



**RELIGIOUS
PLURALISM,
HERITAGE,
AND SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT
IN AFRICA**

**ADDIS ABABA,
ETHIOPIA
MAY 22-24, 2016**

African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies

Religious Pluralism and Heritage: Legal and Social Development

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

22-24 May 2016

Organized by:

College of Law and Governance Studies, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

The International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School,
Brigham Young University, United States

International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies

PROGRAMME

SUNDAY, 22 MAY 2016

2:30 – 4:30 PM **PRE-CONFERENCE MEETING**
(Steering and Planning Committees only)

2 – 6 PM **REGISTRATION**

5 – 5:30 PM **OPENING AND WELCOME**
Room: River Nile Hall

Chair:

Pieter Coertzen, Professor, University of Stellenbosch; President,
African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies, South Africa

Speakers:

W. Cole Durham, Jr., Susa Young Gates Professor of Law and
Founding Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies,
Brigham Young University, J. Reuben Clark Law School; President,
International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies, United States
Solomon Fikre, Dean, College of Law and Governance Studies, Addis
Ababa University, Ethiopia

Kassa Tekleberhan, Minister of Ministry of Federal and Pastoralist
Development Affairs, Government of Ethiopia, Ethiopia

5:30 – 7 PM **FIRST PLENARY SESSION:**

“RELIGIOUS REPRESENTATIVES”

Room: River Nile Hall

Chair:

Pieter Coertzen, Professor, University of Stellenbosch; President, African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies, South Africa

Representatives from Religious Communities
(see special program)

Belaynesh Zevadia, Israeli Ambassador to Ethiopia

7:30 PM RECEPTION/DINNER

MONDAY, 23 MAY 2016

8:30 – 9 AM REGISTRATION

9 – 10 AM SECOND PLENARY SESSION
“LAW, RELIGION, AND THE SECULAR STATE”
Room: River Nile Hall

Chair:

Mark Hill QC, Extraordinary Professor, University of Pretoria and Cardiff, United Kingdom

Keynote Speaker:

Abdullahi Ahmed An-Na'im, Charles Howard Candler Professor of Law, Emory University School of Law, United States
“The Future of Heritage and Social Development in Africa”

10 – 10:15 AM Break

10:15 – 11:30 AM THIRD PLENARY SESSION:
“LAW, RELIGION, AND HERITAGE IN AFRICA TODAY”
Room: River Nile Hall

Chair:

Peter Petkoff, Director of Religion, Law and International Relations Programme, Regent’s Park College, Oxford and Brunel Law School, United Kingdom

Speakers:

Ahmed Hassen, Director, Institute of Ethiopian Studies, Addis Ababa University

Megbémado Honoré, Head of the Culture and Communication Department, National Commission of Francophonie/Benin, Ethiopia
“Religious Traditions, Custom, and Patrimony in Africa”

Kizito Kabengele, Research Associate and LL.D Candidate, Faculty of Law, Department of Public Law, University of Pretoria, South Africa

“The Commission for the Promotion and Protection of Cultural, Religious and Linguistic Communities”
Tapuwa Mubaya, Lecturer, Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe
“Great Zimbabwe Heritage Site”
Bojana Mojsov, Macedonia
“Heritage Practices”

11:30 AM – 1 PM PARALLEL SESSIONS

MANAGING RELIGIOUS PLURALISM IN AFRICA

Room: Tekeze

Chair:

T. Jeremy Gunn, Professor, International Studies, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Al Akhawayn University, Morocco

Speakers:

Muhammed Haron, Professor, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Botswana, South Africa
“Southern Africa’s Religious Mosaic: Emphasizing Exclusivism or Propagating Pluralism?”

Simeon Ilesanmi, Washington M. Wingate Professor of Religion, Department for the Study of Religions, Wake Forest University, United States

“Public Education in a Religiously Pluralistic Nigeria”

Mmapula D. Kebaneilwe, Lecturer, University of Botswana, Botswana
“Neo-Christianities in Botswana: A Meeting Place for Culture, Custom and Religion?”

Abdulkader Tayob, Professor of Religious Studies, Department of Religious Studies, University of Cape Town, South Africa
“Religion Education Policy and Religious Performances in Post-Apartheid Schools”

SHARIA AND ISLAM IN AFRICA

Room: Omo

Chair:

Is-haq Oloyede, Professor of Islamic Studies, Islamic University of Ilorin, Nigeria

Speakers:

W. Wahab Egbewole, Faculty of Law, Department of Jurisprudence, University of Ilorin, Nigeria;
and **Ismael Saka Ismael**, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Law, Department of Islamic Law, University of Ilorin, Nigeria

“Reemergence of Shariah Law in Northern Nigeria”

Ahmed S. Garba, Professor, Dean of the Faculty of Law, Bayero University, Nigeria

“Shi’a and Military Clashes in Nigeria”

Hassan J. Ndzovu, Senior Lecturer, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Moi University, Kenya
“Kadhi Courts in Kenyan Constitution”

Ra Tiedemann-Nkabinde, PhD Candidate, Department of Religious Studies, University of Cape Town, South Africa
“Negotiating a Sacred Alliance in the Market: Islamic Finance and the South African State”

RELIGION AND THE SECULAR STATE IN AFRICA

Room: Awash

Chair:

W. Cole Durham, Jr., Susa Young Gates Professor of Law and Founding Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, Brigham Young University, J. Reuben Clark Law School; President, International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies, United States

Speakers:

Kofi Quashigah, Faculty of Law, University of Ghana, Ghana
“Religious Influence on the Concept of Justice and the Administration of Law in Ghana”

Abamfo O. Atiemo, Professor, Department for the Study of Religions, University of Ghana, Ghana

“African Spiritual Heritage and Human Rights NGO Perspectives on Ghana’s Prayer Camps”

John G. Esubonteng, PhD Candidate, Department for the Study of Religions, University of Ghana, Ghana

“State’s Role in Conflict Resolution: Baptist Nationalists and Missionaries in Fire Tango”

Prosper Muzambi, Lecturer of Theologies, Joshua Nkomo School of Arts and Humanities, Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe

“Citizenship and Religion in Zimbabwe: Focus on the Politics of Zimbabwe’s First Lady, Grace Mugabe”

1 – 2 PM

LUNCH

2 – 3:15 PM

PARALLEL SESSIONS

LAW, RELIGION, AND WOMEN IN AFRICA

Room: Tekeze

Chair:

M. Christian Green, Senior Fellow, Center for the Study of Law and Religion, Emory University School of Law, Editor, Journal of Law and Religion, United States

Speakers:

Amal Idrissi, Professor in Public Law and Political Sciences, University Moulay Ismael, Morocco

“Feminism and Religion: Conflict Dialogue and Consensus in North Africa”

Abiola Akiyode-Afolabi, Faculty of Law, University of Lagos, Nigeria

"Reclaiming Women's Rights to Freedom of Religion: An Assessment of the Political and Legal Complexities Affecting the Domestication of CEDAW and the All-Women's Protocol in Nigeria"

Endalcachew Bayeh, Lecturer, Department of Civics and Ethical Studies, College of Social Sciences and Humanities, Ambo University, Ethiopia

“Customary Law, Women’s Rights, and Human Rights in Ethiopia”

Akinola Ibidapo-Obe, Professor and Dean, University of Lagos Law School, Nigeria

"Spirit,soul and gender: The role of women in traditional worship amongst the Yoruba"

LAND, WATER, AND HERITAGE IN ZIMBABWE

Room: Omo

Chair:

Jean-Baptiste Sourou, Professor of Religion and Law, Saint Augustine University Mwanza, United Republic of Tanzania

Speakers:

Fortune Sibanda, Lecturer in Religious Studies, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe

“Rastafari Perspectives on Land Use Management in Postcolonial Zimbabwe”

Bernard Humbe, Lecturer, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe

“African Indigenous Religions in Postcolonial Zimbabwe: Water Rights and the Heritage ‘Store House’ for Development”

Edmore Dube, Lecturer in Islamic Studies, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe

“Great Zimbabwe and Challenges to Western Policies and Classifications for African Heritage Management”

3:15 – 4:30 PM

FOURTH PLENARY SESSION

GOVERNMENT LEADERS FROM EAST AND WEST AFRICA

Room: River Nile Hall

Chair:

Julian Reilly, Somalia Director, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, United Kingdom

Speakers:

Alice Nkom, Attorney and Human Rights Advocate, Cameroon

Stephen Okello, Secretary, National NGO Board, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Uganda

4:30 – 5 PM

BREAK

5 – 6:30 PM

PARALLEL SESSIONS
RELIGION AND HERITAGE IN AFRICA

Room: Tekeze

Chair:

Nicolaas Horn, Professor of Public Law and Jurisprudence, University of Namibia, Namibia

Speakers:

Serawit B. Debele, Junior Fellow, Bayreuth University, Ethiopia
“Contesting Religious Heritage: The ‘Culture Turn’ in the Celebration of the Irreecha Ritual in Ethiopia”

Theodros A. Teklu, Lecturer in Theology and Dean of Studies, Ethiopian Graduate School of Theology, Ethiopia
“Religious Pluralism and Cohabitation: Critical Notes on Religious Freedoms, Rights, and Responsibilities in Ethiopia”

LAW AND RELIGION IN FRANCOPHONE AFRICA

Room: Omo

Chair:

Bruce Wannell, United Kingdom

Speakers:

Celestin Gnonzion, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Information, Communication, and Arts, State University of Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire
“Mediatisation and Interactions between Religious and Political Leaders: The Post-Electoral Crisis of 2010-2011 in Côte d’Ivoire”

Jean-Baptiste Sourou, Professor of Religion and Law, Saint Augustine University Mwanza, United Republic of Tanzania
“10 January: Political Calculus or Response to a Socio-Political Exigency in Benin”

Andre Mangu, Professor, University of South Africa College of Law, Democratic Republic of Congo
“Religion and Politics in the Democratic Republic of Congo”

RELIGIOUS PLURALISM IN NIGERIA

Room: Awash

Chair:

Akinola Ibidapo-Obe, Professor and Dean, University of Lagos Law School, Nigeria

Speakers:

Abdulumuni Adebayo Oba, Faculty of Law, University of Ilorin, Nigeria

“Navigating Inheritance across Religions by Muslim and Non-Muslim Heirs in Nigeria”

Danoye Oguntola-Laguda, Senior Lecturer, Lagos State University,
Department of Religions, Nigeria

“Religious Pluralism and Policy Formation in Nigeria: A Critical
Engagement”

Muhjahid H. Shittu, Nigeria

“Islam and Religious Pluralism: Religious Freedom and Restriction on
Church Proliferation in Nigeria”

6:30 – 7 PM

BREAK

7 PM

CONFERENCE DINNER

Room: River Nile Hall

Chair:

Pieter Coertzen, Professor, University of Stellenbosch; President,
African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies, South Africa

Keynote Address:

Anton Knoetze, Commissioner, Commission for the Promotion and
Protection of the Rights of Culture, Religious and Linguistic
Communities, South Africa

“Religious Pluralism, Heritage and Social Development in Africa”

TUESDAY, 24 MAY 2016

8:30 – 10 AM

PARALLEL SESSIONS

**RELIGIOUS PLURALISM IN POST-APARTHEID SOUTH
AFRICA**

Room: Tekeze

Chair:

Mary Ann Plaatjies van Huffel, Faculty of Theology, University of
Stellenbosch, South Africa

Speakers:

Georgia Du Plessis, PhD Candidate, University of the Free State,
South Africa

“Deep Diversity and a Rainbow of Heritages in the South African
Public Sphere: The Issue of Signs, Symbols, and Slogans”

Duane Jethro, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Archive and Public Culture
Research Unit, University of Cape Town, South Africa

“Of Ruins and Revival: Heritage Formation and Khoisan Indigenous
Identity in Post-Apartheid South Africa”

Nokuzola Mndende, Director, Icamagu Institute, South Africa

“Individual and Collective Rights in Africa”

RELIGION, JUSTICE, AND TOLERANCE

Room: Omo

Chair:

Getachew Assefa Woldemariam, Dean, College of Law and Government Studies, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

Speakers:

Mohammed D. Assen, Lecturer, College of Law and Governance, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

“Religious Tolerance in Ethiopia: Rhetoric and Reality”

Esubalew Belay Fanta, Dilla University, Ethiopia

“Pervasive Influences of Religion and Religiosity on the National Judicial System and Traditional and Popular Sense of Justice in the Juridical History of Imperial Ethiopia”

Elias Kifon Bongmba, Harry and Hazel Chair in Christian Theology; Professor of Religion, Religious Studies, Rice University, United States

“Christianity and Homosexuality and the Law in Africa: Revisiting the Implications of the Sachs Decision”

DEATH AND DIGNITY

Room: Awash

Chair:

Kofi Quashigah, Faculty of Law, University of Ghana, Ghana

Speakers:

Dineo Skosana, PhD Candidate in Political Studies, Department of Political Studies, University of Witwatersrand, South Africa

“Protecting Dead: The South African National Heritage Act in Context”

Helena van Coller, Faculty of Law, Rhodes University, South Africa

“Burial Rights: Protecting the Religious Right and Heritage of Communities”

Tobias Marevesa, Lecturer in Religious Studies, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe

“The Legality of the Death Penalty and African Religious Heritage in Zimbabwe”

10 – 10:15 AM

BREAK

**10:15 AM –
12 NOON**

**FIFTH PLENARY SESSION:
“RELIGION AND HATE SPEECH”**

Room: River Nile Hall

Chair:

Brett G. Scharffs, Francis R. Kirkham Professor of Law and Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, Brigham Young University, J. Reuben Clark Law School, United States

Speakers:

Esha Faki Mwinyihaji, Lecturer in Islamic Studies, Department of Religion, Theology and Philosophy, Maseno University, Kenya
“Freedom of Expression, Religious Hate Speech and National Cohesion in Kenya”

Damaris Seleina Parsitau, Lecturer, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Egerton University, Kenya

“Taming Hateful Fingers: Social Media, the Youth, Religious, and Political Hate Speech in Kenya”

Enyinna S. Nwauche, Professor, Rhodes University Grahamstown, South Africa

“Africa’s Constitutional Democracies and the Crime of Blasphemy”
(videotape)

Asonzeh Ukah, Senior Lecturer, Department of Religious Studies, University of Cape Town, South Africa

“The Afterlife of Freedom of Religious Expression?: Hate Speech and Pentecostal Discourses on Same-Sex Relations in Nigeria”

Lee-Shae Logan Scharnick-Udemans, PhD Candidate, University of Cape Town, Department of Religious Studies, South Africa

“Blasphemy and Media in South Africa”

Johan van der Vyver, I.T. Cohen Professor of International Law and Human Rights, Emory University School of Law, United States; Extraordinary Professor, Department of Private Law, University of Pretoria, South Africa

“Hate Speech”

12 NOON – 1 PM

LUNCH

1:15 PM

BUSES DEPART FOR TOUR

7 PM

DINNER

8 PM

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Pieter Coertzen, Professor, University of Stellenbosch; President, African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies, South Africa

**BUSINESS MEETING OF THE AFRICAN CONSORTIUM FOR
LAW AND RELIGION STUDIES**

Shawn Boshoff, Attorney/General Secretary, African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies; Law Society of South Africa, South Africa

FORWARD TO MOROCCO

Speakers:

T. Jeremy Gunn, Professor, International Studies, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Al Akhawayn University, Morocco

Mark Hill QC, Extraordinary Professor, University of Pretoria & Cardiff, United Kingdom

W. Cole Durham, Jr., Susa Young Gates Professor of Law and Founding Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, Brigham Young University, J. Reuben Clark Law School; President, International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies, United States

FIFTH ANNUAL LAW AND RELIGION CONFERENCE
Religion, Law and Security

RABAT, MOROCCO
14-16 May 2017

CALL FOR PAPERS

Following the success of conferences in Ghana (2013), South Africa (2014), Namibia (2015) and Ethiopia (2016), the African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies will be convening its Fifth Annual Law and Religion Conference in Rabat, Morocco from 14 to 17 May 2017 in collaboration with the International University of Rabat, and the International Center for Law and Religion Studies of the Brigham Young University Law School, USA.

The subject of the conference will be *Religion, Law and Security* focusing on religious extremism, blasphemy, violence, and terrorism. Participants are encouraged to submit abstracts which address any aspect of this broad theme drawing upon their particular field of study and their national, regional or comparative experience. Themes for the conference will include:

- The inter-relationship between freedom of expression, freedom of religion and other fundamental rights in Africa
- Legal foundations for the promotion of sustainable peace and religious tolerance in Africa
- The role of inter-faith and intra-faith dialogue in countering extremism in Africa
- Blasphemy and defamation of religion in the light of the *Rabat Plan of Action* (December 2014)
- The evaluation of national and regional laws in Africa designed to combat extremism and to promote freedom of religion
- The future of the *Marrakesh Declaration on the Rights of Religious Minorities in Predominantly Muslim Majority Communities* (January 2016)
- Protection of vulnerable African communities, with particular reference to women, children, the elderly and the disabled
- Conflicts between state and religious concepts of the nature of marriage in Africa
- Witchcraft accusations in colonial and contemporary Africa
- The value of religion or belief in challenging the ideologies that drive violent extremism
- Religion, law and security in international relations, particularly within Africa

Abstracts (not exceeding 250 words) should be submitted by **Friday 30 September 2016**. The conference committee will notify successful applicants in November 2016. All abstracts, together with a short biographical note of the author, should be sent to secretariat@aclars.org

Prof Pieter Coertzen, President, ACLARS
Dr T Jeremy Gunn, Professor of Law and Political Science, International University of Rabat

NOTES

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