



## **Disability and African Indigenous Thought**

**A Workshop organized by the Disability and Inclusion Africa Network**

**Thursday 25 February 2021**

**9.00-17.30 (GMT)**

### **Programme**

#### **9.00 Welcome**

Dr Elvis Imafidon (School of Oriental and African Studies, UK) on behalf of the Disability and Inclusion Africa Project Team

#### **9.15 Panel 1: Cultural Understandings and the Life Experiences of Disabled People (Chair: Dr Elvis Imafidon)**

Aetiological Perspectives of Disability in Ghana: A Case of Food Taboos in Pregnancy  
Francisca Anita Adom-Opare (University of Edinburgh, UK)

Cultural Beliefs, Attitudes and Marital Issues Confronting Persons with Disability in Nigeria  
Theo Ajobiwe (Federal College of Education, Oyo, Nigeria) and Grace Bila (Kaduna Poly, Nigeria)

How do you make a living if you face economic and social exclusion due to disability?  
Gamariel Mboya (Aga Khan University, Tanzania) and Patricia Lund (Coventry University, UK)

Les personnes vivant avec le handicap dans le cinéma : contribution à la visibilité et la valorisation des personnes défavorisées au Cameroun / Disabled People in Cinema : Contribution to the visibility and valorisation of marginalised people in Cameroon

Félix Mbog-Len Mapout (Université de Yaoundé 1, Cameroun)

#### **10.30 Coffee Break**

#### **10.45 Panel 2: The Impact of Cultural Understandings of Disability on Families (Chair: Dr Charlotte Baker)**

The Negative Impact of Indigenous Thought on the Wellbeing of Children with Disabilities and their Mothers in Zimbabwe

Thembelihle Ndebele (Disability Resources and Advocacy Trust, Zimbabwe)

Cultural Understandings of Disability and the Experiences of Families of Children with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in Ghana

De-Lawrence Lamptey (Red Deer College, Canada; Mount Saint Vincent University, Canada)

**11.30 Panel 3: Articulations of Difference (Chair: Dr Elvis Imafidon)**

Words and Phrases used to Name and Describe Epilepsy in Africa

Jacob Rugare Mugumbate, Najib Kissani, Chantal Kanyabutembo, Epillose Musimbi and Gams Massi (Epilepsy Alliance Africa, EAA)

Colour Specifications and the Othering of Persons with Albinism (PWA) in African Traditions

Kenneth Uyi Abudu (Ambrose Alli University, Nigeria)

**12.15 Lunch break**

**13.00 Panel 4: Encounters Between Traditional and Modern Conceptions of Disability (Chair: Dr Charlotte Baker)**

Africa in Context of the Study of Disability in the Middle Ages

Kisha G. Tracy (Fitchburg State University, USA)

Before Disability: Notes on Astonishment from Central Uganda

Tyler Zouanni (Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Germany)

The Influence of Yoruba and Igbo Arts and Literature on the Meaning of Disability and Lived Experiences of Disabled Persons in the Community

Opeolu Stephen Akinola (Disability Awareness and Development Initiative – DADI)

Orisa Sanponna Myth and its Challenges in Traditional African Religion, Medicine, Disability and Morality: Femi Osofisan's Dramaturgy as Paradigm

Olu-Osayomi Olusegun and Adebua Babatunde (Babcock University, Nigeria)

**14.15 Coffee break**

**14.30 Panel 5: Narratives of Disability (Chair: Dr Elvis Imafidon)**

Indigenising the Conceptualisation of Disability in Selected Nigerian Narratives: Form, Formulation, and Difference

Ignatius Chukwumah (Federal University Wukari, Nigeria)

Vulnerability, Altruism and Agency: Reading Albinism in Nahida Esmail's *Living in the Shade*

Spemba E. Spemba (Stellenbosch University, South Africa)

Constructions of Disabilities in Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart* and John Munonye's *The Concubine*

Clara Ijeoma Osuji (Augustine University, Nigeria)

**15.30 Panel 6: Promoting Wellbeing and Inclusion (Chair: Dr Charlotte Baker)**

What Obligations Should be Owed to [African] People with Disabilities?

Oche Onazi (University of Northumbria, UK)

African Ontology of Neurodevelopmental Disorders: Implications for Inclusive Education

Charity N. Onyishi (University of Johannesburg, South Africa), Liziana N. Onuigbo (University of Nigeria, Nsukka) and T.A. Adaka (Federal University of Lafia, Nigeria)

Aspects of Indigenous Thought to Explore for the Promotion of Wellbeing and Inclusion for Persons with Disabilities

Chioma Ohajunwa (Stellenbosch University, South Africa)

**16.30 Keynote Paper (Chair: Dr Charlotte Baker)**

Metaphysical Disability, Explanans and Disabilities in an African Cultural Worldview

Professor Edwin Etieyibo (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa)