

DR. LOREEN MASENO

Department
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EDUCATION

BA Sociology and Religious Studies University of Nairobi, Kenya

Mphil. Contextual Theology University of Oslo, Norway

PhD Systematic Theology, University of Oslo, Norway: Dissertation Title: Widows' Christologies: A Preliminary Feminist Analysis of Abanyole Widows' Christologies considering Kinship, Gender and the Power of Naming.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

1. **Humboldt Research Fellow- Georg Forster (HERMES)** for Senior Researchers Fellowship Award. Taken up from 2015-2018 and based at the University of Bayreuth, Germany. Conducted research on the Project "Hagar in Africa", an interdisciplinary project covering religious studies, history, literature, film and gender studies.
2. **Nagel Institute RFP Christianity and Social Change in Contemporary Africa Research Grant** of USD 38,000. Awarded in February 2016. This grant was managed from the University of Dar es Salaam to research on Pentecostalism: Modes of Legitimation for Pentecostal Church founders in East Africa.
3. Research Dissemination Grant valued at USD 3400 to attend the 2016 AAR conference in San Antonio USA. Awarded in April 2016 by Nagel Institute of Nagel College USA and presented a paper.
4. Bayreuth Academy Research Fellowship Award from the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies, Bayreuth, Germany in the Project, Multiple Futures. Awarded in 2013.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES TAUGHT

Women in Religion
The Ecumenical Movement
Development of Christian Doctrines
Systematic Theology 1
Systematic Theology 11
Religion and Society
Church History 1
Church History 11
Research Methods
African Theology
African Christology
African Women Theologies (**Bishop Gwyne College, Juba. South Sudan**)

GRADUATE COURSES TAUGHT INTERNATIONALLY AND LOCALLY

1. MA, Gender and Sexuality in African Literature. (Winter Semester 2015/16) October 2015-February 2016. University of Bayreuth, Germany.
2. History of Christian Doctrines
3. Religion and Science
4. Jesus and the Kingdom of God. Autumn 2007. University of Oslo.
5. Master Thesis Seminar CONT 4605. Spring 2007. University of Oslo, Norway.
6. Master Thesis Seminar CONT 4605. Spring 2006. University of Oslo, Norway.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- a) Bayreuth Academy Research Fellowship Award from the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies, Bayreuth, Germany in the Project, Multiple Futures. Awarded in November 2013.
- b) Alexander Von Humboldt -Georg Forster Fellowship (HERMES) for Senior Researchers Fellowship Award. Awarded in November 2014. I am the second Humboldtian at Maseno University, but the very first Humboldt Senior Research awardee in the humanities from Maseno University.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Member of the African Association for the Study of Religion (AASR) where I also serve as the Kenya National Representative.
- Member of the American Academy of Religion (AAR).
- Member of the African-German Network of Excellence in Science (AGNES), whose aim is to promote and support regional networking and the professional exchange of scholars within the sub-Saharan region and Germany.
- Member of the Circle of concerned African Women Theologians.

SKILLS AND TRAINING

1. Good Communication, negotiation and interpersonal skills
2. Leadership and supervisory skills
3. Team building and organizational skills
4. Trainer for Religious Leaders on Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) and Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) services for adolescents and young people

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

DEPARTMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY: IN-CHARGE OF INTERNATIONAL LINKAGES

Main duties and responsibilities: Enhance effective Linkages, Facilitate, identifying and signing of Memorandum of understanding between the department and top universities of the world. During my tenure, we have signed an MOU with the Faculty of Theology, University of Oslo, held international seminars in Maseno and Oslo and received book donations from the University of Oslo

UNIVERSITY RESPONSIBILITIES WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS ORGANISED

1. Organized the seminar **Mediations of Religious Narratives, Representations and Performed texts** held on 13 June 2017 at the University of Bayreuth, Germany.
2. Organized international series of seminars dubbed '**Dignity from Below (DIGBLOW)**' between 11th February and 13th February 2013 at Maseno University.
3. **Academic Article Writing Workshop**- Together with a team from Maseno University, I participated in organizing the workshop between 23-25th April 2013 scheduled at Kisumu City Campus. This was facilitated by Prof. Jørgen Elklit from Denmark.

MASENO UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN UNION RESPONSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER

Main duties and responsibilities: Close engagement with Christian students on their growth and inner direction. This involves one on one counselling, group counseling, giving orientation messages to the first years, career guidance to the third and fourth year students, active participation in their Sunday services, elder's events, outreaches and Annual General Meetings.

MASENO UNIVERSITY RESPONSIBILITY IN THE PAST

Ag. Chairperson of Department

From: January 2011 to August 2012

Main duties and responsibilities: Effective operation and development of the department, management of its staff and resources and provision of high quality services to students at the department. Attend the University senate meetings. Ensure that the department complies with the legal and other obligations placed on it.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

1. The Bible in African Context: The Role of the Bible towards HIV/AIDS, Culture and Gender in Africa Conference. Presented the paper "Gender and Christology in Africa for Social and Political Involvement". Teofilo Kisanji University, Faculty of Theology, **Mbeya, Tanzania. 6–10 May 2019.**
2. DAAD-Alumni Conference. Young Scholars in Africa – Challenges and Opportunities. Ole-Sereni Hotel. **Nairobi, Kenya 1- 3 March 2019,**
3. New Temples of Power? The Role of the Evangelical Churches in Latin America and Africa. Presented The Paper, "**The Political Role of Pentecostal/ Charismatic Churches in Kenya**". **Berlin, Germany. 5-6 November 2018.**
4. University of Bayreuth International Research Alumni Conference. Challenges and Opportunities of Regional Integration in East Africa. Presented the paper "Returning home: Solidarity, Social support and rituals of self- affirmation in a Female led Neo-Pentecostal Church in Nairobi, Kenya". **26-28th September 2018, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.**
5. 8th African Association for the Study of Religions Conference in Africa. Revisiting Religion, Politics, and the State in Africa and the African Diaspora. Presented the paper, "Constructions and Transformations of Religion in Contemporary Culture: An adaptation of Hagar in Two

Paintings”. **1-4 August 2018. The University of Zambia and Justo Mwale University Lusaka, Zambia**

6. American Academy of Religion (AAR) 2016 Conference. Presented the paper, "Eschatological Prophecies: Female Pentecostal-Charismatic Preachers Self-Legitimation in Africa.” **San Antonio, USA. 17-22nd November.**
7. Radical Ecological Conversion After Laudato Si': Discovering the Intrinsic Value of all Creatures. Presented a paper, “Response to Indigenous Peoples, Land Rights and Care for Creatures by Prof. Dr. Michael Northcott of University of Heidelberg, Germany”. **7-8 March 2018, Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, Italy.**
8. Religious Matters in Plural Configurations by Prof Dr Birgit Meyer Lecture series. 6-10 November, 2017. Iwalewahaush, **Bayreuth, Germany**

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

1. Maseno, L., & Mligo. E. (2019). *Women within Religions: Patriarchy, Feminism and the Role of women in Selected World Religions*. Oregon, USA: Wipf And Stock. ISBN 978-1-5326-9757-9
2. Zorodzai, D, Maseno-Ouma, L., & Mligo, E. (eds.) (2018). *The Bible and Sociological Contours: Some African Perspectives: Festschrift for Professor Halvor Moxnes*. New York: Peter Lang Publishing. ISBN 978-1-4331-3290-2
3. Maseno-Ouma, L. (2014). *How Abanyole African Widows Understand Christ: Explaining Redemption Through the Propagation of Lineage*. NewYork: Edwin Mellen Press. ISBN 978-0-7734-2575-0

JOURNAL ARTICLES

1. Odhiambo, C.& Maseno, L. (2019). Dramatic Irony as an Intervention Strategy in Two Dholuo Films: Kalausi and The Cleansing. *Imbizo* Vol 9 No 2. <https://doi.org/10.25159/2078-9785/5775>
2. Maseno, L. (2018). Sexuality and Sexual Scripting in African Traditional Religion: Mumbi in A Grain of Wheat. *Journal for the Study of the Religions of Africa and its Diaspora*. Vol. 4, No. 1, 54-66, December. ISSN: 2311-5661
3. Maseno, L. (2018). Framing Freedom of Religion or Belief for Countering Violent Extremism in Kenya: The Equivalency Framework of the Evangelical Alliance of Kenya. *The Review of Faith & International Affairs*. Vol. 16, No. 4, 75-87.
4. Mhando, N., Maseno, L., Mtata, K and Senga, M. (2018). Modes of Legitimation by Female Pentecostal-Charismatic Preachers in East Africa: A Comparative Study in Kenya and Tanzania. *Journal of Contemporary African Studies*. DOI: 10.1080/02589001.2018.1504162
5. Maseno, L. & Nandi, O.J (2018). *Feminist Christologies for Women's Political and Social Participation in Kenya*. *The Republic Journal*. Vol 2, No. 2.

6. Maseno, L. (2017). 'The Glory Is Here'! Faith Brands and Rituals of Self-Affirmation for Social Responsibility in Kenya. *Alternation Journal*, 2017. Vol. 19: 252-267.
7. Maseno, L. (2017). 'Prayer for Rain: A Pentecostal Perspective from Kenya'. *The Ecumenical Review*, Vol 69: 336–347.
8. Maseno, L. (2016). Stories of African Women's Bodies: The Bodily Lives of Esi and Mumbi. *The Oriental Anthropologist*, Vol. 16, No. 2, 263-277. ISSN: 0972-558X
9. Maseno, L. (2015). Unbounded Christologies: The Case Of Widows' Christology – 'Jesus Christ Is Breath'. *Scriptura*, Vol. 114, p. 1-12, Dec. 2015. ISSN 2305-445X
10. Maseno, L and Owajaiye, M. (2015). African Women And Revival: The Case Of The East African Revival. *European Journal of Research in Social Sciences*. Vol. 3 No. 3, 28-36. ISSN: 2056-5429

BOOK CHAPTERS

1. Maseno, L. (2020). The Ogiek Indigenous people, Land Rights and the Environment In: *Law, Religion and the Environment in Africa*. Green MC, Harun, M. (eds.) Stellenbosch: Africa Sun Media p. 259-271. ISBN: 978-1-928480-56-3
2. Maseno, L. (2019). An African Response to Christopher Vena In: *Christian Theology and Climate Change*. Conradie Ernst and Koster, Hilda (eds.) London: T&T Clark. 336-339.
3. Maseno, L. (2018). Narratives of the future in African history: Advancing aspirations for liberation and reconstruction in Africa. In: *Religion and Social Reconstruction*. Elias Bongmba (ed.) New York: Routledge ISBN: 978-1-351167406
4. Maseno, L. (2018). (Re)framing terror attacks in Kenya: Contrastive frames from the National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCCK) and the Evangelical Alliance of Kenya (EAK). In: *Religion, Law and Security in Africa*. Green MC, Gunn TJ & Hill M. (eds.) Stellenbosch: Africa Sun Media. ISBN: 978-1-928314424
5. Maseno-Ouma, L. (2018). Patriarchy Ridiculed and Turned Upside Down: The Role and Place of Humor in Esther 1.1-22. In: *The Bible and Sociological Contours: Some African Perspectives: Festschrift for Professor Halvor Moxnes*. Zorodzai, D, Maseno-Ouma, L., & Mligo, E. (eds.) New York: Peter Lang. 89-96. ISBN 978-1-4331-3290-2
6. Maseno, L. (2015). 'Christianity in East Africa'. In *The Routledge Companion to Christianity in Africa*. Ed. Elias Kifon Bongmba. New York: Routledge ISBN: 978-0-415705028