

PAOLO GAIBAZZI

Zentrum Moderner Orient
Kirchweg 33
14129 Berlin, Germany
Tel: +49 (0) 1573 86487372
E-mail: paolo.gaibazzi@zmo.de

EDUCATION

- 2010 *PhD in Anthropology of the Contemporary World* | University of Milano-Bicocca, Department of Human Sciences
- 2005 *MSc in Visual Anthropology* | University of Oxford, Wolfson College
- 2002 *BA in Social Anthropology* | University of Kent at Canterbury (First Class Honours)

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- Feb 2012 – present *Research Fellow* | Zentrum Moderner Orient (ZMO), Berlin
- Researcher of the research group: “Muslim Worlds, Worlds of Islam?”. Individual project: “Immobility, Islam and the making of entrepreneurs in a West African Muslim trade diaspora”.
- Oct 2010 – Jan 2012 *Lecturer of Social Anthropology* | Department of Anthropology and Philology, University of Latvia
- Duties: teaching, tutoring and examining students, using internet platform for coursework, supervising BA/MA dissertations, writing funding applications.
- Aug-Sep 2011 *Visiting Researcher* | Centre of African Studies (Lisbon) in collaboration with ABORNE (African Borderlands Research Network)
- Oct 2009 – Apr 2010 *Course Coordinator* | Post-Graduate Specialisation Course in “Anthropology of Migration”, University of Milano-Bicocca
- Duties: scientific supervision, tutorship, administration.
- Oct-Nov 2008 *Teaching Assistant* | University of Milano-Bicocca
- Duties: created section of the syllabus (Anthropology of Migration), teaching (21 hours), student examinations (Anthropology of Migration; Culture and Society in Africa; History and Institutions in Africa).

NON-ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2002 – 2003 *Director* | Centre for mentally disabled people ‘Lubiana’, Domus Scarl, Parma (Italy)
- Duties: Supervising socio-medical assistance, managing the centre, coordinating the staff, managing external relations with Social Welfare Services and families.
- 2002 - 2003 *Educator* | Home for Children ‘Mar.Fra.Gio.Si’, Domus Scarl, Parma (Italy)
- Duties: running socio-educational activities and programmes for Italian and foreign male youth (aged 14-18).
- 1999 - 2002 *Sales Advisor*, Global Utilities, London

RESEARCH PROJECTS

- Jan 2006 - present *Research Associate* | Ethnological Mission in Benin and West Africa (MEBAO) interdisciplinary research network of Italian and African scholars financed by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- Duties: carried out research in two clusters: ‘historical legacy and current practices of mobility’ and ‘memories of slavery’.
- Jan 2013 - present *Research Associate* | PRIN ‘Stato, Conflitto, Pluralita in Africa’, ZMO and University of Milano-Bicocca.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Mobility and Sedentariness; Youth; African Slavery and Social Inequality; Borders; Identities; Muslim Societies; Trade and Entrepreneurship; Visuality and Photography; History and Memory.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

- (in preparation), *Bush Bound: the onus of immobility in a Gambian Village*. Book manuscript.
- (in preparation) *Eur-African Borderse: places, actors, lives*. Edited volume. Book proposal accepted by Palgrave Macmillan Series in African Borderlands Studies. (co-edited with A. Bellgamba and S. Dünnwald)

JOURNAL ARTICLES (PEER-REVIEWED)

- (forthcoming), ‘Visa Problem: certification, kinship and the production of ‘ineligibility’ in the Gambia’, *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*.
- (forthcoming, 2013), ‘Diaspora Without Homeland: slave descendants and the cultural politics of ancestry in the Upper Gambia River Valley’, *Revue Européenne des Migrations Internationales* 29(1) (Special Issue *Migration & Memory* guest edited by M. Rodet, C. Reinprecht and S. Nadjivan).
2013. ‘Cultivating Hustlers: the agrarian ethos of Soninke (im)mobility’, *Journal of Migration and Ethnic Studies* (Special Issue *Mobilities Across the Globe* guest edited by N. Glick-Schiller, N. Salazar and P. Nyiri) 39(2): 259-75.
2012. ‘The Rank Effect: post-emancipation immobility in a Soninke village’, *Journal of African History* 53(2): 215-34.
2010. ‘Qui, nell’Altrove: giovani, migrazione e immaginazione geo-sociale nel Gambia rurale’ [The ‘there’ in the ‘here’: migration and geo-social imagination in rural Gambia], *Mondi Migranti* (3): 117-29.
2008. ‘The Sabi Youth Committee: state, ‘age groups’ and civic participation in a Gambian Soninke village’, *Mande Studies* 10: 25-48.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- (forthcoming). ‘The migration-slavery nexus in contemporary Gambian Soninke society: questioning spatial and social mobility’, in A. Bellagamba, S. Greene, M. Klein and with C. Brown (eds.), *After Abolition: New Perspectives on the Transformation of African Slavery*. Princeton: Markus Wiener.

- (forthcoming, 2013). 'Two Soninke 'slave' descendants and their family biographies', in A. Bellagamba, S. Greene, M. Klein with C. Brown (eds.), *African Voices on Slavery and the Slave Trade*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
2012. 'God's time is the best'. Gambian youth and the wait for emigration in the age of immobility', in Graw, K. and Schielke, S. (eds.), *Migration at Home: expectations of migration in Africa and the Middle East*. Leuven: Leuven University Press.
2012. 'Home as Transit: immobility and migratory imagination among Gambian Soninke young men', in Streiff-Fénart, J. and Wa Kabwe Segatti, A. (eds.), *The Challenge of the Threshold. Border Closures and Migration Movements in Africa*. Lanham: Lexington.
2011. 'Migrazione, coesione e translocalità nell'unità domestica Soninke (Gambia Orientale)' [Migration, cohesion and translocality in the Soninke household (Eastern Gambia)], in A. Bellagamba (ed.), *Migrazioni dal lato dell'Africa*. Pavia: Altrativista.
2010. 'I'm nerves!': Struggling with Immobility in a Soninke village (The Gambia)', in T. Grätz (ed.), *Mobility, transnationalism and contemporary African societies*. Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.
2009. 'Babilonia, oppure? Mobilità internazionale e logiche dell'appartenenza nella Repubblica del Gambia [Babylon, otherwise? International mobility and logics of belonging in the Republic of The Gambia], in A. Bellagamba (ed.), *Inclusi/Esclusi: prospettive Africane sulla cittadinanza*. Novara: Utet. (co-authored with Alice Bellagamba)
2008. 'Nient'altro da votare. Dinamiche di partecipazione politica e disillusione nella Repubblica del Gambia (Africa Occidentale)' [Nothing else to vote for. Dynamics of political participation and disillusion in the Republic of The Gambia (West Africa)], in F. Viti (ed.), *Dipendenza Personale, Lavoro e Politica*. Modena: Edizioni Il Fiorino. (co-authored with Alice Bellagamba)

THESIS

2010. *Migration, Soninke Young Men and the Dynamics of Staying Behind, the Gambia*. PhD Thesis. University of Milano-Bicocca.

COURSES DESIGNED AND TAUGHT (*University of Latvia*)

BA Level

- Economic Anthropology
- Anthropology of Kinship

MA Level

- Self, Experience and Agency
- Transformations of Borders
- Ethnography of Africa
- Visual Anthropology
- Ethnographic Cinema

INVITED LECTURES

- Jan 2013 'Imagined Travels, Travels through the Imaginary: the Elsewhere in the Everyday Lives of Aspirant Migrants', Post-Graduate Specialisation Degree in "Anthropology of Migration", University of Milano-Bicocca
- Jan 2013 'In Search of Luck: destiny, livelihoods and the unexpected in Muslim Gambia', lecture series 'Religion and Mobility', Institute for African and Asian Studies,

Humboldt University, Berlin.

- March 2011 ‘Staying as a Virtue: The Agrarian Ethics and the Sedentary Basis of Soninke Migration (The Gambia)’, Stockholm School of Economics in Riga together with Latvia’s Association of Anthropologists.
- Oct 2008, Feb 2009 ‘Politics, Society and Economy in Africa. The social organization of migration in Africa’ (Oct 2008); ‘Phenomenology of Return’ (Feb 2009), Post-Graduate Specialisation Degree in “Anthropology of Migration”, University of Milano-Bicocca.
- May 2006 ‘Visual Anthropology’, in the course “Media and Anthropology”, BA Degree in “Intercultural Communication”, University of Milano-Bicocca

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

CONVENED

- Jan 2013 *EastBordNet Annual Conference* | Humboldt University, Berlin
- Roundtable Discussion: Borders and Knowledge Production: comparative perspectives
- June 2012 *CAS@50 Cutting Edges and Retrospectives*, University of Edinburgh
- Panel: Borderland Traders
- Sept 2011 *Fifth Annual Conference of the African Borderlands Research Network (ABORNE): ‘Crossing African Borders: Migration and Mobility’* | ISCTE, Lisbon
- Panel 4 (with Stephan Dünwald): Forced migration and the role of borders
 - Panel 6: Border regimes and migrant practices: citizenship, belonging and the making of migrant subjectivities

PARTICIPATED

- July 2012 Conference: *The Food Crisis: Implications for Decent Work in Rural and Urban Areas* | Panel: Food Crisis, Migration and Agricultural Workers | University of Kassel
- Paper: ‘Food, Agriculture and Migration in the Gambia Valley: historical connections and contemporary transformations’.
- May 2012 *AEGIS Workshop on Children and Migration in Africa* | SOAS, London
- Paper: ‘Cultivating an Agrarian Ethos: migration and upbringing in the Upper Gambia River Valley’
- Nov 2011 Workshop: *The Life Cycle of West African Slaves* | Re:Work, Berlin
- Paper: ‘In and Out of Place: the Life Course of an (im)mobile slave descendant’.
- Nov 2010 *Annual Conference of the African Studies Association* | San Francisco, USA
- Paper: ‘The Rank Effect: slavery and immobility among the Gambian Soninke’.
- Sept 2010 *Conference of African Studies in Italy* | University of Napoli Orientale, Naples
- Paper: ‘Confini in Viaggio: (trans)nazionalismo e discorsi dell’appartenenza nelle comunità Soninke di confine tra Senegal e Gambia’.
- Sept 2010 *Biennial Conference of the Association of African Studies UK* | University of Oxford, UK
- Paper: ‘“Sitting”’: the meaning of staying behind for Gambian Soninke young men’.
- Sept 2010 *Annual Meeting of African Borderlands Research Network* | University of Basel

- Paper: ‘Trading globally, disinvesting locally: the Soninke trading diaspora and cross-border trade in the Upper Gambia river valley’, presented at the

- Aug 2010 *Biennial Conference of the European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA) | Workshop 001: A new virtue? Imaginaries and regimes of mobility across the globe | National University of Ireland*
- Paper: ‘Staying as a virtue: migration and the moral construction of immobility among Gambian Soninke young men’.
- May 2010 *Workshop: Migration and Memory | University of Vienna*
- Paper: ‘Narratives of Migration, Shifting Meanings of Slavery: a family biography of Soninke slave descendants, presented at the Invited Workshop’:
- March 2010 *Workshop: Migration and post-slavery in West Africa | University of Liverpool*
- Paper: ‘Slavery and immobility during and after abolition in Gambian Soninke villages.
- Sept 2009 *Conference: Migrations de transit en Afrique : dynamiques locales et globales, gestion politique et expériences d’acteurs | MITRANS, University of Nice*
- Paper: ‘Home as ‘Transit’: Immobility, livelihood strategies and the recomposition of migratory projects’.
- May 2009 *Conference: Tales of Slavery: Narratives of Slavery, the Slave Trade and Enslavement in Africa | University of Toronto*
- Paper ‘Moving out, moving up? Slavery and migration among the Soninke of the upper Gambia Basin’.
- March 2009 *Workshop: Migration at Home: Migratory Imaginations and Imaginary. Cosmopolitanisms in Africa and beyond | Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin*
- Paper: ‘“God’s time is the best”: immobility, imagination and the re-composition of livelihoods in The Gambia’.
- Aug 2008 *10th Biennial European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA) Conference | University of Ljubljana*
- Paper: ‘Nerves!’ Struggling with immobility in The Gambia’
- July 2008 *Annual Meeting of ABORNE (African Borderlands Research Network) | University of Bayreuth, Germany*
- Paper: ‘Citizens, Kinsmen, Migrants discourses and practices of belonging among Soninke communities across the Senegal-Gambia border (Upper Gambia River Basin)’.
- June 2008 *Seventh International Conference on Mande Studies | University of Lisbon, Portugal*
- Paper: ‘Associations and Transnational migration among Soninke communities of the Upper River Gambia’.

PUBLIC DEBATES (ORGANIZED AND PARTICIPATED)

- June 2010 · *(S)confinamenti – Frontiere Europee ed Attraversamenti Migranti [(De)bordering – European frontiers and Migrant Crossings] (CSA Casa Cantoniera, Parma).*

AWARDS, GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS

Aug-Sept 2011	Exchange Visit Grant at Centre of African Studies (Lisbon) funded by European Science Foundation via African Borderlands Research Network (ABORNE)
Oct 2010 – Jan 2012	Visiting Fellowship at University of Latvia, funded by University Fund (Latvia)
2006 - 2011	Research and Travel Grants (multiple), MEBAO
2005 - 2009	Doctoral Scholarship from Milano-Bicocca University/Unicredit Foundation
2002	University of Kent Dissertation Award

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Member of African Borderland Research Network (ABORNE)
 Member of the EASA Network – Anthropology of Mobility
 Member of LAMiT (Research Group on Anthropology of Migration and Transnationalism at the University of Milano-Bicocca)

EDITORIAL DUTIES

2011 - Manuscript Reviewer. *Identities – global studies in culture and power*.

LANGUAGES

Language	Speaking	Reading	Writing
Italian (mother tongue)	Proficient	Proficient	Proficient
English	Proficient	Proficient	Proficient
French	Upper-Intermediate	Upper-Intermediate	Intermediary
Soninke (West Africa)	Upper-Intermediate	Upper-Intermediate	Intermediary
Spanish	Intermediate	Upper-Intermediate	Elementary
Portuguese	Elementary	Upper-Intermediate	Elementary
German	Elementary	Elementary	Elementary