



LAGOS NOTES
&
RECORDS

Journal of the Humanities

Vol. VIII, February, 1999

FACULTY OF ARTS
UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS.

LAGOS NOTES AND RECORDS:
Journal of the Humanities

EDITED BY

EMMANUEL KWOFIE
A.E. ERUVBETINE

EDITORIAL BOARD

The Editorial Board is made up of members of the Publications Committee of the Faculty of Arts comprising the Dean (or his nominee) as Chairman; the Editor; one representative of each of the Departments of African and Asian Studies, Creative Arts, European Languages, English, History, and Philosophy; and four representatives of the Faculty Board.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Lagos Notes and Records is an inter-disciplinary journal of the humanities. It is devoted to the publication of well researched articles in all the subjects in the Arts, Social Sciences, and Law. In addition to original articles, the journal publishes review articles, brief accounts of work in progress, notes and comments on issues arising out of recent publications.

It is published annually. Subscription rates are as indicated in the leaflet inserted. Subscription orders should be addressed to the Editor, c/o Dean's Office, Faculty of Arts, University of Lagos, Lagos, Nigeria.

**LAGOS NOTES
&
RECORDS:**

Journal of the Humanities

Vol. VIII, February, 1999

Edited by

Emmanuel Kwofie
A. E. Eruvbetine

Published by

FACULTY OF ARTS
UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS

FUNDED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS
THROUGH SENATE PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

© 1999 Faculty of Arts, University of Lagos

Nken Anyek
27-1-20

**Funded by The University of Lagos
Through The Senate Publications Committee
under The University of Lagos Book Policy**

© 1999 Faculty of Arts, University of Lagos

ISSN: 0075-7640

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means (including electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise) without the prior written permission of the Faculty of Arts, University of Lagos.

**Printed in Nigeria by
Murtab Press, Lagos.**

CONTENTS

1. Glimpses of the Humorous in T.M. Aluko's Short Stories
- *E. A. Babalola* 1-23
2. Gender in African Literature: The Politics of Exclusion and
Inclusion - *T.A. Ezeigbo* 24-43
3. Towards a New Belief System: an Analysis of Selected
Short Stories of Alice Walker - *K. King-Aribisala* 44-66
4. The Ritual Person as a Hero in J.P. Clark's *Ozidi* - *Hope
Eghagha* 67-82
5. D.H. Lawrence's Conception of the Unconscious -
A.E. Eruvbetine 83-96
6. Véhi-Ciosane: Sembène Ousmane's New Vision of a New
Social Order - *Louis Obielo-Okpala* 97-110
7. Nature in the Style of Eugene Fromentin - *Debe Osaji*
111-123
8. Nigeria's Quest for Scientific and Technological
Development: an Essay in Retrieval - *D.I.O. Anele*
124-148
9. Bridging the Gulf between Social Studies and the other
Social Sciences - *J.O. Shopeju* 149-159
10. The Nature and Forms of Socio-Political Administration of
West Niger Igbo Communities before 1900 - *J.G. Nkem
Onyekpe* 160-186

11. The Importance of Mining to Nigeria's Economy in Colonial Times - *E.K. Faluyi* 187-211
12. Southern Cameroon's Financial Contribution to British Second World War Efforts - *A.A. Lawal* 212-240
13. Towards a Molecular Orthography in Igbo Concept Representation - *A. Uba-Mgbemena* 241-259
14. Developments in Generative Grammar and their Applications to the Study of Language in Nigeria- *Charles Ogbulogo* 260-280
15. Language Change: Glimpses from the Phonology of Overseas French - *Emmanuel N. Kwofie* 281-301
16. The Discourse Structure of the Cartoon Text - *M.M. Alimi & B.I. Kassal* 302-327

LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

1. **M. M. Alimi** is a Lecturer in the General Studies Unit of the University of Agriculture, Abeokuta.
2. **Dr. D. I. Anele** is a Lecturer in the Department of Philosophy, University of Lagos.
3. **Dr. E. A. Babalola** is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of English, University of Lagos.
4. **Dr. Hope Eghagha** is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of English, University of Lagos.
5. **Prof. A. E. Eruvbetine** is in the Department of English, University of Lagos.
6. **Dr. T. A. Ezeigbo** is an Associate Professor in the Department of English, University of Lagos.
7. **Dr. E. K. Faluyi** is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of History, University of Lagos.
8. **B. I. Kassal** is a Lecturer in the General Studies Unit of the University of Agriculture, Abeokuta.
9. **Dr. K King-Aribisala** is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of English, University of Lagos.
10. **Prof. Emmanuel N. Kwofie** is in the Department of European Languages, University of Lagos.
11. **Dr. Adebayo Lawal** is an Associate Professor in the

Department of History, University of Lagos.

12. **Louis Obielo-Okpala** is a Lecturer in the Department of European Languages, University of Lagos.
13. **Dr. C.U. Ogbulogo** is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of African and Asian Studies, University of Lagos.
14. **Dr. J.G.N. Onyekpe** is a Lecturer in the Department of History, University of Lagos.
15. **Dr. Debe Osaji** is an Associate Professor in the Department of European Languages, University of Lagos.
16. **J. O. Shopeju** is a Lecturer in the General Studies Unit, University of Agriculture, Abeokuta.
17. **A. Uba-Mgbemena** is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of African and Asian Studies, University of Lagos.

Glimpses of the Humorous in T.M. Aluko's Short Stories

E. A. Babalola

Abstract

T.M. Aluko's short stories mark his entry into the literary world. Most of these narratives were published in the late nineteenth-forties. However, a critical analysis and appreciation of Aluko's writing at this level has not been done. The present essay lays emphasis on satiric humour in these tales about Yoruba city life which Aluko understands clearly as a product of European "civilisation" in Nigeria since the colonial era.

Aluko's short stories are not available in a single volume or anthology. We do not know the exact number of these works, and the author himself seems not to think much about them. For him, they are stories he wrote a long time ago and his movements from place to place have led to the loss of many. Some of the stories broadcast on the B.B.C. radio and others published in *The West African Review*, in the late 1940s, will be examined here.¹

It is understandable if Aluko has been discriminated against by the editor of an anthology of African short stories.² But the criteria Charles Larson used for his selection of publishable materials are not well defined. Needless to say, in spite of all the prejudices against Aluko, he deserves to be described as the father of Nigerian prose writing in English as another critic has justly observed:

Aluko was contributing short stories to the *West*

