with child soldiers and between victims and aggressors in Darfur and South Sudan respectively aims to facilitate social reintegration and to promote peace and reconciliation.

**Speakers:** Ali Mahdi Nour (Albugaa Theatre Sudan, Unesco Artist for Peace), John Martin (PanArts, London)

**Chair:** Angela Impey (SOAS)

**Monday 15th February 2016  
The use of law as an instrument of power in Sudan and South Sudan**

Multiple regimes have used law as an instrument of power in Sudan. The present regime in Sudan has from the very outset used decrees and legislation to entrench and broaden its power. It has also employed the law as a means to pursue its project of building an Islamic state by adopting Shari'a law. This seminar examines the nature, underlying rationale and impact of the use of law in Sudan since 1989, including with reference to the role of the judiciary and other actors. It considers emerging parallels in South Sudan, such as the broad National Security Services Law adopted in 2015. The seminar will also reflect on resistance to the use of law as an instrument of power in the Sudans, and the challenges faced by those advocating legal reforms and greater rights protection.

**Speaker:** Ali Agab (Sudanese Human Rights Lawyer)-tbc-  
**Discussant:** Mashood Baderin (CAS/SOAS)  
**Chair:** Lutz Oette (Centre for Human Rights Law, SOAS)