

Tejumola Olaniyan Reading Group Monthly Activity Report 2022-2023

This document contains a cumulative report for all the monthly activities that we have had in reading group in 2022-2023. The break down is below.

Dates and times we have met:

1. 24th September, 2022, 12:30pm (Central Time)
2. October 29th, 2022, 12:30pm
3. 26th November, 2022, 10am (Central Time)
4. 20th, 21st, and 22nd December (special meetings)
5. 25th February, 12:30pm (Central Time)

Activities during meetings:

September 24th, 2022 - This was our first meeting for the year. It was also a special meeting because we invited Professor Moradewun Adejunmobi for a workshop on academic professionalization. The reading group's mentor, Professor Carli Coetzee, was in attendance. In the meeting, Professor Adejunmobi discussed key information needed when applying for predoctoral and postdoctoral fellowships, and applying for tenure track positions. The meeting lasted for about two hours.

October 29th, 2022 - In this meeting we read and discussed three essays, two by Professor Tejumola Olaniyan, and one by Professor Pius Adesanmi. The three essays were all part of a forum published by the Cambridge Journal of Postcolonial Inquiry. The title of the essays by Professor Tejumola Olaniyan are: "African Literature in the Post-Global Age: Provocations on Field Commonsense" and "Africa, Post-Global: A Reaffirmation". The title of the essay by Professor Pius Adesanmi is: "From Post-Global to Post-Truth: African Literature beyond Commonsense"

November 26th, 2022 - This meeting is part of our invited guest series, and we hosted on this Professor Naminata Diabate who spoke to us about her book, *Naked Agency*. It was also our public event, therefore several members of the public were able to join the meeting. Michael Oshindoro, TORG member, facilitated the meeting. We engaged questions relating to the methods, arguments and the cultural productions analyzed in the book. Members of the audience, that is, non-TORG members, also asked questions and engaged with the author. After the public meeting, members of the TORG also had a closed session with Professor Diabate where we asked further questions about developing critical arguments and ideas to advance our own research. Professor Carli Coetzee attended this meeting. The meeting lasted for about 3hrs altogether.

December 20th, 21st, and 22nd - Our meetings in December was different than our usual meeting. In December, we decided to dedicate time to develop ideas and documents for a Summer Residential Writing Program that we had been discussing as a group. Because of the specificity of the task, we asked for volunteers who will meet daily to work on a document for the program. The six people who worked on the documents are: Ayodeji Adegbite, Chijioke Onah, Michael Oshindoro, Theophilus Okunlola, and Tolulope Akinwale. Utitofon Inyang helped in editing the document after it was developed by the initial five people. The volunteers worked for an average of 1hr 30mins for three days in December.

February 25th, 2023 - The meeting on this date was a conversation with Professor Saheed Aderinto on his book, *Animality and Colonial Subjecthood in Africa*. It was a public event where we invited members of the public to join. It was facilitated by Ayodeji Adegbite, a member of the reading group. We raised questions relating to the book, the process of sourcing for the data, the writing process and methodological approaches, and the implication of these questions for young scholars. Members of the TORG had a closed session with Professor Aderinto where we asked about both scholarly work and development of ideas, and how scholars can be more effective administrative.

Attendance:

September 24th, 2022 - 9 members of the reading group were present during this meeting

October 29th, 2022 - 9 members of the group were present in this meeting

November 26th, 2022 - A total of 26 people attended, 9 members from the reading group and 17 others from the general public

December 20th, 21st, and 22nd - 5 volunteer members of the group met during this period

February 25th, 2023 - A total of 39 people attended, 10 from the reading group and 29 from the general public.

Upcoming programs

African Literature Association Conference 2023 - We have two panels in the forthcoming ALA conference between May 24-27. The conference panel is titled, Movement and Accents I and II.

Our monthly programs will still continue in March and April.

