

## PUBLIC LECTURE

Wednesday 5 May 2010, 16.00-18.00  
The Nordic Africa Institute Library

# The Regionalisation of the Lord's Resistance Army

For two decades, the long running war in northern Uganda between rebels of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and the Ugandan army resulted in widespread death, the displacement of nearly two million people, and immense suffering among the people of northern Uganda, particularly the Acholi. Decades of atrocities committed by the LRA as well as violent reprisals by government forces led to a disruption of socio-economic life, hunger, abuse, and abject poverty. Peace talks that began in Juba in South Sudan in 2006 brought a fragile peace to northern Uganda, as the LRA withdrew to South Sudan and northeastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. In 2008 the talks collapsed, and with renewed fighting the Uganda conflict was essentially exported to neighboring countries, where it created destruction and destabilization with no clear end in sight. The challenge of ending this conflict remains a serious problem for Uganda, the region and the international community.

Lecturer: Associate Professor Ronald Atkinson is a historian and Director of African Studies at the University of South Carolina. He is the author of *The Roots of Ethnicity: The Origins of the Acholi of Uganda* (1999) of which a new edition will be out in 2010.

Discussant: Associate Professor Sverker Finnström is an anthropologist in The Hugo Valentin Centre, Uppsala University. He is the author of *Living with Bad Surroundings: War, History, and Everyday Moments in Northern Uganda* (2008).

Chair: Dr. Cyril Obi is a Senior Researcher and leader of the research cluster on Conflict, Displacement and Transformation at the Nordic Africa Institute.

The lecture is open to all interested

WELCOME