

Project Description.

Zainabu Jallo

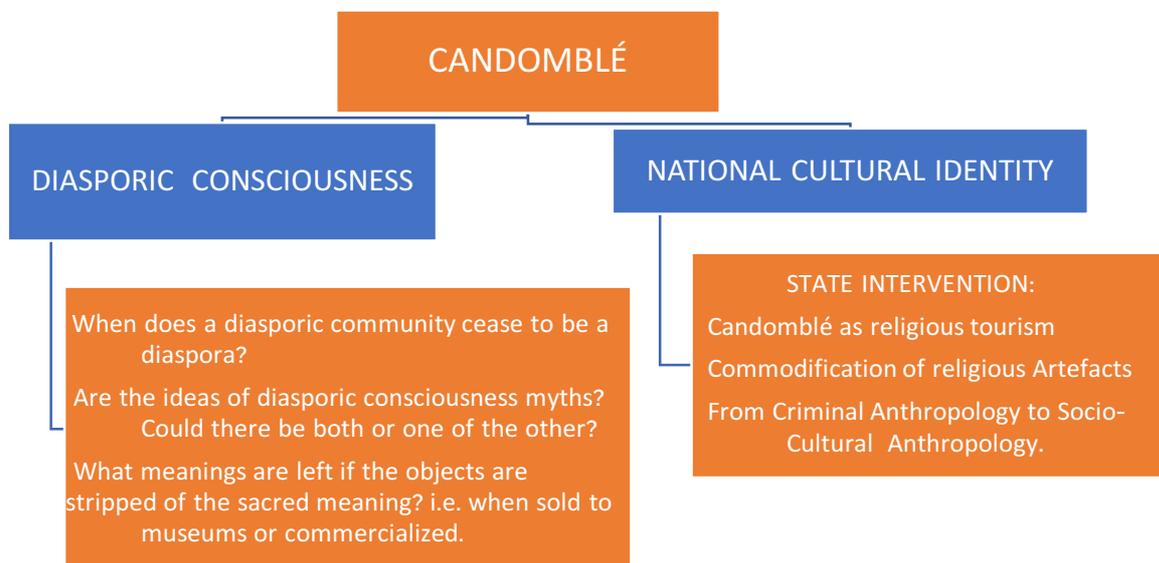
“From the Sacred to the Spectacular: Performance of Diasporic Consciousness through Candomblé in Brazil”.

The dissertation focuses on the metamorphosis of the visual representation of Candomblé ritual performance. Candomblé has witnessed a shift from a closed, sacred cult fraught with discrimination and persecution, to its incorporation into the construction of a new National character in Brazil. I seek to investigate Candomblé’s resilience against affliction in the early years of its emergence and the contrivances adopted by its practitioners who have evolved into propagators of cultural wealth in Brazil.

This PhD project adopts a mixed-methods, interdisciplinary approach towards outlining modes in which the visibility of the practice of Candomblé through its ritual artefacts. My project traces how the mobility of ritual artefacts enforce a continued impression of diasporic consciousness on the one hand and how on the other, these visual representations have supported the creation of a symbolic National identity of Brazil.

The project emphasises on parallel, yet antipodal developments stemming from visual representations of the practice of Candomblé, while investigating the liminal spaces between esoteric and exoteric enactments of a once threatened homogenous people and cult.

In adopting an interdisciplinary research, I aspire to integrate a variety of elements of disciplinary insights in order to engender a more comprehensive appreciation of the topics of my research.



WORK PLACES:

Institute of Social Anthropology, University of Bern.

Institute of Art History, University of Bern, Switzerland.

Centro de Estudos de Religiosidades Contemporâneas e das Culturas Negras (Centre of Contemporary Religiosities and Black Cultures), University of São Paulo, Brazil.