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## Editor ' s Note

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## Editor's Note

As announced in the first issue this is the issue dedicated to Patrick Chabal. The last time Patrick visited Hradec Králové, in early November 2013, he read a paper which he subsequently left with Vlastimil Fiala. As editor I approached Patrick's employer, King's College London, for permission to publish this text posthumously. After contacting the family, consent was given and we are proud to celebrate Patrick's life by printing one of his last texts. Its subject, viz democracy in Africa, is important by definition for Africanists and many others.

Also other texts were especially sent in for this Chabal issue and after the routine peer review scrutiny they follow after Patrick's leading article. Normally we divide the texts into three groups: politics, history and society. This is the case also in this issue although there are some inevitable overlaps. In African studies it is not easy to respect disciplinary boundaries. Vlastimil Fiala presents a glance into his vast research portfolio dealing with political parties in Africa. Georg Klute introduces results from his recent legal anthropology project in Guinea Bissau. Carlos Ferreira Couto brings in a discussion on peasants, state and development in Cape Verde while Magnus Treiber attempts to explain migration from the Horn of Africa. Finally, Bereket Abayneh Kefyalew analyzes land deals in Ethiopia. I believe that these articles not only reflect some of the main concerns of Patrick Chabal but also represent original contributions to African studies.

This issue does not contain many book reviews, in fact only two, because the available space did not allow for more. However, I would like to suggest that publishers and authors send us books for review. Normally several reviews will be placed in each issue.

With this issue we conclude Volume One of our journal. Let me thank all contributors for their faith in the new venture. We are planning to apply for recognition of *Modern Africa* as a periodical of a certain status by Web of Science, Scopus and other international academic registers. Before that we have to enter Volume Two and publish a number of good contributions. In the meantime, dear readers, keep your fingers crossed.

Petr Skalník

