
CURRICULUM VITAE

DR MOHAMED S. MATHEE

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Surname: Mathee
First Name: Mohamed Shaïd
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Nationality: South African

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QUALIFICATIONS

- PhD, Historical Studies, University of Cape Town (June, 2011)
- Masters of Social Science (MSocSci), Religious Studies, University of Cape Town (2004)
- BA/Honours, Islamic law, Al-Azhar University, Cairo (1998)

EMPLOYMENT: CURRENT AND PREVIOUS

- University of Johannesburg: lecturer, 2011 to current
- University of Cape Town: lecturer, tutor and researcher, Historical Studies, Religious Studies, and School of Languages and Literature, 2004-2010
- University of the Witwatersrand: guest lecturer, 2013
- Islamic College of Southern Africa, 2000 - 2003

TEACHING (University of Johannesburg)

- Undergraduate:
 - Introduction to Islam; Introduction to Judaism; Religion, Politics & Society (Religion & violence); Religion & Science; Islam in Africa (Anthropology of Religion); Islam & Human Rights (University of the Witwatersrand)
- Postgraduate (Honours and Taught Masters):

- Prophetic Traditions, Shari'ah & Constitutional Democracies (Honours); Religion: Theory and Method

SUPERVISION

- 4 Honours
- 2 Masters

CONFERENCE & SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

- 'The in-marriage doing of wives in colonial-era Timbuktu *fatwās*: a resource for an Islamic law-colonality conversation', University of Leeds, 14 September 2018
- 'Political and social role of religious organizations', *Between State and Society: (r)Evolution of non-State actors in the MENA-region*, Afro-Middle East Centre, Pretoria, 28-29 August 2018
- The opposing politics of two twentieth-century Timbuktu chronicles: the *Kitāb al-turjumān* and the *Jawāhir al-ḥiṣān fī aḥbār al-Sūdān*', *African Studies Association – United Kingdom Meeting, University of Birmingham*, 11-13 September 2018 (main organizer of the stream, "Muslim intellectual writing in Africa").
- 'A window into the ethical and everyday practice in colonial Timbuktu: A twentieth-century Timbuktu muftī's fatwā and letter on paternity cases', *Association for the Study of Religion in Southern Africa (ASRSA), 40th Annual Congress*, University of Kwazulu-Natal, 15-16 August 2018
- 'The politics of Amīr al-mu'minīn Ahmad Lobbo's ajwibah to questions on slave/free status of tribes and the role of historiography', *The "Caliphate of Hamdallahi": A History from Within' Conference*, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, 6-7 April 2018
- Member, National Research Foundation Social Sciences Humanities and Law panel, Evaluation of Rated, Unrated, Y-Rated and Thuthuka funding applications, September 2017
- 'The Kitab al-turjuman: a chronicle of a controversial scholar with an exclusivist political discourse in 20th-century Mali', Duke University, 29 March 2017
- 'Timbuktu's colonial-era *fatwās* and the quotidien experiences of wives in Timbuktu', *Global Timbuktu: Meanings and Narratives of Resistance in Africa and the Americas Symposium*, Rutgers University, 24-25 March 2017.
- Member, National Research Foundation Social Sciences, Humanities and Law panel, Evaluation of Rated, Unrated and Y-Rated funding applications, September 2016

- ‘The eschatological imperative of the Islamic State’, *Re-assessing the Islamic state group and its features*, Afro-Middle East Centre, Pretoria, 23-24 August 2016
- , ‘A seventeenth-century Songhay chronicler learning (and teaching) to be Muslim through historiography: the case of the Tarikh al-Sudan’, Cadbury Conference ‘Bodies of Text: Learning to be Muslim in West Africa, University of Birmingham, June 30 – 1 July 2016
- ‘The *Kitāb al-turjumān* of Muḥammad Mahmoud wuld al-Shaykh’, *manuscript matters: (re)collections workshop*, University of Cape Town, 29-31 March 2016
- The political-religious project of the Islamic state, *American Academy of Religions Annual Meeting*, Atlanta, November, 2015
- Construction of legitimization in the Masina Caliphate (1818-62) and the *Ta’rīkh al fattāsh* ‘project’, *Public Affairs Research Institute (PARI)*, University of Witwatersrand, September, 2013
- A Timbuktu investigation report: a container of Timbuktu’s history from below, UCT, September, 2013
- ‘Mystery’ and Islam noir in the recent English translation of Timbuktu’s *Ta’rīkh al-fattāsh*, Department of Historical Studies, University of Johannesburg, 12 March, 2013
- *Women’s agency in Muslim marriage: fatwas from Timbuktu*, Department of Religious Studies UCT, April 2011
- *The Tombouctou Manuscripts Project: Social History Approaches*, Conference: The Tombouctou Manuscripts Project, UCT, August 2005
- *Introducing the UCT Tombouctou Manuscripts Project*, Chemins de la Savoir Conference, King Muhammad V University, Morocco, June 2005

TEACHING: SCHOOLS, SEMINARS (PAST & NEAR FUTURE)

- University of Cape Town Summer School (January, 2019): Timbuktu: between history and myth, 7-11 January 2019
- Droit Musulman: Théory, école, pratiques (Époque classique, temps modern), sessions d’études doctorales internationales, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) and Institut de Recherche et d’Histoire des Textes (IRHT), Section Arabe, research seminar on different aspects of Muslim legal culture and practice, Paris, 3-7 December 2018
- International Institute of Islamic Thought Summer School, Johannesburg, 19 – 26 October 2018

- Critical Muslim Studies Summer School: Decolonial Struggles and Liberation Theologies, Summer School Grenada, Spain, 18 – 29 June 2018
- Critical Muslim Studies: Decolonial Struggles and Liberation Theologies, Summer School, Cape Town, 14 – 21 January 2018

RESEARCH

The Timbuktu Manuscripts: Twentieth-century *fatwās* (legal opinions) & chronicles (intellectual & social history)

ACADEMIC ACTIVITY ORGANIZATION

- Convenor and organizer of ‘Islamic writing in Africa’ stream for ASAUK-2018, University of Birmingham, September 2018
- Organizer, Department of Religion Studies, University of Johannesburg in International Institute of Islam Taught 2018 Summer School, October 2018

PUBLICATIONS

- ‘Curse motives in the “Curse of Ham narrative”: land for Yahweh’s landless people?’, *Journal for Semitics*, 25, 2, (2016), 726-747
- ‘Probing the Theological Resources of a Seventeenth-Century *tārīkh*: the *Tārīkh al-Sūdān* and Ash‘arī *kalām*’, *Islamic Africa* 7, 2, (2016)
- ‘Towards a new study of the so-called *Tārīkh al-fattāsh*’, *History in Africa*, 42, (2015), 37-73 (co-authored, 50%)
- ‘Women’s agency in Muslim marriage: fatwas from Timbuktu,’ *Journal for Islamic Studies*, vol. 31, 2011, 75-95
- The Ash‘arite nod of approval to power, in Fataar, Aslam & Esack, Farid (eds.), *After the Honeymoon: Muslim religious leadership and political engagement in a post-Apartheid South Africa* (Cape Town: Centre for the Study of Progressive Islam, 2009)
- The Tombouctou Manuscript Project: social history approaches, in Jeppie Shamil & Diagne Souleymane Bachir (eds.), *The Meanings of Timbuktu* (Cape Town: Human Sciences Research Council Press, 2008)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION & LEADERSHIP

- Association for the Study of Religion in Southern Africa (ASRSA) – 2011 to date
- Member of the Executive, Black Academics Forum (BAF), University of Johannesburg, 2016 to date

LANGUAGE SKILLS:

- English, Afrikaans and Arabic, all round competence; Hebrew (reading and speaking), French (basic reading)

REFEREES

- Prof Paulo F. de Moraes Farias, University of Birmingham, paulofarias@blueyonder.co.uk
- Prof Abdulkader Tayob, Dept. of Religious Studies, UCT, Abdulkader.Tayob@uct.ac.za
- Professor Farid Esack, Dept. of Religion Studies, University of Johannesburg, fesack@uj.ac.za
- Minister Naledi Pandor, Minister of Higher Education, South Africa, pandor.n@dhet.gov.za
- Prof Maria Frahm-Arp, Vice-Dean: Executive Director, University of Johannesburg Library, mariafa@uj.ac.za
- Associate Prof Bruce Hall, Dept. of History, Berkley University, bruce.hall@berkeley.edu
- Distinguished Prof Aslam Fataar, Vice-Dean: Research, Faculty of Education, Stellenbosch University, afataar@sun.ac.za