

Nazareth College's
Hickey Center for Interfaith Studies and Dialogue
&
the IIIT 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

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

4:30–8:00 pm **OPENING SESSION**
Otto A. Shults Community Center, Forum

Opening Remarks:

Elizabeth Paul, PhD, President Nazareth

Conference Update:

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

John Krummel, PhD, Hobart William-Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY

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

Angela Herald, PhD, Conference Logistics

5:30–8:00 pm **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

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

9:00–10:30 am **SESSION 1, PANEL 1, GAC Room 235**
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*

9:00-10:30 am

SESSION 1, PANEL 2, GAC Room 236
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

Fatih Harpci, PhD, Carthage College
*Respect and Responsibility for the Sacred: Revered Values and Traditions of
the Other*

Hamidullah Marazi, PhD, Islamic University, Awantipora Pulwama,
Kashmir
Interfaith Dialogue as an Antidote to Exclusivism and Prelude to Toleration

9:00-10:30 am

SESSION 1, PANEL 3, GAC Room 233
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*

Jason Okrzynski,, PhD, United Protestant Church, Grayslake
*Experiencing God's Radical Welcome: Divine Transcendence, Human
Knowing, and Inclusivity*

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

10:30–11:00 am BREAK & REFRESHMENTS

11:00–12:30 pm SESSION 2 PANEL 1, GAC Room 233
Exclusive or Inclusive: Jewish Perspectives
MODERATOR: Susan Nowak, PhD, Nazareth College

PRESENTERS:

Saundra 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

11:00–12:30 pm SESSION 2, PANEL 2, GAC Room 236
Inclusive or Exclusive: Buddhist Perspectives
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
Inclusivity and Apophatic Non-Duality in the Theologia Mystica of Pseudo-Dionysius

11:00–12:30 pm SESSION 2, PANEL 3, GAC Room 235
Exclusive or Inclusive: Indigenous Approaches
MODERATOR: Mustafa Gokcek, PhD, Niagara University

PRESENTERS:

Christian van Gorder, PhD, Baylor University
Fariba Darabimanesh, MA, 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*

12:30–2:00 pm

LUNCH & KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Shults Otto Community Center, Forum

MODERATOR: Christine Bochen, PhD, Nazareth College

Keynote Guest Speaker: Diana Eck, PhD, Harvard University

Beyond Inclusion or Exclusion: The Case for a Pluralist Ethic

2:00–3:30 pm

SESSION 3, PANEL 1, GAC Room 235

Inclusive or Exclusive in Christian Theologies

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

PRESENTERS:

Niveen Ibrahim Sarras, PhD, 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*

2:00–3:30 pm

SESSION 3, PANEL 2, GAC Room 236

Inclusive or Exclusive: Contemporary Social Issues

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

PRESENTERS:

Saundra 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

2:00–3:30 pm

SESSION 3, PANEL 3, GAC Room 233

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

3:30–4:00 pm

BREAK & REFRESHMENTS

4:00–5:30 pm

SESSION 4, PANEL 1, GAC Room 235

Inclusive or Exclusive: Mystical Approaches

MODERATOR: Shalahuddin Kafrawi PhD, Hobart William Smith College

PRESENTERS:

Saiyida Zakiya Hasna Islam, PhD, Temple University

Exclusivity and Inclusivity: The Two Arcs of a Circle

June-Ann Greeley, PhD, Sacred Heart University

All Lovers are Welcome: Rumi and the Theology of Hospitality in Fihi ma Fihi

Nur Asiah, PhD, Islamic National University, Indonesia

Compassion and Inclusion in Ibn Arabi

4:00–5:30 pm

SESSION 4, PANEL 2 GAC Room 236

Inclusive or Exclusive: Contemporary Approaches

MODERATOR: Rashid Muhammad, PhD

PRESENTERS:

Tatjana Myoko v. Prittwitz, PhD, Bard College

Being One in the Midst of Otherness

Etin Anwar, PhD, Hobart and William Smith Colleges
The Hateful Rhetoric of the Other and the Peaceful Co-existence in American and Muslim Contexts

Yaakov Ariel, PhD, UNC Chapel Hill
Inclusion and Exclusion: Allen Ginsberg and the Changing Nature of Individual identities and Spiritual Choices in America

4:00–5:30 pm

SESSION 4, PANEL 3, GAC Room 233
Inclusive or Exclusive: Muslim Political Challenges
MODERATOR: Corinne Dempsey, PhD

PRESENTERS:

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

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

6:00–8:00 pm

DINNER & KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Otto A. Shults Community Center, Forum
MODERATOR: Thomas Donlin-Smith, PhD, Nazareth College

Presenter: Andrii Krawchuk, PhD, University of Sudbury, Canada
Can you Embrace a Homicidal Rapist from Bucha? The Limits of Dialogue When All the Air Has Been Sucked Out

WEDNESDAY May 24, 2023

7:30–8:45 am

BREAKFAST

9:00–10:30 am

SESSION 5, PANEL 1, GAC Room 235
Inclusive or Exclusive: The Qur'anic Narrative
MODERATOR: Rev. William Huston Wilkinson, PhD

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

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

9:00–10:30 am

SESSION 5, PANEL 2, GAC Room 236

Inclusive or Exclusive: Toward an Ideal Society

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

PRESENTERS:

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

Muneer Kuttiyani Muhammed, PhD, International Islamic University
Revisiting the Madinah Pact: Toward Rebuilding an Ideal Inclusive Society

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

10:30–11:00 am

BREAK & REFRESHMENTS

11:00–12:30 pm

SESSION 6, GAC Room 235

Inclusive or Exclusive: Contemporary Approaches to Sacred Texts

MODERATOR: Tom Lappas, PhD, Interim Dean of Arts and Sciences, Nazareth College

PRESENTERS:

M. Ashraf Adeel, PhD, Kutztown University
Inclusivity and Exclusivity: Why Religions Countenance Both

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?

12:30–2:00 pm

LUNCH & CONCLUDING REMARKS

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

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