

# afriBIAN

Africa-Bayreuth International Alumni Network

Conference Series:

Rolling Religion on the African Map

***THE IDEA OF RELIGION:  
AFRICAN PERSPECTIVES AND  
PLANETARY CONSIDERATIONS***

Fès (Morocco)  
6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022 (at CCF)

in collaboration with DISCRESOR (Discourse, Creativity, Society and Religions) Laboratory —  
Comparative Religions Workgroup

**Project Partner from USMBA, SAIS**  
Dr. Moulay Driss El Maarouf

## 6<sup>th</sup> June

20:00: **Welcome Dinner**  
 Reception with Prof. Dr. Radouane Mrabet, President of Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, and Prof. Dr. Bouzouita Samir, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Human Sciences, Fes-Sais, Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University

## 7<sup>th</sup> June

09:00 – 09:30: **Registration**

09:30 – 10:15: **Welcome**  
 Prof. Dr. Radouane Mrabet, President of Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University  
 Prof. Dr. Bouzouita Samir, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Human Sciences, Fes-Sais, Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University Sciences  
 Prof. Dr. Bousfiha Adiba (Director of DISCRESOR)

10:15 – 10:30: **Opening**  
 by Dr. Moulay Driss El Maarouf, alumnus and project partner

10:30–11:00: **Coffee Break**

11:00 – 11:45: **Keynote “Moroccan Feminists: Between Activism and Muslima Theology”**  
 by Prof. Dr. Sadik Rddad

11:45 – 12:30: **Discussion with the Keynote Speaker**  
 moderated by Dr. Franz Kogelmann, principal investigator of the project

12:30 – 14:00: **Lunch Break**

14:00 – 15:30: **Presentations**

	<b>RELIGION DURING THE YEARS OF THE PLAGUE</b>	<b>SPIRITUALITY BETWEEN DOMINANCE, RESISTANCE AND RESILIENCE</b>
	moderated by Chikas Ishaku Tsilpi	moderated by Nouar Sadat Benhima
14:00 – 14:20:	<i>Religious Considerations in the Moroccan Context during Covid-19 Outbreak</i> Kenza Saadani Hassani	<i>Youth Islamic Performance, Popular Culture and the Idea of Islamic Religious Authority</i> Fulera Issaka-Toure
14:20 – 14:40:	<i>The Importance of ‘Human Commonality’ in Times of Crisis and its Role in Achieving Rapprochement between African Peoples</i> Yassir Iazrak Fouad Larhizer	<i>The Post-Colonial ‘Writes Back’: Empire, Na(rra)tion and Gender in Elif Shafak’s The Forty Rules of Love (2010)</i> Azize Kour

14:40 – 15:00:	<b>Rethinking 'Church' in Times of Transition: A Perspective from Ghana</b> Justice A. Arthur	<b>Sufism and Resilience in the Face of Predicaments</b> Youssef El Kaidi
15:00 – 15:30:	Round Table and with the speakers	Round Table and with the speakers

15:30 – 16:00: **Coffee Break**

16:00 – 17:30: **Presentations**

	<b>RELIGION DURING THE YEARS OF THE PLAGUE</b>	<b>TRANSLATING THE DIVINE: TEXTUAL AND HISTORICAL NARRATIVIZATIONS OF RELIGIOUS CONFLICTS</b>
	moderated by Chikas Ishaku Tsilpi	moderated by Ramzi Ben Amara
16:00 – 16:20:	<b>Covid-19 and the Religious Sphere in Morocco</b> Omar Mourni	<b>A Review on The Stephanites"</b> Aychegrew Hadera Hailu
16:20 – 16:40:	<b>"Respect the Dead": How Cemeteries Are Collapsing the 'Natural vs Supernatural' Polarity</b> Yousra Sbaihi	<b>Official Bilingualism and Religion in Cameroon</b> Endurance Midinette Koumassol Dissake Gratien G. Atindogbé
16:40 – 17:00:	<b>The Perceptions of Peace in the Holy Quran</b> Ismail Benfilali (tbc)	<b>"I was made to buy the Igbo Bible and I didn't like it": Decolonizing the Ikwere via Bible Translation</b> Uchenna Oyali
17:00 – 17:30:	Round Table and with the speakers	Round Table and with the speakers

17:30 – 18:00: **Summary of the Conference Day**

by Dr. Samuel Ndogo, alumnus and project partner

**8<sup>th</sup> June**

09:00 – 10:30: **Presentations**

	<b>RELIGION AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS (1)</b>	<b>ETHICS, CONFLICTS AND RHETORICS: MEDIA CONTESTATIONS OF FAITH</b>
	moderated by Samuel Ndogo	moderated by Ramzi Ben Amara
09:00 – 09:20:	<b>The Islamist Ascendancy during the Arab Spring in Western Press Eyes</b> Aymane Edouihri	<b>The Islamic and Christian Religion and the Use of Social Media</b> Said Gafaiti Mohamed El Hattach



09:20 – 09:40:	<b><i>Martyrs in the Sudanese Revolution: Politics, Images and Affective Resonances</i></b> Valerie Hänsch	<b><i>Digital Islam and Religious Authority Deconstruction: The Case of New Media Preachers in Morocco</i></b> Mimoune Daoudi
09:40 – 10:00:	<b><i>Historic Concession: Religion as A Driving Force for Power in Sudan 1505-2022</i></b> Ahmed Elhassab	<b><i>The Image of Sheikha in the Moroccan Series Maktoob: Representations of the Female Social Body between Religious Motives and Artistic Perception</i></b> Jebbar Abdelali
10:00 – 10:20:	<b><i>Islamic Charity in Nigeria: Understanding Faith Based Organizations in Times of Socio-economic Crisis</i></b> Adeyemi Balogun	<b><i>Communication Technology and Religion: How Religious Currents Influence the Religious Views of Moroccans Via Digital Media</i></b> Houssam Eddine Tribak
10:30 – 11:00	Round Table and with the speakers	Round Table and with the speakers

11:00 – 11:30: **Coffee Break**

11:30 – 13:00: **Presentations**

	<b><i>RELIGION AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS (2)</i></b>	<b><i>POPULISM, AFFECT AND THE POLITICS OF FAITH</i></b>
	moderated by Samuel Ndogo	moderated by Ramzi Ben Amara
11:30 – 11:50:	<b><i>The Moroccan Spring Eleven Years Later: The Ball of Opportunists</i></b> Yahya Yachouti	<b><i>Religion-Politics Conflation in Zimbabwe in the post-Mugabe Era</i></b> Charles Moyo
11:50 – 12:10:	<b><i>“Ihbat, or Disillusionment with Religious Authority”: Islam and Tamagrabit (Moroccan-ness) in Norseen Collective’s Photographs</i></b> Nour-Sadate Benhima	<b><i>Human Rights and Political Islam in Morocco: The Islam-oriented Justice and Development Party as a Case Study</i></b> Abdellatif El Aidi
12:10 – 12:30:	<b><i>Religion, Politics, and Society: The Role of Political Islam within the Sudanese Revolution of December 2018</i></b> Bakheit M. Nur	<b><i>Exploring the Heartland: Strategic Weness and Populist Emotions in the PJD’s Left and Right Wing Politics</i></b> Taieb Belghazi El Maarouf Moulay Driss
12:30 – 13:00:	Round Table and with the speakers	Round Table and with the speakers

13:00 – 14:30: **Lunch Break**

14:30 – 16:00: **Presentations**

	<b><i>SYSTEMS OF KNOWLEDGE: GENDER DYNAMICS AS A POLITICS OF DEVOTION</i></b>	<b><i>THE SOFT AND RADICAL POLITICS OF RELIGION: DIPLOMACY, JIHAD</i></b>
	moderated by Yousra Sbahih	moderated by Chaimaa El Ajani



14:30 – 14:50:	<b><i>Religion, Women’s Higher Education and Empowerment in Nigeria: A Critical Study of Christian and Muslim Women in Selected Local Government Areas of Kaduna State</i></b> Lohna Bonkat-Jonathan	<b><i>Morocco’s African Religious Diplomacy: The Need for a Moderate Islam in Africa to Fight Religious Extremism</i></b> Mohammed Lazrak
14:50 – 15:10:	<b><i>The Role of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church on Institutionalizing Traditional Education System in medieval Ethiopia</i></b> Emnet Tadesse Woldegiorgis	<b><i>Mapping Typologies of Jihadi Narratives in Kenya: Textuality, Territoriality and Marginality Discourses</i></b> Halkano Abdi Wario
15:10 – 15:30:		<b><i>Cameroon’s Anglophone Crisis: The Public Division between the Anglophone and Francophone Clergy</i></b> Endurance Midinette Koumassol Dissake and Gratien G. Atindogbé
15:30 – 16:00:	Round Table and with the speakers	Round Table and with the speakers

16:00 – 16:30: **Coffee Break**

16:30 – 17:00: **Short Documentary “Mkuru’s Church”**  
by Dr. Vanessa Wijngaarden

17:00 – 17:30: **Summary of the Conference Day**  
by Dr. Chikas Ishaku Tsilpi, alumni and project partner

## 9<sup>th</sup> June

09:00 – 10:30: **Round Table on “The Idea of Religion: African Perspectives and Planetary Considerations”**  
with alumni and local experts  
moderated by Dr. Franz Kogelmann, principal investigator of the project

10:30 – 11:00: **Coffee Break**

11:00 – 12:30: **Closing Discussion**  
moderated by Dr. Moulay Driss El Maarouf, alumnus and project partner

12:30 – 14:00: **Lunch Break**

14:00 – 15:30: **Alumni Workshop I**

15:30 – 16:00: **Coffee Break**

16:00 – 18:00: **Alumni Workshop II**

20:00: **Farewell Dinner**

## 10<sup>th</sup> June

- 09:00-15:00:           **Excursion**  
to the Medina of Fès
- 16:00:                   **Bus transfer from Fès to Casablanca**

### SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (ALUMNI AND LOCAL EXPERTS)

#### Local Experts

Dr. Adiba Bousfiha  
Dr. Samir Bouzouita  
Dr. Abdellatif El Aidi  
Dr. Said Gafaiti  
Dr. Abdelhamid Nfisi  
Dr. Moumni Omar  
Dr. Ouazzani Ibrahimi El Houcine

#### Alumni

Dr. Ramzi Ben Amara  
Dr. Moulay Driss El Maarouf  
Dr. Chikas Ishaku Tsilpi  
Dr. Samuel Ndogo  
Dr. Louis Ndong

### ORGANIZING COMMITTEE (INTERNATIONAL)

Dr. Ramzi Ben Amara  
Dr. Adiba Bousfiha  
Dr. Samir Bouzouita  
Dr. Moulay Driss El Maarouf  
Dr. Said Gafaiti  
Dr. Abdellah Idhssaine  
Dr. Chikas Ishaku Tsilpi  
Dr. Franz Kogelmann  
Dr. Samuel Ndogo  
Dr. Louis Ndong  
Dr. Moumni Omar  
Dr. Ouazzani Ibrahimi El Houcine  
Mirjam Strasser