Arms Beads &Cloth

AFRICAN CONSUMERS AND THE 19TH-CENTURY GLOBAL ECONOMY

AFRICAN CONSUMERS AND THE GLOBAL ECONOMY: A NEW HISTORY

An online Seminar Series from February to June 2025 with world-renowned experts in the field of African studies and global history

The research team of "Arms, Beads and Cloth: African Consumers and the 19th-Century Global Economy" announces the launch of a seminar series that investigates the centrality of African societies and their material practices to global processes of production, exchange and consumption.

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7 February 2025 at 4pm CET
Patrick Otim, Bates College
The History of Firearms among the Acholi of Uganda, 1850-
2000

21 February 2025 at 4pm CET
Pierre Nicolò Sofia, University of Padua
From East Africa to Venice. How African consumers shaped Venetian glass bead
production and trade in the 18th century

7 March 2025 at 4pm CET
Felix Brahm, Universität Münster
Merchandise of Power: European arms in pre- colonial and colonial Tanzania (1850
to 1919)

11 April 2025 at 4pm CET
Jeremy Prestholdt, University of California
Clothing empires: Indian Ocean Africa, Japanese cotton textiles, and colonial
capitalism

30 April 2025 at 4pm CET
Giorgio Riello, European University Institute, Florence
Africa and the Eighteenth- century Diamond- shape
Trade

9 May 2025 at 4pm CET
Jan-Bart Gewald, Leiden University
Arms and the Men: Firearms and Labour in the Context of the Diamond Fields of
South Africa 1865 – 1900

23 May 2025 at 4pm CET
Kate Frederick, Utrecht University
(Post-)colonial threads: colonial- era demand patterns and the dynamics of early
industrialization in East Africa

6 June 2025 at 4pm CET
*Anne Ruderman, London School of Economics and Political
Science*
Venetian Beads for the Atlantic Slave Trade

27 June 2025 at 2pm CET
Kazuo Kobayashi, Waseda University
An umbrella model: Indian cotton textiles in the early modern Atlantic
trade

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