

# PROGRAM

## *Africa, Globalization and the Muslim Worlds*

Harvard Divinity School, September 19-21, 2019

### **Thursday, September 19, 2019**

*Thompson Room, Barker Center  
12 Quincy St., Cambridge, MA 02138*

**5:00 PM - 5:30 PM**

#### **Welcome Addresses**

**David Hempton**, Dean of Harvard Divinity School  
**Ousmane Kane**, Harvard Divinity School

**5:30 PM - 6:30 PM**

#### **Opening Lecture**

**Zekeria Ould Ahmed Salem**, "Global Shinqit. Mauritanian Islamic Scholars and the re-making of religious authority in the Muslim world"

### **Friday, September 20, 2019**

*60 Oxford St. Room 119, Cambridge, MA 02138*

**8:30 AM - 10:00 AM**

#### **The Long Presence of African Muslims in the Americas**

**Chair: Charles Hallisey**, Harvard Divinity School

**Diego Giovanni Castellanos**, National University of Colombia. "Muslim identity and social marginality among an African descendant Colombian community"

**Madina Thiam**, University of California Los Angeles. "Absolutely and utterly free" Sahelian Kinship" Muslim Schooling" and Emancipation between Jamaica and the Middle Nigeria c. 1790 -1854"

**Ayodeji Ogunnaike**, Bowdoin College. "Bilad al-Brazil: The Importance of West African Scholars in Brazilian Islamic Education and Practice in Historic and Contemporary Perspective"

**10:30 AM - 12:00 PM**

#### **Transnational Islam 1**

**Chair: Ousmane Kane**, Harvard Divinity School

**Irit Back**, Tel Aviv University. "Sufis from West Africa in Jerusalem: Dynamic of Religious Exchange during Colonial Times"

**Rhea Rahman**, Brooklyn College, "Racializing the Good Muslim: The Whiteness of 'soft power' and Black Muslim Activism in South Africa"

**Steve Howard**, Ohio University. "On the Path of the Prophet in Unsettled Times: Sudan's Republican Brotherhood Looks Abroad"

[1] This conference 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.



**1:00 PM - 2:30 PM**

**Transnational Islam 11**

**Chair: Rebecca Shereikis, Northwestern University**

**Amidu Sanni**, Fountain University Nigeria, “Glocalization in Globalization: New Epistemology and Source on African History and Scholarship”

**Cheikh Niang**, Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Senegal, “Beyond Senegal. The Socio-Political Perspectives of a Globalized Muslim Community”

**Youssef Carter**, Harvard University, “Tarbiyah as Liberation. From Senegal to the American South”

**Asserting Identity and Expressing Spirituality: Young Muslims in the West**

**3:00 PM - 4:30 PM**

**Roundtable with the Baraka Boys**

**Chair: Zachary Wright, Northwestern University-Qatar**

**4:30 PM - 6:00 PM**

**Concert by Baraka Boys**

**Saturday, September 21, 2019**

*Center for African studies, 3rd Floor  
1280 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, MA 02138*

**8:30 AM - 10:30AM**

**Transnational Islam 111**

**Chair: Zekeria Ould Ahmed Salem, Northwestern University**

**Mara Leichmann**, “Transnational Networks and Global Shi’i Islamic NGOs in Senegal and Tanzania”

**Ezgi Guner**, University of Illinois- Urbana Champaign, “Turkish State and Sufi Brotherhoods in Muslim Africa”

**Gadija Ahjum**, University of Cape Town, “Constructing a South African Shi’ism: The case study of a Cape Town Shi’i community”

**10:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

**New Paradigms in the Study of Islam in Africa**

**Chair: Sean Hanretta, Northwestern University**

**Zachary Wright**, Northwestern University-Qatar, “The Metaphysical Human Being in African Islam: Reflections from ‘Alī Ḥarāzīm’s *Jawāhir al-ma‘ānī* and ‘Umar Tāl’s *Rimāḥ*”

**Samaha Rahman**, University of Pennsylvania “Pedagogy of Place and Classical Islamic Education in Contemporary Senegal”

**Oludamini Ogunnaike**, University of Virginia, “Have the Poets Left a Place for a Path to be Stitched? Intertextuality and Creativity in Contemporary West African Madīḥ Poetry and Song”

**Felicitas Becker**, Ghent University, “ Divergent temporalities of progress and religious reform in Swahili Muslim sermons”