



Northwestern

BUFFETT INSTITUTE
FOR GLOBAL STUDIES

Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa

إِنشَاءَ الْإِسْلَامِ فِي
مَكْمَلِ الْفِكَرِ الْإِسْلَامِيِّ
إِسِيَا

AFRICA, GLOBALIZATION, AND THE MUSLIM WORLDS

CALLS FOR PAPERS

Please send submissions to: islamicafrica2019@gmail.com

The Alwaleed Professorship of Contemporary Islamic Religion and Society at Harvard Divinity School and The Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa (ISITA) at Northwestern University invites proposals for a conference to be held at

HARVARD DIVINITY SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 19-21, 2019

<https://scholar.harvard.edu/ousmanekane/2019-20-academic-year>

<https://isita.buffett.northwestern.edu/index.html>

This conference to be held at Harvard University is a follow-up to “Islam in Global Africa: African Muslims in the World, Muslim Worlds in Africa,” an international conference organized by ISITA at Northwestern University in April 2018.

Scholarship on globalization of Islamic Africa has been focused either on merely describing (if not romanticizing) African Muslims’ experiences abroad, on one hand, or on exploring how Muslim societies in Africa are affected by global Islamic trends, on the other hand. Little attention has been paid to the ways in which Islam and what it means to be African and Muslim have been and are being negotiated at the intersection of local, regional and global encounters, narratives, perceptions and exchanges.

We welcome proposals focusing on Islamic Africa’s global and local interactions through circulations of people, ideas, goods, beliefs and practices in any time period. We especially encourage original research that investigates creatively the interplay between the religious, political or social experiences of African Muslims and the transformations of Islamic Africa in a globalized world. We hope to include papers which examine the importance of transnational Muslim networks in Africa and the role Africans play in global Islamic arenas. At the turn of the 20th century, African Muslims have established or re-established contacts with Muslims all over the world, including Turkey, Iran, Europe, the United States, Arab monarchies of the Gulf, Egypt. Papers focusing on these intra-Muslim dynamics are especially welcome.

Questions that we seek to investigate include but are not limited to:

- How to account for the dynamics of continuity and change in forms of Islamic piety, authority and knowledge production in Africa, in a context of increased global connections?
- How do African Muslims articulate their religious life in a globalized world?
- For African Muslims in the diaspora, how do religious links with their homelands shape their relationship to Islam?

Paper proposals should be sent to : islamicafrika2019@gmail.com on or before March 31. Proposals should include an abstract of no more than 300 words and a title, as well as the author’s name, email address, and institutional affiliation. Proposals from advanced graduate students and recent PhDs are especially welcomed. Some financial support may be available to cover travel costs for invited participants, particularly from overseas. Participants will be notified of their acceptance by May 1 2019. We expect those selected to submit a complete version of their paper to the conference organizers on or before June 30, 2019.

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