Volume 73 of *Nyame Akuma* presents 10 papers of research in different parts of sub-Saharan Africa. Several of these papers announce the beginning of new projects. Laurel Phillipson provides a summary of the first joint archaeological field school of the University of Axum and the University of Naples. The project evaluated the archaeological potential of the area near Axum and sites ranging from pre-Aksumite to post-Aksumite contexts appear to be present. These sites will be examined in future years and will contribute to our knowledge of this important area. DeCorse, Gijanto and Sanyang report on an assessment of the archaeological potential of African Atlantic Trade period settlements on the Gambia River by Syracuse University and St. Mary’s College, an aspect of historical archaeology that has received limited attention in this region. They report on the possible location of the important site of Yamayamacunda. Clack and Brittain present preliminary results of research in the Lower Omo Valley. This project investigates the dynamic relationships between landscape, memory and identity and focuses on the more recent past in the region rather than early human origins. More specifically their paper describes investigations of raised platforms and associated stone alignments in this region and how the Mursi’s interpretation of the archaeology was informed by their oral traditions including those of climate change. Their study challenges a widely held notion of the region as a pristine wilderness. Wynne-Jones and Fleisher have begun excavations at the stone town of Songo Mnara in the Kilwa archipelago. Their project explores the use of domestic, monumental and cemetery spaces with the goal of tracing material signatures related to domestic activity and to ritual/commemorative practices in both domestic and public spaces. They report evidence of a variety of domestic and commercial activities from across the site as well as the important recovery of a large variety of Swahili coins. And finally, Breunig and Rupp introduce a new 12 year project that will investigate the Nok Culture of Nigeria. The project will focus on clarifying the chronology of the Nok Culture, the functional and structural aspects of Nok Sites, and its regional extent and diversity. The Nok phenomenon is important in understanding the processes that led to complex societies in West Africa.

Two papers present new data that modify or challenge previous archaeological interpretations of ancient features. MacEachern, Djoussou and Janson report on 2008 excavations at the DGB-1 site northern Cameroon. The DGB sites are the earliest known archaeological remains for the northern Mandara region. Data recovered from DGB-1 indicates a more complicated site construction and occupation history than was expected based on previous excavations of DGB sites. Significant finds from the 2008 season included artifacts originating from north of the Sahara (which are rare in sites from this region), and ceramics that may predate DGB occupations. In Zimbabwe, Kritzinger examines anomalies between the physical evidence and archaeological interpretations of stone-built ‘pit structures’ dating from the 14th to the 19th centuries in the Nyanga landscape of Zimbabwe’s eastern highlands. Archaeologists have theorized that these structures were places for keeping dwarf cattle, but Kritzinger challenges this interpretation after examining these features from a mining perspective. Kritzinger presents evidence that these features were produced in ancient gold mining activities.

Two papers investigate critical innovations in Africa’s past. Gedef discusses social, ritual and culinary practices associated with teff and other indigenous Ethiopian crops in the Gojam highlands. Gedef lends substantive support to the hypothesis that the social, ritual and culinary practices associated with teff and other indigenous crop processing indicate that these crops were domesticated prior to the introduction of Near Eastern crops to the region. In regard to archaeological investigations of early iron production, Elouga calls for greater field collaboration between physical and social scientists in the interpretation of the social and economic effects of iron metallurgy in Africa’s past.

Two papers address material culture. Alemseged provides an analysis of the Agordat pottery in the Sudan Museum and Kashyap, Robbins and Murphy present results of use-wear analysis of 16 stone tools spanning the MSA and LSA from 2005 excavations at the site of Mogapelwa located in the Kalahari Desert near Lake Ngami.

Authors should note that beginning with the December 2010 edition of *Nyame Akuma* they will receive a pdf of their article rather than a copy of the edition in which their paper appears. This will assist in maintaining *Nyame Akuma* at its low subscription fee. I would like to remind authors to please ensure that their bibliography is complete and that figures and tables are sent as separate files: figures as jpegs; and tables as word files. Please do not embed figures and tables in the text. Please remember that the papers are limited to no more than 12 pages of text with 6 figures!

And finally, the combined PanAfrican Association/joint SAFa meeting will be held in Dakar, Senegal (November 1-7, 2010). We hope to see a large contingent of SAFa members at the meetings and at the SAFa business meeting!