

Paradoxes of Power (Social History of Africa Series)



This book is a history of royal slavery in the Sokoto Caliphate of what is now Nigeria. Shaped by the broader literature on Islam and slavery in Africa, Stilwells study seeks to understand the historical relationship between Islam, Islamic politics, and the use of slaves in Kano—a major city in the Caliphate. By doing this, Stilwell opens a new comparative dimension in African social history. This work integrates the history of the most important state of 19th-century Islamic Africa with the broader Islamic world. Based on highly original research, as well as extensive interviews of the descendants of slaves in Kano, this book marks a significant contribution to the literature on Islam, comparative slavery, and African history. Stilwell outlines how and why slaves acquired political power. He argues that, in this African context, slavery and power were not mutually exclusive. Contesting Claude Meillassoux's argument that slaves were by definition socially isolated and kinless outsiders, Stilwell shows how slaves constructed family networks and took advantage of court politics to contest the terms of their subjugation. In this process, royal slaves aimed not for absolute western-style freedom, but fought to gain access to, and in some cases redefine, the political and social system of the dominant, aristocratic culture.

Hansen Family Farm Japanese Black Trifele

We are happy to provide quality fresh fruits, vegetables, Grass-fed and Finished Beef, Naturally & Humanely raised Pork, Pastured Chickens, and Cage Free Eggs to Clackamas County sustainably on our small acreage.

We strive to provide vegetables that grow well in our climate ensuring the best tasting local food available. We prefer to grow old-fashioned and rare varieties of vegetables believing that they are the best to offer but do also grow a very select, few varieties of hybrids, but they are counted on one hand! Much of what we grow, we save the seed of every year and re-offer it to members of the Seed Savers Exchange.

We thank all of you, the “locavores”, food enthusiasts, market goers, and home chefs for making our goal of fresh, local, fruits and veggies sustainably a reality.

Latest News....

Phil and Christie Hansen

2015 is off to a great start! We are looking forward to what this year has to offer!

All our efforts are gearing up to get the growing season started...from ordering/starting/transplanting seeds, planning rotation crops for the fields, cleaning the greenhouses and field equipment, and clearing the fields! There is not a dull day here on the farm!

Planning for garden start varieties is in full swing also. This year we will be offering many of our favorite heirlooms, open-pollinated, and hybrid varieties that we have grown for the past 10+ years as well as many new-to-us varieties. We are diligent to not purchase, offer or grow GMO seeds or food.

Our mix of garden starts includes many different varieties of tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, ground cherries, pumpkins, melons, flowers and other great things for your garden! Most, if not all, varieties are tried and true for our Pacific Northwest valley climate. Check out the Garden Start page for a printable list of varieties available. Or go directly to a specific list at our Tomato, Pepper, and Other garden start pages.

We grew over 100 heirloom/open-pollinated Pepper varieties and 125+ varieties of heirloom/open-pollinated Tomatoes in 2014! Not counting the numerous other garden necessities like heirloom flowers, cucumbers, summer and winter squash, herbs, and melons amongst other rare and hard to find vegetables! In 2015 we will continue with the tradition we've started and will be planting and growing almost all the varieties that have been started so that even if you don't buy a plant you have a chance to taste a range of different flavors!

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