



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



THE
INTERCHURCH
CENTER

PRESENTS

THE
3RD
ANNUAL
INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE

ON ETHNIC AND RELIGIOUS CONFLICT
RESOLUTION AND PEACEBUILDING

DATE

November 2-3, 2016

VENUE

The Interchurch Center, 475
Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115

REGISTRATION

Register @ www.icermediation.org



THEME

ONE GOD IN THREE FAITHS

Exploring the Shared Values in the Abrahamic Religious
Traditions — Judaism, Christianity and Islam

SCHEDULE OF PRESENTATIONS

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2 – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2016

DAY ONE: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2016

LOCATION: THE INTERCHURCH CENTER, 475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, NEW YORK, NY 10115

8:30 AM Registration (Hall) & Continental Breakfast (AB Room)

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM Opening Session

Room: The Interchurch Center Chapel

9:00 AM Opening Speech

Cristina Pastrana, ICERM Director of Operations

Peter Rogina, Peace Lights

Basil Ugorji, President and CEO, ICERM

9:15 AM Welcoming Remarks

Paula M. Mayo, President/Executive Director, The Interchurch Center

9:30 AM Keynote Speeches

Theme:

One God in Three Faiths:

*Exploring the Shared Values in the Abrahamic
Religious Traditions — Judaism, Christianity and Islam*

The Interfaith Amigos:

Rabbi Ted Falcon, Ph.D.

Pastor Don Mackenzie, Ph.D.

Imam Jamal Rahman

Chair:

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

10:15 AM Q&A Session with The Interfaith Amigos

10:30 AM Keynote Speeches & Insights from the Experts

Theme:

One God in Three Faiths:

*Exploring the Shared Values in the Abrahamic
Religious Traditions — Judaism, Christianity and Islam*

*Lawrence H. Schiffman, Ph.D., Judge Abraham Lieberman Professor of Hebrew and Judaic Studies and Director of
the Global network for Advanced Research in Jewish Studies at New York University*

*Thomas Walsh, Ph.D., President of the Universal Peace Federation International and Secretary General of the Sunhak
Peace Prize Foundation*

Sr. Aisha H.L. al-Adawiya, Founder, Women in Islam, Inc.

Matthew Hodes, Director of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

Moderator:

Arthur Lerman, Ph.D., Emeritus Professor of Political Science, History and Conflict Management, Mercy College, New York

DAY ONE: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2016

LOCATION: THE INTERCHURCH CENTER, 475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, NEW YORK, NY 10115

12:45 PM Group Photo

1:00 PM Lunch on your own & Networking

2:00 PM to 5:00 PM Panel Presentations

Room: Conference Room (CD/Lounge)

2:00 PM Panel 1: Violent Extremism, Terrorism and Dialogue

Violent Extremism:

The Status of Religious Minorities as Targets and Victims in Pakistan

Minhas Majeed Khan, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of International Relations, University of Peshawar, Pakistan

Religio-Ethnic Response to African Armed Conflicts & A World of Terror:

An Intra-Faith Dialogue Crisis

Badru Hasan Segujja, Ph.D., Senior Lecturer, International Relations and Diplomacy at Zanzibar University, and Peace and Conflict Resolution at Kampala International University, Dar es salam- Tanzania

Christianity and Islam:

What Shared Values for Enhanced Religious Harmony and Global Stability

George A. Genyi, Ph.D., Department of Political Science, Federal University Lafia, Nigeria

Peacebuilding, Antiviolence Advocacy, and the Just War:

Biblical and Qur'anic Common Ground

Michael D. Royster, Faculty Member, Division of Social Work, Behavioral and Political Sciences, Prairie View A&M University

Moderator:

Tzofnat Zoe Peleg-Baker, Ph.D., Psychology & Educational Sciences, Vrije Universiteit Brussels (VUB), Belgium & Taos Institute, U.S.A., and Rutgers University

3:00 PM Panel 2: Foundations and Challenges of Religious Conflict Resolution: Opportunities for Mediators

The Foundations of Tolerating Other People's Religion:

Against Freedom and Autonomy

Yossi Nehushtan, Ph.D., Senior Lecturer, School of Law, Keele University, United Kingdom

NIREC and the Challenges of Fostering Interfaith Cooperation in Nigeria:

An Introspective Analysis

Prof. Is-haq O. Oloyede, Ph.D., (OFR), Department of Religions, University of Ilorin, Immediate past Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ilorin and former President of the Association of African Universities (AAU); and the Executive Secretary / National Coordinator of the Nigeria Inter-religious Council (NIREC)

Harnessing Unresolvable Difference Across Abrahamic Faiths to Resolve Religion-related Tangible Conflicts

Susan Podziba, Founder of Podziba Policy Mediation, Director of the Sacred Lands Project at MIT, and Faculty for the advanced mediation course of Harvard Negotiation Institute

Moderator:

Arthur Lerman, Ph.D., Emeritus Professor of Political Science, History and Conflict Management, Mercy College, New York

4 :00 PM Panel 3: Role of Interfaith Dialogue in Fostering Sustainable Reconciliation and Peaceful Coexistence in Nigeria

The Troubled Relationship:

Nigeria, Interfaith Dialogue and the Long Search for Peaceful Co-Existence

Simeon H.O. Alozieuwa, Ph.D., Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution, Abuja and Revd. Father Alban Aguezeala, Department of Political Science, Public Administration, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece

Tolerance of Others and Intolerance to Disorders:

An Impetus for Peace and Inter-Religious Dialogue in Multi-Faith Nigeria

Simon Babs Mala, Ph.D., Department of Religious Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria

Divided We Stand:

The Media and the Menace of Religious Intolerance in the Nigeria's Fourth Republic

Mahfouz Adedimeji, Ph.D., Director of the Centre for Peace and Strategic Studies, University of Ilorin.

Moderator:

Basil Ugorji, Ph.D. Program, Department of Conflict Resolution Studies, NSU's College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, and President and CEO, ICERM, International Center for Ethno-Religious Mediation

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM High Level Workshop on Religion and Violence

Room: Conference Room (CD/Lounge)

6:30 PM High Level Workshop - Dangerously Uninformed:

The Truth about Religion and Violence

Facilitator:

Kelly James Clark, Ph.D., Senior Research Fellow at Kaufman Interfaith Institute, The Honors Program at Brooks College, Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, MI

Moderator:

Abdul Karim Bangura, Ph.D., Researcher-in-residence of Abrahamic Connections and Islamic Peace Studies at the Center for Global Peace in the School of International Service at American University and the Director of The African Institution, all in Washington DC

DAY TWO: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2016

LOCATION: THE INTERCHURCH CENTER, 475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, NEW YORK, NY 10115

8:30 AM Registration (Hall) & Continental Breakfast (AB Room)

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM Day Two Keynote Address

Room: Conference Room (CD/Lounge)

Theme:

One God in Three Faiths:

Exploring the Shared Values in the Abrahamic

Religious Traditions — Judaism, Christianity and Islam

Kelly James Clark, Ph.D., Senior Research Fellow at Kaufman Interfaith Institute, The Honors Program at Brooks College, Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, MI

9:30 AM Insights from the Expert

Ethnic Plurality, Religious Diversity and the Dynamics of Peacebuilding in Nigeria

Prof. Abdul Ganiyu Ambali, Ph.D. (OON), Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Nigeria, Vice-Chairman of the Association of West Africa Universities (AWAU), and Board Member of the International Association of Universities (IAU)

Moderator:

Susan Podziba, Founder of Podziba Policy Mediation, Director of the Sacred Lands Project at MIT, and Faculty for the advanced mediation course of Harvard Negotiation Institute

10:00 AM – 4:00 PM Panel Presentations

Room: Conference Room (CD/Lounge)

10:00 AM Panel 4: Unity in Diversity:

Leveraging on Shared Religious Values and Beliefs to Counter Extremism, Resolve Conflicts, and Build Sustainable Peace

The Parable of the Three Rings:

An Allegory of the Interconnections among Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

Abdul Karim Bangura, Ph.D., Researcher-in-residence of Abrahamic Connections and Islamic Peace Studies at the Center for Global Peace in the School of International Service at American University and the Director of The African Institution, all in Washington DC

The Right to Be Different, the Duty to Live Together:

Convergences between Judaism, Christianity and Islam

Alioune Bah, Ph.D., Centre de Recherche en Philosophie Allemande et Contemporaine (CREPHAC), Université de Strasbourg France

Interfaith Dialogue to De-Radicalize Radicalization:

Storytelling as Peacebuilding in Indonesia

Amanda Smith Byron, Ed.D., Assistant Professor in Conflict Resolution at Portland State University, and Director of the Holocaust and Genocide Studies Project

Moderator:

Arthur Lerman, Ph.D., Emeritus Professor of Political Science, History and Conflict Management, Mercy College, New York

11:00 AM Panel 5: Diverse Models of Interfaith Engagement: Harnessing the Power of Language, Narratives and Literature to Foster a Culture of Peace

Complexity in Action:

Interfaith Dialogue and Peacemaking in Burma and New York

P. Adem Carroll, Burma Task Force/Justice for All, New York

Language in Religion Increases Religious and Interfaith Dialogue

Sarah Feingold, Ph.D., Kibbutzim College of education, Technology and the Arts, Israel

Bridges Through Stories:

Interfaith Dialogue and Awareness Through Literature

Elma Rahman & Sharon Jackson, Queens College, New York

Moderator:

Lela Porter Love, Ph.D., Professor of Law, Director, Kukin Program for Conflict Resolution, and Director, Cardozo Mediation Clinic, Benjamin Cardozo School of Law, New York, NY

12:00 PM Panel 6: Perspectives on Religion and Social Justice

Islamophobia, Refugees and the United States

Susan Smith, Muslim Peace Fellowship, New York

Possibilities and Choices for Pluralistic and Positive Engagement with the Religious "Other"

Saadia Ahmad, McCormack Scholar, Department of Conflict Resolution, Human Security, and Global Governance, University of Massachusetts, Boston

Love and Religion:

What We Can Learn from Social Science

Ross Moret, Doctoral Student in the Religion, Ethics, and Philosophy program at Florida State University

Moderator:

Grayson R. Robertson, Executive Director of The Christian-Muslim Dialogue Project, Alumnus of the Program on Islam and Muslim-Christian Relations, Georgetown University

1:00 PM Group Photo

1:05 PM Lunch On your own & Networking

1:45 PM Panel 7: Religious Conflict Resolution and Sustainable Development

Globalization:

Reconstructing Religious Identities for Development

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

Economic Vulnerability and Christian Youth Radicalization in Kenya:

An Ecumenical Response

James Eroni Miriago, Doctoral Student/Research Assistant, School of Religion, Philosophy and Classics, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

Moderator:

Itai Sneh, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History for World Civilizations, Human Rights and International Law, Department of History, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York

DAY TWO: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2016

LOCATION: THE INTERCHURCH CENTER, 475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, NEW YORK, NY 10115

2:25 PM Panel 8: Women of Faith and Conflict Resolution: Practical Lessons Learned

Empowering Women of Faith to Combat Drug Abuse in Mombasa

Ednah Kang'ee, Fellow at The Institute for Global Engagement, The Center for Women Faith and Leadership -Washington DC., and Ph.D. Candidate focusing on Culture and Women Land Rights

The Role of Women Organizations in Conflict Resolution in Benue State

Margaret Bai-Tachia, Ph.D., Department of Sociology, Benue State University, Makurdi, Nigeria

Moderator:

Jacqueline Kulaga, Ph.D. Program, Department of Conflict Resolution Studies, NSU's College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

3:00 PM Panel 9: On Religion, Historical Grievances and Forgiveness: Creating a Pathway for Healing, Peace and Harmony

Hearing the Whispers of the Higher Power with the Wired Generation

Reverend Professor James C. Sheehan, Roman Catholic Priest of the Archdiocese of New York

Forgiveness in the World Religions:

Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, & Judaism -7-Step Integrative Healing Model

Dr. Ani Kalayjian, Founder & President of ATOP Meaningfulworld, New York

How to Negotiate Victimhood and Religious Identity:

Shared Heritage as a Remedy to Historical Grievances as Justifying Contemporary Perpetrators

Itai Sneh, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History for World Civilizations, Human Rights and International Law, Department of History, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York

Moderator:

Jacqueline Kulaga, Ph.D. Program, Department of Conflict Resolution Studies, NSU's College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

4:00 PM Special Panel

Room: The Interchurch Center Chapel

The Roles of Universities in Promoting (Inter)national Integration and Peaceful Co-existence:

An Example of the University of Ilorin, Nigeria

Prof. Abdul Ganiyu Ambali, Ph.D. (OON), Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Nigeria, Vice-Chairman of the Association of West Africa Universities (AWAU), and Board Member of the International Association of Universities (IAU)

Prof. Is-haq O. Oloyede, Ph.D., (OFR), Department of Religions, University of Ilorin, Immediate past Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ilorin and former President of the Association of African Universities (AAU), and the Executive Secretary/ National Coordinator of the Nigeria Inter-religious Council (NIREC)

Mahfouz Adedimeji, Ph.D., Director of the Centre for Peace and Strategic Studies, University of Ilorin.

Moderator:

Abdul Karim Bangura, Ph.D., Researcher-in-residence of Abrahamic Connections and Islamic Peace Studies at the Center for Global Peace in the School of International Service at American University and the Director of The African Institution, all in Washington DC

**6:00 PM to 9:30 PM Closing Ceremony / Pray for Peace / ICERM Honorary Award
Open to the Public / Suggested Donation**

Room: The Interchurch Center Chapel

**6:00 PM "Pray for Peace" - A multi-faith, multi-ethnic, and multi-national prayer for
global peace with a music concert by the Brooklyn Interdenominational Choir**

**7:15 PM Workshop by The Interfaith Amigos on
"Finding Peace Through Spiritual Practice"**

8:00 PM ICERM Honorary Award Presentation to The Interfaith Amigos

Performances and presentations by partnering organizations and individuals

Reception

9:30 PM Closing Remarks



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