

THE
YEAR
OF RELIGION
AT SAIS



Johns Hopkins University – SAIS
African Studies Program

Religion and Politics in Africa

Friday, April 2, 2010
9 AM – 4 PM

Kenney Auditorium
1740 Massachusetts Ave, NW

Africa often attracts attention as a region dominated by ethnic identities and politics, yet it is also a continent of religious diversity, with important effects on public life. Issues related to religious affiliation, spiritual values, coexistence among groups, competition between communities, and religious conflict are increasingly seen in the political sphere. This conference brings together a group of leading scholars to examine the changing role of religion in African politics and the various expressions of religious identity in the public domain.

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9:00 – 9:15: Welcome and opening remarks

Peter Lewis, Director, African Studies, SAIS

9:15 – 10:45: Religion and Conflict in Africa

Moderator: Peter Lewis, SAIS

- Ken Menkhaus (Davidson College),
“Islamic Mobilization, Islamic Radicalism, and Islamic Governance in Somalia”
- Paul Lubeck (University of California, Santa Cruz),
“Islamism and the Politics of Human Security in Northern Nigeria”
- Timothy Longman (Boston University),
“Christianity and Conflict in the Great Lakes Region”

10:45 - 11:00: Coffee

11:00 – 12:30: Religious Movements, Religious Values and Public Life

Moderator: Leonardo Villalon, University of Florida

- Margrit Insa Nolte (University of Birmingham),
“Religion, Politics and Governance”
- Ruth Marshall (University of Toronto),
“Pentecostalism's Politics of Conviction in Africa”
- Rosalind Hackett (University of Tennessee, Knoxville),
“The Politics of Proselytization in Uganda and Nigeria”

1:00 – 2:00: Luncheon: Luis Lugo (*Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life*)

“Piety and Politics in Sub-Saharan Africa: Results from a 19-Country Survey”

2:30 – 4:00: “Civil” Religion: Accommodation and Democracy

Moderator: Paul Lubeck, UC, Santa Cruz

- Ebenezer Obadare (University of Kansas),
“The 'Theocratic Class' and the Politics of Legitimacy in Nigeria's Fourth Republic”
- Leonard Villalon (University of Florida),
“Francophone States, Muslim Societies, and Democratic Bargaining in Sahelian Africa”
- John Paden (George Mason University).
“Can the Religious Center Hold in Nigeria? Muslim Establishment Responses to Violent Extremism”