

**Personal data**

Name: Dr. Rosolu John Bankole Thompson

**Academic qualifications**

- 1976 Ph.D. (Law) University of Cambridge (Christ's College) Dissertation: Law and Government in Sierra Leone (1961 - 1973).
- 1971 M.A. (Law) University of Cambridge.
- 1969 LL.B. Hons. (Second Class Upper), University of Cambridge.
- 1965 MA. (Philosophy), University of Durham (Fourah Bay College, Sierra Leone).
- 1961 BA. (Liberal Arts), University of Durham (Fourah Bay College, Sierra Leone).

**Professional education**

- 1970 B.L. Council of Legal Education, London, England, followed by admission to the Bar.
- 1962 Diploma in Education, University of Durham (Fourah Bay College, Sierra Leone).

**Awards and honours**

- 1993 Outstanding Teaching Award from Alpha Phi Sigma, a Criminal Justice Honors Society, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.
- 1991 Distinguished Teaching Award from Lambda Alpha Epsilon, a Criminal Justice Honors Society, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.
- 1988 Distinguished Holder of the David L. Brennan Endowed Chair of Law, University of Akron,  
Law School, Akron, Ohio.
- 1988 Certificate of Recognition, from Ohio House of Representatives to mark appointment to the Brennan Chair of Law.
- 1986 Certificate of Exceptional Achievement, from the State of Michigan for outstanding Leadership and dedication to Law and Justice in the improvement of the quality of life for humanity.
- 1986 Educational Travel Grant, sponsored by Operation Crossroads Africa Inc., New York, for a study tour of legal institutions in the United States of America.
- 1966 United Kingdom Commonwealth Fellowship Award to pursue law in England.

## Papers presented at academic and professional meetings

- 2007 “The Role of International Law in Promoting Social Justice”, Fourth Annual Carolyn Freeze Baynes Memorial Lecture delivered to the College of Human Ecology, East Carolina University, North Carolina.
- 2000 “Human Rights Violations in Africa: Challenges to International Criminal Justice”, guest lecture delivered to the Ohio State Student Bar Association, College of Law, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.
- 2000 “Criminal Law Systems in Africa: Modernization Efforts and Prospects”, at a joint meeting of the Centre for African Studies and the College of Law, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.
- 2000 “Britain’s Constitutional and Juridical Legacies in Commonwealth Africa”, meeting of the Centre for African Studies, Central State University, Wilberforce, Ohio.
- 2000 “Judicial Independence and Protection of Human Rights in Africa”, guest lecture delivered to an International Law class, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.
- 1999 “Jury Nullification: Its Uses and Perils in American and English Criminal Laws: A Socio-Legal Historical Perspective”, annual meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Orlando, Florida.
- 1997 “Community Policing: Conceptual Problems and Implications for the Institution of Legality” (co-authored with Vic Bumphus), annual meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Louisville, Kentucky.
- 1996 “Press Freedom and Right to Fair Trial: A Study of Two Jurisdictions”, annual meeting of the Midwestern Criminal Justice Association, Indianapolis, Indiana.
- 1993 “Juvenile Justice in Sierra Leone”, annual meeting of the Midwestern Criminal Justice Association, Chicago, Illinois.
- 1992 “Crime and Justice in Sierra Leone: An Agenda for Research”, annual meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- 1991 “Social Justice in the United States: Problems and Challenges, keynote address to the Association of Sierra Leoneans Abroad and the Howard University African Students Association, Washington, D.C.
- 1990 “Trafficking and Disposal of Hazardous Wastes: International Law Implications” presentation made to the International Law Society, University of Akron, School of Law, Akron, Ohio.
- 1990 “Legal Problems of Economic Integration in the West African Sub-Region”, Second Annual Conference of the African Society of International and Comparative Law, Annaba, Algeria.
- 1988 “Rape in Traditional African Society” (co-authored with Dr. Edna Erez), presented in *absentia* at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois.

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- 1988 “Legal Pluralism in Sierra Leone: Some Anachronisms’ Faculty Symposium, University of Akron, School of Law, Akron, Ohio.
- 1988 “Law and Development in West Africa”, guest lecture delivered to a Political Science class, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.
- 1988 “The Law of Constitutional Breakdowns: Judicial Innovation: Its Uses and Perils - Commonwealth Experience”, Faculty Colloquium, Political Science Department, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.
- 1988 “General Defenses to Criminal Liability: Judicial Perspectives”, guest lecture delivered to a class on Criminal Law at the University of Akron, School of Law, Akron, Ohio.
- 1988 “Drug-testing: Some Fundamental Conceptual and Juristic Problems”, guest lecture delivered to a Constitutional Law class, University of Akron, School of Law, Akron, Ohio.
- 1986 “The Law, the State and the Individual, Keynote speech, Ninth Annual Conference of the Sierra Leone Bar Association, Freetown, Sierra Leone.
- 1984 “Legal Rights of Women in Sierra Leone”, presented at a meeting of the Sierra Leone United Nations Association, Freetown, Sierra Leone.
- 1984 “The Judicial Function in Sierra Leone”, presented at the Sixth Annual Conference of the Sierra Leone Bar Association, Freetown, Sierra Leone.
- 1984 “Human Values: Legislative and Legal Aspects”, presented at a meeting of the Sierra Leone Association of University Women, Freetown, Sierra Leone.
- 1983 “Law Reform in a Developing Country: Sierra Leone Reflections”, presented at the Fifth Annual Conference of the Sierra Leone Bar Association, Freetown, Sierra Leone.
- 1979 “Legal Aspects of Economic Integration: The Mano River Union Experience”, presented at the First Annual Conference of the Sierra Leone Bar Association, Freetown, Sierra Leone.

**Articles published (refereed)**

- “Drug-testing: Fundamental Conceptual and Juristic Problems”. *Akron Law Review*, vol. 22, no. 2, Fall 1988, pp. 123-132, Ohio, United States of America.
- “Internal Conflicts in Marriage and Inheritance Laws in Sierra Leone: Some Anachronisms”. *African Journal of International and Comparative Law*, vol. 1, Part 3, June 1991, pp. 346-360, London, England.
- “Legal Problems of Economic Integration in the West African Sub-Region”, *African Journal of International and Comparative Law*, vol. 2, part 1, March 1990, pp. 85-102, London, England.
- “Rape in Sierra Leone: Conflict Between the Sexes and Conflict of Laws”, (co-authored with Dr. Edna Erez), *International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice*, vol. 2 (Winter issue), December 1990, pp. 201-210, Kansas, United States of America.

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- “Married Women’s Property Rights in Sierra Leone: Legislative and Judicial Trends Towards Liberalization - A Historical Survey”, *African Journal of International and Comparative Law*, vol. 3, part 1, June 1991, pp. 346-360, London, England.
- “Africa’s Charter on Children’s Rights: A Normative Break with Cultural Traditionalism”, *International and Comparative Law Quarterly*, vol. 41, part 2, April 1992, pp. 432-444, London, England.
- “Spatial Diffusion of the Ombudsman Institution: African Adaptations of a European Innovation - The Consolidation Problem”. *The Ombudsman Journal*, No. 10, 1992, pp. 57-66, Alberta, Canada.
- “Illegitimacy in Sierra Leone Law: A Lingering Anachronism - Comparative Perspectives”, *African Journal of International and Comparative Law*, vol. 4, part 3, October 1992, pp. 728-738, London, England.
- “Economic Integration Efforts in Africa: A Milestone - The Abuja Treaty”, *African Journal of International and Comparative Law*, vol. 5, part 4, December 1993, pp. 743-767, London, England.
- “Emerging Trends and Influences in African Organized Crime” (co-authored with Dr. Gary Potter), *Criminal Organization*, vol. 11, 1997, pp. 4-9, United States of America.
- “Prosecutorial Misconduct in Capital Cases in the Commonwealth of Kentucky: A Research Study (1976 - 2000)” (co-authored with Professor Roberta Harding), *The Advocate, Kentucky*, vol. 25, No. 1, January 2003, pp. 14-25.
- “The Role of International Law in Promoting Social Justice”, *Social Justice in Context*, vol. 3, 2007-2008 pp.1-7

#### **Books published**

- “The Constitutional History and Law of Sierra Leone (1961 - 1995)”. The University Press of America Inc., Lanham, Maryland, 1997.
- “The Criminal Law of Sierra Leone”, The University Press of America Inc., Lanham, Maryland, 1999.
- “American Criminal Procedures”, Carolina Academic Press, Durham, North Carolina, 2007. (co-authored with Dr. James Anderson).

#### **Published manual**

“Gentium Lex Lux”, A Ministry of Education publication on the radio broadcast series by the same author entitled “Law for Form Six Students”, Freetown, Sierra Leone, 1977.

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## Book chapters

- “The Criminal Justice System in Sierra Leone”, in: Obi Ebbe (ed.), *Comparative and International Criminal Justice Systems*, published by Butterworth-Heinemann, Boston, Massachusetts, 1996, pp. 83-102.
- “Due Process and Legal Pluralism in Sierra Leone: The Challenge of Reconciling Contradictions in the Laws and Cultures of a Developing Nation”, in: Fields, C. and Richter Moore Jr. (eds.), *Comparative International Criminal Justice Systems*, Waveland Press Inc., Prospect heights, Illinois, 1996, pp. 344-361.
- “Victimization of Women in African Society: Conflict Between the Sexes and Conflict of Laws”, in: Fields, C. and Richter Moore Jr. (eds.), *Comparative and International Criminal Justice Systems*, (2nd ed.) Waveland Press Inc., Prospect Heights, Illinois, 2005, pp. 33-54.

## Work experience (professional and academic)

Current Position	Professor (tenured) Department of Criminal Justice and Police Studies, College of Justice and Safety, Eastern Kentucky University, United States of America
2007 - 2009	Interim Dean, Sierra Leone Law School, Sierra Leone.
2003 - 2009	Member, Trial Chamber I, Special Court for Sierra Leone (a United Nations-backed War Crimes Tribunal).
2006 - 2007	Presiding Judge, Trial Chamber I, Special Court for Sierra Leone.
2003-2004	Presiding Judge, Trial Chamber I, Special Court for Sierra Leone.
2004 - 2009	External Examiner, University of Sierra Leone, LL.B (honours) degree programme.
2005 - 2009	External Examiner, Sierra Leone Law School, Sierra Leone.
2001 - 2003	Dean of Graduate Studies, Graduate School, Eastern Kentucky. University, United States of America.
1995 - 2003	Professor (tenured), Department of Criminal Justice and Police Studies, College of Justice and Safety, Eastern Kentucky University, United States of America. Duties: (i) taught Critical Issues in Criminal Justice, Comparative Criminal Justice, Criminal Law and Judicial Process at the undergraduate level; (ii) taught Legal Issues in the Administration of Criminal Justice, Theses I and II at the graduate level; (iii) conducted research; and (iv) did student advising.
1994 - 1995	Associate Professor (tenured), Department of Criminal Justice Studies, Kent State University, United States of America. Duties: (i) taught graduate and undergraduate courses in Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure and Evidence, Civil Law and Procedure, Court functions; (ii) conducted research; and (iii) did student advising.
1990 - 1994	Assistant Professor (tenure-track), Department of Criminal Justice Studies, Kent State University, United States of America.

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Duties: (i) taught undergraduate courses in Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure and Evidence, Civil Law and Procedure, Court functions, Law and Society, and a graduate course in Law, Justice and Society; (ii) conducted research; (iii) did student advising.

- 1987 - 1990 Distinguished Visiting Professor, Department of Pan-African Studies, Criminal Justice Studies, and Political Science, Kent State University, United States of America.  
Duties: (i) taught undergraduate and honours courses on Problems of Law in Africa, Crime and Punishment in Africa, African Political Systems, Critical Issues in Criminal Justice, Introduction to Criminal Justice, Constitutional law, Law and Society, and Comparative Law; and (ii) conducted research.
- 1988 Distinguished Holder of the David L. Brennan Chair of Comparative Constitutional Law, University of Akron, School of Law, Akron, United States of America.  
Duties: (i) taught graduate seminar on Comparative Constitutional Law; guest lecturer to various classes and conducted a symposium for faculty; and (ii) conducted research.
- 1981 - 1987 High Court Judge of Sierra Leone, Sierra Leone, West Africa..  
Duties: adjudicated, (at original level) civil and criminal cases. Exercised appellate jurisdiction over magistrates' courts.  
Also served as Resident judge, Bo, Sierra Leone (1985 - 1987).
- 1985 - 1987 External Examiner, University of Sierra Leone, Sierra Leone, West Africa.
- 1984 - 1987 Law Reform Commissioner, Sierra Leone Law Reform Commission.
- 1982 - 1984 Part-time Lecturer, University of Sierra Leone.  
Courses taught: Constitutional Law and Jurisprudence (undergraduate and honours).
- 1977 - 1981 Legal Officer, Mano River Union (West Africa), an intergovernmental organization comprising Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea.  
Duties: gave legal advice and opinions on various aspects of the organization's activities, also drafted international agreements to which the organization was a party. Travelled extensively internationally.
- 1971 - 1977 State Counsel, Attorney-General's Office, Sierra Leone. Attained rank of Principal State Counsel.  
Duties: Prosecution of felony criminal cases before the High Court and arguing of complex constitutional and criminal appeal cases for the State before the Appellate Courts of Sierra Leone. Won some landmark criminal and constitutional law cases.
- 1970 - 1971 Part-time Lecturer in Law, Cambridgeshire College of Arts and Technology, Cambridge, England. Taught the English Legal System and the Law of Tort.
- 1962 - 1966 High School teacher, Prince of Wales School, Freetown, Sierra Leone. Taught at senior school level, English Language and Literature, Latin and Logic. Was in charge of the school's Senior Literary and Debating Society.

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### **Judicial seminars attended**

- 2005            The Special Court for Sierra Leone; Gender Seminar for the Judges of the Special Court. Theme: “Gender Justice in International Law and Tribunals’ Freetown Sierra Leone.
- 2004            The International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), The Hague; Inter-tribunal exchange of the Judges of the ICTY and the Special Court for Sierra Leone. Theme: “Working Visit of the judges of the Special Court for Sierra Leone to the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia”, The Hague, The Netherlands.
- 2003            Brandeis University, Brandeis Institute for International Judges; Theme: “The New International Judiciary: Building Legitimacy for International Courts and Tribunals’ Salzburg, Austria.

### **Membership of professional associations and societies**

The Honourable Society of Inner Temple, London, England.

The African Society of International and Comparative Law, London, England.

The International Society of Family Law, Cambridge, England.

The International Association of Youth and Family Judges and Magistrates, Switzerland.

The Sierra Leone Institute of International Law, Freetown, Sierra Leone.

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