



On a mission to
build inclusive communities

Presents

 **THE 7th ANNUAL
INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE**
on Ethnic and Religious Conflict
Resolution and Peacebuilding

In Partnership With



The Sr. Mary T. Clark Center for
Religion and Social Justice

**Ethnic, Racial and Religious Conflicts Globally:
Analysis, Research and Resolution**

Date:

Wednesday, September 28 – Thursday, September 29, 2022

Location:

The Reid Castle at Manhattanville College, 2900 Purchase Street, Purchase, NY 10577

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Arrival of Participants and Welcome Reception

Tuesday, September 27, 2022

Time: 5:00 PM

Location: Ophir Room

DAY ONE

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

9:00 AM Registration and Check-in

Location: The Reid Castle Entrance

Check in first at the Security Post when entering the college

9:00 AM Continental Breakfast

Location: Ophir Room

10:00 AM to 12:45 PM Plenary Session

Location: West Room

10:00 AM Opening Remarks

Spencer M. McNair, Public Affairs Coordinator at ICERM

Reading of Poem by Dana Wu, Master of Fine Arts Student at Manhattanville College

Basil Ugorji, Ph.D., President and CEO, ICERM

Craig Sevilla Donnelly, Director of the Sr. Mary T. Clark Center for Religion and Social Justice

Louise Feroe, Ph.D. Interim President of Manhattanville College

10:30 AM Keynote Speech

Religion and Track II Diplomacy: Lessons Learned in Pyongyang

Dr. Thomas J. Ward, Provost and Professor of Peace and Development,
President (2019-2022) of Unification Theological Seminary New York, NY

Chair:

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

11:00 AM Q&A Session with the Keynote Speaker

11:30 AM - 12:45 PM Distinguished Speeches and Discussion

Benjamin Boykin II, Westchester County Legislator,

District 5 (Representing White Plains, Scarsdale, West Harrison)

Joseph P. Castelli, Police Chief, White Plains Police Department, White Plains, NY

12:45 PM Conference Group Photo

1:00 PM – 2 PM Luncheon

Location: Ophir Room

Distinguished Speaker

Maria Smith Dautruche, Director of Westchester Center for Racial Equity at YWCA White Plains & Central Westchester

2:30 PM – 6:30 PM Insights from the Experts and Panel Discussions

2:30 PM Concurrent Panel 1	2:30 PM Concurrent Panel 2
<p>Location: Presidents Dining Room</p> <p>Hate Crime in Ethiopia’s Dessie City Administration: Causes, Consequences, and Possible Remedies</p> <p>Dr. Yohannes Amene Tsegaye Senior Expert on Deliverology and Innovation; Project Coordinator, Ethiopian National Volunteer Community Service Program, Ethiopian Ministry of Peace</p> <p>Interethnic Conflicts in Ethiopia and the Invention of a Common National Identity by Prime Minister Abiy to Displace Ethnic Consciousness</p> <p>Dr. Amanuel Isak Tewolde Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Centre for Social Development in Africa, University of Johannesburg, South Africa</p>	<p>Location: East Library Room</p> <p>Influence of Ethno-Religious Social Media Conflicts on Africa’s Under Development: A Case Study of Selected Areas in East Africa</p> <p>Lydia Igwee Lecturer, Department of Educational Foundations, College of Education Open and Distance Learning, Kampala, Uganda</p>
3:30 PM Concurrent Panel 3	3:30 PM Concurrent Panel 4
<p>Location: Presidents Dining Room</p> <p>Refugees and Economic Development in Host Communities: A Case Study of Selected Refugee Settlements in Eastern Africa</p> <p>Dr. Badru Hasan Segujja Senior Lecturer, Peace and Conflict Management, International Relation and Diplomatic Studies, Kampala International University, Uganda</p>	<p>Location: East Library Room</p> <p>Dialogue as a Tool to Foster Peace against Interreligious Conflict in Nigeria</p> <p>Miriam Adaeze Uju Oguike Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution, Abuja, Nigeria</p>

‘From Divided Past to Cohesive Future’: A Reflection on the Reconciliatory Mechanisms of (Yoruba) Traditional Approaches to Conflicts Resolution in Nigeria

Fasuan Emmanuel Olawale
 PhD Student, Department of International Relation and Strategic Studies, Faculty of Arts and Social Science, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

4:30 PM Concurrent Panel 5

Location: Presidents Dining Room

US-DPRK Relations: Religion’s Mitigating Role

Dr. Thomas J. Ward
 Provost and Professor of Peace and Development, Unification Theological Seminary New York, NY

COVID-19 Pandemic and Trans-Faith Humanitarian Action in Sri Lanka

Dr. Kalinga Tudor Silva
 Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

4:30 PM Concurrent Panel 6

Location: East Library Room

Climate Change, Environmental Justice, and Ethnic Disparity in the USA: The Mediators’ Role

Lisa Singh
 Independent Mediator/Consultant/Trainer, Dayton Mediation Center, Dayton, OH

The Discourse of Othering: An Analysis of Politics of Inclusivity and Exclusivity in Kenya

Dr. Jesica Kinya Mwithia
 Senior Lecturer, School of Communication, Daystar University, Kenya

5:30 PM Concurrent Panel 7

Location: Presidents Dining Room

Conversion to Islam and Ethnic Nationalism in Malaysia

Dr. Nur Daut
 Associate Professor, Asian Studies Programme, Kansai Gaidai University, Japan

A Study of Prophet Muhammad’s Conduct on Conflict Resolutions

Dr. Muhammad Shahbaz
 Assistant Professor, Department of Islamic studies, University of Sargodha, Pakistan

5:30 PM Concurrent Panel 8

Location: East Library Room

Hope for Intergroup Solidarity: Intersections Between Memory, Positionality, and Respect for Religious Salience among Diaspora Indian Christians

Dr. Autumn L. Mathias
 Assistant Professor of Social Work/Sociology Program Coordinator, Elms College, Chicopee, MA

The Right to Freedom of Religion in India and the Impact of Hindutva on Religious Minorities in the COVID-19 ERA

Dr. Md Jahid Hossain Bhuiyan
 Humboldt Postdoctoral Fellow, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg, Germany

6:30 PM Day One Closing Remarks

Basil Ugorji, Ph.D., President and CEO, ICERM

DAY TWO

Thursday, September 29, 2022

9:00 AM Registration

Location: The Reid Castle Entrance
Check in first at the Security Post when entering the college

9:00 AM Continental Breakfast

Location: Ophir Room

10:00 AM to 12:45 PM Plenary Session

Location: West Room

10:00 AM Opening Remarks

Spencer M. McNairn, Public Affairs Coordinator at ICERM
 Reading of Poem by Rachel Simon, Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Pace University

10:30 AM Keynote Speeches

Shelley B. Mayer, New York State Senator (Representing the 37th District) and
 Chair of the Committee on Education

Representatives of Governor Kathy Hochul, Governor of New York State:
 Sibu Nair, Deputy Director of Asian American Affairs, Executive Chamber
 Brandon Lloyd, Governor's Lower Hudson Valley Regional Representative, Executive Chamber

Chair:

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

11:20 AM Q&A Session with the Keynote Speakers

11:40 AM Conference Group Photo

11:45 AM – 12:45 PM Insights from the Experts and Panel Discussions

11:45 AM	Concurrent Panel	9	11:45 AM	Concurrent Panel	10
Location: Presidents Dining Room Child-Focused Accountability Mechanisms for Yazidi Community Post-Genocide (2014) Brenda Hershey, Executive Director, TRY Global and Saman Omar Ahmed, Lecturer, University of Duhok, College of Humanities Sciences, Iraq			Location: East Library Room Ethno-Religiosity and Conflict in Africa: A Discourse Analysis and Resolution Dr. Augustine Ugar Akah Doctoral Candidate, Institute of International Political Sociology, University of Kiel, Germany		

<p>Acceptance in Post-Genocide Rwanda: Success and Challenges throughout Action-based Reconciliation Model between Genocide Perpetrators and Genocide Survivors</p> <p>Felix Bigabo Head of Partnership, Capacity Building and Research, Prison Fellowship, Rwanda</p>	<p>Peacebuilding: An Antidote to Religious and Ethnic Conflicts in Nigeria</p> <p>Moses Onyekachi Nwakanma Lecturer, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Anambra State, Nigeria</p>
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1:00 PM – 2 PM Luncheon

Location: Ophir Room

Distinguished Speakers

Seenaa Jimjimo, Executive Director, Oromo Legacy Leadership & Advocacy Association (OLLAA), Falls Church, VA
 Nada Khader, Executive Director, Westchester People’s Action Coalition (WESPAC)

2:30 PM – 5:00 PM Insights from the Experts and Panel Discussions

2:30 PM Concurrent Panel 11	2:30 PM Concurrent Panel 12
<p>Location: Presidents Dining Room</p> <p>How we can Change from Strangers to Brothers</p> <p>Junis Sultan Doctoral Candidate, University of Heidelberg, Germany</p> <p>Peaceful Coexistence of Multicultural Students on Campus as an Example of Ethnic, Racial and Religious Understanding</p> <p>Eng. Christian Rhiugwasanye, M.Tech Founder of Rhugwasanye Foundation in Democratic Republic of Congo</p>	<p>Location: East Library Room</p> <p>The Role of External and Internal Forces in Myanmar Political Reforms Since 2010</p> <p>Than Win Hlaing Managing Director, T & K Maung Nan General Trading Co., LTD, Myanmar</p> <p>Hindutva in the USA: Understanding the Promotion of Ethnic and Religious Conflict</p> <p>Adem Carroll Justice for All USA</p>
3:30 PM Concurrent Panel 13	3:30 PM Concurrent Panel 14
<p>Location: Presidents Dining Room</p> <p>How the Cultural Religious Conflict has shaped Approaches to Ethnic Minority Representation in Northern Ireland Museums</p> <p>Mairead (Margaret) Quinn PhD Student, University of Ulster in Belfast, Northern Ireland</p>	<p>Location: East Library Room</p> <p>Mosques as an Actor in the Prevention of Radicalization and Rehabilitation of Extremism</p> <p>Dr. María Isabel García García Non-Resident Fellow, Center of Global Affairs (NYU), New York</p>

Community Development Projects as Panacea for bringing Communities Together: A Case Study of the Christian and Muslim Communities of Rupike Irrigation Project in Masvingo District, Zimbabwe

Simbarashe Munamati
Ph.D. Candidate, Religion and Development,
University of Zimbabwe

4:30 PM Concurrent Panel 15

Location: Presidents Dining Room

Ethnicity as a Tool to Pacify Religious Extremism: Case of Somalia Intrastate Conflict

Dr. John Kisilu Reuben
Colonel, Kenyan Military, Kenya

Women Politicking for Peace in Southern Cameroons: Takumbeng Women's Society in Perspective

Dr. Lukong Stella Shulika
Post-doctoral Research Fellow, Durban University of Technology, Durban, South Africa

4:30 PM Concurrent Panel 16

Location: East Library Room

Addressing Ethno-Religious Conflict: A Practitioner's Toolkit

Lisa Singh
Independent Mediator/Consultant/Trainer, Dayton Mediation Center, Dayton, OH

Creative Responses to Religious Conflicts Using Restorative Practices

Priscilla Prutzman
Co-founder and Executive Director, Creative Response to Conflict, Suffern, NY

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM Closing Reception

Location: Ophir Room

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM Inauguration of International Divinity Day

Location: West Room

INTRODUCTION: LET'S OPEN OUR HEARTS

Welcome Message and Mantra Recitation
Rev. Sharon Callender, Interfaith Pastor, and Assistant Registrar, DSO, Manhattanville College

Basil Ugorji, Ph.D., President and CEO, ICERM

Craig Sevilla Donnelly, Director of the Sr. Mary T. Clark Center for Religion and Social Justice

Reading of Poem by Iain Haley Pollock, Director, Master of Fine Arts Program, Manhattanville College

Music

REFLECTIONS ON INTERRELIGIOUS UNDERSTANDING AND GLOBAL PEACE

First Reflection:

Sivachariar M.R. Ravi Vaidyanaat, Director of Religious Affairs and Spiritual Leader, The Hindu Temple Society of North America

Second Reflection:

Rev. Fr. Maxwell Wullar, SVD, Divine Word Missionaries, Intern at VIVAT International, NY

Third Reflection:

Imam Muhammad Shahidullah, President of Interfaith Center of USA

Fourth Reflection:

Dr. Charles Chikwado Ezeh, Self-help Coach, Speaker and Philosopher, Maryland

Fifth Reflection:

Rev. Sharon Callender, Interfaith Pastor, and Assistant Registrar, DSO, Manhattanville College

Music

KEYNOTE SPEECH

Dr. Daisy Khan, D.Min, Founder and Executive Director, Women's Islamic Initiative in Spirituality & Equality (WISE) New York, NY

ICERM HONORARY AWARD PRESENTATION

2022 Honorees:

Dr. Thomas J. Ward, Provost and Professor of Peace and Development, President (2019-2022) of Unification Theological Seminary New York, NY

Dr. Daisy Khan, D.Min, Founder and Executive Director, Women's Islamic Initiative in Spirituality & Equality (WISE) New York, NY

Presenter:

Basil Ugorji, Ph.D., President and CEO, ICERM

VOTE OF THANKS

Spencer M. McNairn, Public Affairs Coordinator at ICERM



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