

SPECIAL ISSUE ON NAMES AND THEIR USES  
TO MARK THE RETIREMENT OF GODFREY LIENHARDT

EDITORS' NOTE

This issue of *JASO* has been specially prepared to mark the retirement of Godfrey Lienhardt as Reader in Social Anthropology at the University of Oxford. Godfrey's contribution to anthropology needs no emphasis here; former students and visitors to Oxford will indeed know how much the character of anthropology at Oxford has owed to his presence.

We are particularly pleased to publish this Special Issue because Godfrey has always taken a keen interest in *JASO*, and has been over the years a source of encouragement and ideas for successive editors as well as contributors. A number of his own papers have also appeared in *JASO*, and this year we have published in our Occasional Papers series (no. 7) a collection of essays in the social anthropology of religion presented to Godfrey by some of his colleagues and former students.

The papers below derive from the most recent colloquia in an annual series convened by Godfrey at the Oxford Institute of Social Anthropology over the past five or six years to discuss matters of inter-disciplinary, anthropological and personal interest. Earlier colloquia concentrated on topics in the study of religion, while more recently they have been devoted to the subject of names and their uses. The papers to be found here thus reflect just part of the range of interests into which Godfrey has inveigled colleagues, students and others in recent years; similarly, the authors are only the latest representatives of the widely drawn 'colloquial constituency' that he created. We are grateful to John Penney, co-convenor of the last three series of colloquia, for agreeing to act as Guest Editor for this Special Issue.

We take this opportunity to offer our best wishes to Godfrey on his retirement and look forward to his continuing active participation in the affairs of the Anthropological Society of Oxford.

The Editors

### GUEST EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

In the Hilary Term of each of the last three years, Godfrey Lienhardt has organised a series of colloquia on aspects of names and the use of names. A widespread interest in such matters was first recognised in the course of conversations between Godfrey and others - not all of us anthropologists - in quite casual circumstances, and it then seemed a good idea to bring together a group of people to consider various general questions through reference to particular problems within their own area of expertise. The sessions were to consist of a short paper followed by a relatively informal discussion - whence the designation 'colloquia'.

The first series, 'Personal Names', was highly successful, so that there was a ready response to the proposal of a second series, 'Forms of Address and Reference', that followed naturally on from the subject-matter of the first. For the third series, the topic was place-names - the actual title 'Words and Places' being borrowed from a work by the Revd Isaac Taylor MA (a nineteenth-century scholar with decided views on such matters as the absurdity of naming American cities 'Memphis' and 'Thebes') that Godfrey had chanced to find in an Oxfam bookshop. A full list of the talks given in the three series appears below.

The colloquia proved popular, and among the more regular attenders the suggestion was from time to time made that the papers might be collected and preserved for a wider audience. This the editors of *JASO* have put into effect by preparing this selection as a special issue of the journal, appropriately dedicated to Godfrey, the principal convener of the three series. It is hoped that the issue will, like the reformed Bunthorne's conversation, blend amusement with instruction, to serve as a reminder of enjoyable occasions to participants in the colloquia, convey to others something of the interest and attraction of the series, and above all to pay

affectionate tribute to Godfrey as the inspiration of the whole enterprise.

The response of the participants to the editors' invitation was so great that it has unfortunately not been possible to publish all the contributions submitted - apologies on this account are due in particular to Tom Butler, Anne Coleman, Paul Meyer and Margot Stock. The issue does, however, include one paper that was not delivered at a colloquium - that by Francis Deng, which is a close pendant to Godfrey's own. One or two of the items collected here are just summaries, but they have been included as an indication of the range of the series and the issues discussed. The arrangement of the papers does not correspond to the series of colloquia, for in view of the large measure of overlap of interests and concerns, a thematic ordering has seemed more appropriate: first, African personal names, then personal names in the Mediterranean area, and finally aspects of place-names.

Contributors have been encouraged to keep their papers close to the original oral presentation, with a minimum of notes and references, in an attempt to recapture something of the flavour of the colloquia. What cannot be reproduced in print but will be well remembered by participants is the stimulating effect of Godfrey's presence and mischievous comments.

J.H.W. PENNEY

The following papers were read in the three series:

'Personal Names', Hilary Term 1986

Roger Just, 'A Shortage of Names: Greek Personal Nomenclature'.

John Penney, 'Individual Names and Family Names in Ancient Italy'.

Jon Arensen, 'Changes in Names in the Life Cycle of the Murle'.

Jackie Waldren, 'House Names as Metaphors of Social Relationships in Majorca'.

Wendy James, 'Mortal Names: The Uduk Example'.

Jeremy Coote, 'Names and Naming among the Eastern Nilotes'.

Ahmed Al-Shahi, 'Some Arab and Arabic Personal Names from Northern Sudan'.

Godfrey Lienhardt, 'Social and Cultural Implications of Some African Personal Names'.

'Forms of Address and Reference', Hilary Term 1987

Charles Stewart, 'The Role of Personal Names on Naxos, Greece'.

Tom Butler, 'Kinship Terms and Ceremonial Titles in Modern Bulgaria'.

John Penney, 'The Late Classical Origins of the Polite Plural'.

Ahmed Al-Shahi, 'Forms of Address among the Riverain Peoples of Northern Sudan'.

Tim Ferris, 'Forms of Address in Indonesia'.

Paul Meyer, 'Some American Forms of Reference and Address'.

Anne Coleman, '"Your Eminence": Some Forms of Religious Address'.

Jackie Waldren, 'Forms of Reference and Address in Majorca'.

'Words and Places', Hilary Term 1988

Peter Rivière, 'The Social Classification of Space in Amazonia'.

Jeremy Coote, 'Custom and Customers: Shop Names in West Hampstead'.

Margot Stock, 'An Indian Legacy: Names and Places in Canada and the United States'.

Anne Spokes Symonds, 'Oxford Street Names'.

Wendy James, 'The Naming of Places on African Maps'.

John Penney, 'Cities and Founders in Antiquity'.

Julian Roberts, 'Calling Each Other Names: Britons and Saxons'.

Jackie Waldren, 'Old Words and New Places in Majorca'.