



Call for Papers: Contemporary Christianities in the Lusophone World

Centre of World Christianity
School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London
London, 11th February 2017

In the study of modern Christianity, the Lusophone world offers unique perspectives with regard to globalisation, cultural transfer, and historical and religious dynamics, which are not always sufficiently recognised or incorporated into the wider debate. Bringing together scholars with recent or current research in the field, the workshop aims to discuss the notion of Lusophone Christianity and seeks to explore specific characteristics and particular patterns that might emerge.

A main interest of the workshop are responses to globalization, South-South and South-North networking, and new patterns in the internationalization of religious institutions. This also includes the convergence of Lusophone Christian movements with current migration dynamics, new diasporas and emerging patterns of transnational exchange. This is especially relevant as it regards the articulation of multiple identities within and beyond the Lusophone Christian world.

A spatial approach seems especially valid when reflecting on the postcolonial dynamics of Christianity in the Lusophone world, as it allows for analysing the dialectics between the centre and the periphery, the local and the transnational, the rural and the urban, the intimate and the communal living. The case of the postcolonial city is particularly interesting, since it represents a thick combination of religious and a broad range of social practices, public discourses and political activities, that strongly influence contemporary ideologies and imaginations on everyday life.

We especially welcome papers studying individual trajectories and communal expressions in the intersection of political and religious spheres, for example looking at religious influences on the public sphere, or public discourses about the place of Christianity in society and state politics. Papers examining the roots of social, cultural, and political dimensions of Lusophone Christianity in the colonial past would give an interesting insight in historical mediations of its contemporary dynamics.

If you are interested in giving a paper, please send a title, 200 word abstract and short bio to the workshop organisers by 15th December 2016.

Organisers:

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