

Archival Collection
ISLAM IN AFRICA
Department of Islamic Studies
University of Bayreuth

Since 1984, the Department of Islamic Studies at the University of Bayreuth is collecting material on African Islamic societies. These materials - newspaper cuts, journals, pamphlets, books published in Africa, theses written at African universities, research papers, tape recordings, slides, and all kind of "grey" literature have been organized to form what has become the "Materialsammlung Islam in Africa".

The archival collection "Islam in Africa" is open to scientific research and provides visiting scholars with different services (computerized data access, copying facilities and others). The collection concentrates on African Islamic societies in the colonial and postcolonial periods as well as the present. Regional emphasis is put on the countries of the Maghrib, Egypt, the Sahara, Westafrica, the Sudan and the East African Coast. All material is organized according to present-day African political structures, i.e. alphabetically from Algeria to Zimbabwe. Thematically, the archive contains material on topics such as religious practice, Islam and family, Islamic law, Sufism, Islamic education, Islamic organizations and movements, politics and society, history, economy, Islam and other religions, culture and biographies of eminent Muslim personalities.

The archival collection is affiliated with the Department of Islamic Studies at the University of Bayreuth and the Institute of African Studies (IAS) at the same University. It was also affiliated with Research Group C4 within the Humanities Collaborative Research Center SFB/FK 560 "Local Agency in Africa in the Context of Global Influences" (ceased in 2007).

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