



# Newsletter



## **Congratulations on the 90th anniversary of Pyotr Ivanovich KUPRIYANOV**

March 18, 2015 colleagues congratulated the 90th anniversary of Ph.D., Senior Researcher Pyotr I. Kupriyanov, the oldest of the Institute for African Studies.

Pyotr I. has been working at the Institute since its inception. He took part in field expeditions in Ghana, Liberia, Somalia and Nigeria, where he has worked for three years as a science attache of the USSR Embassy. In the Institute for African Studies P.I.Kupriyanov led a group of agrarian and peasant problems, he was the author and co-author of several monographs, numerous articles, scientific and practical researches, published in Russian and foreign, including the African, editions. A lot of time and efforts P.I.Kupriyanov has been giving to social work for over two decades directing the veterans' organization of the Institute.

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## **Opinion: The Future of South Africa**

Pravda.ru January 15, 2015 South African President Jacob Zuma announced that the law on land's expropriation of the white farmers will be adopted in the near future. The West claims that South Africa is on the way of Zimbabwe and the country is going to suffer from hunger. Probably soon, the West will compare the President Jacob Zuma, who has been in power since 1994, with the "outcast" Robert Mugabe. To what extent are African countries united around South Africa, and are there any other continent's rising leaders? These topics Pravda. Ru discussed with Alexandra Arkhangel'skaya, a PhD researcher at the Institute for African Studies, the Center for Studies of the SouthAfrica.

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## **“African countries were created artificially”**



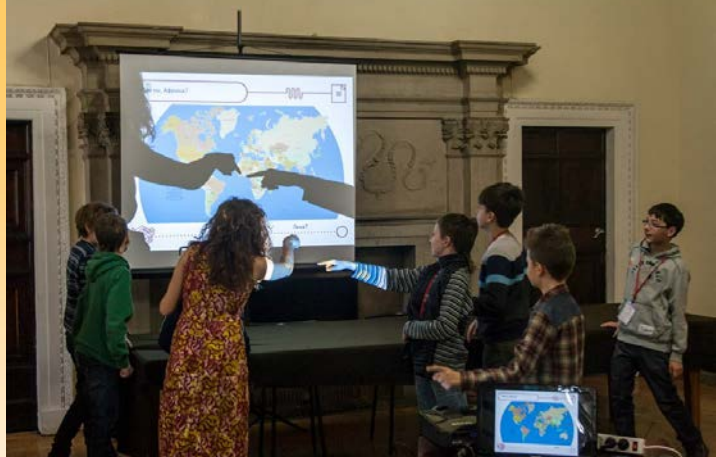
What is Africa today, who controls it and on which grounds, where does the money come from on the African continent and how is it spent? Who is working and studying there and how can people use their education? Who is involved in the «new battle for a Africa» and what are the benefits of

the African multiculturalism? PRM ([The Prime Russian Magazine](#)) talked with Dr. Dmitry Bondarenko, the historian and social anthropologist, Deputy Director of the Institute for African Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

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## **Condolences**

April 5, 2015 the Institute for African Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences sent a letter of condolences to the Embassy of Kenya in Russia in connection with the terrorist act at the University of Garissa.



## Interactive lessons for children of 10-11 years at the Institute for African Studies

On 22 and 29 March, 2015, The University for Children at the Polytechnic Museum in collaboration with the Institute for African Studies held six interactive lessons for children aged 10-11.

**Alina Lapushkina** - the Junior Research Fellow of the Institute - told the kids about what an identity is, and how it is formed. She talked to the children about the small nationalities, introducing the kids to the culture of the Avatime people. The introduction started with the game, in which each student at the University had to answer the question: "Who am I?". Children tried on the traditional Avatime clothing, learned the words and gestures needed for polite greetings, discovered local traditions and mastered the required skill of turning something into a joke. As a result, children got acquainted with the concept of "ethnic identity", became familiar with Avatime everyday life and came to the conclusion that Africa is much closer than it seemed, and that respect is a universal bridge to understanding and acceptance of other cultures. [Read more...](#)

## Professor Vladimir Shubin's trip to Namibia

Professor Vladimir Shubin stayed in Namibia during 20-25 March, 2015, at the invitation of the newly elected President Dr. Hage Geingob in connection with his inauguration and the celebration of the 25th anniversary of independence. During Prof. Shubin's stay in this country, he gave a lecture at the University of Namibia and held talks with the Secretary General of the ruling party, SWAPO, Nangolo Mbumba; Speaker of the National Assembly, Prof. Peter Katjavivi; Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah; Minister of Presidential Affairs Frans Kapofi; other government officials and veterans of the national liberation struggle.

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## Materials of the round table "BRICS and Africa: state and prospects of cooperation"

The article ["The African stage of the BRICS"](#) was published in the magazine "Muzhskaya Rabota" ("Men's Work"), # 51, 2015. The paper summarizes the views of the participants of the round table "BRICS and Africa: state and prospects of cooperation", which was held on 3 December, 2014, at the Institute for African Studies. The event was organized by the [Centre for Studies of Russian-African relations and Foreign Policy of the African countries](#) at the Institute for African Studies RAS.

## COOPERATION

1) In January 2015, the Institute for African Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences (Russia) and the [University of Stellenbosch](#) (South Africa) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation. In the document the parties have agreed on the main areas of cooperation, such as joint research, inter-institutional exchange, joint organization of conferences and other scientific events. [Read more...](#)

2) In March 2015, the Institute for African Studies signed a cooperation agreement with the [United Methodist University](#), Liberia. The agreement provides for cooperation on a wide range of issues with a view to strengthening Russian-African scientific cooperation. [Read more...](#)



## Ebola exposed global insensitivity to Africa



The recent Ebola outbreak in West Africa has exposed the global failure and insensitivity of the international community to health crisis in poor African countries, says Sam Slewion, Associate Professor and Chairman of the Social Work Department of the United Methodist University (UMU) in Liberia. Mr. Slewion said while substantive progress is being made to contain the Ebola outbreak in the three affected West African countries, Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone, the international community, especially the World Health Organization (WHO), should learn from this situation and not abandon its moral obligation when needed in such critical time as the worst Ebola outbreak since the virus was

first discovered in 1976 in Zaire, now known as the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Mr. Slewion made the assertion on Friday, April 3, when he served as a panelist at a panel organized by the Comparative Legal Students Scholars (CLSS), which is a student division of the William and Mary Law School in Williamsburg, Virginia, USA, under the theme: "Healing the Rift."

"In my line of work as a professional social worker and social justice activist, I believe that to every presenting problem, there is an underlying cause(s). Therefore, it is only fair that in order for us to heal the rift, we must first examine the factors that attributed to the rift in the first place," he intimated.

Mr. Slewion, who is also Director of the Center for Community Advancement and Family Empowerment (CECAFE) of the UMU, said the health crisis began on March 14, 2014 in Guinea, West Africa and was officially declared an Ebola outbreak on March 22, 2014 with an alarm by MSF to the international community to respond effectively before it spiral out of control, but the WHO on April 1, 2014, questioned the alarm raised by MSF and denied that there was an outbreak of Ebola in the region, adding "this was not only the beginning of institutional denial by the international community, but failure of institutions, governments and the international community and they did, with tragic and avoidable consequences," which caused the pestilence to take the lives of over 10,000 persons and infect over 25,000 persons in eight countries, including the United States and Spain.

However, he noted that this international denial which is tantamount to insensitivity continued until August and September, 2014 when WHO on August 8, at last declared the outbreak a "public health emergency of international concern," and the United States upscale its involvement in mid-September when the "virus without border" infected two Americans working for Samaritan purse in Liberia and they were evacuated to the US for medical care, manifesting that the first case of Ebola had crossed the ocean and Ebola has now become an international security threat and no longer a humanitarian crisis affecting a handful of poor West African countries.

He said while the world appreciates and embraces the recent knowledge by WHO of its failure to respond to West Africa's Ebola outbreak in a timely manner evident by the setting up of a Review Panel to examine its role in the Ebola outbreak, this action can only be comforting once the full report of the Panel is publicly disclosed, hold accountable the international community for such a colossal failure and institute measures to prevent such global failure in the future.

In conclusion, Mr. Slewion said we all have a moral obligation to ensure that globally we are prepared to respond to another international health crisis to ensure that it does not reach the magnitude of destruction that we witnessed as a result of the Ebola outbreak in the West African region. "All of us can contribute to healing the rift and you are already making your contribution manifested by the holding this public awareness event today," he quipped.

## List of books published by the Institute for African Studies in 2014:

1. Vasiliev Alexei Mikhailovich. The bibliographic index of works. On the 75th anniversary of Director of the Institute for African Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, Academician. M. 2014.
2. Abramova I.O. The new role of Africa in the global economy of the XXI century. Report on the thirteenth Conference of Africanists. Moscow, 27-30 May 2014. M., 2014.
3. Deych T.L. monograph "China" wins "Africa." M., 2014.
4. The collective monograph "The Arab crisis and its international implications. Edited by A.M. Vasilev. M., 2014.
5. Teamwork "African Studies in Russia. Works of the Institute for African Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences". Yearbook 2010-2013, M., 2014.
6. Bibliography 2013 // Proceedings of the Institute for African Studies. Reference and bibliographic. Compiled A.N. Ivanov. M. 2014.
7. Abstracts XIII International Conference of Africanists "Society and Politics in Africa: constant, changing, new". M., 27-30 May 2014.
8. V.V. Pavlov, V.V. Klishin. "The African Development Bank: methods and mechanisms of credit and lending activities and investment financing", MA, 2014.
9. Shleonskaya S.M. "United Republic of Tanzania". M., 2014.
10. Zherlitsyna N.A. The monograph "Russian-Tunisian relations 1780-1991". M., 2014.
11. Vinogradov N.V., Saghoyan L.Y. - Directory "Central African Republic". M. 2014.
12. Social, political and cultural life of African countries in the gender dimension. Coll. monograph. M. Ed. by Krylova N.L., Ph.D. Ksenofontova N.A. 2014.
13. Kostelyanets S.V. "Darfur. The history of the conflict". M., 2014.
14. South Africa. Directory. Ans. Editors: Ph.D. L.L. Fituni and D.Sc. V.G. Shubin. M., 2014.
15. Africa. Ways to modernize the economy. Coll. monograph. Ed. Ph.D. E.V. Morozenskaya. M., 2014.
16. N.Y. Ilyin and N.A. Ksenofontova. "Man and woman". Bk. 5. Portraits. Masks. Characters. Monograph. Ans. Ed. Ph.D. N.A. Ksenofontova. M., 2014.
17. Democratic Republic of Congo. Directory. Ans. Ed. J.N. Vinokourov. M., 2014.
18. Africa: the processes of social and cultural transformation. Coll. monograph. Ed. D.M. Bondarenko and E.B. Demintseva. M., 2014.
19. Africa's Changing Role in World Politics. Collection. Ed. T.L. Deych, Moscow, 2014.
20. A.J. Urnov. The foreign policy of the USSR in the years of the "Cold War" and "new thinking". Moscow, 2014.
21. Balashov G.A. Literature of Ethiopia (Amharic) reader. M.S.-S.-Pb., 2014.
22. G.V. Shubin, I.A. Zhdarkin, I.A. Barabulya, A.V. Kuznetsova-Timonova (Editors, compilers). Cuito Guanavale: Frontline Accounts by Soviet Soldiers Yacana Publisher. 2014. (Memoirs of Soviet veterans of the battle of Cuito Cuanavale. Issued in South Africa from the p.h. "Yakana").
23. A.A. Banshikova. "A pivotal era in the historical tradition and consciousness of the ancient Egyptians". M. URSS, 2014.
24. A.A. Banshikova. "Female images in the literature of ancient Egypt". Moscow: 2014 2nd edition.
25. D. Bondarenko, K. Baskin. "The Axial Ages of World History: Lessons for the 21st Century. Litchfield Park, AZ: Emergent Publication, 2014. XIII, 137 p.
26. V. I. Gusarov "Mediterranean. Unlocked ellipse". M. 2014.
27. A.A. Tokarev. Portugalistika in the USSR and Russia. M. : 2014.