

12-1-2011

Funerals in Africa: Explorations of a Social Phenomenon

Michael Jindra
University of Notre Dame, MJindra@nd.edu

Joel Noret
Laboratoire d'Anthropologie des Mondes Contemporains, jnoret@ulb.ac.be

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umass.edu/adan>

Recommended Citation

Jindra, Michael and Noret, Joel (2011) "Funerals in Africa: Explorations of a Social Phenomenon," *African Diaspora Archaeology Newsletter*: Vol. 14 : Iss. 4 , Article 33.
Available at: <https://scholarworks.umass.edu/adan/vol14/iss4/33>

This New Books is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks@UMass Amherst. It has been accepted for inclusion in African Diaspora Archaeology Newsletter by an authorized editor of ScholarWorks@UMass Amherst. For more information, please contact scholarworks@library.umass.edu.

New Book

Funerals in Africa: Explorations of a Social Phenomenon

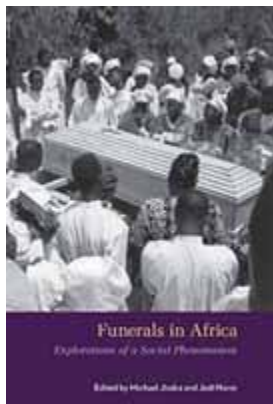
Edited by Michael Jindra and Joel Noret

With a foreword by Jan Vansina

Berghahn Books,

Paperback, 264 pp., ISBN-13: 9780857452054, 2011.

Description from the Publisher:



Across Africa, funerals and events remembering the dead have become larger and even more numerous over the years. Whereas in the West death is normally a private and family affair, in Africa funerals are often the central life cycle event, unparalleled in cost and importance, for which families harness vast amounts of resources to host lavish events for multitudes of people with ramifications well beyond the event. Though officials may try to regulate them, the popularity of these events often makes such efforts fruitless, and the elites

themselves spend tremendously on funerals. This volume brings together scholars who have conducted research on funerary events across sub-Saharan Africa. The contributions offer an in-depth understanding of the broad changes and underlying causes in African societies over the years, such as changes in religious beliefs, social structure, urbanization, and technological changes and health.