Curriculum Vitae

Obádélé Kambon, PhD

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EDUCATION PhD, University of Ghana at Legon, Accra, West Africa. 2012. Major: Linguistics Dissertation: *Serial Verb Nominalization in Akan*.¹ Honors: Most Outstanding PhD Thesis in the Humanities. Supervisor: Professor E. Kweku Osam

> MA University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI. 2005. Major: Linguistics

MA University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI. 2005. Major: African Languages and Literature, minor in Linguistics. Thesis: *Recurrent Sound Correspondences of Akan and Yoruba and their Significance for Proto-Benue-Kwa (East Volta-Congo) C1 Reconstruction.*² Supervisor: Professor Antonia Yétúndé Folárin Schleicher

BA Morehouse College, Atlanta, GA. 2002. Major: African American Studies Honors: Magna Cum Laude

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

UNIVERSITY OF GHANA, INSTITUTE OF AFRICAN STUDIES 2014-Present **Research Fellow**

AFRICAN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATIONS 2011 Lecturer

CHICAGO STATE UNIVERSITY 2007-2008 Adjunct Professor

MALCOLM X COLLEGE 2006 Adjunct Professor

¹ See appendix for brief synopsis

² See appendix for brief synopsis

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY 2005-2006 Adjunct Professor

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN 2004-2005 **Teaching Assistant**

Courses Taught

Foundations of African Thought; Introduction to African Studies; Introductory Conversational Akan (Twi); African Biographies; African Religion in Africa and the Diaspora; Pan-Africanism; African Diaspora Studies; African Communications; Introduction to African Languages and Literature; Elementary Yoruba; Intermediate Yoruba

PUBLICATIONS Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Kambon, O., Osam, E. K., & Amfo, N. A. (2015). A Case for Revisiting Definitions of Serial Verb Constructions – Evidence from Akan Serial Verb Nominalization. *Studies in African Linguistics*, 44(2). <u>http://sal.research.pdx.edu/PDF/442Kambon.pdf</u>

Kambon, O. (2015). Theory of Endogenous and Exogenous Motivation in L2 Migration. *Per Linguam*, 31(2). <u>http://perlinguam.journals.ac.za/pub/article/view/594</u>

Brindle, J., Dakubu, M. E. K., & **Kambon, O.** (2015). Kiliji, An Unrecorded Spiritual Language of Eastern Ghana. *Journal of West African Languages*, 42(1). <u>http://main.journalofwestafricanlanguages.org/index.php/downloads/download/122-volume-42-number-1/562-kiliji-an-unrecorded-spiritual-language-of-eastern-ghana</u>

Kambon, O. (2015). Legacies and the Impact of Trans-Atlantic Enslavement on the Diaspora. *Journal of Pan African Studies*, 8(8), 23-44. <u>http://main.journalofwestafricanlanguages.org/index.php/downloads/download/122-volume-42-number-1/562-kiliji-an-unrecorded-spiritual-language-of-eastern-ghana</u>

Kambon, O. (Under Review). Akan Ananse Stories, Yorùbá Ìjàpá Tales, and the Dikenga Theory: Worldview and Structure. *Contemporary Journal of African Studies*.

Kambon, O. (Under Review). Chanting YorùbÁkan: Theoretical Implications of a Stylistic Analysis of Jími Ṣólańké's Ọ̀nà Là in The Path. *Legon Journal of Humanities*.

Kambon, O. and Duah, R. (Under Review). Non-African Linguists Be Like "This is a new way to quote!" *Ghana Journal of Linguistics*.

Kambon, O. and Dzahene-Quarshie, J. (Under Review). TwiSwahili or KiswaTwili: A Study of Parallel Proverbs in Akan (Twi) and Kiswahili. *Ghana Journal of Linguistics*.

Duah, R. A. and **Kambon, O.** (Under Review). On the Structure of Analytic Causatives in Akan. *Acta Linguistica Hafniensia*.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

Abdellatif, Mostafa and **Kambon, O.** (Accepted for Publication). Recalling a Common Struggle for Pan-Africanism: Nkrumah's and Nasser's Policies on the Congo Crisis (1960-1966). *IAS 50th Anniversary Conference Publication*.

Kambon, O., & Adjei, G. K. (Accepted for Publication). Singing Truth to Power and the Disempowered: The Case of Lucky Mensah and his Song, "Nkratoo". In A. Olukotun & S. Omotoso (Eds.), *Advances in African Economic, Social and Political Development*. Berlin: Springer.

Peer-Reviewed Encyclopedic Articles

Kambon, O. (2015). *African Languages, Acquisition of*. (M. J. Shujaa & K. J. Shujaa Eds.). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc. Hardcover ISBN: 9781452258218. <u>http://knowledge.sagepub.com/view/the-sage-encyclopedia-of-african-cultural-heritage-in-north-america/i1533.xml</u>

Kambon, O. (2015). *Africanisms in Contemporary English*. (M. J. Shujaa & K. J. Shujaa Eds.). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc. Hardcover ISBN: 9781452258218 <u>http://knowledge.sagepub.com/view/the-sage-encyclopedia-of-african-cultural-heritage-in-north-america/i2173.xml</u>

TALKS

"Akan and Yorùbá Serial Verb Construction Nominals as Idioms." Dr. Obádélé Kambon. Linguistics Association of Ghana. GILLBT, Tamale. 27 July 2016. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TfGQu_EhT4I

"African Militaristic Forms Hidden in Plain Sight: Capoeira, Asafo and Knockin-andkickin'." Dr. Obádélé Kambon. Institute of African Studies. University of Ghana. 14 April, 2016.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IynVFL0BI3w

"Writing in Akan: Misspellings, Typos, Deviations or Innovations?" Dr. Obádélé Kambon, Dr. Reginald Akuoko Duah and Dr. Clement Appah. Department of Linguistics. 13 April, 2016. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aWVrt3OfKwQ

"ReAfrikanization and Dewhitenization for Total Afrikan Liberation: Towards a Methodology for Self-Transformation." Ministry of the Future Program. Institute of African Studies. University of Ghana. 30 November, 2015. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UHkpAtp9Rk4</u>

"Why $\angle \tilde{b}_{3}$ " Kemet (Ancient Egypt) Matters." Dr. Obádélé Kambon. Afrikan Renaissance Foundation. Department of Archaeology. University of Ghana. 13 November, 2015. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oJkTWOtpt5o</u> "Lexicalization and Issues of Semantic Analysis in Serial Verb Construction Nominalization." Dr. Obádélé Kambon. Inaugural School of Languages Conference 2015 (SOLCON 1). 28 October, 2015. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t40QA8iFQX4

"Twi Abɛɛfosɛm: Kasa, Kankorɔ ne Nkəsoɔ (Twi Neologisms: Language, Progress and Development)" Dr. Obádélé Kambon. Kasasuabea Nhyiamupən a Edi Kan (Inaugural School Of Languages Conference (SOLCON 1)). Ahinime Da a Etə So Aduonu Nson, 2015 (27 October, 2015). https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PsR6J2MSVEA

"The Ancient African Origins of Pan-Africanism." Dr. Obádélé Kambon and Dr. De-Valera N.Y.M. Botchway. African Studies Association of Africa. University of Ìbàdàn. 15 October, 2015. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VPKaiC1wYww</u>

"How you can make it on African Soil: An Abibitumi Kasa Case Study." Dr. Obádélé Kambon. Africana Conference 2015. University of Cape Coast. 10 October, 2015. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9dxpyfqHPt8</u>

"The Miseducation and Diseducation of the African." Dr. Obádélé Kambon. Wake up Africa. XLiveAfrica, Osu, Accra, Ghana. 3 October, 2015. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ucux8GP4FHk

"The Forces Arrayed Against Africa: Cultural and Spiritual Warfare." Dr. Obádélé Kambon. Founder's Day 2015. University of Ghana. 21 September, 2015. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=06dZNoJ7S88</u>

"Between the Lines: Unsung Legacy." Dr. Obádélé Kambon. Documentary produced by Ayerkie Narnor. TV3. 15 September, 2015. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ddm2Cwgeg0</u>

"Non-African Linguists Be Like "This is a new way to quote!" Dr. Obádélé Kambon and Dr. Reginald Akuoko Duah. Linguistics Association of Ghana 2015. KNUST College of Science. 29 July, 2015. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XYVzYyUIr0Y

"A Study of Parallel Proverbs in Akan (Twi) and Kiswahili." Dr. Obádélé Kambon and Dr. Josephine Dzahene-Quarshie. Linguistics Association of Ghana 2015. KNUST College of Science. 28 July, 2015. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x53lmlaZaMw</u>

"Experiences at The World's Largest Online African Language Learning Institute." e-Learning Africa Conference 2015. African Union, Addis Ababa. 22 May, 2015. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AnAFqETdJL0</u>

"The Humanities and the Sciences as Complementary Aspects of an African Whole" NYU/IAS Conference on the Humanities. 24 April, 2015. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jlgRqRYEpYY "Harnessing Our Culture for National Development: The Role of the Ghanaian Student." Legon Archaeology Students' Association African Arts Festival (AAFEST). University of Ghana Archaeology Department. 20 March, 2015. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bu1bNT1JcGA

"Parallels between Akan Ananse Stories and Yorùbá Ìjàpá Tales: Structure, Function, Content and Worldview." IAS Weekly Thursday Seminar. University of Ghana Institute of African Studies. December 4, 2014. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a01J2jFhBMs</u>

"Transformations through Study Abroad: My Experience." CIEE 20th Anniversary Keynote. University of Ghana - International House. 28 November 2014. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tMLoXM116Us

"Serial Verb Nominalization in Akan: A question of intervening elements." Linguistics Department Seminar. University of Ghana Linguistics Department. 15 October 2014. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eBUHUehNo7o

"Chanting YorùbÁkan: A Stylistic Analysis of Jími Sólańké's 'Ònà Là" Linguistics Association of Ghana 2014. University of Professional Studies, Accra (UPSA). 28th July, 2014. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oV8x3KTG1Kc</u>

"Legacies of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade on the Diaspora." 20th Anniversary of UNESCO Slave Route Project Talk. University of Ghana Institute of African Studies. 28th July, 2014. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1foJ9r4E7Tk</u>

"Neo-Colonialism as an Impediment" Opening Keynote Speech Model African Union Conference. SOS Hermann Gmeiner International College. 24 May 2014. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q4gC4Gp7nQM

"Culture in a Challenged Economy." Joy FM Panel Discussion on Cultural Economy. 28 March 2014. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KUM-jfGMyD8</u>

Institute of African Studies Lecture on Africanisms in Contemporary English with specific reference to Ebonics in the US. IAS Weekly Thursday Seminar. University of Ghana Institute of African Studies. 7 March 2014. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oNogR1X2vYI

"Recurrent Sound Correspondences of Akan and Yoruba: Towards Proto-Benue-Kwa C1 Reconstruction." A talk on how sound correspondences between Akan and Yoruba can shed light on the phonological inventory and sound changes of Proto-Benue-Kwa, from which they are descended. University of Ghana Department of Linguistics Seminar: Linguistics. 23 October 2013. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4mWZVT08jAU

Abibifahodie Asako: History of Capoeira as an Instrument of Afrikan Liberation. Tv3's New Day Morning Show. 3 September 2013.

"Serial Verb Nominalization in Akan." A talk on how serial verb nominalization varies based on levels of semantic integration of the SVC in question in Akan. University of

Cape Coast, Cape Coast, Ghana. Linguistics Association of Ghana (LAG), 30 July 2013.

"Twi Abɛɛfosɛm (Twi Neologisms)." Tv3's Sunrise Morning Show. 29 June 2013. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cd4tNxzxjv4

"Serial Verb Nominalization in Akan and Yorùbá: Towards a cross-linguistic typology." Linguistics Department Seminar. University of Ghana Department of Linguistics. 4 November 2011. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gLxpbhPJHxE</u>

"Analytic Causatives in Akan." A talk on the structural and behavioral differences between the 5-construction and the no-construction in Akan. Reginald Duah and Obadele Kambon. Kumasi, Ghana. Linguistics Association of Ghana (LAG), 9 August 2011. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_uZiP2p0MI</u>

"Afrikan Worldview and Afrikan Spirituality." A talk on unity of African worldview in African spirituality for Morehouse Pan-African Global Experience (MPAGE) students. Adaa, Ghana. June 2011.

"Serial Verbs in African Language Syntax and the Morphosyntactic Interface: A Formally Functional Approach." A talk about merging generative and functional approaches to move towards a greater understanding of serial verbs in Akan and Yoruba. 30 September 2009.

"The Role of Afrikan Languages in Afrikan Liberation." A talk on how African languages can assist in freeing one's mind from conceptual encarceration of enslavers' languages. AbibitumiKasa.com (Online). 15 March 2009.

"What Black Studies Can Do for You" A talk on how Africana Studies can create opportunities in one's life. Chicago State University. 27 September 2006.

"Linguistic Connections between Akan, Yoruba and Mdw Ntr." Teaching About Africa Professional Development Seminar Series. Kemetic Institute. Northeastern Illinois University. 18 March 2006.

"Faculty of Language: what is it, who has it and how did it evolve?" Seminar on Syntax. UW-Madison. 10 October 2005.

"Yoruba Greetings and the Yoruba (African) Worldview": A talk of the significance of greetings in Yoruba culture. World Languages Day. UW-Madison. 20 April 2005.

Ìwà-pèlé and Ìwa rere: Yoruba Conceptions of Good Character (in honor of Baba Jedi Shemsu Djehewty aka Dr. Jacob Carruthers). 21st Association for the Study of Classical African Civilizations (ASCAC) Conference, Malcolm X College, Chicago, IL. May 2004.

"Cultural Unity of Worldview and Ethos in the Akan and Yoruba Oral Narrative Traditions." Seminar on African Mythology. UW-Madison. 17 November 2003.

"The Importance of Reclaiming African Language/Worldview and the Responsibility of the African Language Teacher." Special Keynote: National African Language Resource Center Summer Teacher Training and Curriculum Development Institute. UW-Madison. 27 June 2003.

"Ona La": A Stylistic Analysis of Jimi Solanke's Poetry. African Languages and Literature Graduate Student Colloquium, 29 April 2003.

FELLOWSHIPS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

Summer Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship Indiana University, Summer 2005

Funding for Advanced Study of the Akan (Twi) language. (\$5,000 Tuition + \$2,500 Stipend)

University Graduate Fellowship UW-Madison Fall 2004-Spring 2005 University Fellowship for matriculation towards a degree in African Languages and Literature. (Tuition \$23,000 + Stipend \$14,000)

Academic Year Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship UW-Madison, Fall 2002-Spring 2004

Title VI funding for study of the Yoruba language. (Tuition \$23,000 + Stipend \$14,000)

Summer Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship Ohio University, Summer 2004

Funding for Study of Intermediate Wolof and Elementary KiKongo. (\$5,000 Tuition + \$2,500 Stipend)

Summer Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship Ibadan, Nigeria, Summer 2003

Title VI funding for Advanced Study of the Yoruba language. (\$5,000 Tuition + \$2,500 Travel + \$2,500 Stipend)

National African Language Resource Center Summer Institute Fellow UW-Madison, Summer 2003

Pedagogy and Curriculum Development training for African language instructors.

Summer Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship Michigan State University, Summer 2002

Funding for Study of Intermediate Wolof and Elementary Yoruba. (\$5,000 Tuition + \$2,500 Stipend)

Full Academic Scholarship Morehouse College, Fall 1997-Spring 2002 Academic Scholarship for matriculation towards a degree in African American Studies. (\$103,500 Tuition + \$15,000 Annual Stipend)

National Merit Scholarship 1997. (\$2,500)

Inroads Scholarship and Internship 1997.

AWARDS

Provost's Publications Award (Early Career) for Best Publication. 2016

University of Ghana-Legon. Vice Chancellor's Award for the Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation for Humanities. PhD Thesis Honors 2012.

Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society. 2002. (Declined this Award)

Morehouse College. Magna Cum Laude. BA (Honors) 2002.

Golden Key Honor Society 2002-Present.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

African Studies Association of Africa 2014-Present Linguistics Association of Ghana 2011-Present

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

English, Native Speaker

Akan (Near Native Speaker Proficiency) (16 years, University of Ghana at Legon 2000-2001, Indiana University SCALI 2005)

Yoruba (Near Native Speaker Proficiency) (11 years, Michigan State University SCALI 2002, Ibadan, Nigeria 2003, UW-Madison 2002-2005)

Wolof (Advanced High Proficiency) (8 years, Ohio University SCALI 2004)

KiSwahili (Intermediate High) (1 Semester, Morehouse College 1999)

KiKongo (Intermediate Low) (1 Semester, Ohio University SCALI 2004)

Portuguese (Novice High) Novice High (Travel to Brazil) conversational Plus ~200+ Capoeira Songs sung in Portuguese

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Nominalization of Serial Verbs;
- Functional-Typological Linguistics focusing on Serial Verb Constructions (SVCs) in African languages;
- The influence of temporal sequencing (Iconicity) on surface syntactic structures;
- Word formation processes in African Languages;
- Historical and Comparative Linguistics;

- African proverbs in social discourse; Second Language Acquisition;
- African Language Pedagogy;
- African Language Curriculum and Resource Development;
- Issues of Translation in African Languages;
- African Language Poetry and Oral Literature;
- African Languages in the Atlantic World;
- Indigenous African Combat and Militaristic Traditions
- Connections between $\angle \overset{\frown}{\gg} \overset{\frown}{\gg}$ Kmt and other African Societies

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Editor-in-Chief: Ghana Journal of Linguistics. 2015-Present.

Member Editorial Board: Ghana Journal of Linguistics (Linguistics Association of Ghana); 2013-Present.

Website Management Committee: University of Ghana – College of Humanities. 2015-Present.

Coordinator: Revamped Weekly Thursday Seminars, University of Ghana Institute of African Studies. 2014-2015 Academic Year.

Resource Person: IAS Thursday Movie Night (2014-Present)

Coordinator IAS Black History Month Film Festival. 2015-Present.

Coordinator 2015 IAS Writeshop

Editor: UG-Legon Institute of African Studies Kaseɛbɔ 50th Anniversary Newsletter. Current IAS Kaseɛbɔ Newsletter. 2014-Present.

Administrator of Listservs for Linguistics Association of Ghana, Department of Linguistics and Institute of African Studies. 2011-Present.

Webmaster 2012-Present. Webmaster services for Linguistics Association of Ghana website: http://www.laghana.org

Founding Administrator of AKALI Resource Center. August 2005-Present. *A free service providing resources in African languages.*

Founding Moderator of African Language, Philosophy and Worldview Forum Spring 2005-2006.

NCOLCTL Conference Session Chair UW-Madison, Spring 2005.

Academic Development Chair UW-Madison, Fall 2004-Fall 2005. Black Graduate and Professional Student Organization (BGPSO) Founding Coordinator, Quilombo Video Lecture Series UW-Madison 2003-Fall 2005. Forum for discussing African-centered videos and Articles in conjunction with BGPSO including joint projects with Black Law Students Association.

Founding Member, Dikenga Collective Madison, Wisconsin, Fall 2005. A collective focused on raising the consciousness of formerly incarcerated Africans.

Volunteer, World Languages Day UW-Madison, Spring 2005.

APPENDIX A

The PhD Thesis entitled "Serial Verb Nominalization in Akan" focuses on nominalization of serial verb constructions (SVCs) in the Akan language. The study develops a relevant typology of serial verb nominalization on the basis of semantic integration and lexicalization using a prototype theory (PT) framework. The three degrees of semantic integration for serial verbs in Akan are Full Lexicalized-Integrated Serial Verb Constructions (FL-ISVCs), Partial Lexicalized-Integrated Serial Verb Constructions (PL-ISVCs) and Clause Chaining Serial Constructions (CCs or CSCs). Each type of SVC is analyzed on the basis of how it is nominalized, the degree to which nominalization occurs and whether nominalization can occur at all. Various corpuses were consulted in three major literary dialects of Akan: Asante Twi, Fante and Akuapem Twi. Further, native speakers of each of these dialects were consulted to ascertain the goodness of various attested serial verb nominals (SVNs) in Akan. Because Full Lexicalized-Integrated Serial Verb Constructions behave as lexicalized idioms, four criteria of idiomaticity are applied to them including collocability, familiarity, flexibility and compositionality (Barkema 1996). The results from the study show that over 98% of all FL-ISVCs identified have nominal counterparts while less than 3% of all PL-ISVCs identified have nominal counterparts. CSCs seem to nominalize haphazardly as frozen sentences, proverbs, idioms and figures of speech which primarily function as *denotata* and *designata*. While there was some degree of interdialectal variability with regard to individual SVNs, the pattern of nominalization behavior on the basis of degrees of semantic integration and lexicalization remained consistent across dialects.

APPENDIX B

The Masters Thesis entitled "Recurrent Sound Correspondences of Akan and Yoruba and their Significance for Proto-Benue-Kwa (East Volta-Congo) C1 Reconstruction" addresses the implications of lexical cognates and regular sound correspondences in the basic vocabulary of Akan (Twi) and Yoruba. Reconstruction, a central focus of comparative linguistics, is based upon determining regular sound correspondences between two languages that are already presumed to be related. By applying the comparative method and implicational laws of sound change to data derived primarily derived from the first and second Swadesh Lists, the phonological inventory of the proto-language, Proto-Benue-Kwa (East Volta-Congo), from which Akan (Twi) and Yoruba are descended, will be juxtaposed with current reconstructions, primarily as pertaining to the initial consonant (C1). These recurrent phonological correspondences will serve to bring us closer to a true reconstruction of Proto-Benue-Kwa (East Volta-Congo) in essentially the same way as "Proto-Germanic-Latin-Greek-Sanskrit" served the pioneers of linguistic reconstruction as a pilot Proto-Indo-European. This thesis will add to the discourse of comparative and historical linguistics in the African milieu by testing current reconstructions and engaging current methodological and theoretical debates in African linguistics. This thesis culminates in the establishment of the Proto-Benue-Kwa Push Chain and the establishment of a clear phonetic environment for Proto-Benue-Kwa labial-velars vis-à-vis the labialized velars. The primary contribution to knowledge is in a refinement of current proposals of the phonological inventory as pertains to the C1 of the common pre-dialectal mother tongue (Proto-Benue-Kwa) from which both Akan (Twi) and Yoruba are descended based on analyzed data.

REFERENCES

Professor Akosua Adomako Ampofo <u>adomako@staff.ug.edu.gh</u> Professor E. Kweku Osam <u>kosam@staff.ug.edu.gh</u> Professor Nana Aba Amfo <u>nanaamfo@ug.edu.gh</u> Professor Samuel Gyasi Obeng <u>sobeng@indiana.edu</u> Professor Kofi K. Saah <u>kofisaah@ug.edu.gh</u>