

Nazareth College's
Hickey Center for Interfaith Studies and Dialogue
&
the IIT Chair for Islamic & Interfaith Studies
present:

Sacred Texts & Human Contexts 7th International Symposium



INCLUSION OR EXCLUSION: THE SELF & THE OTHER IN SACRED TEXTS & HUMAN CONTEXTS

Cosponsored by
Hobart and William-Smith Colleges,
Religious Studies, Geneva, NY

MONDAY May 22, 2023

2:00–4:00p **REGISTRATION & RECEPTION**
Otto A. Shults Community Center, Forum

4:00–8:00p **OPENING SESSION**
Opening Remarks:
Elizabeth Paul, PhD, President Nazareth

Conference Update:

Muhammad Shafiq, PhD, Hickey Center & IIIT Chair, Nazareth College
Thomas Donlin-Smith, PhD, Religious Studies, Nazareth College

5:00–5:30p **BREAK & REFRESHMENT**

5:30–8:00p **DINNER & KEYNOTE SPEAKER**
Moderator: Elizabeth Paul, PhD, President Nazareth
Guest Keynote Speaker: John O. Voll, PhD, Georgetown University
*“Other-izing” and “Self-izing”: Interreligious Relations in 21st Century
Global Life*

TUESDAY May 23, 2023

7:30–8:45a **BREAKFAST**
Otto A. Shults Community Center, Forum

9:00–10:30a **SESSION 1, PANEL 1**
Inclusion or Exclusion: Comparative Approaches
MODERATOR: Thomas Donlin-Smith, PhD, Nazareth College

PRESENTERS:
Ori Z. Soltes, PhD, Georgetown University
From Exodus to Hizmet: Redefining Other and Self in Thought and Action

Hans A. Harmakaputra, PhD, Augustana University
*Encountering God’s Grace in Islam: A Christian Reading of the Forty
Hadith of Nawawī*

Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen, ThD, University of Helsinki
*Resources for Interfaith Dialogue from a New Paradigm in Christian
Ecumenical Studies: A Case-Study between Two Monotheistic Faiths*

SESSION 1, PANEL 2, 9:00-10:30 am
Inclusion or Exclusion: Muslim Approaches
MODERATOR: Mohammad Rumi, MD

PRESENTERS:

Ghada Ghazal, PhD student, Hamad Bin Khalifa University
The Religious Other in the Qur'an and Muslim Practice

Rashid Shaz, PhD, Aligarh University
*The Quran as a Pluralist Manifesto: Forging a Faith Fraternity across the
Spectrum*

Muhammad Akhtar Saeed Siddiqi, PhD, University of Karachi
*The Believer in Transcendental Postulates and the Issues of Temporal
Identity in Early Islam; Whether or Not a Transcendent Inclusive and Open
Approach is Possible in Present Islam?*

SESSION 1, PANEL 3, 9:00-10:30 am
Inclusion or Exclusion: Christian Contemporary Approaches
MODERATOR: Andrii Krawchuk, PhD, University of Sudbury, Canada

PRESENTERS:

José David Padilla, PhD, Barry University
*Searching for Belonging: A Social Rhetorical Reading on Migration in the
Bible*

Yan Liu, PhD candidate, Drew University
*The Sovereignty Narratives of the Russian Orthodox Church: a Perspective
of the Russia-Ukraine War*

Isabella Novsima, PhD candidate, Drew University
*How to read "People with Profound Intellectual Disability" in the Biblical
Text?*

10:30–11:00a **BREAK & REFRESHMENTS**

11:00–12:30p

SESSION 2 PANEL 1

Exclusive or Inclusive: Jewish and Christian Theologies

MODERATOR: George Eisen, PhD, Delaware University

PRESENTERS:

Sandra Sterling Epstein, EdD, University of Pennsylvania

A Framework for Inclusion and Exclusion in Jewish Law and Practice

Daniel Maoz, PhD, Martin Luther University College

Exclusion, Racism, and Xenophobia: Academic Analysis and Jewish Emic Reflection

SESSION 2, PANEL 2

Inclusive or Exclusive: Buddhist perspective

MODERATOR: Sara Varhus, PhD, Nazareth College

PRESENTERS:

Bishal Karna, PhD, Nazareth College

The Dynamics of Self, Other, and No-Self in Self-Compassion: An Analysis of Buddhist and Psychological Teachings

John M. Thompson, PhD, Christopher Newport University

Does EVERYONE get to ride the “Great Vehicle”? – Exclusive Inclusivism in the Lotus Sūtra

Oliver Ash, MDiv, Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School

Title of Proposal: Inclusivity and Apophatic Non-Duality in the Theologia Mystica of Pseudo-Dionysius

SESSION 2, PANEL 3

Exclusive or Inclusive: Indigenous Approaches

MODERATOR: Mustafa Gokcek, PhD, Niagara University

PRESENTERS:

Christian van Gorder, PhD, Baylor University
Fariba Darabimanesh, PhD, Tehran Iran, Independent Scholar
Anahita, the Ancient Persian Mother Goddess and Modern Expressions of the Divine Feminine

Annapurna Devi Pandey, PhD, UC Santa Cruz
Indigenous Sacred Knowledge in Response to their Exclusion in the hands of the State and Corporate World

12:30–2:00p

LUNCH & KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Moderator:

Keynote Guest Speaker: Diana Eck, PhD, Harvard University

Beyond Inclusion or Exclusion: The Case for a Pluralist Ethic

2:00–3:30p

SESSION 3, PANEL 1

Inclusive or Exclusive in Christian Theologies

MODERATOR: David Hill, PhD, Hickey Center & IIIT Chair Conference Committee Member

PRESENTERS:

Niveen Ibrahim Sarras, Ph.D, Lutheran School of Theology
Anti-Ethnocentrism in the Book of Acts 10-11

Mark King, PhD, Fordham University
A Unique Revelation of Self and Other: Jesus the Christ Read From a Contemplative-Mystical Perspective for a Pluralistic, Postmodern World and Identity

John W. Fadden, PhD, St. John Fisher University
Legitimizing the Other's Wisdom for Common Cause: Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King's Palm Sunday Sermon on Mohandas K. Gandhi

SESSION 3, PANEL 2

Inclusive or Exclusive: Contemporary Issues

MODERATOR: Richard Salter, PhD, Hobart and William-Smith Colleges

PRESENTERS:

Sandra Sterling Epstein, EdD, University of Pennsylvania
At the Intersection of Halacha/Jewish Law and Homosexuality

Terry Hawley Reeder, PhD, The College of Wooster

“I do”; “No you don’t”: Arguing against Biblical Exclusion of LGBTQIA+ Persons

Rev Jason Okrzynski, PhD, Senior Pastor, IL
Inclusive Evangelicalism? Ontology, race and Justification in Protestant Thought

SESSION 3, PANEL 3

Inclusive or Exclusive: Indian and Chinese Religious Approaches

MODERATOR: David Steitz, PhD, Nazareth College

PRESENTERS:

Mathew A. Foust, PhD, Appalachian State University
Confucian Exclusivism: Nationalism and Speciesism in the Analects?

Christopher Key Chapple, PhD, Loyola Marymount University
Jain Yoga: A Way of Inclusion and Distinctions

A. Faizur Rahman, MA, University of Madras
Inclusivity or Exclusivity in the Sacred Texts of Hinduism

3:30–4:00p

BREAK & REFRESHMENTS

4:00–5:30p

SESSION 4, PANEL 1

Inclusive or Exclusive: Mystical Approaches

MODERATOR: Etin Anwar, PhD, Hobart and William-Smith Colleges

PRESENTERS:

Tatjana Myoko v. Prittwitz, PhD, Bard College
Being One in the Midst of Otherness

June-Ann Greeley, PhD, Sacred Heart University
All Lovers are Welcome: Rumi and the Theology of Hospitality in Fihī ma fihī

Nurasiah, PhD, Islamic National University, Indonesia
Compassion and Inclusion in Ibn Arabi

SESSION 4, PANEL 2

Inclusive or Exclusive: Contemporary Approaches

MODERATOR:

PRESENTERS: Shalahudin Kafrawi, PhD, Hobart and William Smith
Colleges

*The Hateful Rhetoric of the Other and the Peaceful Co-existence in American
and Muslim Contexts*

Muneer Kuttiyani Muhammed, PhD, International Islamic University

Revisiting the Madinah Pact: Toward Rebuilding an Ideal Inclusive Society

Yaakov Ariel, PhD, UNC, Chapel Hill

*Inclusion and Exclusion: Allen Ginsberg and the Changing Nature of
Individual identities and Spiritual Choices in America*

SESSION 4, PANEL 3

Inclusive or Exclusive: Contemporary Regional Approaches

MODERATOR: Thomas Donlin-Smith, PhD, Nazareth

PRESENTERS:

Dian Nafiatul Awaliyah, PhD, CEO Annisa, Indonesia

Critics about Exclusivism of Some Religious Communities in Indonesia

Hussam S. Timani, PhD, Christopher Newport University

Al-Wala' wa al-Bara': The Other in Islamic Thought

Martin Awaana Wullobayi, PhD, Pontificio Istituto di Studi Arabi
ed' Islamistica, Rome

*Inclusion and Exclusion of Religious Groups in National Identity Discourse:
The Approach of the Republican Brothers of Sudan*

6:00–8:00p

DINNER & KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Moderator:

Presenter: Andrii Krawchuk, PhD, University of Sudbury, Canada

Topic: Can you embrace a homicidal rapist from Bucha?

WEDNESDAY May 24, 2023

7:30–8:45a

BREAKFAST

9:00–10:30a

SESSION 5, PANEL 1

Inclusive or Exclusive: The Qur'anic Narrative

MODERATOR: George Eisen, PhD, Delaware University

PRESENTERS:

Shalahuddin Kafrawi, PhD, Hobart and William Smith Colleges
The Dialectic of Expansion and Contraction of Muslim Identity in the Qur'an

Mustafa Gokcek, PhD, Niagara University
Inclusivity through Rahman, The Most Gracious

Ahmet Celik, PhD candidate, Syracuse University
Multiple Political Discourse in the Islamic Tradition

SESSION 5, PANEL 2

Inclusive or Exclusive: Contemporary Approaches

MODERATOR: Rev. William Huston Wilkinson, PhD,

PRESENTERS:

Abdoul Aziz Gaye, PhD, Nazareth College
*The Principle of Loyalty to Muslims and Disavowal of non-Muslims
theorized by Ibn Taymiyya and executed by Wahhabism and Al-Qaeda*

Luke Grote, PhD, Drew University
*Eliminative Belonging: The Group, Identity, and the Fundamental
Mechanisms of Exclusion Imam*

Ali Siddiqui, Muslim Institute for Education and Religion, CA
Racism and Xenophobia in Islam

SESSION 5, PANEL 3

Inclusive or Exclusive: Contemporary Approaches

MODERATOR: Etin Anwar, PhD, Hobart and William-Smith Colleges

PRESENTERS

Saiyida Zakiya Hasna Islam, PhD, Temple University
Exclusivity and Inclusivity: The Two Arcs of a Circle

Abdul Majid Khan, PhD, Aligarh Muslim University
Dynamics of Inclusion and Exclusion in the light of Qur'anic Verses

Mohammed Mujib, Ph.D. candidate, University of Ghana

Perceptions of Islam and Muslims among Christians at the Islamic University
College

10:30–11:00a **BREAK & REFRESHMENTS**

11:00–12:30p **SESSION 6, PANEL 1**
Inclusive or Exclusive: Contemporary Approaches to Sacred Texts
MODERATOR:

PRESENTERS:

M. Ashraf Adeel, PhD, Kutztown University

Inclusivity and Exclusivity: Why Religions Countenance Both

Irfan A. Omar, Ph.D. Marquette University

The Qur'an on Religious Other: A Critical Reading of Maulana Wahiduddin Khan's Tadhkār al-Qur'ān

SESSION 6, PANEL 2,
Inclusive or Exclusive: Peaceful coexistence

MODERATOR: Mustafa Gokcek, PhD, Niagara University

PRESENTERS:

Fatih Harpci, PhD, Carthage College

Respect and Responsibility for the Sacred: Revered Values and Traditions of the Other

Jason Okrzynski, PhD, United Protestant Church, Grayslake

Experiencing God's Radical Welcome: Divine Transcendence, Human Knowing, and Inclusivity

Hamidullah Marazi, PhD, Islamic University, Awantipora Pulwama,
Kashmir

Interfaith Dialogue as an Antidote to Exclusivism and Prelude to Toleration

12:30–2:00p **LUNCH & CONCLUDING REMARKS**

Muhammad Shafiq, PhD, Hickey Center & IIIT Chair, Nazareth College

Thomas Donlin-Smith, PhD, Religious Studies, Nazareth College

