

List of Contributors

Ahmed Hassen holds a PhD from University of Paris, Pantheon Sorbonne. He has published several articles in scientific journals and in books and has translated one book from French into Amharic. Before being appointed Director of the Institute of Ethiopian Studies at Addis Ababa University in 2012, he was programme coordinator of post graduate studies in the same institute. He currently collaborates with several centres for African Studies in the USA, Europe and Asia. A fluent speaker of both English and French as well as local Ethiopian languages, Ahmed is carefully mastering both historical and contemporary documents on Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa.

Lij Asfa-Wossen Asserate earned a PhD in historical anthropology from the University of Frankfurt. He works as a consultant for African and Middle Eastern affairs in Frankfurt, Germany. He is also a bestselling author and a political analyst specializing in matters related to Africa. Furthermore, he is an honorary senator of the Eberhard-Karls-University, Tübingen.

Klaus Bieber is the grandson of Friedrich Julius Bieber, who travelled several times to Ethiopia and in 1905 did extensive ethnological research in Keffa. Klaus left for West Africa in 1959, after his final exam at the Vienna Business School. He worked for nearly fifty years in Sierra Leone. In 1973 he was appointed Austrian honorary consul. Finally, on his return to Vienna in 2008, he began working through the archives of his grandfather. In 2011 he visited Ethiopia to attend the inauguration of the forests of Keffa as UNESCO Biosphere Reserves.

Ulrich Braukämper holds a PhD from Cologne University. His PhD research focused on the impact of Islam in northern Cameroon. He then became a research fellow at the Frobenius Institute in Frankfurt am Main and undertook several periods of field research in southern Ethiopia (1970–71, 1972–74, 1999–2000, 2005–05), Somalia (1980), the Sudan (1981–88) and Nigeria (1990–95). He retired in 2009 from his position as Professor of Cultural Anthropology at the University of Göttingen, Germany.

Dirk Bustorf gained his doctorate from Hamburg University with a study of the history and historical consciousness of the Silt'e of Ethiopia (2009). Previously, in his magister thesis at Göttingen University, he had treated the interethnic relations of two Ethiopian ethnic groups Hadiyya and Gurage. He was assistant editor of the *Encyclopaedia Aethiopica* (2002–2012) and served as Associate Professor of Social Anthropology at the University of Gondar (2013–2014), Ethiopia. His main fields of interest are research methodology, oral tradition and memory studies, anthropology of religion and nature-culture anthropology.

Christopher Clapham is based at the Centre of African Studies, Cambridge University, and has recently retired after fifteen years as editor of *The Journal of Modern African Studies*. Until December 2002, he was Professor of Politics and International Relations at Lancaster University, England. He is a specialist in the politics of Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa, and his books include *Haile Selassie's Government* (1969) and *Transformation and Continuity in Revolutionary Ethiopia* (1988).

Fesseha Berhe holds an MA in Social Anthropology from Addis Ababa University and a BA in History from Haramaya University. He is Assistant Professor in the Department of History and Heritage Management, Mekelle University, specializing in cultural history and cultural studies. His main research interests include local and regional history, oral tradition, migration, Islam and Islamic Heritage, and ethno-history.

Ib Friis is Professor of Botany at the Natural History Museum of Denmark. He is author of around 300 papers and books on tropical botany, vegetation, plant ecology and plant geography, useful plants, etc., mainly relating to the countries around the Red Sea, the Horn of Africa (Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia) and East Africa. Furthermore, he has been involved with the Flora of Ethiopia project from its outset in 1980, both as an author and co-editor. Friis has taken particular interest in the history of scientific studies of the Horn of Africa and published books on James Bruce, Carsten Niebuhr and Peter Forsskål.

252

Echi Christina Gabbert is a research fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Halle/Saale. She has done extensive research among the Arbore (Hor) of southern Ethiopia since 1993. Her research interests are conflict and peace, culture and identity, innovation and cultural change, pastoralism and gender, development cooperation, investment and global markets, cultural and global neighbourhood, visual anthropology and music. In her dissertation *Deciding Peace*, for which she received the Frobenius Society's Research Award, she describes the extraordinary peace-building capacities of the pastoral Arbore of southern Ethiopia.

Knut Kreuch studied public and business science and, since 2006, has been mayor of the town Gotha in Thuringia, which has a relationship with Ethiopia dating back to 1652. For more than thirty years he has been involved with regional history and is head of the Regional Association for Traditional Costumes as well as president of the German Association for Traditional Costumes. He was public relations officer for Gotha in 1994 and, since then, has tried to enhance the town's relations with Ethiopia and has supported efforts to create a town partnership between Adua and Gotha.

Dorothea McEwan earned a PhD in History from the University of Vienna and a Fellowship from the Hammer Purgstall Gesellschaft in Vienna. After her move to London she worked first in the Department of Manuscripts, British Library, then as assistant to Sir Ernst Gombrich and finally became the first Director of the Archive of the Warburg Institute, London. She has published widely on the history of scholarship, intellectual history of the twentieth century, comparative religion, religion and art and Ethiopian history. A large bilingual edition of the two manuscript books by the German botanist and cartographer Georg Wilhelm Schimper will be published shortly on the internet. In 2008 she was awarded the Cross of Honour for Science and the Arts by the Republic of Austria.

Günther Schlee is one of the founding directors of the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology. He received his doctorate for research on the belief and social systems of the Rendille, an ethnic group in northern Kenya. Alongside widespread fieldwork trips in Kenya, Ethiopia and Sudan, he was also guest lecturer in Padang (Sumatra) and at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Science Sociales in Paris. Typical of the research of Günther Schlee is the 'inter-ethnic' procedure and the combining of historical, sociological and philological methods. He is one of the spokespersons for the International Max Planck Research School on retaliation, mediation and punishment and co-chairs the Centre for the Anthropological Studies on Central Asia with Peter Finke (University of Zurich).

Wolbert G.C. Smidt is Associate Professor in Ethnohistory at the Department of History and Heritage Management, Mekelle University, and PhD coordinator. He was an Assistant Editor of the *Encyclopaedia Aethiopica* (1999-2010), and is affiliated to the Hiob Ludolf Centre of Ethiopian Studies, Hamburg University. He is a member of the French Centre of Ethiopian Studies, Addis Abeba (CFEE), and of the Forschungszentrum Gotha, and had several guest professorships, such as at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris. He did research in historical anthropology and the history of research and thought, with a dissertation on Kant's and Herder's divergent ethnological theories. His research focus lies on socio-cultural traditions of northeast African societies (Tigray, Afar, Bilén, Ch'aré), including legal an-

List of Contributors

thropology, the anthropology of space and territory and oral historiography, belief systems and legends, with extended field research mainly in Tigray and archive research especially on historical maps and biographies (with an additional focus on Oromo).

Ivo Strecker has done fieldwork – together with his wife Jean Lydall – in Hamar, southern Ethiopia. He taught Cultural Anthropology at the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz as well as at Addis Ababa University, Mekelle University and the University of Arba Minch. He founded, and for ten years directed, the South Omo Research Center. Together with Stephen Tyler (Rice University) and students and staff of the Institute of Anthropology and African Studies (Mainz) he initiated the International Rhetoric Culture Project (see the Berghahn Books series *Studies in Rhetoric and Culture*). With Jean Lydall he edited *The Perils of Face* and he has published most of his ethnographic writings in the Lit series *The Hamar of southern Ethiopia*. An additional field of interest has been audio-visual anthropology, which has involved the production of several, award-winning films and the double album *Music of the Hamar*.

Sophia Thubauville is Research Fellow and Head of Library at the Frobenius Institute, Frankfurt am Main. She earned a PhD from Mainz University for which she conducted extensive field research about gender issues among the Maale of southern Ethiopia. Currently, she is involved in a research project on Ethiopia's university boom and the migration of Indian lecturers to the country, as well as in a digitizing project which will publish an online database of archive material on Ethiopian Studies at the Frobenius Institute. Her current fields of interest and publishing are: gender, higher education and migration.

Yohannes Gebreselassie has earned his Maîtrise and DEA (Diplôme d'Études Approfondies) from the University of Paris, Panthéon Sorbonne and is working for his PhD, on *Kaleb, king of Aksum (AD sixth century)* in the same institution. In addition to teaching ancient Ethiopian history and archaeology in Mekelle and Aksum universities, he regularly participates in several archaeological excavations in Aksum and other Aksumite sites. He has published in peer-reviewed journals. Currently, he is affiliated to the Department of History and Heritage Management, Mekelle University.