

[PODCAST: Boko Haram \(Africa Past and Present, Episode 123\)](#)

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Episode 123 of *Africa Past and Present* -- the podcast about African history, culture, and politics -- is now available at <http://afripod.aodl.org>.

In this episode, Alex Thurston (Miami University, Political Science/Comparative Religion) discusses his recent book, *Boko Haram: The History of an African Jihadist Movement*. Taking local religious ideas and experiences seriously, Thurston sheds light on northeastern Nigeria and the main leaders of Boko Haram; its relationships with the Islamic State; the conflict's spread to Niger, Chad, and Cameroon; and US foreign policy in the region. The interview ends with some considerations of the effect of President Buhari's recent reelection on Boko Haram's future.

Now in its 12th season, *Africa Past and Present* is hosted by Peter Alegi and Peter Limb and co-produced by Matrix -- the Center for Digital Humanities and Social Sciences -- and the Department of History at Michigan State University.