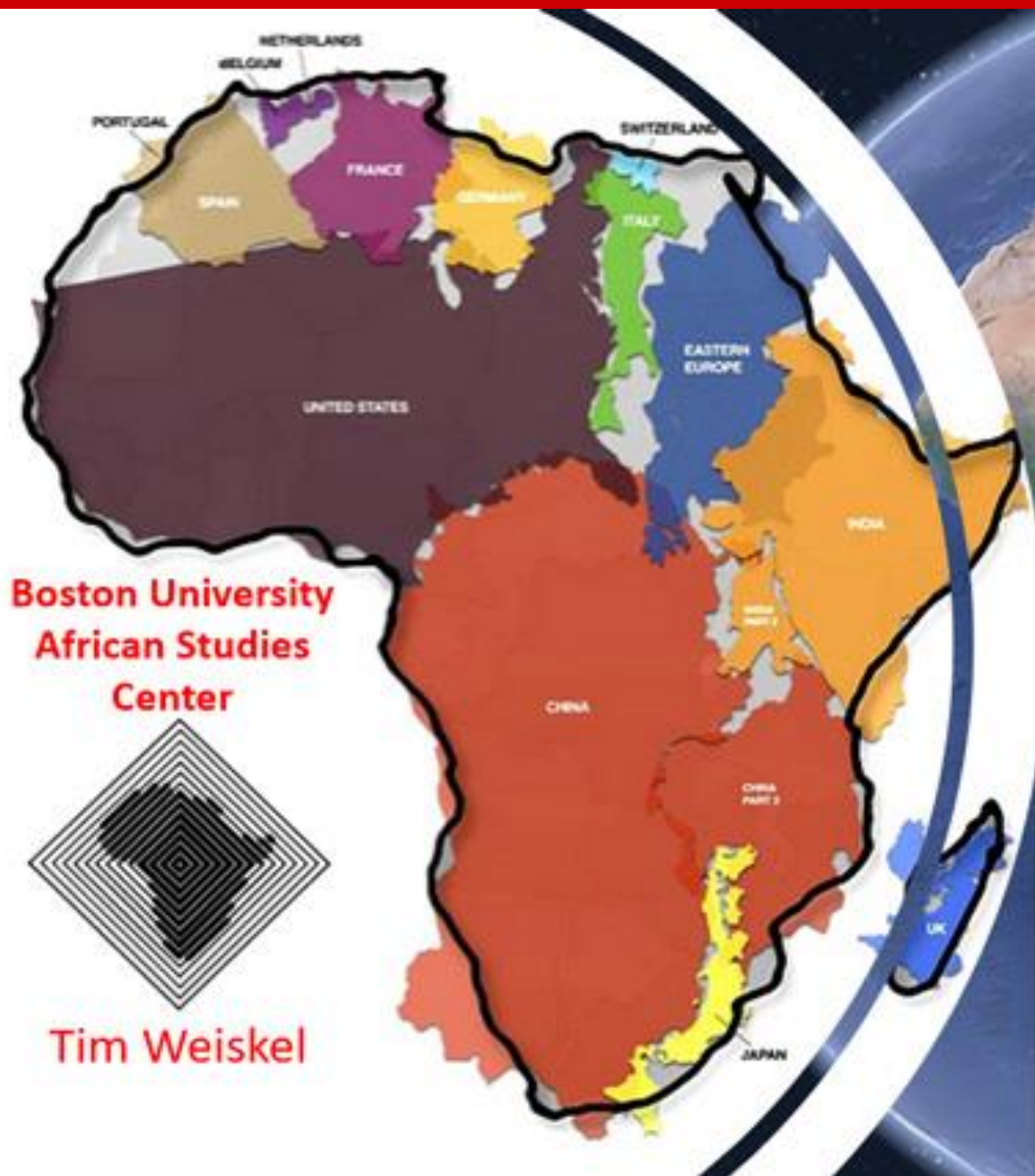


Cambridge Community Television



The Voice and Vision of Cambridge



Boston University
African Studies
Center



Tim Weiskel

Learning Under Lockdown

*Some Tools & Tips for Online
Learning About Africa
& the World*



The Africa Map Circle



Studying Africa in Our Current Circumstance....

- The COVID-19 lockdown has radically altered research, teaching, and learning in African studies at all levels -- from K-12 classrooms through advanced post-doctoral archival research.
- For the foreseeable future it will no longer be possible to watch a movie together in classroom, nor can groups take field-trips to museums to view important Africa collections, nor will it be possible to assemble in auditoriums to hear from a visiting guest speaker from Africa -- or anywhere else -- reporting on current circumstances in Africa.

Studying Africa in Our Current Circumstance....

- Further, while African studies has had to go “virtual” almost overnight, there are, so far, very few online “textbooks” that are accessible to assist teachers to design “virtual” classroom materials and teach under COVID-19 circumstances.
- To compound these problems, it would seem that *for the foreseeable future* the prospect of initiating long-distance travel to Africa for research, educational exchange programs or even for tourism will remain unrealistic for some time to come.

Studying Africa in Our Current Circumstance....

- All of these features of our current circumstance combine to mean that studying about Africa from the Americas or Europe is now quite difficult.
- Fortunately, there are a growing number of online “assets” that can help in this circumstance..... Both faculty AND students – at all levels -- can begin now to use these online resources to build new online curricula for learning & teaching about Africa.

These are a few of the resources (listed here with links) which individuals, schools or libraries with internet access can begin to mobilize in the service of research & teaching about Africa.

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 - Africa is NOT a country.... **How Big is Africa?**

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 - Using Google search engine to find Africa maps:
Google Maps_ & Google Earth

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 - The **“History of Africa”** with Zeinab Badawi - (BBC, 2020).

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- Selected Online African Historical Map collections

—

with some discussions
about them from

“The Africa Map Circle”



Let's explore them one at a time:

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[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/1/10/True size of Africa.jpg/1200px-True size of Africa.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/1/10/True_size_of_Africa.jpg/1200px-True_size_of_Africa.jpg)

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<https://www.google.com/maps/@1.7400338,-16.7717913,3z>

&

<https://earth.google.com/web/>

Let's explore them one at a time:

- Some Selected Resources on African History:

Many people are aware of the programs developed by Ali Mazrui back in the early 1980s. It was made available on Public Television in 1986:



Current link:

<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2020/11/12/africans-a-triple-heritage-by-ali-mazrui-1986/>

Ali Mzrui narrated the 9 programs (57 min each) from Africa....



A
COMMENTARY

WRITTEN AND
PRESENTED BY
ALI A. MAZRUI



**CORPORATION
FOR PUBLIC
BROADCASTING**



**A Co-production of
WETA-TV and BBC-TV**

**BBC/WETA-TV wish to thank
Prof. ADE-AJAYI
Prof. ALI DARWISH
Prof. DAVIS-ROBERTS
Prof. J D FAGE
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- Some Selected Resources on African History:

Equally ambitious and written from another perspective the series called “Africa” was presented by **Basil Davidson** in 1984:



Link:

<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2020/11/12/africa-written-presented-by-basil-davidson-executive-producer-episode-1-different-but-equal/>

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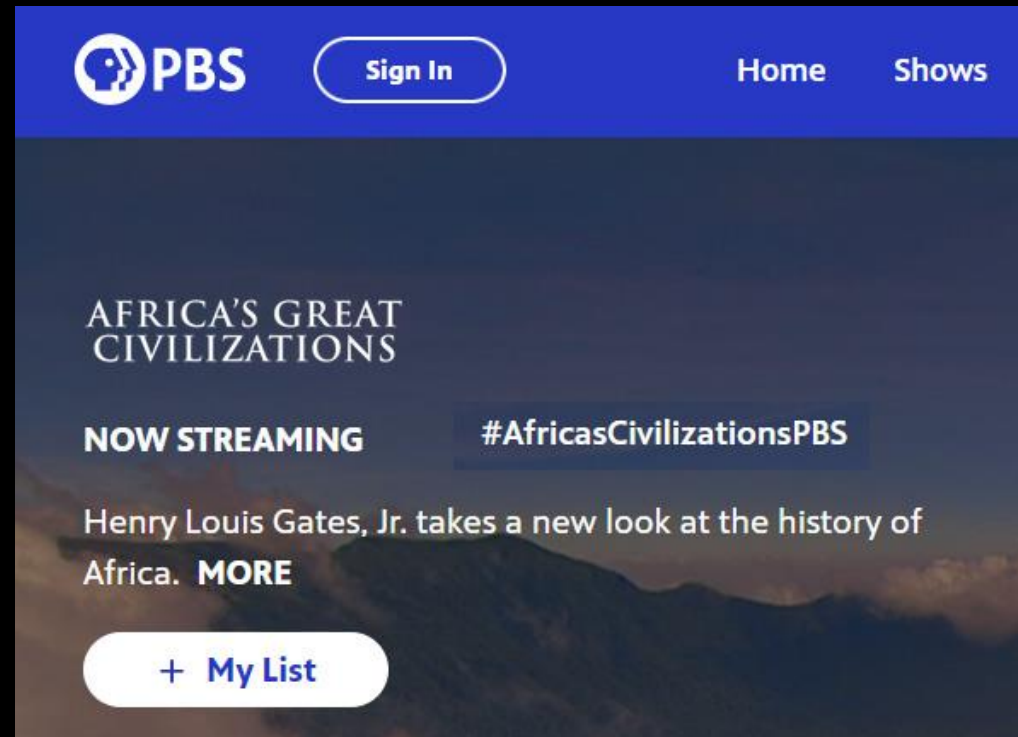
Link:

<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2020/11/10/africas-great-civilizations-interview-with-henry-louis-gates-jr-pbs/>

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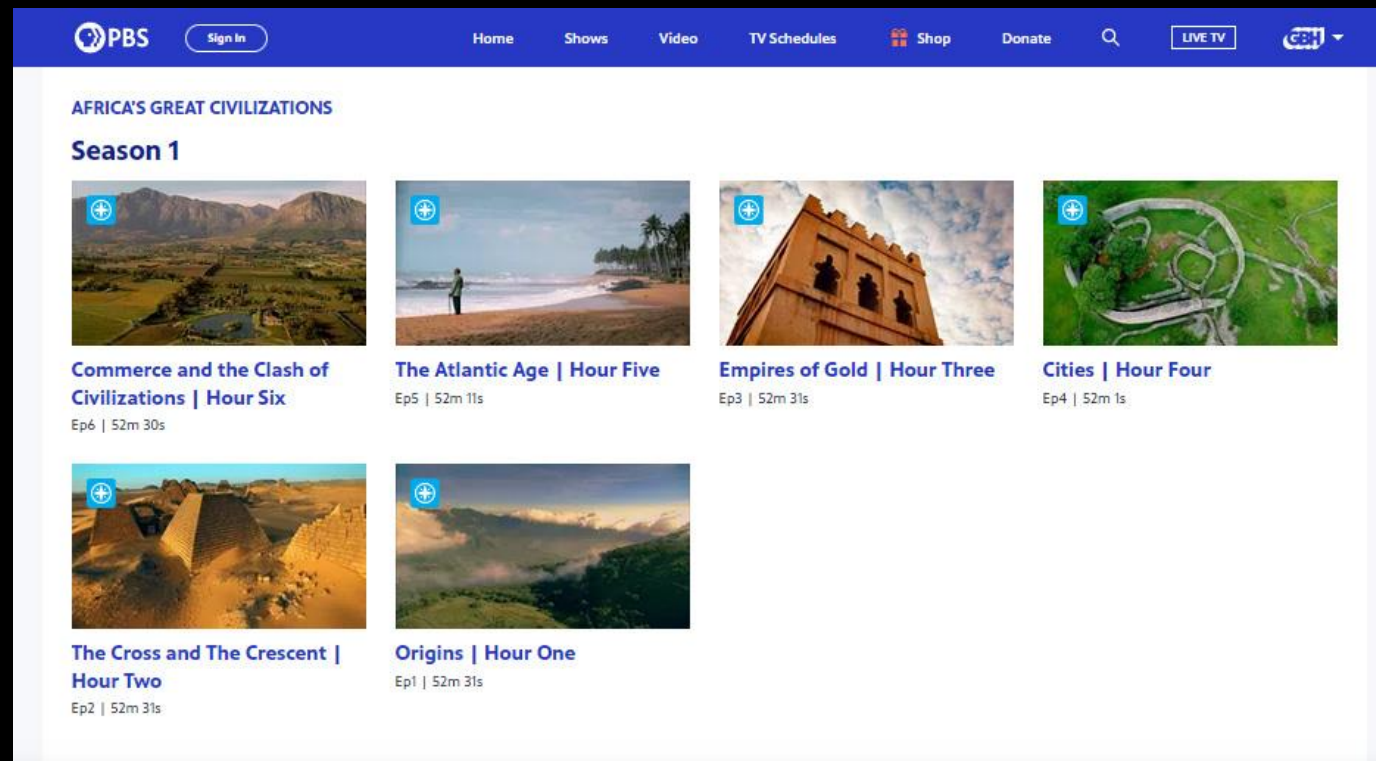
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Let's explore them one at a time:

- Some Selected Resources on African History:
 - **“The Gold Road”** - Map & Historical Discussion of W. African history + **Art Exhibit** ([Nat. Museum of Afr. Art](#))



<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2020/11/06/the-gold-road-center-for-african-studies-howard-university/>

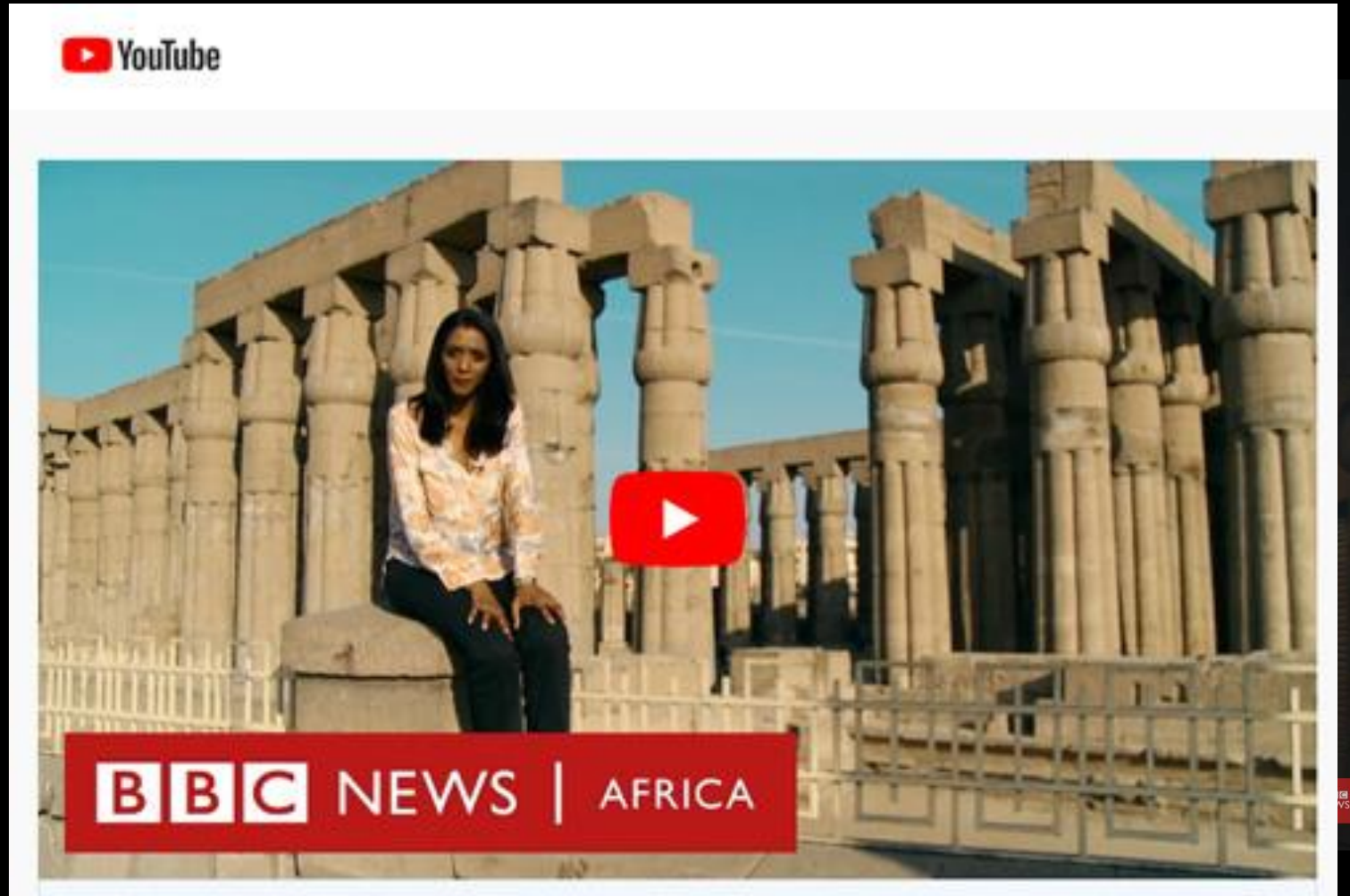
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The BBC has drawn upon the insights of African scholars....


PROFESSOR AUGUSTIN HOLL
UNESCO'S GENERAL HISTORY OF AFRICA

The main difference is that people who were captive were not sold.

A medium shot of Professor Bizeck Jube Phiri, an older Black man with glasses, wearing a dark suit jacket over a light blue shirt. He is looking slightly to his right and speaking. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene with green grass and trees, suggesting a park or university grounds.


PROFESSOR BIZECK JUBE PHIRI
UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA

**it was something that benefited from
the internal African slavery itself**

A video frame showing two women sitting outdoors under a large tree. The woman on the left is wearing a white and purple patterned top. The woman on the right is wearing a green and blue patterned top and a matching headwrap. They appear to be in a conversation.

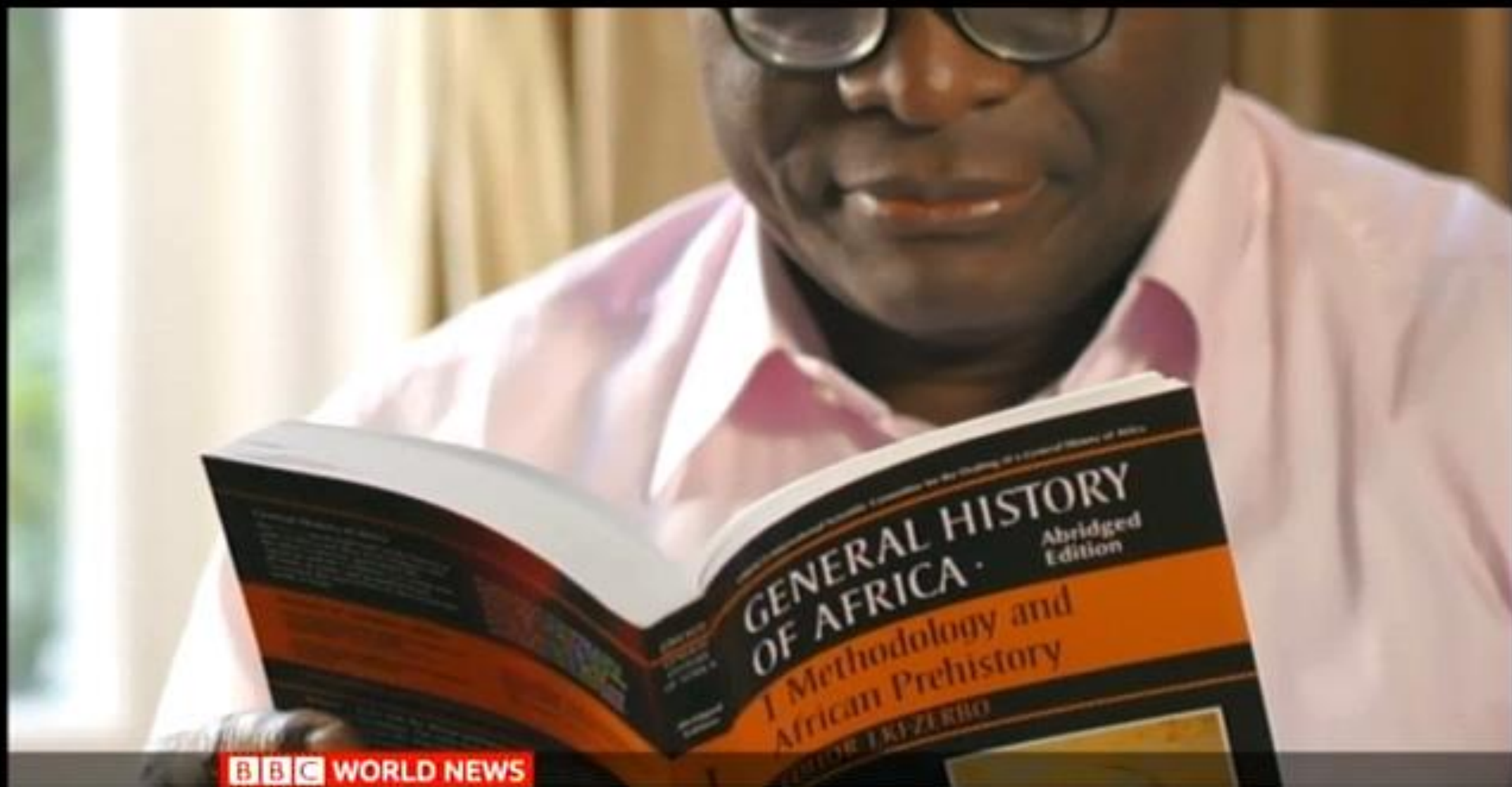
AKOSUA ADOMA PERBI
PROFESSOR EMERITA UNIVERSITY OF GHANA

and the indigenous aspect had to
do with the need for labour

A video frame showing two women sitting outdoors. The woman on the left is Black with short, curly hair, wearing a white top with purple floral patterns. The woman on the right is white, wearing glasses and a blue and green patterned headwrap and top. They are both looking towards the camera. The background consists of green trees and a building with vertical wooden slats.

PROFESSOR ESI SUTHERLAND-ADDY
UNIVERSITY OF GHANA

No, it wasn't a question of race. It was a question of
who had power over whom.



BBC WORLD NEWS

• Coronavirus: Thousands protest in Germany against restrictions

UNESCO International Scientific Committee for the Drafting of a General History of Africa

GENERAL HISTORY OF AFRICA · Abridged Edition

I Methodology and African Prehistory

EDITOR L.KI-ZERBO



JAMES CURREY · CALIFORNIA · UNESCO

UNESCO International Scientific Committee for the Drafting of a General History of Africa

GENERAL HISTORY OF AFRICA · Abridged Edition

II Ancient Civilizations of Africa

EDITOR G.MOKHTAR



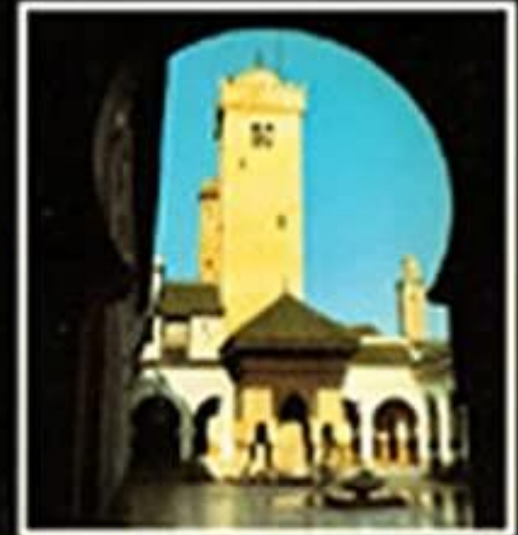
JAMES CURREY · CALIFORNIA · UNESCO

UNESCO International Scientific Committee for the Drafting of a General History of Africa

GENERAL HISTORY OF AFRICA · Abridged Edition

III Africa from the Seventh to the Eleventh Century

EDITOR I.HRBEK



JAMES CURREY · CALIFORNIA · UNESCO

THE RISE OF AKSUM

BBC

A close-up photograph of a rusty, dark metal collar and chain, likely a historical artifact. The collar is made of thick metal links and has a large, cylindrical metal ring attached to it. The chain is also made of thick metal links and is coiled around the collar. The entire object is set against a dark, textured background.

SLAVERY AND SUFFERING

Let's explore them one at a time:

- The “History of Africa with Zeinab Badawi” – The BBC

Link to series:

<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2020/11/08/history-of-africa-with-zeinab-badawi-bbc-news/>

Let's explore them one at a time:

- Selected Online African Historical Map collections – with a guide to exploring them –
“The Africa Map Circle”

Link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DTYYSx_5sek&list=PLr2L6TB8fh8HPUekRUK2ruAK9kHq_yM91&index=6&feature=emb_rel_end



Then there are the major research libraries
with online Africa map collections:

Then there are the major research libraries with online Africa map collections: These include:



<https://www.loc.gov/maps/?q=Africa>



THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

<https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/search/index?utf8=%E2%9C%93&keywords=Africa+maps#>



Stanford
LIBRARIES

<https://exhibits.stanford.edu/maps-of-africa>

Digital Collections

 Collections

[Home](#) / [Rare Book & Manuscript Library](#) / [Maps of Africa to 1900](#)

Maps of Africa to 1900

<https://digital.library.illinois.edu/collections/8132f520-e3fb-012f-c5b6-0019b9e633c5-f>

Northwestern

LIBRARIES | DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

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Explore Collections

Browse Items

COLLECTIONS > 16TH-EARLY 20TH CENTURY MAPS OF AFRICA

16th-Early 20th Century Maps of Africa

<https://dc.library.northwestern.edu/collections/1c2e2200-c12d-4c7f-8b87-a935c349898a>

.... and finally, one of the most powerful and immediately useful online libraries in the world....



A F R I T E R R A
The Cartographic Free Library

<http://www.afriterra.org/>

For further discussion of these issues, you may attend the online panel discussion during the African Studies Association 2020 online Annual Meetings.



[Home](#) / [African Studies Association 2020 Annual Meeting Session Gallery](#)
[Online Research & Teaching with Africa Maps: Tips, Techniques, Examples & Resources](#)

Session Title: (XXI-AN-21)Online Research & Teaching with Africa Maps: Tips, Techniques, Examples & Resources

Session Type: AfricaNow!

Session Chair: Tim Weiskel, Africa Map Circle, Coordinator

Presenters:

Gerald Rizzo, President, Afriterrra, The Catrographic Free Library

William Worger, University of California, Los Angeles

Henry Lovejoy, University of Colorado Boulder

Paul Lovejoy, Department of History, York University

AndrewApter, Department of History, UCLA

Online Research & Teaching with Africa Maps:

Tips, Techniques, Examples & Resources

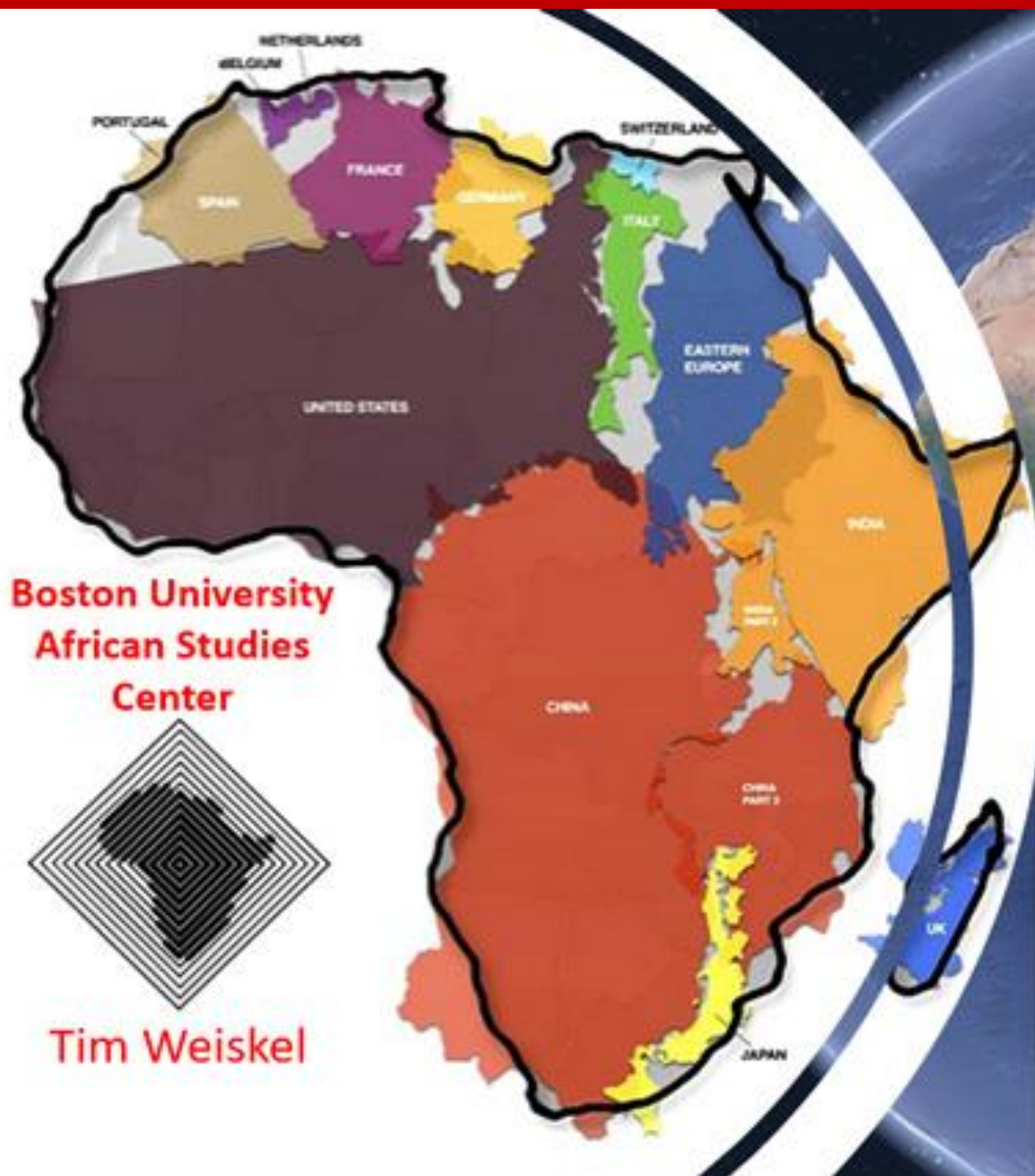
T. C. Weiskel

Dipl. Soc. Anthropol (Oxon), DPhil (Oxon), MLS, FRGS



You can find out more about these
and other map resources through the:





Boston University
African Studies
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Tim Weiskel

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*Some Tools & Tips for Online
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