



**THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY  
OF EASTERN AFRICA (CUEA)**

A.M.E.C.E.A

Consecrate them in the Truth

**DURHAM GLOBAL AWARDS**

**INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH COLLABORATION AWARD**

**1<sup>st</sup> March, 2024**



**Dr. Asatsa Stephen**

**Principal Investigator, The Catholic University of Eastern Africa**

Dr. Stephen Asatsa is the Head of the Department of Counseling Psychology and Lecturer at the Catholic University of Eastern Africa. He holds a PhD in Counselling Psychology from the Catholic University of Eastern Africa. He is a consultant psychologist accredited by the Kenya Counselling and Psychological Association (KCPA). He is a member of the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development (ISSBD); Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD); Forum of African Psychology and Cultural Evolution Society. He is a member of the Governing Council Board of SRCD and newsletter editor of ISSBD. He also serves on the National governing council of Scripture Union of Kenya. His research interests are Thanatology and Indigenous knowledge systems in Psychology.



**Dr. Sheina Lew-Levy, Durham University**

**Co- Investigator: (Durham University, UK).**

Sheina Lew-Levy is an assistant professor of Psychology at Durham University. She holds a PhD in Psychology from the University of Cambridge (2019). Drawing from anthropological and psychological theory, she conducts research in hunter-gatherer societies to understand the cultural diversity in, and evolution of, social learning in childhood. Specifically, she has used quantitative and qualitative methods to study how and from whom BaYaka and Hadza children from Congo and Tanzania, respectively, learn through meaningful participation in everyday activities. As the co-founder and co-director of Forager Child Studies, she also conducts cross-cultural reviews and secondary data analysis on the pasts, presents, and futures of hunter-gatherer children's learning.



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**Awarded for Traditional Luhya mourning  
Rituals Research Project**

Durham  
Global  
Awards

1 March 2024

International Research  
Collaboration Award

Sheina Lew-Levy and  
Stephen Asatsa

Highly Commended

Presented by

*Karen O'Brien*

Professor Karen O'Brien  
Vice-Chancellor and Warden





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## Snapshots from the field



**LUHYA TRADITIONAL MOURNING RITUALS  
RESEARCH PROJECT**



**Cultural Evolution Society  
Transformation Fund**



*Briefing before setting off to the field*

## Traditional Luhya mourning rituals Research Project



**LUHYA TRADITIONAL MOURNING RITUALS  
RESEARCH PROJECT**



**Cultural Evolution Society  
Transformation Fund**



*Scanning the rough terrain of the study location*



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## Snapshots from the field



**LUHYA TRADITIONAL MOURNING RITUALS  
RESEARCH PROJECT**



**Cultural Evolution Society  
Transformation Fund**



*The principal investigator and the research team join a night vigil at a funeral to capture the night rituals.*



**LUHYA TRADITIONAL MOURNING RITUALS  
RESEARCH PROJECT**



**Cultural Evolution Society  
Transformation Fund**



*Sharing a word with the research team and community gate keepers on grave positioning.  
Here the dead are buried with heads facing the Lake.*



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## **Snapshots from the field**

**A traditional healer orients the research team to the sacred caves used for performing cleansing rituals**

