

Curriculum Vitae

Antonio Luigi Palmisano

Maturità Classica at the Liceo Classico 'Giuseppe Parini', Milano, Italy

M.A. in Ethnologie, Religionswissenschaft und Islamwissenschaft, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

Dottore in Literature (Methodology of Social Sciences), Università di Lecce, Italy

Ph.D. in Political Geography, Università di Trieste, Italy

Teaching and scientific activities

1986-1990 *Researcher* for the Arbeitsstelle Politik des Vorderen Orients at the Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

1990-1992 *Assistant Professor* in Anthropology of Law at the Fakulteit Rechtsgeleerdheid, Katholieke Universiteit, Leuven, Belgium

1992-1996 *Visiting Professor* in Social Anthropology at the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Administration, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

1996-2001 *Visiting Professor* in Economic Anthropology at the Facoltà di Economia, Università del Piemonte Orientale, Novara, Italy

1997-2002 *Visiting Professor* in Cultural Anthropology at the Facoltà di Scienze della Formazione, Trieste, Italy

2000-2001 *Visiting Professor* in Political Anthropology at the Scuola di Applicazione, M.A. Programme in Political Sciences, Torino, Italy

2004 *Gastprofessor*, Institut für Ethnologie, Universität Goettingen, Germania

2004-2005 *Professore a contratto* per Antropologia Culturale, Facoltà di Scienze Politiche, Università di Torino, Italy

1996-2005 *Visiting Professor* in Cultural Anthropology at the Facoltà di Scienze Politiche, Corso di Laurea in Scienze Internazionali e Diplomatiche, Università di Trieste, Italy.

2005-2011 *Professor* in Cultural Anthropology, Political Anthropology and Anthropology of Development, Faculty of Political Sciences, Corso di Laurea in Scienze Internazionali e Diplomatiche, University of Trieste, Italy

Scientific Activities

- Consultant for the National Research Council of Switzerland

- Expert for the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. University Cooperation Programme and Social Programmes in Ethiopia (missions starting from 1992)

Training of trainers; teaching Social and Political Anthropology, Anthropology of Law etc. at the University of Addis Ababa;

- Expert for the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Social Programmes in Tunisia;

- Expert for the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Senior Advisor for the Cooperation Programme in Afghanistan: "Rebuilding the Judicial System" (missions starting from 2002)

- Scientific Coordinator of the "Identità delle comunità indigene dell'America Latina" (2004-2009), Istituto Italo-Latinoamericano, IILA, Roma

- Editor of the International Review DADA. Rivista di Antropologia post-globale

Languages

Italian. English, German, French. Good knowledge of Amharic, Arabic and Spanish.

Associations and membership

Royal Anthropological Institute, RAI, (since 1982)

Association Internationale des Sociologues de Langue Francaise, AISLF (since 1985)

Founding Member of the Ethiopian Society of Sociologists, Social Workers and Anthropologists, ESSWA, (since 1996)

Vice President of the Scientific Committee of the Italian Federation of Folklore, FITP, (since 1998)

Member of the Scientific Board for the Istituto Italiano per l'Africa e l'Oriente, IsIAO, (2006-2010);

member of the Scientific Committee of the review *Africa*, published by IsIAO

Associazione Italiana Scienze Demo-Etno-Antropologiche, AISEA, (since 2004)

Associazione Nazionale Universitaria degli Antropologi Culturali (dal 2011)

Member of the Frobenius-Gesellschaft, Frobenius-Institut, Frankfurt a. Mainz, Germany

Fields of specialization

Anthropology of Law; Political Anthropology; Social Anthropology; interethnic relations and conflict solving processes; anthropology of development; the State and relations between theology and law in Islam; theory of segmentary societies; theory of social network; ethnography of Africa; ethnography of the Horn of Africa; ethnography of Central Asia; anthropology of religion; migratory processes in the Mediterranean; *Mythenforschung*

Fields of interest and work experience

Research in the Maghreb (Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco e Niger)

Since 1975 I have been intensively involved in the study of Islam and the relations between theology and law in the Islamic world (study of the Quran and the *shari'a*, with particular attention for the hanafi *madhab* and the maliki *madhab*). My research work was concentrated around the relations between State and tribe. The role of the religious brotherhood is analyzed as a moment of mediation between the two institutions and as a principle of social order.

1975 Survey research among the Tuareg of the Aïr (Algeria, Niger)

1978 Survey research among the Berber of the Atlas (Morocco) and on political religious brotherhoods in the context of illegal activities

1984 Fieldwork in Tunisia in a political-religious brotherhood, the 'Issawiya. Study of the role played by religious brotherhoods in the establishment of order and the integration processes of marginal social groups taking place during modernisation and industrialization processes in peri-urban context.

Research in the Horn of Africa (Sudan)

From 10.03.86 until 14.11.90 in charge of the pilot-project "Beja" Arbeitsstelle Politik des Vorderen Orients, studying the migratory processes and islamization processes in the Sudan. The new processes of territorialization and social order are analysed in connection with the forms of representation and self-representation of the ethnic groups mentioned in the mythical corpus.

1985-1990 In charge of the pilot-project 'Beja', part of the 'Sudanprojekt' of the Institut für Ethnologie, Freie Universität Berlin, on the theme: "Ethnicity and Migration in the Near East". Study of marginal groups: ethnic identity and integration processes in the national context, the example of the Sudan. Study of islamization processes: representation and self-representation of political and ethnic identity. Study of the relations between politics and religion: the role assumed by mythology and narrative law in the establishment of social control.

Research in Europe

From 31.10.90 until 30.09.92 In charge of the project "Welfare and Enlightenment", a part of the international project "Foundations of a New European Legal Order", at the Centre for the Study of the Foundations of Law, Katholieke Universiteit, Leuven.

As Assistant Professor for Anthropology of Law and close collaborator of Prof. Jan. M. Broekman, Dean of the Faculty, we have then studied the relation between law and social order,

conducting research with a particular attention to the conflict solving processes in non-western societies –not only in the Islamic world. The approach for this research considers narrativity as an instrument for the construction of the social reality and thus of social order.

1990-1992 In charge of the project 'Welfare and Enlightenment', part of the international project "Foundations of a New European Legal Order" at the Centre for the Study of the Foundations of Law, Katholieke Universiteit, Leuven. Study of the relations between Welfare and State: the interaction between law, politics and religion in the situational establishment of social order in Europe.

Research in the Horn of Africa (Ethiopia)

The research conducted in Ethiopia, at the Addis Ababa University, College of Social Sciences, was centred around the political processes of network manipulation in conflict solving processes, analysing from 1992 until 1997 the tribal customary law, Gurage law in particular, in relation with federal state law. The relationship between formal law and myth and other narrative forms of social order, i.e. of informal law, is now analysed in relation with the local forms of cult connected to the practice of trance.

1992-2002 Research on "Politics and Religion in Ethiopia: the *zar* Cult". Fieldwork on the political processes of social integration by local and kinship groups in the urban context: manipulation of social networks by socio-religious entrepreneurs and conflict resolution processes. Study of ethnic, religious and political identities in the post-war situation: the growth of Islam in Ethiopia.

Research in the Gulf Area (Bahrein, Saudi Arabia)

In 2010 I have begun to do research on the interrelations between State and ethnic minorities in this Area. Particular attention is given to the establishment of social order and security related issues.

26.04.2010 "Political anthropology and its role in the process of peace keeping (Horn of Africa, Central Asia and Latino America)", King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies, King Faisal Foundation Building, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Research in Central Asia (Afghanistan)

Within the Rebuilding the Justice System Program placed under the supervision of the Italian Government by the Bonn Agreement of 2001, I worked on the field as Senior Advisor to the Judicial Reform between November 2002 and December 2003. We conducted extensive research with the Judicial Reform Commission and other Afghan national and international institutions (Kabul University, Unicef, Unama, Who and others) on social and political order, on tribal and village organization, on the alternative forms of conflict solving and on the structure and organization of the Afghan informal justice. The several co-existing justice systems and the great numbers of players involved (national and international) contributed to the complexity of the situation. It was difficult to convince *in loco* consultants that ethnic groups existed as institutions and that their political role is of primary importance. The main achievement was maybe to convince magistrates that the new Code of Criminal Procedure –to whose transformation I have directly contributed- may and must be accompanied by a special law enabling the *jirga*, *shura* and *maraca chian* to play an active role in criminal justice, laying the foundation for an effective process of mediation between the state and the tribal societies.

The research deals with the relationship between formal justice, which is still weak in local perceptions, and informal justice, which is widespread, deep-rooted and vigorously applied in Afghanistan. The relationship between the state and the ethnic groups, i.e. clans and lineages, is the fulcrum for the development of the political and social dynamics of contemporary Afghanistan.

I acknowledge then, that there is no justice without law, but I observe that there can be justice without a code. And this possibility of justice depends on the relation between law and power: the code is a clothing of the law and state is a form a power: study of the juridical interactions between State and tribes.

since 2002 Research on “Alternative dispute settlement process. Structure and organization of the informal justice in Afghanistan: Pashtun, Tajiki, Hazara, Uzbeki and Kuchi in juridical interaction with the State”. Anthropology of law applied to social dynamics and the foundation of order.

Research in Latino America (Ecuador, Paraguay, Argentina, Guatemala, Cuba)

Since 2005 I have done some research outside of the Islamic world, in southern America about the relation between customary law, that is informal law, and state law, that is formal and codified law. The analysis of the relations between law and juridical orders focuses on the striking coincidence between social order and order of the markets, which we find in the post-modern and global condition.

2005-2010 Survey research on the relation between customary law, i.e. informal law, and state law in Ecuador, Paraguay, Guatemala and Argentina, critical analysis of the relation between juridical systems, social order, and the order of the market, the financial markets in particular.

Since 2011, founder and director of *DADA. Rivista di Antropologia post-globale*, www.dadarivista.com, ISSN: 2240-0192