

Occasional Talk

Professor Bruce Berman & Professor John Lonsdale

Kenyatta, Leakey, and the Making of the Modern Kikuyu

Monday 12 May at 5pm
Room S1, Alison Richard Building

An enquiry into the respective roles of social history, popular politics, intellectual elites and colonial administration in the imagination of a Kikuyu moral community in the Twentieth Century. How far, in particular, did their different ethnographic training and purposes, and their personal competition for representative authority on behalf of 'their people' have distinct political effects, both in the reactions of Kenyatta and Leakey to the 'Mau Mau' insurrection and their views on the politics of nationality and ethnic recognition in the future Kenya?