

Oxford Symposium on Religious Studies

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2020

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

(ALL TIMES INDICATED IN GMT)

- 2:20 - 2:30 P.M. Welcome
Symposium Facilitator, **Canon Brian Mountford**, MBE, Former Vicar of The University Church of St Mary the Virgin, and Fellow of St Hilda's College, University of Oxford, UK
- 2:30 - 3:00 P.M. Topic: *The Dilemma of Democracy in the Thought of Two Muslim Thinkers*
Presenter: **Samira Alkhaldeh**, Professor, University of Jordan, Jordan
- 3:00 - 3:30 P.M. Topic: *Religion or Culture? Reconsidering Islam in Bangladesh Context*
Presenter: **Md Toha**, Adjunct lecturer, Centre for Modern Languages, Bangladesh University of Professionals, Bangladesh
- 3:30 - 4:00 P.M. Topic: *The Contested Concept of Religious Toleration*
Presenter: **Md Jahid Houssain Bhuiyan**, Postdoctoral Fellow, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Germany
- 4:00 - 4:15 P.M. Break

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- 4:15 - 4:45 P.M. Topic: *Alexander von Humboldt's spiritual exercises in Cosmos and in Views of Nature*
Presenters: **Mario Bosincu**, Research Fellow, University of Sassari, Italy
- 4:45 - 5:15 P.M. Topic: *Scepticism as a Philosophical Orientation: Ataraxia and Nirvana*
Presenter: **Maximo Castelli**, Researcher, National University of Cordoba, Argentina
- 5:15 - 5:45 P.M. Topic: *The Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019: A Religion Based Pathway to Indian Citizenship*
Presenter: **Tayiba Khan**, J.D. candidate, University of La Verne, US
- 5:45 - 6:30 P.M. Break
- 6:30 - 7:00 P.M. Topic: *Climate Change and Religion*
Presenter: **Asger Trier Engberg**, Independent, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 7:00 - 7:30 P.M. Topic: *Divinity and Decay: Curating Ephemeral Religious Objects in Museums*
Presenter: **Emma Cieslik**, Student, Ball State University, US
- 7:30 - 8:00 P.M. Topic: *On the Challenges Facing Educational Leadership in the Arab World*
Presenter: **Ruqaiya Alalwani**, Professor, University of Bahrain, Bahrain
Welcome

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2020

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

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- 2:20 - 2:30 P.M. Symposium Facilitator, **Canon Brian Mountford**
- 2:30 - 3:00 P.M. Topic: *Mystical Daejonggyo: A Transnational New Religion in Modern Sino-Korean History*
Presenter: **David W. Kim**, Associate Professor, Kookmin University, Korea
- 3:00 - 3:30 P.M. Topic: *Ramadan Fasting, Piety and Good Personality: An Empirical Support*
Presenter: **Khairul Anwar Mastor**, Professor, National University of Malaysia, Malaysia
- 3:30 - 4:00 P.M. Topic: *Management of Financial Behaviour for Churches During the Covid-19 Pandemic*
Presenter: **Anik Yuesti**, Assistant Professor, University of Mahasaraswati Denpasar
- 4:00 - 4:15 P.M. Break

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- 4:15 - 4:45 P.M. Topic: *The Concept of Poverty (faqr) in the Thought of Niyāzī Misrī in His Work Mawā'id al-'irfān*
Presenter: **Omneya Ayad**, Lecturer, Uskudar University, Turkey
- 4:45 - 5:15 P.M. Topic: *Lāl Dās: A Doorway Between Various Communities*
Presenter: **Perwaiz Hayat**, Lecturer, Concordia University, Canada
- 5:15 - 5:45 P.M. Topic: *Leading from a Transformed Heart: A Content Analysis of Biblical Pivotal Moments in the Life of the Apostle Peter*
Presenter: **Christa Bonnet**, PhD Graduate, Regent University, US
- 5:45 - 6:30 P.M. Break
- 6:30 - 7:00 P.M. Topic: *Enacting US-China Tensions through Religious Activism in Pandemic-Election Year: Why Did Chinese American Evangelicals Support Trump?*
Presenter: **Li Ma**, Research Fellow, Calvin University, US
- 7:00 - 7:30 P.M. Topic: *Ecumenical Christology and Interreligious Dialogue in Early Nigeria (1899-1909)*
Presenter: **Adrian Deese**, Assistant Professor, University of Michigan, US

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- 7:30 - 7:40 P.M. Break
- 7:40 - 8:10 P.M. Topic: *The Man in Black: Johnny Cash and the Struggle to Save the Soul of American*
Presenter: **Frederick Downing & Jonathan Downing**, Professor and Co-Director, Valdosta State University & Screaming Shih-Tzu Productions, US
- 8:10 - 8:40 P.M. Topic: *God Among The Nations: An Analogous Study Of Christology In The New Testament And Ela In Yoruba Tradition*
Presenter: **Ige Abiodun Simeon**, Associate Professor, Kogi State University, Nigeria
- 8:40 PM Adjourn

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2020

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(ALL TIMES INDICATED IN GMT)

- 2:20 - 2:30 P.M. Welcome
Symposium Facilitator, **Canon Brian Mountford**
- 2:30 - 3:00 P.M. Topic: *Islamic Mysticism and Cultural Translation*
Presenter: **Saeed Zarrabi-Zadeh**, Assistant Professor, University of Erfurt, Germany
- 3:00 - 3:30 P.M. Topic: *The Lion in the Den of the Prophets: Penelope's Art of Fortification*
Presenter: **Chun-Ning Tsao**, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Chinese Culture University, ROC
- 3:30 - 4:00 P.M. Topic: *Inclusive Black Congregations and Black Ecclesial Queering*
Presenter: **Brandon Crowley**, Instructor, Harvard University, US
- 4:00 - 4:15 P.M. Break
- 4:15 - 4:45 P.M. Topic: *Gender Identity: Perspectives from Psychology and Religion*
Presenter: **Glen Bowman**, Assistant Professor, York College, US

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- 4:45 - 5:15 P.M. Topic: *The Development of Hindu Laws in India: With Reference to The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955*
Presenter: **Fatime Ali**, Law Student, NMIMS Kirit P. Mehta School of Law, India
- 5:15 - 5:45 P.M. Topic: *In the Name of the Father: Readings of Masculine Characterizations of God In Christian Religious Language*
Presenter: **Soili Haverinen**, PhD Student, University of Helsinki, Finland
- 5:45 - 6:30 P.M. Break
- 6:30 - 7:00 P.M. Topic: *In Quest of Jivanmukti – A Woman's Endeavour to Liberation*
Presenter: **Anjali Duhan Gulia**, Fellow, Indian Institute of Advanced Study, India
- 7:00 - 7:30 P.M. Topic: *Seek Ye Out of the Best Books: How Joseph Smith's Translation Process of the Book of Mormon Suggests His Syncretic Thought Process*
Presenter: **Scott Jackson**, Assistant Professor, Snow College, US
- 7:30 - 8:00 P.M. Topic: *Theology and the Anthropocene: An African Investigation of Global Christianity*
Presenter: **Bella Mukonyora**, Professor, Western Kentucky University, US
- 8:00 PM Conference concludes

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Observers

Ali Alsiehemy, United Kingdom

Shaker Alshareef, PhD Researcher, Brunel University, United Kingdom

Carrie Crisp, Lecturer, Texas State University, United States

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Symposium Facilitator

Canon Brian Mountford, MBE (Member of the British Empire) is the former Vicar of the University Church, Oxford, and Fellow St Hilda's College. He is also an Honorary Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford. Interested in public theology he has helped to make the University Church a centre for interdisciplinary debate. His bestselling book, *Christian Atheist* (2011), explores the phenomenon of those who find Christianity compelling but struggle with the metaphysical beliefs. His main interests are in the philosophy of religion, particularly questions of faith and doctrine, but he has diversified into other areas giving seminars on leadership and ethics in corporate life for the Said Business School and the Academy for Leadership in the Netherlands. During the seventies, he was Fellow and Chaplain of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge before becoming Vicar of Southgate in North London for seven years in the '80s.

