

# 15<sup>th</sup> Nilo-Saharan Linguistics Colloquium

**IMPORTANT: TO TAKE PART IN THE SESSIONS YOU NEED TO HAVE A VERSION OF ZOOM THAT IS UP TO DATE. IF THAT IS NOT THE CASE, YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO JOIN SOME OF THE SESSIONS. YOU CAN UPDATE ZOOM TO THE LATEST VERSION HERE: [HTTPS://ZOOM.US/DOWNLOAD](https://zoom.us/download)**

## Welcome

Welcome to the 15th Nilo-Saharan Linguistics Colloquium (NSLC15), hosted by the research group [Nilotic@Edinburgh](mailto:Nilotic@Edinburgh) at the University of Edinburgh. ‘Hosted’ means something different for this instalment of the conference than it has meant in relation to previous runs: for the first time, the conference is happening online. Attending a live conference is a vibrant experience—we miss out on that. On the plus side, the online alternative is both more inclusive and more environmentally friendly. As organizers, we are keen to take this opportunity and make the best of it. For the participants in East Africa, we have set up hubs in four cities, through which people will be participating in-person: Addis Ababa, Khartoum, Nairobi and Juba.

In this handbook, you will find all the information you need to take part. Clicking the link in the table of contents will take you to the information you are looking for. And if anything is missing, send us a message at [nslc2021@ed.ac.uk](mailto:nslc2021@ed.ac.uk), and we will be at your service.

Enjoy!

Mirella Blum

Tatiana Reid

Bert Remijsen (convener)

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## Conference theme and Nubian panel

The theme of NSLC15 is applied linguistics in relation Nilo-Saharan languages. We have three invited presentations that address this topic, by Barbara Trudell (4<sup>th</sup> of August, on teaching literacy), Dorcas Wepukhulu (5<sup>th</sup> of August, on the creation of literacy resources) and Constance Kutsch-Lojenga (6<sup>th</sup> of August, on orthography development). In addition, the conference theme is taken up in many of the presentations.

Similar to previous instalments of the conference, there are various sessions dedicated to the study of Nubian languages, organized by Angelika Jakobi and Vincent van Gerven Oei.

## Registration and access to conference sessions

To access the conference, you need to register. This is easy and free of charge, through Eventbrite – here is the link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/15th-nilo-saharan-linguistics-colloquium-tickets-153482352849>

All of the conference sessions will take place on Zoom, the most widely used platform for video calls. Important: to take part in the sessions you need to have a version of Zoom that is up to date. If that is not the case, you will not be able to join some of the sessions. You can update to the latest version here: <https://zoom.us/download>

We will send registered attendants an email on each day of the conference, with the Zoom details that give access to the sessions taking place on that day. To ensure that you have access to the sessions that take place on a given day, you need to have registered the day before. Concretely, to attend the sessions on the 4<sup>th</sup> of August, you need to complete registration on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of August.

## Schedule of presentations

The up-to-date schedule is available here:  
<https://blogs.ed.ac.uk/nilotic/nslc-2021-program/>

## The presentations in practice

**IMPORTANT NOTE: THROUGHOUT PRESENTATIONS, IT IS IMPORTANT FOR ATTENDANTS TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE MUTED, SO THAT THERE IS NO BACKGROUND NOISE. THE EXCEPTION IS WHEN PEOPLE ARE ASKING A QUESTION (SEE BELOW), AT WHICH POINT THE SESSION CHAIR WILL INVITE YOU TO UNMUTE YOURSELF.**

### **Structure**

Talks at NSLC15 consist of a pre-recorded presentation, followed by live question time (Q&A). Invited talks aside, talks have an overall duration of 30 minutes. The pre-recorded presentations are mostly 15-20 minutes long with the remaining time dedicated to Q&A. We will adhere strictly to the schedule, so as to enable people to join for particular talks.

Invited talks have an overall duration of 60 minutes (Barbara Trudell, Constance Kutsch Lojenga) or 90 minutes (Dorcas Wepukhulu). The latter talk deviates from the other presentations in that it has an extended practical component, in which attendants can learn to use the African Storybook resource to create literacy materials. **TO TAKE PART IN THE TRAINING ON THIS RESOURCE, PLEASE INSTALL THE AFRICAN STORYBOOK MAKER APP IN YOUR DEVICE IN ADVANCE:**

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=io.saide.asb.maker> (android)

<https://apps.apple.com/app/id1486568534> (iPhone)

### **How to ask a question**

To ask a question, please type q in the chat of the Zoom session, either during or after the pre-recorded presentation. It is also an option to type your question in full in the chat. After

the presentation, the session chair will give opportunity for as many questions to be raised as possible, in the order that they have been brought up. If you have signalled that you would like to ask a question, you should at this point ensure to unmute yourself (and mute yourself again afterwards). If you typed your question in full, then the session chair will read it out for you.

***Ethos***

As organizers of NSLC, we are committed to ensure that everyone is treated with respect. If we find that this attitude is lacking, we may mute or even remove a participant from a zoom session, in the interest of the community.