



Newsletter

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Congratulations on election as Corresponding Members of the Russian Academy of Sciences

General meetings of the Russian Academy of Science took place on 24th and 25th October 2016. During these meetings corresponding members, academicians and foreign members of the Academy were elected. On 28 October, the results were confirmed at the general meeting.

Three members of the Institute for African Studies became Corresponding Members of RAS:

1. The Department of Historical and Philological Sciences of the RAS - Dmitry M. Bondarenko (History);
2. The Department of Global Problems and International Relations of the RAS - Irina O. Abramova (International Economics) and Leonid L. Fituni (Global Management). [See more](#)



Congratulations on the anniversary!

On 10 November 2016, Anatoly D. Savateev, Leading Research Fellow and Doctor of Historical Sciences of Institute for African Studies of RAS celebrated his 70th anniversary. On behalf of the staff we heartily congratulate you on this memorable and happy event. This anniversary embodies your successfully passed and still ongoing life journey, your academic achievements and creative successes, recognition of your merits by the professional community of Africanists and Orientalists, philosophers, historians, culture experts. You are rightly considered

one of the leaders of African Studies in Russia, the representative of the best professional and cultural traditions of this field of science. The emergence of national school of study of African peoples' religious and cultural experience and African traditions of Islamic civilization is associated with your name.

Collective monograph "The Trade Unions in Social and Political Life of African Countries" came out

The [work](#) describes the current state of trade unions and the labor movement in various countries of Africa. Authors examined the peculiarities of trade union activities under conditions of globalization, taking into account the advent of neoliberal market ideology and consequences of global economic crises as well as the important geopolitical changes in the international arena.

The monograph illustrates the difficulties of the labor movement against the deterioration of workers' social and material conditions during structural economic reforms as well as their fight for increasing their role in the socio-political life of African countries.



ПРОФСОЮЗЫ
В ОБЩЕСТВЕННО-ПОЛИТИЧЕСКОЙ
ЖИЗНИ СТРАН АФРИКИ





С.А. Маценко, И.Б. Маценко

**БАНКОВСКИЙ СЕКТОР СТРАН АФРИКИ:
ПРОБЛЕМЫ И ПЕРСПЕКТИВЫ РАЗВИТИЯ**



The monograph "The African States" Bank Sector: Challenges and Prospects of Development" is published

The monograph for the first time in Russian studies of Africa provides a comprehensive analysis of the situation in the African states' bank sector for the last 20 years and of its development, both on the continent as a whole and in certain states and subregions. The particular attention is paid to the description of the positive changes in the sphere of bank systems in many countries all over the continent which took place in recent years. Among such changes are the extension of microfinancing, the introduction of mobile bank systems and the growing activity of pan-African banks.

The book will be helpful to the researchers, students and post-graduates studying modern problems of African economy, and will also be interesting to the wider audience.

[S.A. Matsenko, I.B. Matsenko. The African States' Bank Sector: Challenges and Prospects of Development](#)

The collective monograph "New Partners of Africa: the Influence on the Growth and Development of the African States" has been published

The collective monograph "[New Partners of Africa: the Influence on the Growth and Development of the African States](#)" has been published (editors-in-chief Dr.Sc. (Hist.) Tatiana L. Deych, PhD. (Economics) Evgeny N. Korendyasov). The last two decades have witnessed the most spectacular extension of the range of foreign economic partners of Africa for the entire post-colonial period. Practically all new partners including states-members of BRICS, many other emerging states and simply non-traditional partners belong to the non-Western world. Today the cooperation with new partners accounts for 30% of foreign trade turnover and the inflow of foreign investments to the continent.

The monograph explores the problems of the new partnerships' influence on the pace of the African states' economic growth, on the continent's role and place in the world politics and economy. The special attention is paid to the interdependence of the examined problems with the processes of creation of a new architecture of international relations and international development assistance in the situation when the multipolar system is being formed.

**НОВЫЕ ПАРТНЕРЫ АФРИКИ:
ВЛИЯНИЕ НА РОСТ
И РАЗВИТИЕ СТРАН КОНТИНЕНТА**



The monograph "The Culture of Rastafari" by Nikolai A. Sosnovsky has been published

The monograph "[The culture of Rastafari](#)" by Nikolai A. Sosnovsky has been published in author's edition. This book written by a well-known Russian Africanist, publicist and specialist in the sphere of cultural studies Nikolai A. Sosnovsky deals with a phenomenon of the informal youth subculture Rastafari ("rasta-reggae", "rasta", rastafari movement) which is little studied in Russian science but is important and well-known among the young people. N.A. Sosnovsky tells about the place and role of Rastafari movement in the rise of cultural self-awareness among the African diaspora and African nations, in their resistance to the Western culture hegemony. It becomes possible due to the combination of the impartial scientific research and the "immersion" into the inner understanding of the styles, values, meanings of this youth subculture that are so close to the author [See more](#)



Collective monograph "The Middle East and North Africa. The Processes of Modernization and the International Security" is published

The collective monograph "[The Middle East and North Africa. The Processes of Modernization and the International Security](#)" (editor-in-chief Alexander A. Tkachenko) was published. The book analyzes the processes of modernization in the countries of North Africa and the Middle East, mainly during the 2000s. The key components of modernization are being analyzed – political, economic, and social processes, and their influence on the state and prospects of development of a large group of states of the broader Middle East and North Africa. The relation between these processes and the international security problems, as well as national, regional, and global conflicts. The publication is intended for a wide audience of readers – employees of academic and practical organizations of international profile, teachers and students. The work is published in author's edition.



The open discussion "The City and Migrants"

On October 2, 2016 in the framework of the 6th International festival of audiovisual anthropology "[The days of ethnographic cinema](#)" the Research Fellow of the Institute for African Studies Daria A. Zelenova took part in the open discussion devoted to the theme "[The City and Migrants](#)". During the event there were shown three short documentary films, each of them in its own way told about the experience of the "other" in the city. The participants of the meeting discussed the issues of migration, the multicultural city, the urban geography and the urban poverty.

Congratulations! Kirill Babaev and Alexandra Arkhangelskya became the finalists of the award "Enlightener"-2016

Kirill Babaev and Alexandra Arkhangelskya, research fellow of the Institute for African Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences, authors of the book "What is Africa" became the finalists of the award "[Enlightener](#)"-2016 for the best scientific-popular book in Russian language. The award "Enlightener" announced its shortlist of the season 2016.

On October 5, 2016, the names of the finalists of the award for the best scientific-popular book in Russian language were announced during the press conference. On November 16, 2016, the ceremony of awarding took place in the Central House of Writers. [See more](#)



Fifth round table "Women's organizations in Africa as a form of political, economic and socio-cultural self-expression"

On October 19, 2016 the Group of Gender Studies of the Institute for African Studies of Russian Academy of Sciences held the Vth round table "Women's organizations in Africa as a form of political, economic and socio-cultural self-expression".

The following issues were discussed at the meeting:

- the role of the political, economic and socio-cultural factors in the development of women's movement in African countries;
- the impact of women's associations upon economic and social policy designed by the ongoing African governments;
- participation of women and their associations in the elimination of the economic underdevelopment, devising of the social and political reforms, the rise of cultural and educational level of the population, improving of the health care system and environmental protection;
- increasing role of women in policy-making and in the governance of the African countries. [See more](#)



Congress of the Russian Society of Political Scientists

Head of the [Centre of History and Cultural Anthropology](#) of the Institute for African Studies of Russian Academy of Sciences Galina M. Sidorova took part in the [II Congress of the Russian Society of Political Scientists](#), held in Kazan on 11-13 November 2016. Political experts from Russian regions and foreign countries came to the forum (400 delegates). During the sections and round tables there took place an exchange of views upon a wide range of issues, including "Key trends of world order and Russia's foreign policy at the beginning of the XXI century", "Political processes at the federal and regional levels during the electoral cycle of 2016-2018", "Ethnopolitical processes in modern Russia" and many others.

Research Fellows of the Institute for African Studies took part in Business Council "Russia-South Africa"

On November 17, 2016 Ph.D. Eldar R. Salakhmetdinov and Ph.D. Vasily A. Sidorov took part in the Business Council "Russia-South Africa" and in the Russia-South Africa Business Forum held on the same day.

During the meetings the important issues of bilateral economic cooperation were discussed and new formats of developing partnership were proposed. As a result of the meetings several agreements were signed.

Research Fellows of the Institute for African Studies were invited to participate in the meetings as observers. E.R. Salakhmetdinov and V.A. Sidorov are conducting research on the topic "Innovative technologies as the new format of cooperation between Russia and South Africa" with the support of the Russian Foundation for Humanitarian Studies.





Research Fellows of the Institute for African Studies RAS participated in the conference "IV Forum Dialogue Russia-Republic of South Africa"

Representatives of the Institute for African Studies RAS participated in the conference "[IV South Africa Russia Dialogue Forum](#)", which took place on November 27-29, 2016 in Johannesburg (Republic of South Africa). The conference was devoted to the 25th anniversary of the establishment of official diplomatic relations between Russia and the Republic of South Africa. More than 50 representatives of Russian and the South African academic communities took part in

this conference and discussed the important aspects of bilateral relations. Professor Vladimir G. Shubin made the report entitled "The 30th Anniversary of Fruitful Cooperation and 25th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Official Relations between Russia and the Republic of South Africa".

Eldar R. Salakhmetdinov, PhD (Hist.), and Vasily A. Sidorov, Ph.D. (Econ.), presented the results of their field research on the subject: "Innovative Technologies as the New Format of Cooperation between Russia and Republic of South Africa". Title of speech of Alexandra A. Arkhangel'skaya, PhD (Hist.) was "Foreign Policy of the Republic of South Africa through the prism of political psychology". The next "Forum Dialogue Russia-Republic of South Africa" will take place in Russia in 2017.

Professor Vladimir G. Shubin's lecture "The USSR and the Liberation Struggle in South Africa"

On November 21, 2016 at the University of Johannesburg (Republic of South Africa) Professor Vladimir G. Shubin delivered his lecture "The USSR and the Liberation Struggle in South Africa". Professor Shubin told about the support the USSR provided for the struggle of national liberation movements of Africans for their rights in the South of Africa.

39th annual conference of the African Studies Association of Australia and Oceania (AFSAAP)

On December 5-7, 2016 the research fellows of the Institute for African Studies RAS participated in the 39th annual conference, organized by the African Studies Association of Australia and Oceania (AFSAAP) in Perth, Western Australia. Subject of the conference-2016 - "[Africa: Moving the Boundaries](#)" – was meant to inspire participants to research both physical and social borders, and also to challenge a number of historical and modern dynamics, concerning Africa and the African Studies. Reports were made by Professor Dmitri M. Bondarenko ("The Past Never Dies: Historical Memory of a Slave Trade and the Relationship between the African-Americans and Modern Migrants from Africa in the USA"), PhD (Political Sciences) Veronica V. Usacheva ("Race and Ethnicity: Similarities and Distinctions in the Identities of Modern African Migrants and African-Americans"), Junior Research Fellow Alina Lapushkina ("Childhood of Avatime: Balancing between the Heritage of the Past and "the Key to the Future". Etymological aspect")



Participation of the representatives of the Institute for African Studies RAS in the forum MEDays 2016 (Kingdom of Morocco)

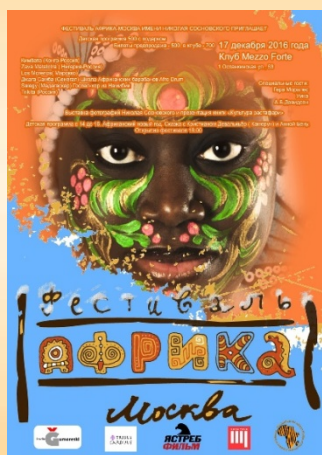
Honorary President of the Institute for African Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences, academician Alexei M. Vasiliev participated in the forum MEDays 2016 ([2016 MEDays FORUM, Tanger](#)) held on 7-10 December 2016 and made a report on "Global interests of Russia in the Middle East". Senior Research Fellow of [Center for the Studies of Russian-African relations and Foreign policy of the African countries](#), PhD (Hist.) Olga



S. KULKOVA also took part in the forum and made presentation on the topic: "Relations between the Russian Federation and the Kingdom of Morocco: Prospects for the Development of a Closer Strategic Partnership".

The Islamist movements as a factor of geopolitical and geocivilizational shifts in Afro-Asiatic zone of instability"

On December 14-15, 2016 the Institute for African Studies hosted the conference "Islamist movements as a factor of geopolitical and geocivilizational shifts in Afro-Asiatic zone of instability" organized by the [Center for Civilizational and Regional Studies](#).



The third festival of African culture in Moscow "Africa-Moscow"

The festival was held on December 17, 2016 at the club Mezzo Forte near VDNKh metro station. It was dedicated to the memory of our good friend Nikolay Sosnovsky - who was Africanist, culturologist and expert on Rastafarianism and completed his earthly journey in January 2016.

The day program of the festival included a Christmas party for children, an exhibition of photographs taken by Nikolai Sosnovsky and the presentation of his book "The Culture of Rastafari". The evening musical program featured performances by live bands of African style and themed sets of DJs for everyone.