

# International Conference Contesting Religious Identities

October 13<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> - 2010



## Keynotespeakers

- \* prof. dr. **Nilüfer Göle** from the Ecole des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, France
- \* prof. dr. **Joerg Rieger** from Southern Methodist University, Dallas, USA
- \* prof. dr. **Tina Pippin**, Agnes Scott College, Atlanta, Georgia, USA
- \* prof. dr. **Jolyon Mitchell**, Edinburgh University, Scotland, UK
- \* prof. dr. **Claudia Camp**, Texas University, Austin, Texas, USA
- \* prof.dr. **Gerd Theissen**, University of Heidelberg, Germany
- \* prof. dr. **Patrick Eisenlohr**, Faculty of Social Sciences, Utrecht University
- \* dr. **Christoph Baumgartner**, Faculty of Humanities, Utrecht University

**Nilüfer Göle** (born 1953) is a prominent Turkish sociologist and a leading authority on the political movement of today's educated, urbanized, religious Muslim women. She is currently Directrice d'Études at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS), Centre d'Analyse et d'Intervention Sociologiques (CADIS), in Paris. Göle is the author of many books, including *Interpénétrations: L'Islam et l'Europe* (2005); *The Forbidden Modern: Civilization and Veiling* (1997).

**Joerg Rieger** is Professor of Systematic Theology at the Southern Methodist University's Perkins School of Theology in Dallas, Texas. His work addresses the relation of theology to public life, using tools from cultural studies, critical theory, and religious studies, and reflecting on the misuse of power in politics and economics. His books include *No Rising Tide: Theology, Economics, and the Future* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2009); *Beyond the Spirit of Empire: New Perspectives in Politics and Religion*. Co-authored with Nestor Miguez and Jung Mo Sung. (London: SCM Press, 2009); *Christ and Empire: From Paul to Postcolonial Times* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2007).

**Tina Pippin** is professor of Religious Studies at Agnes Scott College in Atlanta, USA. Her research is in religion and cultural studies. Primarily, she reads biblical texts in their postmodern contexts, especially apocalyptic literature and cultures. She is the author of *Death and Desire: The Rhetoric of Gender in the Apocalypse of John* (Westminster/John Knox, 1992), one of the co-authors of *The Postmodern Bible* (Yale University Press, 1995),

author of *Apocalyptic Bodies: The Biblical End of the World in Text and Image* (Routledge Press, 1999).

**Jolyon Mitchell** holds a lectureship at Edinburgh University. Dr Mitchell contributes regularly to different media, providing specialist analysis on a range. He is author of many publications, including *Media Violence and Christian Ethics* (Cambridge University Press, 2007); *Visually Speaking* (Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 1999); co-editor of *The Film and Religion Reader* (London and New York: Routledge, 2007); *Mediating Religion* (London: Continuum, 2003); and Routledge's Monograph series on *Media, Religion and Culture*.

**Gerd Theissen** (1943) is Professor of New Testament Theology at the University of Heidelberg. He received the Burkitt Medal for Biblical Studies in 2002 from The British Academy. He is one of the earliest pioneers in the application of the principles and methods of Sociology to the study of the New Testament. Notable works in this field are *The First Followers of Jesus: A Sociological Analysis of the Earliest Christians*, which concentrates on conditions in Palestine and *The Social Setting of Primitive Christianity* a Pauline study dealing mainly with Corinth.

**Claudia Camp** is a professor of Hebrew Bible/Old Testament at Texas Christian University. She writes on biblical wisdom literature and narrative, with a particular interest in feminist criticism. She is the author of *Wisdom and the Feminine in the Book of Proverbs* (Sheffield Academic, 1985) and *Wise, Strange and Holy: The Strange Woman and the Making of the Bible* (Sheffield Academic, 2009).

**Patrick Eisenlohr** is professor of Cultural Anthropology at Utrecht University. Among his publications are: *Little India: Diaspora, Time and Ethnolinguistic Belonging in Hindu Mauritius*, (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2006) and 'As Makkah is sweet and beloved, so is Madina: Islam, devotional genres and electronic mediation in Mauritius', in *American Ethnologist* 33(2): 230-245.

**Christoph Baumgartner** (1969) is assistant professor in Ethics at Utrecht University. His recent publications include: 'Religious identities in liberal societies - to be protected against 'offensive speech'? In *Political Ethics and International Order. Annual Report of Societas Ethica* 2007 (pp. 307-316). (2008). Bionanotechnology: A New Challenge for Ethical Reflection? In Fabrice Jotterand (Ed.), *Emerging Conceptual, Ethical and Policy Issues in Bionanotechnology* 2008 (pp. 67-84).