

The Region & Country Studies Base of the Ministry of Education
The Cooperating Unit of China-African Universities 20+20
Cooperating Plan of the Ministry of Education
The Cooperating Unit of China-African Cooperating Research
& Communication Plan of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Center for African Studies of Shanghai Normal University

Center Summary



The leaders attending unveiling ceremony for the “ Region & Country Studies Base ”

The Center for African Studies of Shanghai Normal University was established in 1998, as an institution for African studies set up early in China.

The Center is now The Region & Country Studies Base of the Ministry of Education, the Cooperating Unit of China–African Universities 20+20 Cooperating Plan of the Ministry of Education and the Cooperating Unit of China–African Cooperating Research & Communication Plan of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Center is led by a famous African studies expert in China Shu Yunguo, and consists of 3 full-time research members, 3 appointed researchers (including 1 African scholar), 6 part-time researchers and 1 honorary professor.

The Center organizes to publish *African Economic Review*.

The Center works with respect to academic studies, talent cultivation, Africa-related policy consulting, social service and international exchange. Through exploiting the member’ s advantages of research, and integrating domestic and international African research capability, the center is dedicated to extending the scope and depth of African research and improving African subject construction; continuously publicizing Africa and Africa knowledge through teaching and promotion, expanding understanding of Africa and cultivating African research talents; through undertaking projects, writing internal references and research reports and providing consulting to expand Africa-related policy consulting and social service scope; through reinforcing of international exchange to improve self-competence and expands global influence.

Under the support of departments at some levels and Shanghai Normal University, the Center works with domestic and foreign forces of African research to make achievement and win wide recognition. With the constant development of China–Africa relationship, the Center will continue with the dedication to African academic research, African studies and Africa-related working talent cultivation and the contribution to China–Africa relationship.

Center Members

The Center is led by Shu Yunguo, a famous African studies expert in China, and consists of 3 full-time research members, 3 appointed researchers (including 1 African scholar), 6 part-time researchers and 1 honorary professor. In addition, the center has a number of cooperative researchers at home and abroad. According to the requirements and features of African studies and current China-Africa relationship development circumstances, the Center puts emphasis on matching of age and academic direction of member team, and tries to combine the domestic African researchers and international African researchers, as well as the academic researchers and Africa-related workers.



Shu Yunguo

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Serving as the Center Director, Professor and Ph.D. Supervisor of History Department in Shanghai Normal University, the Vice-Chairman of China African History Research Association, the Vice-Chairman of China Asia-Africa Society, the Vice-Chairman of Shanghai World History Society, Appointed Researcher of African Studies Center of Beijing University.

Professor Shu Yunguo has been engaged in African research work for a long time, with significant influence in the fields of African history, African population problem, African economic history and contemporary African economic development, etc., and published numerous works and thesis such as *A Research on Africa Population Growth & Economic Development*, *The Reform Failure---Elaborations on African Economic Structure Adjustment in the Sub-Saharan Africa in the End of 20th Century*, *Rudiments of African History Research*, *The African Economic History in 20th Century*, *A Study on South Africa Modernization*, etc.

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Zhang Zhongxiang



Served as the Center Vice-Director, Professor and Ph.D. Supervisor of History Department in Shanghai Normal University, the Deputy-Secretary of China African History Research Association, the Standing-Director of China African Problem Research Association, the director of China Asia-Africa Society, and mainly dealing with research on China-Africa Relationship, African history, etc., with numerous works and thesis published, including *Guide to the World States · Mali*, *A Research on the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation*, etc.



Liu Weicai

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Served as the Center Researcher, Lecturer of History Department in Shanghai Normal University, the director of China African Problem Research Association and the director of China Asia-Africa Society, and mainly dealing with research on Southern African history, African regionalization, China-Africa Relationship, etc., and published a number of thesis.

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Part Mgadla



A Motswana, Professor of History Department in University of Botswana, and mainly dealing with research on Southern African history, Botswana history, and published *Missionaries and Western Education in the Bechuanaland Protectorate 1859-1904: the Case of the Bangwato*; *Building a Nation: A History of Botswana from 1800 to 1910*; *A History of Education in the Bechuanaland Protectorate to 1965*, etc.



Gao Deyi

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Professor, Ph.D. Supervisor. Assumed Ambassador to Kingdom of Lesotho, mainly dealing with research on Southern Africa, China-Africa relationship problem.

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Tang Zhenqi

Assumed Diplomat in Libya and Ambassador to Namibia, mainly dealing with research on China-Africa Relationship.



Academic Research

The Center is dedicated to research on African history, African economy, African integration and China-Africa relationship, etc., with abundant research achievements, published some books and more than one hundred thesis, and undertook a number of projects at some levels and of some categories.

The Center publishes *Africa Economic Review*, and strives to establish it to be one of the major academic fields for African research in China, and especially in Africa economic research.



. Main Thesis in Recent Years

- 1、Shu Yunguo: Emphasizing and Reinforcing Education and Research on African History;
- 2、Shu Yunguo: China Aid to Africa: History, Thesis and Features;
- 3、Shu Yunguo: North African Chaos and African Economic Development Direction;
- 4、Shu Yunguo: African Economic Integration in 50 Years;
- 5、Zhang Zhongxiang: China-African Economic Trade Cooperation Zone: A New Growth Point of China-Africa Economic Trade Relationship;
- 6、Zhang Zhongxiang: China's Role in African Integration Process;
- 7、Zhang Zhongxiang: A Renaissance of African History Studies in 20th Century;
- 8、Liu Weicai: African Integration Organization & Conflict Settlement: Some Historic Experience of Frontline States

. Main Works

- 1、Shu Yunguo: *A Research on Africa Population Growth & Economic Development*;
- 2、Shu Yunguo: *The Reform Failure---Elaborations on African Economic Structure Adjustment in the South of Sahara in the End of 20th Century*;
- 3、Zhang Zhongxiang: *A Research on the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation*;
- 4、Shu Yunguo: *Rudiments of African History Research*;
- 5、Shu Yunguo & Liu Weicai: *The African Economic History in 20th Century*

. Main Projects

- 1、Some projects from National Social Science Fund: "A Research on South African Modernization", "A Research on the History of Pan-Africanism";
- 2、Some projects from Ministry of Education: "A Research on Africa Population Growth & Economic Development", "The China-African Economic Cooperation in New Era";
- 3、A project from Shanghai Philosophy and Social Science Funi: "A Research on Developing Countries Modernization";
- 4、A project from Shanghai Municipality Education Commission: "The African Economic History in 20th Century";
- 5、Some projects from Ministry of Foreign Affairs: "NGO Development in Africa and West-related Policy, Action and Influence", "A Research on Influence of Contemporary African Social Thoughts on China-Africa Relationship and Our Countermeasures", "Thoughts & Influence of Africa Intellectuals on China-Africa Relationship"

Talent Cultivation

Relying on History Department of Shanghai Normal University, the Center opens courses of “African Past and Present”, “A Specialized Research on African History”, “African Economic History”, “A History of China–Africa Relationship”, “A History of Africa Civilization”, “A History of Southern Africa”, “The Culture fo Negro Africa”, etc, to expand recognition of Africa, and cultivate talents on Africa research and talents for Africa–related work, which is a great response to the current circumstances of China–Africa relationship development. There have been 8 graduated doctors and over 30 masters graduated from the Center currently, and many of them have become the backbone of China’ s African education and research.

The Center enrolls and fosters master, doctor and post doctor in Africa research, who learn and research about African history, African development, African integration, China–Africa relationship and other problems. On one hand, the Center arranges and supports students for on–site visit and study in African countries, by means of national overseas study fund, “China–African Universities 20+20 Cooperating Plan” , etc; on the other hand, the Center also invited foreign scholars of Africa research for giving lectures and lessons. Through such interaction, the students in the center improved their understanding of Africa and African research, and wrote high quality graduation papers, which are of great significance for China’ s current weak African research.



Part Mgadla, Professor of History Department in University of Botswana, giving lessons in the center



Shu Yunguo and a part of students of the Center in the 2010 Expo



Center students in the Botswana National Archives



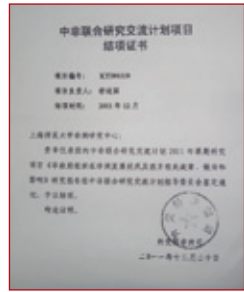
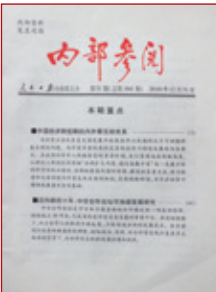
Center students in the University of Botswana

Africa - related Policy Consultation & Social Service

The Center actively contributes words and suggestions for China–Africa cooperation and local foreign affairs, by displaying its special characteristics. While writing internal reference for relevant departments, and undertaking foreign affairs projects and National Development Bank projects, the Center proposes its opinions and contributes wisdom on China’ s practical work about Africa and positive and sustainable development of China–Africa relationship, further deepening of China–Africa economic and trade cooperation, etc.,

The Center Director Professor Shu Yunguo and other center members attended significant Africa–related events of China–Africa Education Minister Forum, The Beijing Summit of the Forum on China–Africa Cooperation, China–Africa Think Tank Forum, etc., and invited by such government departments as the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, etc. to participate in delegation to Africa.

In 2010, the Shanghai World Expo was held successfully, and Professor Shu Yunguo involved in a large amount of work as the expert for communication around Africa pavilions, published articles in the media, and recorded programs, to receive positive comments and accreditation. The Center Vice–Chairman Professor Zhang Zhongxiang and the Center Researcher Liu Weicai involved in a large amount of work as well.



The internal reference of Marching towards A New Decade: Research on Sustainable Development of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation written by Zhang Zhongxiang

Jemine Memuduaghan, Nigeria trader in China, attending the academic conference held by the Center and delivering a speech

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs project NGO Development in Africa and West-related Policy, Action and Influence undertaken by the Center

Shu Yunguo and Sam Nujoma

Shu Yunguo and Robert Mugabe

Shu Yunguo’ s Honor Certificate for attending World Expo work

International Exchange

Under the circumstances of the dynamic development between China and Africa at all levels and of all categories, as well as the globalization of academic research, the Center pays great attention to global exchange, while targeting at field investigation-oriented feature of African research.

The Center organized or attended international academic meeting, assigned staff to Africa, and invited overseas African scholars to give lecture or lesson in China, to continuously expand the vision and area of academic research, and enhance understanding and recognition of researchers and students on Africa and African studies.

Main members of the Center visit Africa for many times, and students of the Center also visit and study in Africa for one month to one year, under the support by various sources from the national overseas study fund, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

At present, the Center has established exchange program with University of Botswana, Nairobi University, University of Zambia University, as well as numerous universities and research institutes in South Africa, Nigeria, Kenya, Zimbabwe, while keeping contact with African research scholars from the UK, France, the USA, etc.



“Urbanization Process & China - Africa Urban Culture International Academic Conference ” held by the Center



Professor Shu Yunguo and Professor Zhang Zhongxiang attending the Symposium of 10 Year Anniversary for Establishment of China - South Africa Diplomatic Relationship



Center students in University of Botswana Confucius School



Center members Zhang Zhongxiang (the third from the left) and Zhu Min (the second from the right) visiting Zimbabwe



A Center student attending event in China Embassy in Zambia



Fantu Cheru, Senior Researcher from the Nordic Africa Institute delivering speech on the academic conference held by the Center



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