

Call for Papers

Shielding Humanity: Essays in International Law in Honor of Judge Abdul G. Koroma

We are pleased to announce a call for papers for essays in international law and policy in honor of the decades of distinguished service rendered to the international law community by H.E. Judge Abdul G. Koroma. This Festschrift, to be published by a major international law publisher (Martinus Nijhoff Brill), will mark the occasion of his retirement from the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in February 2012 after 18 years of service. It is a modest way for international lawyers to extend our collective gratitude to him for his numerous contributions to the progressive development of international law.

1. About Abdul G. Koroma

Judge Abdul G. Koroma, from Sierra Leone, was elected to the bench of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on 6 February 1994 and re-elected for a second term on 6 February 2003. During his many years of outstanding national and international public service, Judge Koroma represented the government and people of Sierra Leone as a diplomat in many countries, international organizations, and conferences. As part of this, he was Sierra Leone's ambassador to the United Nations as well as to the Organization of African Unity, the predecessor to the African Union.

In international public service, his many contributions include active membership in the Sixth Committee (Legal) of the United Nations General Assembly between 1977 and 1994. For twelve years, he was also a member of the International Law Commission (ILC), which is responsible for the codification and progressive development of international law. He was honored as chair of the ILC's Forty-Third Session (1991). At the ILC, he was active in the consideration and elaboration of various contemporary international legal instruments relating to, among others, the law of state responsibility; the then proposed draft statute for an international criminal court; jurisdictional immunities of states and their property; and the law of non-navigable uses of international water courses.

Judge Koroma arrived at the ICJ in the early days of what became one of the busiest periods in the history of the Court. During that time, he participated actively in cases on some of the key international law issues of our time. These

ranged from disputes regarding the legality of the use or threat of force; interpretations of the Genocide Convention; maritime boundary delimitation; immunities of government officials before the national courts of other states; consular notification in respect of foreign nationals; application of important multilateral human rights treaties such as the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination, and so on.

Respecting the Court's advisory jurisdiction, Judge Koroma participated, *inter alia*, in equally significant questions regarding the threat or use of nuclear weapons; the legal consequences of Israel's construction of a wall in occupied Palestinian territory; and more recently, the accordence with international law of Kosovo's unilateral declaration of independence. He often penned separate concurring opinions and pro-human rights dissenting opinions.

2. Topics of Interest

Submissions for the book are welcome from all areas of public and private international law. The volume would ideally include papers involving diverse topics in a range of areas including but not limited to:

- *Public international law*, including the peaceful settlement of disputes; law on the settlement of territorial and boundary disputes in Africa and other parts of the world; law of the sea, including the progressive codification and development of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea; the law of state responsibility, diplomatic immunity and non-navigable uses of international water courses;
- *International humanitarian law*, including contemporary challenges for the evolution of the field such as the doctrine of humanitarian intervention, the Responsibility to Protect, the role of children and non-state actors in international and non-international armed conflicts, the proliferation of small arms and light weapons, the use and of remote controlled and unmanned weapons systems such as drones, the challenges of cyber warfare, etc.
- *International human rights law*, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention Against Torture, regional and universal human rights instruments and systems, including the African Commission and Courts on Human and Peoples' Rights, the right of self-determination in international law;
- *International criminal law*, including the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, the Special Court for Sierra Leone, the Draft Code of Crimes against Peace and Security of Mankind; Africa and international law; the law and jurisprudence of the International Court of Justice; and

- *Law of international organizations*, including the United Nations, African Union, Economic Community of West African States, Southern Africa Development Community, East African Community, Mano River Union, including comparative studies of their regional human rights courts.

3. Submission Guidelines

- Submissions must be original and not have been published or under consideration for publication elsewhere.
- The length of manuscript shall be between 8000 and 10 000 words (including footnotes).
- Citation Guide:
 - For North American authors, please use Harvard Law Review's Bluebook, 19th edition.
 - For all other authors, please see OSCOLA (a free citation style guide published by Oxford University Faculty of Law). It can be downloaded online from http://www.law.ox.ac.uk/published/OSCOLA_4th_edn.pdf.

4. Deadline for Submissions

(1) A brief abstract (of one page or less) of the intended paper, including its title together with a brief autobiographical summary of no more than 300 words must be received by October 1, 2012. Abstracts will be reviewed and authors of papers considered suitable will be invited to the second stage (see (2) below). This requirement will be waived where the author was specifically invited to contribute an essay.

(2) Electronic copies of the complete paper, conforming to the above style and citation requirements, must be e-mailed to Prof. Charles Jalloh and Dr. Olufemi Elias at shieldinghumanity@gmail.com *no later than* March 1, 2013.

(3) In addition to the above, scholars and practitioners who have already written original and previously unpublished papers on international law topics are encouraged to make a direct paper submission of their works for possible inclusion, after peer-review, in the Koroma Festschrift.

Editorial and all other questions regarding the essay collection should be sent to the editors at shieldinghumanity@gmail.com.

5. The Book's Title

The proposed title of this volume, *Shielding Humanity*, is adopted from the Dissenting Opinion of Judge Koroma in the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons Advisory Opinion*, ICJ Reports, at p. 335, where he observed that the

Court should have strengthened the regime of international law by finding the propriety of the use of nuclear weapons is a matter for determination by international law. He put it thus:

Today, a system of war prevention exists in international law, and comprises the prohibition of the use of force, the collective security provisions of the United Nations Charter for the maintenance of international peace, the obligation to resort to peaceful means for the settlement of international disputes and the regulations on weapons prohibition, arms limitation and disarmament. The Court's Advisory Opinion in this case could have strengthened this regime by *servng as a shield of humanity*. See <http://www.icj-cij.org/docket/files/95/7523.pdf>.

6. About the Editors

Prof. Charles C. Jalloh

Charles Jalloh teaches at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law (Pittsburgh, PA, USA), where he also holds affiliate faculty appointments at the Ford Institute for Human Security in Pitt's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs as well as the African Studies Program. Before joining academia, he served as a Legal Counsel in the Canadian Department of Justice, an Associate Legal Officer in the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, and as the Legal Advisor to the Office of the Principal Defender in the Special Court for Sierra Leone. He has been a Visiting Scholar at the International Criminal Court and at the Institute for International and Comparative Law in the University of Pretoria, Faculty of Law. Professor Jalloh, who is the Founding Editor-in-Chief of the peer-reviewed and interdisciplinary *African Journal of Legal Studies*, has edited several books for leading legal publishers such as Cambridge University Press and Martinus Nijhoff, as well as written numerous articles on issues of international law. He holds a Bachelor of Arts from University of Guelph, and Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Civil Law degrees from McGill University, Canada. He earned a Master's in International Human Rights Law, with distinction, at Oxford University (Oxford, UK), where he was also a Chevening Scholar.

Dr. Olufemi Elias

Olufemi Elias is Executive Secretary of the World Bank Administrative Tribunal. He was previously Senior Legal Officer at the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in The Hague, The Netherlands. Prior to that he served as Legal Adviser and as Special Assistant to the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Compensation Commission in Geneva. He holds the degree of Master of Arts in Jurisprudence from the University of Oxford, a Master of Law in international law from the University of Cambridge and a doctorate in international law from University College, London. He is a member of the Nigerian Bar and is a Visiting Professor at Queen Mary, University of London, and a former Visiting Professor and lecturer at King's College, University of London. He has written books and articles on various aspects of international law.