



1st Annual International Conference

On Ethnic And Religious Conflict Resolution And Peacebuilding

New York, October 1, 2014

The Advantages of Ethnic & Religious Identity in Conflict Mediation and Peacebuilding

Program Schedule

9:15 AM Welcoming Remarks

- **Basil Ugorji**, Founder & Chief Operating Officer, International Center for Ethno-Religious Mediation, New York.

9:30 AM Keynote Speech

- **Ambassador Suzan Johnson Cook**, 3rd Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom for the United States of America.

10:02 AM ICERM Video Trailer

Insights from the Experts

10:06 AM "Ethnic and Religious Conflict: Understanding its Characteristics, Dimensions, Patterns, and Impacts"

- **Clarence Lusane, Ph.D.**, Professor of Political Science and International Relations, American University, Washington, D.C.

10:33 AM "Apocalyptic Violence and the Fundamentalist Mindset: Why Do the Groups Follow?"

- **Charles B. Strozier, Ph.D.**, Psychoanalyst, Professor of History and founding Director of the Center on Terrorism, John Jay College, City University of New York.

11:00 AM "Ethno-Religious Conflict within the Political System: The Arrangements across Ethnic and Party Lines"

- **Ambassador Shola Omoregie**, Founder and Chief Operating Officer, Africa Peace Support; Former Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Guinea-Bissau.

11:27 AM "Impact of Religion on the Use of Violence by Non-state Actors"

- **Victor Asal, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Political Science and Director of the Center for Policy Research, Nelson A. Rockefeller College of Public Affairs & Policy, University at Albany, State University of New York.

11:54 AM "Forgiveness and Integrative Healing Model: A Film about Relief Work in Africa, the Middle East, and Haiti"

- **Dr. Ani Kalayjian**, Founder & President, Association for Trauma Outreach & Prevention; and Adj. Professor of Psychology, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York.

12:20 PM Q&A Session for the Morning Presentations

12:41 PM Group Photo

12:46 PM Lunch & Networking

1:30 PM “Ethno-Religious Conflict Resolution and Prevention Strategies”

- **Mark Rosenblum, Ph.D.**, Professor of History, Director of the Center for Ethnic, Racial & Religious Understanding & Director of the Center for Jewish Studies, Queens College, New York.

Symposium Presentations

1:57 PM Panel 1: Case Studies – Israel, Palestine, Russia, and Nigeria

Moderator:

- **Elayne E. Greenberg, Ph.D.**, Professor of Legal Practice, Assistant Dean of Dispute Resolution Programs, and Director, Hugh L. Carey Center for Dispute Resolution, St. John's University School of Law, New York.

“The Need for a Conflict Assessment Concerning the Sacred Esplanade of Jerusalem”

- **Susan L. Podziba, Policy Mediator**, Founder and Principal of Podziba Policy Mediation, Brookline, Massachusetts.

“Mediation of Conflicts with Ethnic Component: Why Russia Needs It”

- **Prof. Tsisana Shamlikashvili, M.D., Ph.D.**, Professor at the Moscow State University for Psychology and Education, President of the National Organization of Mediators (NOM), and Academic Chair of the Federal Institute of Mediation at the Russian Ministry of Education and Science, Moscow, Russia; & **Nikolay Gordiychuk**, Mediator, Lecturer at the Russian State University for the Humanities in Moscow, and Research Fellow at the Federal Institute of Mediation, Moscow, Russia.

“Inter-Faith Conflict Mediation Mechanisms and Peacebuilding in Nigeria”

- **Olusola O. Isola, Ph.D.**, Peace and Conflict Studies Program, Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria.

“The Virus of Dehumanization: Radical Change in Prevention of Prejudice and Conflict”

- **Olek Netzer, Ph.D.**, Holocaust Survivor, Military Veteran & Reservist, Ph.D. in Applied Behavioral Science from the Union Institute University, Political Activist against occupation of Palestinian territories, Author of: "The Virus of Dehumanization: Deciphering the Political Code on the Background of Israel 1979-1999", and "Breaking the Power Corrupts Cycle: A Humanistic Program for Political Organization".

(Represented by Jillian Post.)

3:00 PM Special Presentation: "Culturally Appropriate Alternative Dispute Resolution"

- **Marc Brenman**, Former Executive Director, Washington State Human Rights Commission.

3:18 PM Panel 2: Case Studies, Lessons Learned and Practical Application of the Developing Models of Conflict Resolution

Moderator:

- **Maria R. Volpe, Ph.D.**, Professor of Sociology, Director of the Dispute Resolution Program & Director of the CUNY Dispute Resolution Center, John Jay College, City University of New York.

"An Interfaith Response to the Statelessness of the Rohingya in Myanmar"

- **Sana Saeed, Mdiv.** Harvard Divinity School; Rotary Peace Fellow - Tokyo.

"The Prospects for Peace and Security in Multi-Ethnic and Religious Societies: A Case Study of the Old Oyo Empire, Nigeria"

- **Ven. OYENEYE, Isaac Olukayode & Mr. ADENUGA, Gbeke Adebowale**, School of Arts and Social Sciences, Tai Solarin College of Education, Omu-Ijebu, Ogun State, Nigeria.

"Muslim Peace-Building Actors in Africa and the Balkan Context: Challenges and Needs"

- **Sheihu Abdul-Mumin Salifu**, Zongo Chief, President and current Regional Chief Imam, Center for Islamic Research and Studies, & Council of Imams and Ulama of the Northern Region of Ghana.

4:18 PM Panel 3: Resolving Ethno-Religious Conflict in Nigeria

Moderator:

- **Dianna Wuagneux, Ph.D.**, Chair, International Center for Ethno-Religious Mediation, New York. (Represented by Sarah Stevens.)

"Ethno-Religious Conflicts and the Dilemma of Democratic Sustainability in Nigeria"

- **Member Euginia George-Genyi, Ph.D.**, Department of Political Science, Benue State University Makurdi, Nigeria.

"Ethnic and Religious Identities Shaping Contestation for Land based Resources: The Tiv Farmers and Pastoralist Conflicts in Central Nigeria"

- **George A. Genyi, Ph.D.**, Department of Political Science, Benue State University Makurdi, Nigeria.

"Towards Achieving Ethno-Religious Peaceful Co-Existence in Nigeria"

- **Imam Abdullahi Shuaib**, Executive Director/CEO, Zakat and Sadaqat Foundation (ZSF), Lagos, Nigeria.

4:55 PM Closing Remarks

- **Basil Ugorji**, Founder & Chief Operating Officer, International Center for Ethno-Religious Mediation, New York.

Website: <http://www.icermediation.org/> Radio: <http://icermediation.org/Mediation/Daf/Radio.html>.

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