



## EDITORIAL

This issue of *Nyame Akuma* includes five research papers, three of which concern current work in Kenya. Stéfane Pradines discusses research at the Swahili coastal city of Gedi, while Veronica Wamweru, a doctoral student at the University of Connecticut, describes MSA research at Cartwright's site near Lake Naivasha in central Kenya. J. Tombolo-Kodalo of Moi University analyses the technology of core production at several previously excavated MSA sites in the central Rift and the Lake Victoria basin. In other papers, J. Ako Okoro describes an ethnoarchaeology study in northern Ghana, and his attempts to delineate the extent of the old slave market in Saakpuli. Bard and her colleagues present a summary of recent field work at Aksum.

You will notice new subscription rates for 2003; there is also a new option. Full memberships include both the *African Archaeological Review* (AAR) and *Nyame Akuma*. But there are alternate subscriptions, without the AAR. There are still reduced rates for African subscribers. An associate membership is also available for \$10 US; it does not include either publication. When Plenum/Kluwer became the publisher of the AAR, we made it the official SAfA journal. Over the last year or so, there have been some problems with receiving issues of the AAR for those who subscribe through SAfA. These problems are on the verge of being solved, but led to the decision to offer a membership with or without a AAR subscription.

At the SAfA meeting in Tucson, we heard about a new journal being published by the University of Frankfurt. It will be in A4 paper format (which the whole world seems to use, except us benighted people in North America). Its first volume will appear in the summer of 2003. The price for each volume of this *Journal of African Archaeology* will range between \$30 and \$50 US. More information can be obtained from the J. W. Goethe University Frankfurt, African Archaeology and Archaeobotany, *Journal of African Archaeology*, Grüneburgplatz 1, 60323 Frankfurt am Main, Germany, or by e-mail to [african-archaeology@em.uni-frankfurt.de](mailto:african-archaeology@em.uni-frankfurt.de). More information can be obtained from their web site <http://www.african-archaeology.de>.

We have also recently heard about *Afrique, Archéologie et Arts*, a new journal to be published yearly. Also A4 format, it plans to mix papers on

art, archaeology and history. Rather than tradition art publications, it will focus on the context of works, not just their style or iconography. It is published by the research lab UMR 7041 (Archéologies et Sciences de l'Antiquité), which includes members from the Centre National de Recherches Scientifiques (CNRS), l'Université de Paris I and l'Université de Paris X - Nanterre. The first issue is dated 2001.

African archaeology is a field where there is continuous discussion about the division between the Francophone and Anglophone world when it comes to research and publications. As a Canadian, I am familiar with this division, and support the idea that both French and English should be languages of publication in African archaeology venues. This is a minimum, as other countries might also insist on Portuguese (re Angola and Mozambique) or Arabic, for North Africa.

Every time we meet at SAfA conferences, there is concern expressed about the kind and quality of papers which appear in *Nyame Akuma*. Our bulletin started as a newsletter, then became news reports about current research; now it is becoming a place for mini-articles, even though it remains non-refereed. It is often the first place graduate students have a report published, and it remains a venue of publication for our African colleagues, who have limited resources. For some people, all of this is a good thing, and reflects the state of publications today. I can only deal with what I get submitted to the bulletin. I appreciate information about conferences, current news or other activities of interest to Africanist archaeologists, but with the list-serve and the Internet, a lot of this news is a bit stale by the time I publish it.

I would still like to remind potential contributors about requirements for papers. Please send the text by e-mail or computer disk with no hidden codes, if possible. Check your references for completeness and accuracy; it should not be my job to fix missing information. Always send me a paper copy of the text and the illustrations. I can handle some electronic graphics, but everyone has a different system, and sometimes my software cannot handle them, or convert them into usable formats. The pace of technological change is increasing rapidly and continuously. But please continue to submit papers to *Nyame Akuma*, as it is a medium for dissemination of information for our society.