

**AFRIQUE ET
DEVELOPPEMENT
AFRICA
DEVELOPMENT**

Vol. XXI, No. 1, 1996



AFRICA DEVELOPMENT AFRIQUE & DEVELOPPEMENT

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Le CODESRIA exprime sa gratitude à certains gouvernements africains, à l'Agence suédoise pour la Coopération en matière de recherches avec les pays en voie de développement (SAREC), le Centre de recherches pour le développement international (CRDI), la Fondation Rockefeller, la Fondation Ford et DANIDA.

Typeset and Printed by CODESRIA
Cover designed by Aïssa Djonne

AFRICA DEVELOPMENT AFRIQUE & DEVELOPPEMENT

A Quarterly Journal of the Council for the
Development of Social Science Research in Africa

Revue trimestrielle du Conseil pour le développement de la
recherche en sciences sociales en Afrique

Editor / Rédacteur en Chef
Tade Akin Aina

Vol. XXI, No. 1, 1996

Africa Development is the quarterly bilingual journal of CODESRIA. It is a social science journal whose major focus is on issues which are central to the development of society. Its principal objective is to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas among African scholars from a variety of intellectual persuasions and various disciplines. The journal also encourages other contributors working on Africa or those undertaking comparative analysis of Third World issues.

Africa Development welcomes contributions which cut across disciplinary boundaries. Articles with a narrow focus and incomprehensible to people outside their discipline are unlikely to be accepted.

The journal is abstracted in the following indexes: *International African Bibliography*; *Documentatieblad*; *Abstracts on Rural Development in the Tropics*; *Documentationselienst Africa*; *A Current Bibliography on African Affairs*

Afrique et Développement est un périodique trimestriel bilingue du CODESRIA. C'est une revue de sciences sociales consacrée pour l'essentiel aux problèmes de développement et de société. Son objectif fondamental est de créer un forum pour des échanges d'idées entre intellectuels africains de convictions et de disciplines diverses. Il est également ouvert aux autres chercheurs travaillant sur l'Afrique et à ceux se consacrant à des études comparatives sur le tiers monde.

Afrique et Développement souhaite recevoir des articles mobilisant les acquis de différentes disciplines. Des articles trop spécialisés ou incompréhensibles aux personnes qui sont en dehors de la discipline ne seront probablement pas acceptés.

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ISSN 0850 3907

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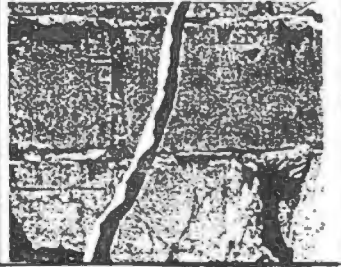
ISSN 0850 3907

VIENT DE PARAÎTRE SÉRIE DE LIVRES DU CODESRIA

PROCESSUS DE DÉMOCRATISATION EN AFRIQUE

PROBLÈMES ET PERSPECTIVES

Sous la direction de
Eshetu Chole et Jibrin Ibrahim



Réfléchir sur le processus de démocratisation, c'est d'abord essayer d'aller au-delà de l'effet de mode pour s'interroger sur la manière dont l'Afrique poursuit son expérience d'autodétermination face aux défis de l'histoire. C'est ensuite, transcender le mythe passionnant qui fait vibrer l'imaginaire social africain d'un espoir nouveau. C'est enfin, rechercher les permanences et les ruptures afin de comprendre en quoi l'Afrique d'aujourd'hui, dans sa construction, diffère de celle d'hier ou lui ressemble. Dans l'effervescence politique en cours, certains pouvoirs ont été «marginalisés», d'autres résistent ou essaient de se réadapter aux nouvelles exigences. Les langues se délient, les

organes de presse se multiplient. Tout cela, en surface, donne une impression de mouvement. Est-ce pour autant que les choses changent en profondeur?

L'Afrique subsaharienne francophone n'aurait-elle pas mal enclenché son processus de démocratisation? Telles sont certaines des questions auxquelles tente de répondre l'auteur de ce livre préfacé par Amady Aly Dieng.

L'auteur, **Francis Akindès**, est sociologue. Docteur de l'Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales (Paris). Maître-assistant à l'Université nationale de Côte d'Ivoire, Centre universitaire de Bouaké et chercheur associé à l'ORSTOM UR52 GPMSA, il est également membre de GIDIS-CI (Groupement interdisciplinaire en sciences sociales, Côte d'Ivoire) et de plusieurs autres réseaux de recherche. Il prépare actuellement un ouvrage sur la transformation des sociétés africaines sous les contraintes de la globalisation.

ISBN ISBN: 2-86978-068-0

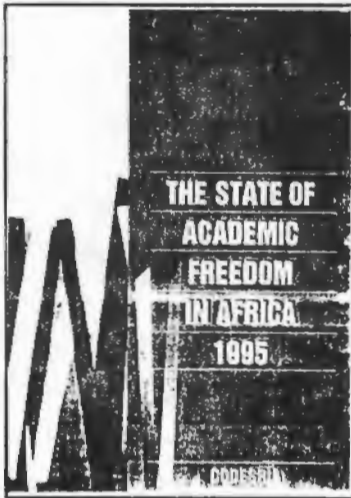
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Thandika Mkandawire is the Executive Secretary of the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa, Dakar, Senegal. His recent publications include *Africa's Recovery in the 1990s: From Stagnation and Adjustment to Human Development* (co-edited with G. A. Cornia and R. Van der Hoeven, 1992 UNICEF).

Adebayo O. Olukoshi is Associate Research Professor at the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs, Lagos, Nigeria. He is graduated from Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria, and Leeds University, England. He has published extensively on Nigeria's contemporary political economy. His most recent publication is a book he co-edited on *Structural Adjustment in West Africa*.

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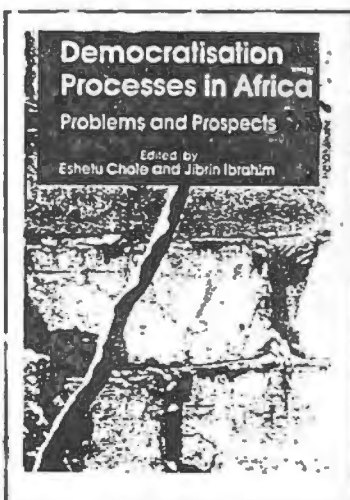
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Some of the authors of this book have been closely associated with CODESRIA's activities and have largely contributed to developing and consolidating its scientific credibility. Unchallenged and outstanding masters of different theoretical domains, they have played a primary role in the promotion of a space for a creative and original reflection. Their common

aspiration is to develop strength, imagination and inspiration which enables them to speak differently of Africa, while using different perspectives and languages. This approach has led them to soberly address the most complex issues relative to the current democratisation process in Africa, using very sound theoretical references. They monitor, identify and name the logic and dynamics of the current changes.

They also dissect the foundations of democratic discourses to determine their structuring. Finally, they call on us to take due cognisance of the severe social and historical constraints, as well as to the African potentialities.

This book is a valuable contribution to our understanding of developments occurring in the African continent as we approach the end of the twentieth century.

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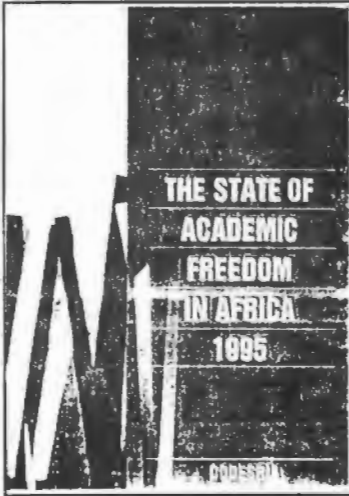
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