African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies

Law, Religion, and Security

Rabat, Morocco

14–16 May 2017

Organized by:

Université Internationale de Rabat, Morocco;
African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies, South Africa;
International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies, Italy;
International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School,
Brigham Young University, United States

PROGRAMME

SUNDAY, 14 MAY 2017

15:00 – 17:30  Conference Registration
Hotel Farah Reception, Rabat

17:15  Departure (by foot) for Restaurant Le Ziryab
Hotel Farah Reception, Rabat

18:00 – 18:30  OPENING AND WELCOME
Le Ziryab Restaurant, Rabat

President’s Welcome:
Pieter Coertzen, President, African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies; Faculty of Theology (Retd.), Stellenbosch University, South Africa

Welcoming Addresses:
Mark Hill QC, Chair, Conference Organizing Committee;
Extraordinary Professor, University of Pretoria, South Africa; Visiting Professor, Cardiff University, United Kingdom
Abdelaziz Benjouad, Vice-President for Research and Development, Université Internationale de Rabat, Morocco
T. Jeremy Gunn, Professor of Law and Political Science, Université Internationale de Rabat, Morocco

18:30 – 19:30  FIRST PLENARY SESSION
Le Ziryab Restaurant
Chair:  
**W. Cole Durham, Jr.**, Susa Young Gates Professor of Law and Founding Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University, United States; President, International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies, Italy

Speakers:  
**Ján Figel’**, Special Envoy for the Promotion of Freedom of Religion or Belief outside the European Union, European Commission, Slovakia  
**Sir Malcolm D. Evans**, Chair, UN Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture; Professor of Public International Law, University of Bristol, United Kingdom

19:30 – 21:30  
**Dinner**  
Le Ziryab Restaurant

**MONDAY, 15 MAY 2017**

8:30 – 9:00  
**Registration**  
Atrium of Building 3, Université Internationale de Rabat

9:00 – 9:45  
**OPENING SESSION**  
Amphitheater 6 of Building 3

**WELCOME**  
Noureddine Mouaddib, President, Université Internationale de Rabat, Morocco

**INAUGURAL ADDRESS**  
Driss El Yazami, Chair, National Human Rights Council, Morocco

9:45 – 10:30  
**SECOND PLENARY SESSION**  

**LAW, RELIGION, AND SECURITY: WEST AFRICAN PERSPECTIVES**

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

Keynote Speaker:  
**Festus K. Aubyn**, Research Fellow, Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre, Ghana

10:30 – 10:45  
**Group Photo**  
Atrium of Building 3

10:45 – 11:00  
**Break**
PARALLEL SESSIONS 1:

COUNTERING RELIGIOUS RADICALIZATION
Amphitheatre 6 of Building 3

Chair:
Marcus B. Nash, Africa West Area Presidency, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Ghana

Speakers:
Driss Maghraoui, Associate Professor, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Al Akhawayn University, Morocco
“On the Relevance and Irrelevance of Religious Reforms to Combat Radicalism: Lessons from Morocco”
John Tito Kunyuk, Magistrate, Kakuma Law Courts, Turkana County, Kenya
“I’m Right, You Are Dead’: The Need for a Substantive Fatwa Institution in Countering Violent Extremism in Kenya”
Mahfoud Ali Zoui, Associate Professor, Université de Guelma, Algeria
“Religion, Politics, and Radicalization: Tracing the Roots of Violent Extremism in the Sahel and Maghreb Regions with Special Reference to the Algerian Experience”
Seyni Moundouri, Professor, l’Institut de Recherches en Sciences Humaines, Université de Niamey, Niger
“Le radicalisme religieux et les menaces sécuritaires au Sahel”

REVOLUTION, TRADITION, AND DIALOGUE
Room 409 of Building 3

Chair:
Asonzeh Ukah, Department of Religious Studies, University of Cape Town, South Africa

Speakers:
Abamfo O. Atiemo, Professor, Department for the Study of Religions, University of Ghana, Ghana
Elias Bongmba, Harry and Hazel Chair in Christian Theology, Professor of Religion, Rice University, United States;
and
Tanto Richard Talla, Associate Professor, Faculty of Arts, Department of History, University of Bamenda, Cameroon
“Law vs. Customary Law and Beliefs in Cameroon”
Driss Bouyahya, Professor, Moulay Ismail University, Morocco
“Is Interfaith Dialogue a Myth?”

THE RISE OF BOKO HARAM IN NIGERIA
Room 410 of Building 3

Chair:
Akinola Ibidapo-Obe, Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Lagos, Nigeria

Speakers:
Wahab Egbewole, Professor, Faculty of Law, Department of Jurisprudence and International Law, University of Ilorin, Nigeria; and
Hammed A. Hanafi, Senior Lecturer, Ag HOD, Public and International Law, Al-Hikmah University, Nigeria
“Curbing Religious Extremism of (Boko Haram) Insurgency in Nigeria: Judicial Interventionism and Human Rights Absolutism”
Afis A. Oladosu, Professor of Middle Eastern, North African, and Cultural Studies, Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria
“If These Attacks Continue, Hijab Has to Be Banned’: National Security and Religious Identities in Contemporary Nigeria”
Simeon O. Ilesanmi, Washington M. Wingate Professor of Religion, Department for the Study of Religions, Wake Forest University, United States (coauthored with Kate E. Temoney, Assistant Professor of Religion, Montclair State University, United States)
“Counter-Terrorism and Religious Violence in Nigeria: A Human Rights Perspective on the Doctrine of Necessity”

12:30 – 13:45
Lunch
Atrium of Building 3

13:45 – 15:15
THIRD PLENARY SESSION

THE FUTURE OF THE RABAT PLAN OF ACTION AND THE MARRAKESH DECLARATION
Amphitheater 6 of Building 3

Chair:
Enyinna S. Nwauche, Professor, Rhodes University, South Africa

Speakers:
Mark Hill QC, Extraordinary Professor, University of Pretoria, South Africa; Visiting Professor, Cardiff University, United Kingdom
Muhammed Haron, Professor, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Botswana, Botswana
“Muslim Authorities and Africa’s Ahmadis: Issuing Legal Opinions, Circumscribing Religious Actions”
Abdulkader Tayob, Professor of Religious Studies, Department of Religious Studies, University of Cape Town, South Africa
“Reflections on the Marrakesh Declaration: Communal and Individual Sensibilities of Religious Belief and Unbelief”

Najib Mokhtari, Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Université Internationale de Rabat, Morocco
“The Conditions of Faith and Patterns of Secularism in Religious Reform Agendas”

15:15 – 15:30 Break
Atrium of Building 3

15:30 – 16:45 PARALLEL SESSIONS 2:

PERSPECTIVES ON RABAT AND MARRAKESH
Amphitheatre 6 of Building 3

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:
Cristiana Cianitto, Lecturer in Canon Law, University of Milan; General Coordinator/Secretariat, International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies, Italy
“Reading Rabat in Light of Marrakesh: Drawing the Lines between Blasphemy and Defamation of Religions”

Burkhard J. Berkmann, Professor, University of Munich, Germany
“Blasphemy and Defamation of Religions: A Comparison between the European Court of Human Rights and the Rabat Plan of Action”

Antonio Fuccillo, Professor of Law and Religion, Università degli Studi della Campania Luigi Vanvitelli, Italy
(coauthored with Francesco Sorvillo, Postdoctoral Fellow, Università degli Studi della Campania Luigi Vanvitelli, Italy; and Ludovica Decimo, PhD Candidate, University of Padua, Italy)
“Looking beyond the Marrakesh Declaration: Bridging Religious Freedom in Muslim Countries”

CASE STUDIES IN BLASPHEMY LAWS
Room 409 of Building 3

Chair: Mohammed Haron, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Botswana, Botswana

Speakers:
Mohamed Abdelaal, Assistant Professor of Law, Faculty of Law, Alexandria University, Egypt
“Blasphemy Law in a Muslim Majority Country: Egypt, a Case Study”
Musa Usman Abubakar, Associate Professor, Department of Islamic Law, Bayero University, Nigeria
“Nigeria’s Blasphemy Laws and the Competing Rights: Taming the Self-Appointed God Avengers through Judicial Process”

Ahmed S. Garba, Faculty of Law, Bauchi State University, Nigeria
“The Prospects and Problems of the Marrakesh Declaration on the Rights of Religious Minorities in Predominantly Muslim Majority Communities”

16:45 – 17:00
Break
Atrium of Building 3

17:00 – 18:15
PARALLEL SESSIONS 3:
RELIGION, SPEECH, AND MEDIA
Amphitheatre 6 of Building 3

Chair:
Jean-Baptiste Sourou, Professor of Religion and Law, Saint Augustine University Mwanza, Tanzania; Founder and President, Center for Documentation and Research on Art and Social Sciences (CeDReS), Benin

Speakers:
Lee-Shae Scharnick-Udemans, Research Associate, Department of Religious Studies, University of Cape Town, South Africa

Asonzeh Ukah, Senior Lecturer, Department of Religious Studies, University of Cape Town, South Africa
“The Afterlife of Freedom of Religious Expression? Hate Speech and the Pentecostal Discourses on Same-Sex Relations in Nigeria”

Hassan Ndzovu, Senior Lecturer, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Moi University, Kenya

Célestin Gnonzion, Professor of Media Ethics and Journalism, Faculty of Information, Communication, and Arts, Université Félix Houphouët-Boigny, Côte d’Ivoire
“Exercise of Religious Liberty in Public Media in Côte d’Ivoire”

WITCHCRAFT IN ZIMBABWE
Room 409 of Building 3

Chair:
Elias Bongmba, Harry and Hazel Chair in Christian Theology, Professor of Religion, Rice University, United States
Speakers:

Sophia Chirongoma, Lecturer, Theology and Religious Studies, Midlands State University, Zimbabwe
“Exploring the Religio-cultural Beliefs and Practices of Witchcraft in Contemporary Zimbabwe”

Bernard Humbe, Lecturer, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe
“Witchcraft Accusations in Colonial and Contemporary Africa”

Julio R. Machele, Assistant Lecturer, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, History Department, Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, Mozambique
“He Then Became a Lion: Witchcraft Accusations in Rural Mozambique”

Fortune Sibanda, Lecturer in Religious Studies, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe
“The Legality of Witchcraft Accusations in Colonial and Postcolonial Zimbabwe”

MARRIAGE, FAMILY, AND SECURITY OF SOCIETIES
Room 410 of Building 3

Chair:
Mary Anne Plaajties van Huffel, Senior Lecturer in Ecclesiology, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa

Speakers:

Pieter Coertzen, President, African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies; Faculty of Theology (Retd.), Stellenbosch University, South Africa
“The Heritage of Colonialism in South Africa and Its Effect on Marriages in Society”

Helen Linonge-Fontebo, Lecturer, Department of Women and Gender Studies, University of Buea, Cameroon
“Conflicts between State and Religious Concepts of the Nature of Marriage in Africa”

Mohamed Mraja, Senior Lecturer in Islamic Studies, Department of Philosophy, Religion, and Theology, Moi University, Kenya

John G. Esubonteng, PhD Candidate, Department for the Study of Religion, University of Ghana, Ghana
“Conflicts between State and Religious Concepts of Marriage in Africa: The Ghanaian Experience”

18:30
Bus Departure to Dinner Location
Al Marsa Espagnol
19:00 – 21:00  Conference Dinner and Keynote
Al Marsa Espagnole

LAW, RELIGION, AND HUMAN SECURITY

Chair:
Abulkader Tayob, Professor of Religious Studies, Department of Religious Studies, University of Cape Town, South Africa

Keynote Speaker:
Funmi Olonisakin, Professor, African Leadership Centre, King’s College London, United Kingdom

TUESDAY, 16 MAY 2017

8:30 – 9:00  Registration
Atrium of Building 3

9:00 – 10:30  FOURTH PLENARY SESSION
Amphitheatre 6 of Building 3

LAW, RELIGION, AND WOMEN: MOROCCAN PERSPECTIVES

Chair:
Rosalind I. J. Hackett, Professor and Head, Department of Religious Studies, University of Tennessee, United States

Speakers:
Aïcha Belarbi, Professor of Sociology, Mohammed V University – Rabat; Former Ambassador to the European Union; Former Secretary of State for Cooperation, Morocco
Amal Idrissi, Professor in Public Law and Political Sciences, University Moulay Ismail, Morocco
Fatima Sadiqi, Professor of Linguistics and Gender Studies, University of Fes, Morocco
Malika Benradi, Professor, Faculty of Law, Université Internationale de Rabat, Morocco
Moha Ennaji, Professor, University of Fes, Morocco

10:30 – 11:00  Break
Atrium of Building 3
PARALLEL SESSIONS 4:

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM, VIOLENCE, AND PEACE
Amphitheatre 6 of Building 3

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

Speakers:
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
“The Role of Religion and Religious Freedom in Challenging Violent Extremism”
Jean-Baptiste Sourou, Professor of Religion and Law, Saint Augustine University Mwanza, Tanzania; Founder and President, Center for Documentation and Research on Art and Social Sciences (CeDRes), Benin
“‘Esprit d’Assise’ ou quand les religions s’engagent pour la paix”
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 Public Law, University of Pretoria, South Africa
“The Concept of a Holy War: Past and Present Perspectives”
Eric S. Ross, Associate Professor, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Al Akhawayn University, Morocco
“The Contingent and Ethical Arguments of West African Muslim Leaders for Rejecting Political Violence”

KENYAN ANTI-TERRORISM LAWS
Room 409 of Building 3

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

Speakers:
Fathima Azmiya Badurdeen, Chairperson, Department of Social Sciences, Technical University of Mombasa, Kenya
Loreen I. Maseno, Humboldt Research Fellow, University of Bayreuth, Germany
“Religious Contestations of Framings of Terror Attacks in Kenya: Contrastive Narratives from the National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK) and the Evangelical Alliance of Kenya (EAK)”
Hamisi Ali Mwadzogo, PhD Candidate, Faculty of Sharia and Law, Omdurman Islamic University, Kenya

GENDER, VULNERABILITY, AND AGENCY
Room 410 of Building 3

Chair:
Abiola Akiyode-Afolabi, Lecturer, Department of Public Law, Faculty of Law, University of Lagos, Nigeria

Speakers:
Damaris Parsitau, Director, Institute of Women, Gender, and Development Studies; Lecturer, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Egerton University, Kenya
“‘Homosexuals Are an Abomination Before the Lord!’: Public Religion, Human Rights, and the Politicization of Homosexual Debates in Kenya”
Meriem El Haitami, PhD Candidate, University of Sidi Mohammed Ben Abdellah, Morocco
“Morocco’s State-Sanctioned Murshidat: Women as Providers of Spiritual Security?”
Habibat Oladosu-Uthman, Lecturer, Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria
“‘This Man Is My Wife’: Examining Challenges Confronting the Marriage Institution in Africa”

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch
Atrium of Building 3

13:45 – 15:00 GOVERNMENT PERSPECTIVES ON LAW, RELIGION, AND SECURITY: A ROUNDTABLE
Amphitheatre 6 of Building 3

Chair:
Kevin S. Hamilton, President, Africa Southeast Area, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, South Africa

Speakers:
Saleh Bala, Brigadier General (Rtd.), Senior Adviser, Ministry of the Interior, Nigeria
Adelaide Anno-Kumi, Chief Director, Ministry of the Interior, Ghana
Mohamed Francis Kabia, Director of Social Welfare, Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender, and Children’s Affairs, Sierra Leone
Mariatu Bangura, Deputy Chief of Social Services, Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender, and Children’s Affairs, Sierra Leone
Obedingwa Mguni, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Home Affairs, Zimbabwe
Helefom Abay Ayele, Director, Religious Organizations and Associations Registration, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ethiopia

Haji Ali Dermesha, Adviser to the State Minister, Ministry of Federal and Pastoralists Affairs, Ethiopia

15:00 – 15:30

Break
Atrium of Building 3

15:30 – 16:45

PARALLEL SESSIONS 5:

RELIGIOUS IDENTITY AND SECURITY IN ETHIOPIA
Amphitheatre 6 of Building 3

Chair:
Ahmed S. Garba, Faculty of Law, Bauchi State University, Nigeria

Speakers:
Mohammed Jemal Ahmed, Lecturer and Researcher of History and Tourism, Wollo University, Ethiopia
“Aliens within the Homeland: Ethiopian Muslims and the Issue of ‘Ethiopianess’”

Afework Hailu Beyene, Head of Student Affairs, Lecturer in Historical Studies, Ethiopian Graduate School of Theology, Ethiopia
“When Law Challenges Togetherness: The Case of Dimtsachin Yesema, an Islamic Reform Group in Ethiopia”

Serawit Bekele Debele, Fritz Thyssen Stiftung Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Bayreuth, Germany
“Religion and (in) Security in Ethiopia: The Role of Media in Framing Discourses on Islam”

Mohammed Dejen Assen, Lecturer, College of Law and Governance, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia
“Religion and the Secular State Order: The Ethiopian Experience”

WITCHCRAFT ACCUSATIONS AND VULNERABLE POPULATIONS
Room 409 of Building 3

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

Speakers:
Elias Konyana, Lecturer, Faculty of Arts, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe

Nokuzola Mndende, Director, Icamagu Institute; Research Associate, Department of Theology, University of the Free State, South Africa
“Witchcraft Accusations in Colonial and Contemporary South Africa: Race, Gender, Class, Disabilities, and Geographical Divides”

**Saibu Mutaru**, PhD Candidate, Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

“All Anthropological Study of ‘Witch Camps’ and Human Rights in Northern Ghana”

**GENDER, SPACE, AND SECURITY**

Room 410 of Building 3

Chair:

**Damaris Parsitau**, Director, Institute of Women, Gender, and Development Studies; Lecturer, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Egerton University, Kenya

Speakers:

**Abiola Akiyode-Afolabi**, Lecturer, Department of Public Law, Faculty of Law, University of Lagos, Nigeria

“Boko Haram and Women: Rights to Inheritance”

**Sohail Wahedi**, PhD Candidate, Erasmus School of Law, Netherlands


**Yolanda van der Vyver**, PhD Candidate, Department of Architecture, University of the Free State, South Africa


**16:45 – 17:00**

**Break**

Atrium of Building 3

**17:00 – 18:30**

**CONCLUSION AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN CONSORTIUM FOR LAW AND RELIGION STUDIES**

Amphitheatre 6 of Building 3

**19:00**

**Bus Transport to Closing Dinner Location**

Restaurant Al Marsa Italien
The African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies acknowledges with gratitude the generous contributions to this event of the Université Internationale de Rabat, the International Center for Law and Religion Studies of the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University, the Campbell Family Foundation, Sheldon and Joan Child, Helen Leon, and the Sorenson Legacy Foundation.