



INTERNATIONAL CENTER
FOR LAW AND
RELIGION STUDIES
AT
BYU
BRIGHAM YOUNG
UNIVERSITY

First call for papers for the conference:

Religious Freedom and Religious Pluralism in Africa: Prospects and Limitations

18-19 May 2015

University of Namibia (Windhoek, Namibia)

Dear Colleagues:

The local organizing committee is pleased to announce the third conference on **Law and Religion in Africa** which will be held in Windhoek, Namibia at the University of Namibia from Monday, May 18 to Tuesday, May 19, 2015. This conference focuses on the theme "Religious Freedom and Religious Pluralism in Africa: Prospects and Limitations." Proposals regarding this theme, and the following subthemes, are welcomed:

- African traditional law / religion
- Human rights and dignity (including rights of children, the disabled, the elderly and women)
- Implications of globalisation, neo-liberalism, democratisation, and fragile states for religious practice in African societies
- Competing conceptions of religion and freedom in the African context
- Tensions between individual and collective rights
- Relationship of custom, culture, ethnicity and religion
- State responses to religious pluralism and pluralisation in Africa
- Law, religion and ecological issues (including issues of ecology, climate change and fracking)
- Theological and/or philosophical approaches to the theme
- Religious freedoms, rights and responsibilities
- Religion-state relations
- Legal perspectives and religion (including national, regional, international and comparative perspectives)
- Other emerging current concerns for the law and religion field

We hereby invite all scholars interested in the study of Law and Religion to submit proposals of no more than 250 words by **20 February 2015**. These can be submitted electronically to lawreligioninafrica@gmail.com. The medium of presentation is English or French.

A number of speakers will be commissioned for the programme. We would like to encourage all interested scholars and participants of the first **Law and Religion in Africa** conference (Ghana, January 2013) and second **Law and Religion in Africa** conference (Stellenbosch, May 2014) to consider attending. Travel support may be available for those whose papers are selected.

Please feel free to distribute this Call for Papers to other interested parties. More detailed information will be provided via email and <http://lawreligioninafrica.wordpress.com/>. For further inquiries visit our website, or kindly contact Nico Horn at nhorn@unam.na with a copy to Magriet de Villiers at mdev@sun.ac.za and Deborah Wright at wrightde@law.byu.edu.

Sincerely,

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Pieter Coertzen

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Conference Organising Committee:

Nico Horn, Associate Professor of Public Law, University of Namibia

Shawn Boshoff, Director, ACLARS Secretary

Pieter Coertzen, Professor, Faculty of Theology, Stellenbosch University

W. Cole Durham, Jr., Professor of Law, BYU Law School

Rosalind J. Hackett, Professor of Religious Studies, Harvard Divinity School

Mark Hill, Honorary Professor, Centre for Law and Religion, Cardiff University and University of Pretoria

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

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

Robert T. Smith, Managing Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, BYU Law School

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Johan van der Vyver, Emory University Law School

In association with:

The International Center for Law and Religion Studies (Brigham Young University);

International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies (Milan, Italy);

Faculty of Law, University of Namibia

Unit for the Study of Law and Religion, University of Stellenbosch