

8th African Association for the Study of Religions Conference in Africa

Revisiting Religion, Politics, and the State in Africa and the African Diaspora

The University of Zambia and Justo Mwale University Lusaka, Zambia

1-4 August 2018

Venue: Justo Mwale University, Munali Road, Chamba Valley (<http://www.justomwale.net>)

PROGRAM



Wednesday, August 1, 2018

8:00-9:00	Registration at Justo Mwale University
	Opening sessions chaired by Dr. D.T. Banda
9:00 – 9:30	National Anthem by UNZA Choir, Official opening by Vice-Chancellors of Justo Mwale University and University of Zambia
9:30-10:15	Address by Minister of Religious Affairs, Reverend Godfridah Sumaili: “Members of the Same Household of God: A Christian Nation in Search of a Religious Pluralistic Prophetic Vision”
10:15-10:30	Response by Professor Elias Kifon Bongmba
10:30-10:45	Remarks by Professor Tim Jensen, IAHR President
	Tea/Coffee Break
11:15-12:30	Key note: Professor Muna Ndulo, “Freedom of Religion: An International Perspective” Chair: Marja Hinfelaar

Lunch

14:00-15:30 Afternoon Workshops I

<p>Session 1: Religion & Politics</p> <p>Venue: Old Chapel Chair: Chammah J Kaunda</p> <p><u>Danoye Oguntola-Laguda</u>, Insha Allah (by the grace or power of Allah): A critical response to democracy and the rule of law in Nigeria in the aftermath of the 2015 presidential election</p> <p><u>Elizabeth Sperber</u>: Relations Among God’s Elect(ed): How, why and when African ruling parties attempt to spur the growth and politicization of Born Again Christianity providers?</p> <p><u>Faith Kabata</u>: Religion and international human rights in Kenya’s constitution making process and the Kenya Constitution, 2010</p>	<p>Session 2: Religion and Development</p> <p>Venue: Booth Centre Chair: Nelly Mwale</p> <p><u>Moses Adetunmbi</u>: Impact of Religion on Socio-Economic Development of Nigeria</p> <p><u>Mamati Kingasia</u>: The challenges facing Indigenous African religion in conserving natural environmental resources: a case of the Sengwer in Embobut Forest of Kenya</p> <p><u>Edward Nondo</u>: Faith-based Organisational Management: Strengthening Church-led Healthcare in Malawi and Zambia</p> <p><u>Michael Bowen</u>: The Perception and Involvement of Christians in Environmental Conservation: The Case of Urban Kenya</p>
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<p><u>Dickson Nkonge Kagema:</u> The Aftermath of the 2007/08 Post-Election Violence in Kenya: The Role of Religion and the Challenge of an authentic Public Theology</p> <p><u>Elias Bongmba:</u> Catholic Bishops and the Anglophone Crises in Cameroon</p>	<p><u>J. I. Ilubala-Ziwa, Moses Changala and Maligelita Njobvu:</u> The role of faith-based organisations in caring for orphans and vulnerable children in Zambia</p>
<p>Tea/Coffee Break</p>	
<p>15:45-17:15 Afternoon Workshops</p>	
<p>Session 1: Religion and Politics</p> <p>Venue: Old Chapel Chair: Corey Williams</p>	<p>Session 2: Religion, Gender, Masculinities and Sexualities</p> <p>Venue: Booth Centre Chair: Ezra Chitando</p>
<p><u>Willy Lubeme Mafuta:</u> On Race, Religion and Identity in Sophiatown: A Search for the Role of the Churches in the Post-Apartheid South Africa</p> <p><u>Devison Telen Banda:</u> Worship Spaces or Political Election Polling Stations?</p> <p><u>Knut Holter:</u> The regimes of the civilia9ns were even worse': Nigerian biblical studies and political criticism in the late junta and early post-junta years, 1985-2010</p> <p><u>Sublime Mabilia:</u> What if Caesar were under Christ's rule?: Re-examining the Religion-Politics Nexus in Post-Secular Africa (Case study: the present-day Democratic Republic of Congo)</p>	<p><u>Beth Williams:</u> East African Women's Ordination Debates: Female Bodies in Male Spaces</p> <p><u>Tomaida Milingo:</u> The role of gender in church leadership in Zambia: a case of selected churches in Lusaka</p> <p><u>Ntobeko Dlamini:</u> Gender and Leadership: The Implications in the Ministry of the First Black Woman to be Ordained in South Africa, Reverend Nikiwe Mbilini</p>

Thursday, August 2, 2018

9:00-10:15

Morning Session

Session 1: Religion, Politics and Methodology

Venue: New Chapel
Chair: Lameck Banda

Session 2: Religion, Ethics and Sacred Text

Venue: Old Chapel
Chair: Adriaan Klinken

Session 3: Religion, Conflict and Peace

Venue: Booth Centre
Chair: Hermen Kroesbergen

Dianna Bell: Malians and the Algerian War of Independence: A Biographical Perspective

Familusi Olumuyiwa Olusesan: Between theory and practice: an appraisal of the place of religion in the constitution of the federal republic Nigeria

Satoko Fujiwara: Between the North and the South: The History of the Study of African Religions in Japan

Blessing Nyahuma: The Gospel of Power and the Power of the Gospel: Christianity in Zimbabwe and the Ambivalent Flirtation with the Tyrant, The Case of Robert Mugabe

Cheela Chilala: Crucifying the devil: biblical imagery in Ngugi wa Thiong'o's devil on the cross

Ala Alhourani: Ethics of Religion in and of Long Street (Cape Town) (with film)

Loreen Maseno: Hagar and Sarah in Two Paintings: Adaptations for Religion and Media

Nicholas Githuku: Redeeming Our Tainted Soul: A Call to Armed Moral Reason, Moral Rearmament and Critical Conscience

Britt Halvorson: Brokering Futures, Reworking Pasts: Religious Hybridity and Strategic Foreign Alliances in Malagasy Aid

Rosalind I.J. Hackett: Interpreting the Soundscape of War in Northern Uganda

David Omona: Religion and political cleavage in Uganda: Challenges and opportunities for peaceful coexistence

10:30-11:30

Plenary I – Professor Gerrie ter Haar on Revisiting the Milingo Affair: A Postcolonial Critique
Chair: Damaris Parsitau

11:30-13:00	AM Panels	
<p>Panel I: Religion and Politics in Zambia Kaunda/Hinfelaar Venue: New Chapel</p> <p><u>Teddy Sakupapa</u>: Sectionalism, Politics and the Role of Religion in Zambia</p> <p><u>Julius Kapembwa</u>: Philosophical Reflections on the Pitfalls of Christian Paternalism in Zambia</p> <p><u>Anthony Musonda</u>: The Politicization of Religion and Religionization of Politics in Zambia</p>	<p>Panel II: Religion and Sexuality: Law, Human Rights and Faith Perspectives Chitando/Klinken, Venue: Old Chapel</p> <p><u>Bolaji Bateye/Funke Oyekan</u>: Problematizing LGBT and Engendering Faith Communities in Nigeria</p> <p><u>Bishop Joshua Banda</u>: Sexuality in the Context of Rights based Approaches to HIV Prevention- Interplay between International Polity and Spiritually Based Sexual Behaviour Change: An African Pentecostal Perspective.</p> <p><u>Danoye Oguntola</u>: Their Rights, Our Rights: A Critical Response to Homosexual Violence in Nigeria</p>	
Lunch		
14:00-15:30	PM Panels	
<p>Panel I: Religion and Politics in Zambia Continued Kaunda/Hinfelaar Venue: New Chapel</p> <p><u>Naomi Haynes</u>: Constructing the Christian Nation: Zambia’s “House of Prayer” in Lusaka’s Built Environment</p> <p><u>Jonathan Kangwa</u>: Prayer, Politics and Power in Zambian Democracy: An Anthropological-Theological Perspective</p> <p><u>Austin Cheyeka/Chita/Mwale</u>: The Ministry of National Guidance and Religious Affairs and Church-State Relations in Zambia, a Christian Nation</p>	<p>Panel II: Religion, LGBT Activism and Politics in Africa Chitando/Klinken Venue: Old Chapel</p> <p><u>Masiwa Ragies Gunda</u>: Re-thinking the Religious Engagement Strategy for LGBTI Activism in Africa- not coming (presented by Adriaan)</p> <p><u>Adriaan Van Klinken</u>: Activism through Storytelling: Narrative Politics and Theologies of Stories of Our Lives</p>	

Johanneke Kroesbergen-Kamps: Zambia: a never-secular Christian Nation		
Tea/Coffee Break		
15:45-17:30	Sessions IV	
<p>Panel I: Religion and Politics in Zambia Continued Kaunda/Hinfelaar</p> <p>Venue: New Chapel</p>	<p>Session II: Religion and Education</p> <p>Venue: Old Chapel Chair: James Kombo</p>	<p>Session III; Religion, Conflict and Peace</p> <p>Venue: Board room Chair: Lukas Soko</p>
<p>Hermen Kroesbergen: From congregations to ministries; With whom does the government deal? Zambia as case study'</p> <p>Sishuwa Sishuwa: The politics of researching on Alice Lenshina in current day Zambia</p> <p>Chammah J Kaunda/Marja Hinfelaar: Competing for Caesar': Religion, National Politics and Identity Politics in Zambia Chammah J Kaunda/Marja Hinfelaar</p>	<p>Danika Driesen: Overcoming Professional Alienation in Teaching Religion Studies: A Case Study in Cape Town</p> <p>Nelly Mwale/ Melvin Simuchimba: Religion and Education: Reflecting on the mission of Christian Universities in the Provision of Education in Zambia Today</p> <p>Scholastica Kariuki: Gender Responsive life skills Education and Youths Sexuality Health in Kenya secondary schools</p> <p>Samuel Kehinde Fabunmi: The Contributions of Selected Pentecostal Churches to University Education in Nigeria</p>	<p>Gosnell Yorke: Religion: The (Somewhat) Missing Piece in Peace and Conflict Studies in Africa.</p> <p>Andrea Brigaglia: Global salafism and local jihads: reflections from a debate around the origins of Boko Haram</p> <p>Abdulahakim Aballa Nsohya Jihad-Salafism in East Africa: The Case of Uganda's Allied Democratic Forces</p> <p>Faith Gloria Ehiemua: Prosperity Teaching and its Effect in the Migration Crisis in Nigeria: A Socio- Religious Approach</p>
17:30-18:30	AASR and IAHR Business Meeting	

19:00	Conference Dinner: Palmwood Lodge (Zambian Traditional Food, Matabeto Style)
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Friday, August 3, 2018		
9:00-10:30	AM Panel or Session	
<p>Panel 3: Prophets, Healers and Science: Religion, Faith Healing and the Politics of Healthcare in Kenya/Boyo</p> <p>Venue: New Chapel</p>	<p>Session I: Religion and African Worldviews</p> <p>Venue: Old Chapel Chair: Judith Ziwa</p>	<p>Session II: Religion, Rights and Law</p> <p>Venue: Booth Centre Chair: Elias Bongmba</p>
<p>Speakers</p> <p><u>Damaris Parsitau</u> <u>Geofrey Kinuthia</u> <u>Bernard Boyo</u></p>	<p><u>Kupakwashe Mtata</u>: A Theory of Religion from Africa Proposed</p> <p><u>Abraham Adebo</u>: Aaroism: a theology of reconstruction, self-reliance, and nation-building for Nigeria</p> <p><u>Edwin Zulu</u>: Can anything good come out of Africa?: Exploring contributions of African World views, Spirituality and values to the Contemporary faith</p> <p><u>Victor Chilenje</u>: The ugly face of our religion in the 21st century: a case of Christianity – Zambia</p> <p><u>Chewe Mulenga</u>: The place of the elderly in the Zambian Christian context</p>	<p><u>Josephine Soboyejo</u>: Legal foundations for the promotion of sustainable peace and religious tolerance in Nigeria</p> <p><u>Godfrey Msiska</u>: Human rights and Religion in Africa: Past and Present Challenges to human rights</p> <p><u>Femi I Kolapo</u>: Nigeria’s Pentecostal Churches and the tribunal of the social media</p> <p><u>Abel Ugba</u>: Mediating Public Religion in Africa – What Role for Journalism?</p> <p><u>Njoki Wane</u>: Spirituality/Religion as the source of Inspiration for Black women in Leadership positions</p>
Tea/Coffee Break		
10:45-12:30		

<p>Panel 4: African Christianity and the Intersection Between Faith, Traditional and Biomedical Healing/Kariuki</p> <p>Venue: New Chapel</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p><u>Scholastica Kariuki</u> <u>Michael Bowen</u> <u>Geofrey Kinuthia</u> <u>James Kombo</u></p>	<p>Panel 5: Alternative social and political visions – Christianity as politics in Africa/Vahangas</p> <p>Venue: Old Chapel</p> <p><u>Hans Olsson</u>: Cultivating dry lands and restoring parched nations: Christian Farming as a political vision in Zimbabwe</p> <p><u>Mika Vahangas</u>: Nkamba as a location of anti-colonial reconciliation – Kimbanguist politics of just peace</p> <p><u>Karen Lauterbach</u>: Charismatic Christianity in Ghana as a site of moral and social critique</p> <p><u>Mickie Mwanzia Koster</u>: “We want Churches or Schools Built Where the Shrines Stood”: The Politics of Shrines in Kenya</p>	
Lunch		
14:00-17:00	Afternoon Plenary Venue: Old Chapel	
14:00-15:00	Special session for students and early career scholars on ‘academic jobs, grants, and publishing by Professor Afe Adogame and Young Scholars meeting by Chammah J Kaunda and Marja Hinfelaar	
15:15-16:00	<p>Book Discussion Led by Professor Elias Bongmba: ‘Shari’ah on Trial by Sarah Eltantawi’</p> <p><u>Elias Kifon Bongmba</u> <u>Dianna Bell</u> <u>Corey Williams</u></p> <p>Respondent, <u>Sarah Eltantawi</u></p>	
16:00-17:00	Closing	

10:00-15:00

Excursion to Chaminuka Lodge and Departures