

Suzanne Miers (Ohio): the results of the suppression of slavery and the slave trade in two East and two West African societies, 1890–1920 (Kenya, Uganda, and Nigeria).

Kingsley Ogedengbe (Luther College): Chief Ogedengbe, Kakamfo Ilesha—his career as a military leader and statesman.

Harold E. Scheub (Wisconsin): oral-narrative performance in diverse African cultures (Swaziland, Uganda, Nigeria).

William F. Steel (Vanderbilt University): employment, labour migration, and the labour absorption potential of the industry of Ghana.

Current Research at the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana (see also *Africa*, xxxix. 3, 1969, p. 300)

RESEARCH at present is concentrated mainly on the history and cultures of societies in Ghana, including languages and literature, social and political organization, traditional economies, as well as music, dance, drama, and visual art. Inter-disciplinary studies are being undertaken in the Ashanti and Brong-Ahafo, Dagomba, Efutu, and Dangme areas. A handbook on Akwapim with contributions by scholars within and outside the Institute has been prepared for publication by the Ghana Publishing Corporation. It is hoped to move into areas such as northern Ghana and the Volta Region in which some preliminary work has been done in restricted fields.

The Ashanti Research Project, launched in 1963, has received the greatest attention and has produced studies in the constitutional history of Ashanti as well as in traditional economy. A significant contribution was made by the late Asantehene, Nana Sir Osei Agyeman Prempeh II, who made all the court records and minutes of the Asanteman Council and other documents available to the Institute. These are housed in a building at Manhiya, Kumasi, allocated by the Asantehene to the Institute for use as a Record Office. His successor, Nana Opoku Ware II, has also shown great interest in the project. The documentation of historical traditions has been completed in a number of Akan areas and some special reports on history and traditions have been published. Current researches include a study of the political organization and history of Mampong in relation to Kumasi and northern Ghana, a survey of Brong, the study of Buffer States (e.g. Berekum), studies in problems of accommodation, incorporation, and conflict with particular reference to Zongos, patterns of destoolment, social conflicts in Ashanti and their modes of resolution, as well as the control of cult organizations and rituals of chiefship. Investigations into the arts of Ashanti in connection with these rituals are also being carried out.

Current researches in Islamic Studies include the histories of Islamic peoples in Ghana, education, historiography in Ashanti, survey of Zongo communities in southern Ghana, Islam in the service of tradition in Dagomba, and biographical studies of Islamic scholars. The collection of Arabic manuscripts begun in 1963 has continued, but more attention is now being given to the cataloguing, translation, and study of the accumulated material.

Special projects are being undertaken regarding the collection and documentation of oral traditions, festivals and ceremonies, and important regional events. The collection of art objects of ethnographic interest and indigenous musical instruments has been continued, but lack of storage space, a laboratory, and a proper exhibition hall have made it necessary to suspend field collection and to concentrate for the present on detailed contextual studies of selected objects. The archive of the Institute now holds a large number of field recordings made in Ghana and other parts of Africa and steps are being taken to build up a comparable stock of ethnographic and educational films, and documentaries in various fields of African studies.

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