

## **Introduction to the Study of Forced Migration**

**University of Witwatersrand  
Forced Migration Studies Programme**

**Prof. Rodreck Mupedziswa  
Ongoing  
South Africa**

### **Course Description:**

The aim of the course is to introduce students to the major issues associated with contemporary experiences of forced migration. These include the legal, political, economic, social and cultural consequences of forced migration, which find statement on international, national and local level of society. After sketching a concise appreciation of the national and international institutional frameworks that typically develop around situations of human displacement, the bulk of the course examines forced migration from the perspectives of the affected migrants themselves. In an attempt to develop an appreciation of regional dynamics, case studies are drawn mainly — though not exclusively — from Africa.

At the end of the course, students are expected to have achieved the following:

- A critical appreciation of the conceptual approaches and theoretical models that have been used to make sense of forced migration;
- A comprehensive understanding of the wide-ranging set of consequences of forced migration;
- A good overview of documented case material on forced migration and the nature of the responses that these situations have elicited;
- A strong sense of the potentials and ethical limitations of working in this section of the ‘development industry’ in a professional capacity, outside of a university environment.

### **Syllabus:**

#### ***Part 1: Forced Migration: Conceptual and Theoretical Overview***

##### **Seminar 1: Evolution of Forced Migration as a Global Crisis**

Definition of a refugee/forced migrant, Distinction between voluntary and forced migration. Nature and types of forced migration. Development of the international refugee regime. Causes of displacement. Policies on refugees (national, regional and international issues). Bureaucratisation and professionalisation of protection and assistance in forced migration.

Cernea, M. (1991) 'Involuntary Resettlement: Social Research, Policy and Planning' in M. Cernea (ed.) *Putting People First: Sociological Variables in Rural Development* (2nd edition), Washington DC, Oxford University Press for the World Bank.

Crisp, J. (2000) 'Africa's Refugees: Patterns Problems and Policy Challenges' *Journal of Contemporary African Studies*, 18, 2, pp. 157–178.

De Wet, C.J. (2000) 'Can Everybody Win? Economic Development and Population Displacement' unpublished paper presented at a workshop on 'Involuntary Resettlement: Risks, Reconstruction and Development', Rio de Janeiro, 1–3 August 2000.

Harrell-Bond, B. (1996) 'The Evolution of Solutions: A History of Refugee Policy' *Oxford International Review*, 3, pp. 2–9.

Malkki, L. (1995) 'Refugees and Exile: From 'Refugee Studies' to the National Order of Things' *Annual Review of Anthropology*, 24, pp.495–523.

McNamara, D. & G. Goodwin-Gill (1999) 'UNHCR and International Refugee Protection' RSP Working Paper No. 2, Refugee Studies Programme, University of Oxford.

Mupedziswa, R (2001) 'Africa's refugee crisis' in Rwomire, A (ed).

*Social Problems in Africa*; London: Praeger.

In addition, students are expected to begin familiarising themselves with the important international instruments and policy guidelines, including:

- United Nations 1951 Convention and 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees
- United Nations 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- Organisation of African Unity 1969 Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa
- World Bank 1990 Operational Directive 4.30: Involuntary Resettlement

## **Seminar 2: Space, Place and Displacement**

An overview of global migrations. International migration. Migration-asylum nexus. Trans-nationalism and mobility. Castells concept: 'from a space of places to a space of flows'. Faist's concept of 'container' society. Demand for labour, smuggling, trafficking in humans. Psycho-social effects of displacement.

Bhabha, H. (1994) *The Location of Culture*, London, Routledge.

Castells, M (1996) *The rise of the network society*. Oxford: Blackwells.

Foucault, M (1986) 'Space, Power and Knowledge' in P. Rabinow (ed.) *The Foucault Reader*, London, Penguin Books.

Gupta, A. and J. Ferguson (1999) (eds.) *Culture, Power, Place: Explorations in Critical Anthropology*, Durham, Duke University Press.

Moore, D.S. (1998) 'Subaltern Struggles and the Politics of Place: Remapping Resistance in Zimbabwe's Eastern Highlands' *Cultural Anthropology*, 13, 3, pp. 344–381.

Olwig, K.F. and K. Hastrup (eds.) *Siting Culture: The Shifting Anthropological Object*, London, Routledge.

Pels, P. (1997) 'The Anthropology of Colonialism: Culture, History and the Emergence of Western Governmentality' *Annual Review of Anthropology*, 26, pp. 163–183.

Streicker, J. (1997) 'Spatial Reconfigurations, Imagined Geographies and Social Conflicts Cartagena, Colombia' *Cultural Anthropology*, 12, 1, pp. 109–128.

## **Part 2: Research in Contexts of Forced Migration**

### **Seminar 3: Fieldwork Challenges**

Methodological challenges in fieldwork. Formulating the research problem, questions and research strategy. Inductive and deductive approaches. Ethics and constraints in fieldwork.

Participant observation, case studies, life histories, sample surveys, interviews etc. Other critical issues in fieldwork.

Bulmer, M and Warwick DP (1983) *Social research in developing countries*. London: John Wiley.

Devereux, S and Hoddinott J (1992) *Fieldwork in developing countries*. New York: Harvester/Wheatsheaf.

Frankfort-Nachmias C and Nachmias D (1996) *Research Methods in the social sciences*. (Fifth Edition) London: Arnold Press.

Gupta, A. and J. Ferguson (1997) (eds.) *Anthropological Locations: Boundaries and Grounds of Field Science*, Berkeley and Los Angeles, University of California Press.

Harrell-Bond, B.E. and E. Voutira (1992) 'Anthropology and the Study of Refugees' *Anthropology Today*, 8, 4, pp. 6–10.

Nordstrom, C. and A. Robben (eds.) (1995) *Fieldwork Under Fire: Contemporary Studies of Violence and Survival*, Berkeley, University of California Press.

Uwe - Flick (1998) *An introduction to qualitative research*. London: Sage.

Waldron, S. (1988) 'Working in the Dark: Why Social Anthropological Research is Essential in Refugee Administration' *Journal of Refugee Studies*, 1, 2.

Wilson, K. (1993) 'Thinking about the Ethics of Fieldwork' in S. Devereux and J. Hoddinott (eds.) *Fieldwork in Developing Countries*, Boulder, Lynne Rienner Publishers.

### **Seminar 4: Practical Research Design in Contexts of Forced Migration**

The research process. Main considerations in research design. Practical exercises.

It will be assumed that students have a strong background understanding in research design and the analysis of data. However useful references would include:

King, Gary, Robert O. Keohane, and Sidney Verba, 1994. *Designing social inquiry: scientific inference in qualitative research*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Watts Essay (<http://globetrotter.berkeley.edu/DissPropWorkshop/process/>).

**Part 3: Causes and Consequences of Forced Migration****Seminar 5: Borders, Boundaries and Belonging**

Conceptualising the state, nation-state formation, conflict and state collapse; challenges in defining ethnicity and citizenship. Ethnicity, nationalism and conflict. Internal wars (diamonds, arms deals, oil, etc). Case studies from Africa and Europe.

Ballbar, Etienne, 1996 'Is European Citizenship Possible?' *Public Culture* 8: 355–376.

Bayart, Jean-Francois 1993. *The state in Africa: the politics of the belly*. Translated by M. Harper and C Harrison. London: Longman.

Berdahl, D. (1999) *Where the World Ended: Re-Unification and Identity in the German Borderland*, Berkeley, University of California Press.

Cohen, A.P. (2000) (ed.) *Signifying Identities: Anthropological Perspectives on Boundaries and Contested Values*, London, Routledge.

Lovell, N. (1998) (ed.) *Locality and Belonging*, London, Routledge.

Wilson, T.M. & H. Donnan (1998) (eds.) *Border Identities: Nation and State at International Frontiers*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

**Seminar 6: War, Violence and Social Transformation**

The political economy of war and violence. Insight into causes of flight and the challenges of resolving conflict. Flight, settlement and adjustment. Military intervention for humanitarian purposes: peacemaking and peacekeeping.

Allen, T. (ed.) (1996) *In Search of Cool Ground: War, Flight and Homecoming in North East Africa*, London, James Currey.

Deng, Francis M, and William I Zartman 1991 'Conflict resolution in Africa' Washington DC: The Brookings Institution.

Green, I. (1994) 'Fear as a Way of Life' *Cultural Anthropology*, 9, 2, pp. 227–256.

Hastrup, K. (1993) 'Hunger and the Hardness of Facts' *Man*, 28, pp. 727–739.

Macrae, J. and A. Zwi (eds.) (1994) *War and Hunger: Rethinking International Responses to Complex Emergencies*, London and New Jersey, Zed Books (in association with Save the Children Fund, UK).

Mushanga T (2001) Social and political aspects of violence in Africa, in Rwomire a (ed) *Social problems in Africa: new vision*, London: Praeger. pp 157–172.

Nagengast, C. (1994) 'Violence, Terror and the Crisis of the State' *Annual Review of Anthropology*, 23, pp. 109–136.

Reno, William (1997) 'War, markets, and the reconfiguration of West Africa's weak states' *Comparative politics* 29: 493–510.

Richards, P. (1992) 'Famine (and War) in Africa: What do Anthropologists have to Say?' *Anthropology Today*, 8, 6, pp. 3–5.

Wilson, R.A. (ed.) (1996) *Human Rights, Culture and Context — Anthropological Perspectives*, London, Pluto Press.

### **Seminar 7: Renegotiations of National and Ethnic Identities**

The concept of national identity. Ethnic identity. Ethnic ‘cleansing’. Migration and identity. Transnationalism. Xenophobia and other challenges.

Fox, R. (ed.) (1991) *Nationalist Ideologies and the Production of National Cultures*, Washington, American Anthropological Association.

Malkki, L.H. (1995) *Purity and Exile: Violence, Memory and National Cosmology among Hutu Refugees in Tanzania*, Chicago, University of Chicago Press.

Mamdani, Mahmood (c2001); *When victims become killers: colonialism, nativism, and the genocide in Rwanda*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Shami, S. (1995) ‘Transnationalism and Refugee Studies: Rethinking Forced Migration and Identity in the Middle East’ *Journal of Refugee Studies*, 9 (1).

Weber, Max, ‘The Origins of ethnic groups.

### **Seminar 8: Development-Induced Displacement and Resettlement**

The concept and economics of development-induced displacement and resettlement (DIDR). Impoverishment risks, etc. Large dams, national parks, and other causes of displacement. Social and environmental assessments. Resettlement models; voluntary and involuntary resettlement. Land question and resettlement, with particular reference to Africa.

Cernea, M. (1996a) ‘Eight Main Risks: Impoverishment and Social Justice in Resettlement’ World Bank, Environment Department.

Cernea, M. (1996b) ‘Bridging the Research Divide: Studying Refugees and Development Oustees’ in T. Allen (ed.) *In Search of Cool Ground: War, Flight and Homecoming in Northeast Africa*, Geneva, UNRISD.

Cernea, M.M. and S.E. Guggenheim (eds.) (1993) *Anthropological Approaches to Resettlement: Policy, Practice, and Theory*, Boulder, Westview Press.

Colson, E. (1971) *The Social Consequences of Resettlement: The Impact of Kariba Resettlement upon the Gwembe Tonga*, Manchester, Manchester University Press for the Institute of African Studies, University of Zambia.

Dreze, J., M. Samson & S. Singh (1997) *The Dam and the Nation: Displacement and Resettlement in the Narmada Valley*, Oxford University Press, Delhi.

Fahim, H. (1983) *Egyptian Nubians: Resettlement and Years of Coping*, Salt Lake City, University of Utah Press.

Fernea, E.M. and R.A. Fernea (1991) *Nubian Ethnographies*, Prospect Heights Illinois, Waveland Press.

Horowitz, M. (1991) *Victims Upstream and Down*, *Journal of Refugee Studies*, 4, 2, pp. 164–181.

McDowell, C. (ed.) (1996) *Understanding Impoverishment: The Consequences of Development-Induced Displacement*, Oxford, Berghahn.

Scudder, T. (1993) 'Development Induced Relocation and Refugee Studies: 37 Years of Change and Continuity among Zambia's Gwembe Tonga' *Journal of Refugee Studies*, 6, 2, pp. 123–152.

Scudder T. and E. Colson (1982) 'From Welfare to Development: A Conceptual Framework for the Analysis of Dislocated People' in A. Hansen and A. Oliver-Smith (eds) *Involuntary Migration and Resettlement*, Boulder, Westview Press.

### **Seminar 9: Ecological Causes and Consequences of Forced Migration**

Human-induced and natural disasters. Environmental change as a cause of forced migration. Environmental change as a consequence of forced migration.

Adisa, J. (1996) 'Rwandan Refugees and Environmental Strategy in the Great Lakes Region: A Report on the Habitat/UNEP Plan of Action' *Journal of Refugee Studies*, 9, 3, pp. 226–234.

Babu, S.C. (1995) 'International Migration and Environmental Degradation: The Case of Mozambican Refugees and Forest Resources in Malawi' *Journal of Environmental Management*, 43, pp. 233–247.

Black, R. (1994) 'Forced Migration and Environmental Change: The Impact of refugees on Host Environments' *Journal of Environmental Management*, 42.

Black, R. (1998) *Refugees, Environment and Development*, London, Longman.

Black, R. & M.F. Sessay (1997) 'From Forest Island to Agricultural Frontier? Forced Migration and Land-Use Change in the Forest Region of Guinea' *African Affairs*, 96, pp. 587–605.

Black, R. & M.F. Sessay (1997) 'Refugees, Land Use and Environmental Change in the Senegal River valley' *Geojournal*, 41, 1, pp. 55–67.

Findlay, S. (1994) 'Does Drought Increase Migration? A Study of Migration from Rural Mali during the 1983–1985 Drought' *International Migration Review*, 28, 3, pp. 539–553.

Jacobsen, K. (1997) 'Refugees' Environmental Impact: The Effect of Patterns of Settlement' *Journal of Refugee Studies*, 10, 1, pp. 19–36.

Kibreab, G. (1996) *People on the Edge in the Horn: Displacement, Land Use and the Environment in the Gedaref Region, Sudan*, James Currey, London.

Kibreab, G. (1997) 'Environmental Causes and the Impact of Refugee Movement: A Critique of the Current Debate' *Disasters*, 21, 1,

Leach, M. & R. Mearns (eds.) (1996) *The Lie of the Land: Challenging Conventional Wisdom on the African Environment*, London, James Currey Publishers and Heinemann.

Myers, N. (1993) 'Environmental Refugees in a Globally Warmed World' *Bioscience*, 43, pp. 752–761.

Ramlogan, R. (1996) 'Environmental Refugees: An Overview' *Environmental Conservation*, 23, 1, pp. 81–88.

Westing, A. (1992) 'Environmental Refugees: A Growing Category of Displaced Persons' *Environmental Conservation*, 19, pp. 201–207.

### **Seminar 10: Diversity and Difference in the Refugee Experience**

Reconfigurations of gender relationships. Working with vulnerable refugee groups: unaccompanied minors, people with disabilities, elderly people, unaccompanied women. Gender and gender relations.

Indra, D. (1999) *Engendering Forced Migration: Theory and Practice*, Oxford, Berghahn.

Martin, S. (1993) *Refugee Women*, London, Zed Books.

Mupedziswa, R. (1993) *Uprooted: refugees and social work in Africa*. Harare: JSDA.

### **Part 4: Forced Migration: Temporary and 'Durable' Solutions**

#### **Seminar 11: Humanitarian Aid to Refugees**

Nature and sources of humanitarian aid. International humanitarian action as an industry. Emergency and non-emergency aid. The challenges of providing relief in crisis conditions; effects of aid in host countries. Working with vulnerable refugee groups. The concept of refugee participation.

Chimni, B.S. (2000) 'Globalisation, Humanitarianism and the Erosion of Refugee Protection', RSC Working Paper No. 3, Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford.

Harrell-Bond, B.E. (1986) *Imposing Aid: Emergency Assistance to Refugees*, Oxford, Oxford University Press.

Hussein, K. (1995) 'The Nutrition Crises among Mozambican Refugees in Malawi: An Analysis of the Response of International Agencies' *Journal of Refugee Studies*, 8 (1).

Malkki, L. (1997) 'Speechless Emissaries: Refugees, Humanitarianism and dehistoricization' in Olwig, K.F. and K. Hastrup (eds) *Siting Culture: The Shifting Anthropological Object*, London, Routledge.

Keen, D. and K. Wilson (1994) 'Engaging with Violence: A Reassessment of Relief in Wartime' in J. Macrae and A. Zwi (eds) *War and Hunger: Rethinking International Responses to Complex Emergencies*, London and New Jersey, Zed Books (in association with Save the Children Fund, UK).

Rodgers, G. (1996) 'Place to Suffer': An Anthropological Study of Aid to Mozambican Refugees in a South African Settlement, unpublished MA dissertation, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg.

#### **Seminar 12: Institutional Roles and Responsibilities**

Institutions involved in forced migration: intra- and inter- governmental agencies, NGOs, informal institutions. The role of institutions in defining and controlling forced migrants. Asylum and management of emergencies. Refugee camps and settlements as social institutions. Working with spontaneously settled forced migrants.

Cohen, R. and F.M. Deng (1998) *Masses in Flight: The Global Crisis of Internal Displacement*, Washington DC, Brookings Institution Press.

Cunliffe, A. (1995) 'The Refugee Crisis: A Study of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees' *Political Studies*, XLII, pp. 278–290.

Gibney, M.J. (1999) 'Liberal Democratic States and Responsibilities to Refugees' *American Political Science Review*, 93, 1, pp. 169–181.

Milner, J. (2000) 'Sharing the Security Burden: Towards the Convergence of Refugee Protection and State Security' RSC Working Paper No. 4, Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford.

Tuitt, P. (1996) *False Images: The Law's Construction of the Refugee*, London, Pluto Press.

Voutira, E. and B.E. Harrell-Bond (1995) 'In Search of the Locus of Trust: The Social World of the Refugee Camp' in E. Valentine Daniel and John Chr. Knugsen (eds) *Mistrusting Refugees*, Berkeley and Los Angeles, University of California Press.

### **Seminar 13: Overview of 'Durable' Solutions**

Overview of UNHCR's durable solutions: local integration, resettlement in third country, voluntary repatriation. How durable are the durable solutions? Voluntary repatriation and post-war reconstruction.

Adelman, H. (1996) 'The Right of Repatriation: Canadian Refugee Policy: The Case of Rwanda' *International Migration Review*, 30, 113, pp. 289–309.

Adelman, H. and J. Sorenson (1994) *African Refugees: Development Aid and Repatriation*, Boulder CO, Westview Press.

Allen, T. (ed.) (1996) *In Search of Cool Ground: War, Flight and Homecoming in North East Africa*, London, James Currey.

Allen, T. and H. Morsink (eds.) (1994) *When Refugees go Home*, London, James Currey and Trenton, Africa World Press.

Black, R. and K. Koser (eds.) (1998) *The End of the Refugee Cycle?: Refugee Repatriation and Reconstruction*, Oxford, Berghahn.

Harrell-Bond, B.E. (1989) 'Repatriation: Under What Conditions is it the Most Desirable Solution for Refugees' *African Studies Review*, 32, 1, pp. 41–69.

Kibreab, G. (1996) 'Ready and Willing...But Still Waiting: Eritrean Refugees in the Sudan and the Dilemmas of Return', Uppsala Life and Peace Institute.

Kumar, K. (ed.) (1993) *Rebuilding Societies After Civil War: Critical Roles for International Assistance*, London, Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Pottier, J. (1996) 'Relief and Repatriation: Views by Rwandan Refugees; Lessons for Humanitarian Aid Workers' *African Affairs*, 95, pp. 403–429.

Rodgers, G. (2001) 'Structuring the Demise of a Refugee Identity: The UNHCR's Voluntary Repatriation Programme for Mozambican Refugees in South Africa' in C. De Wet and R. Fox (eds.) *Transforming Settlements in Southern Africa*, Edinburgh, Edinburgh University Press.

Steputtat, F. (1994) 'Repatriation and the Politics of Space: The Case of the Mayan Diaspora and Return Movement' *Journal of Refugee Studies*, 7 (2/3).

### **Seminar 14: Reconstructions of Livelihood**

The challenges of reconstructing livelihoods. Forced migrants as active agents in rebuilding their communities and livelihoods. The dependency syndrome debate. Survival strategies in forced migration. Working with returnees.

Bascom, J. (1998) *Losing Place: Refugee Populations and Rural Transformations in East Africa*, Oxford, Berghahn.

Cohen, R. and F.M. Deng (eds) (1998) *The Forsaken People: Case Studies of the Internally Displaced*, Washington DC, Brookings Institution Press.

De Jongh, M. (1994) 'Mozambican Refugee Resettlement: Survival Strategies of Involuntary Migrants in South Africa' *Journal of Refugee Studies*, 7, 2/3, pp. 220–238.

Hansen, A. (1990) 'Refugee Self Settlement Versus Settlement on Government Schemes: The Long-Term Consequences for Security, Integration and Economic Development of Angolan Refugees (1966–1989) in Zambia' United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, Discussion Paper 17.

Hansen, A. and A. Oliver-Smith. (1982) *Involuntary Migration and Resettlement: The problems and responses of Dislocated People*, Boulder, Westview.

McDowell, C. and M. Cernea (eds.) (2000) *Reconstructing Livelihoods — Theory and Practice: Resettlers and Refugees' Experiences*, Washington, DC, The World Bank.

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