Hi Museum Supporters!

With exhibitions, screenings, new videos, personal testimonies and team members, March has been a busy month for the MBC team. Read below for highlights from the last few weeks and details on what's coming up in April.

MBC at Belfast Imagine! Festival

MBC was delighted to be included in the programme of events for this year's Imagine! Festival in Belfast, in partnership with the wonderful Pat Finucane Centre. As well as daily screenings of our Operation Legacy documentary as part of the Legacy of Colonialism exhibition, Luna Diaz from the UK team, also joined Paul O'Connor from PFC and Bill Rolston from the Transitional Justice Institute for a panel discussion on the themes of justice, colonialism, memory and heritage.
Luna, Paul and Bill joined an amazing line up of speakers over the course of the week including Lionel Shriver, George Monbiot, Robert Ince and Scott Santens.

March was also a busy month for university screenings of Operation Legacy, with the University of Manchester and Goldsmiths University both hosting independent screenings for a variety of groups.

New Content: Chinga Dam, Hola Anniversary, and Mau Mau Literature

Chinga Dam was constructed in the 1950s for a British colonial officer who wanted a lake on which to sail and fish. Suspected Mau Mau prisoners from Othaya Works Camp were forced to build the dam, destroying land belonging to local farmers who received no compensation.

Today however, the lake has become a resource for the local community, where they can fish and rent out boats to tourists. We visited the lake to explore the lasting effects of the dam's construction on the local community.

Watch the video via our YouTube channel [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=example_video_id).

Blogs from the Team
The Hola Massacre and Mau Mau Literature

On the 3rd of March, we remembered the 60th anniversary of the Hola massacre. On this day, British colonial forces beat eleven Mau Mau suspects to death at Hola Detention Camp in Kenya, and covered it up by blaming unclean
drinking water. Today we know the truth. Team historian, Beth, was able to look further into the story at the Kenya National Archives - read her blog [here](https://mailchi.mp/ecea0599ea93/museum-update-481223).

Our team member Adam recently spoke to Dr Chege Githiora, senior lecturer in Swahili at SOAS, and was the Kikuyu translator during the Mau Mau court case in London, 2014.

Adam and Chege spoke about Mau Mau literature, non-fiction, and biography, noting that listening to African stories and reading African historians is of the utmost importance in enhancing our collective understanding of the conflict. Read the blog [here](https://mailchi.mp/ecea0599ea93/museum-update-481223).

Building Our Oral Archive
This is James Njuguna Mwaura. He was 20 when the Emergency began in 1952. He joined the Mau Mau to fight for Kenya’s freedom and he took the oath. He was arrested and detained in Karatina camp for four years, surrounded by barbed wire so high they couldn’t reach. He and his fellow detainees were
interrogated but not willing to give answers, even if they were mistreated. During the court case in 2011, James showed the marks on his back from where he had been beaten. Just two weeks ago, James shared his whole story with Beth from our team. He asked that we write these things down and we share them.

James is one of thousands of individuals in Kenya keen for their story to be better known. Over the next few months, we will be meeting as many of these individuals as possible to listen to, capture, share and preserve their experiences. We believe this will lead to a richer and more truthful history, that will, in turn, lead to a richer and more truthful society. If you or anyone you know is in the UK or Kenya, and has direct or indirect experience of the Mau Mau Emergency that you would like to document and share, please get in touch with us.

You can contact us via email at info@museumofbritishcolonialism.org, or via any of our social media accounts on Twitter, Instagram, or Facebook.

James' full story will be available soon on our website.

MBC at UCL and University of Sussex

Much of our field work has been supported by Gabe Moshenska and the very generous small grants scheme at the UCL Centre for Critical Heritage Studies. We were delighted to join the Centre to share updates on our work and talk with others also working with the Centre.

On 5th April, we are delighted to be joining an interdisciplinary symposium at the University of Sussex on ‘Finance Capital and the Ghosts of Empire’. The Museum will be represented by our very wonderful team member, Hannah McClean.

Updates to follow.
Recently, musician and activist Akala spoke to Owen Jones for The Guardian on the colonial roots of the black-on-black violence narrative, and mentioned in particular Operation Legacy. See the interview [here](https://mailchi.mp/ecea0599ea93/museum-update-481223).

We thought we'd round up some similar articles and interviews, as well as contextual and background information for our projects.

You can also find many more multimedia resources via our website [here](https://mailchi.mp/ecea0599ea93/museum-update-481223)!

**New volunteers!**

We're very pleased to welcome new volunteers to our team, following a call out in both the UK and Kenya. We're excited to welcome Maureen from Nyeri, and Shahreen and Tanzil from London to our growing team!
06/04/2019

Museum Update

Our mailing address is:
Flat 21
1 Dunston Road
London, E8 4FA

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