

**Programme Point Sud 2021**  
**Zoom-Workshop The Grammar of the Spirit World  
in Pentecostalized Africa**  
**2-6 September 2021**

**Conveners**

Wilhelm Gräb, Humboldt University Berlin, Germany & Stellenbosch University, South Africa

Hermen Kroesbergen, University of Pretoria, South Africa

Vanessa Rau, Max Planck Institute, Goettingen, Germany & Humboldt University Berlin, Germany

Josiah Taru, Great Zimbabwe University, Mashvingo, Zimbabwe & University of Pretoria, South Africa

Philipp Oehlmann, Humboldt University Berlin, Germany & University of Pretoria, South Africa

In collaboration with the Institute for African Studies (IAS), University of Ghana, Legon and the Goethe University Frankfurt/Main. Funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG).

**Preliminary Program**

| <b>Thursday 2 Sep 21</b>                                |  |                     |
|---|--|---------------------|
| <u>Central European<br/>Summer Time<br/>(UTC+02:00)</u> |  |                     |
| 14:00-14:30   | Welcome, introductions   | Kroesbergen         |
|   | <i>A general perspective on the grammar of the spirit world</i>  |                     |
| 14:30-15:15   | ‘African Indigenous Religions, Spiritual Beings and the Debate over Religion and Superstition’                             | Burley              |
| 15:15-16:00   | ‘The Material and Spirit Worlds among the Ngonde of Northern Malawi: Two Realities of a Different Kind’                    | Mlenga              |
| 16:00-16:15   | Coffee break   |                     |
| 16:15-17:00   | ‘Spirits as Interlocutors: Philosophical Implications of Taking Animism Seriously’   | Rakhmanin           |
| 17:00-17:45   | ‘Language for What Cannot Be Explained, Controlled, or Predicted’  | Kroesbergen         |
| 17:45-18:30   | ‘Ifá Divination and the Reality of the Spirit World in Western Africa: a Conversationalist Response to Hermen Kroesbergen’ | Ofuasia             |
|   |  |                     |
| 20:00-20:45   | Keynote address [title to be announced]  | Tanya Luhrmann      |
| 20:45-21:00   | Discussion   |                     |
| 21:00-21:45   | Panel discussion (general perspective)   | Speakers of the day |

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| <b>Friday 3 Sep 21</b>   |   |                     |
|                          | <i><b>The grammar of spiritual healing</b></i>  |                     |
| 10:30-11:15              | Keynote address [title to be announced]   | Joseph Tonda        |
| 11:15-11:30              | Discussion  |                     |
| 11:30-12:15              | ‘Embodying the Spirit World in Stories of Affliction from Zambian Pastors’  | Kroesbergen-Kamps   |
| 12:15-13:00              | ‘Spirits and Illness: Batswana Christians’ Views of the Causes of Illness’  | Togarasei           |
| 13:00-14:00              | Lunch break   |                     |
|                          | <i><b>The grammar of evil spirits and witchcraft</b></i>  |                     |
| 14:00-14:45              | ‘The Relevance of the Grammar of Spiritual Power and Anointing in the Pentecostalized Africa Today (Case of DRC Congo): a Critical Approach Based on Biblical View’ | Muhindo             |
| 14:45-15:30              | ‘“Witchdemonology”: the New Face of Witchcraft in Africa’   | Onyinah             |
| 15:30-15:45              | Coffee break  |                     |
| 15:45-16:30              | Keynote address [title to be announced]   | Elias Bongmba       |
| 16:30-16:45              | Discussion  |                     |
| 16:45-17:30              | Panel discussion (healing and evil)   | Speakers of the day |
|                          |   |                     |
|                          | <b>Optional</b>   |                     |
| 20:00-21:15              | Documentary ‘African Christianity Rising; Ghana’  |                     |
| 21:15-21:45              | Discussion  |                     |
|                          |   |                     |
| <b>Saturday 4 Sep 21</b> |   |                     |
|                          | <i><b>The grammar of the spirit world in communities</b></i>  |                     |
| 10:30-11:15              | Keynote address [title to be announced]   | Maria Frahm-Arp     |
| 11:15-11:30              | Discussion  |                     |
| 11:30-12:15              | ‘“Witchcraft is Real!”’   | Udelhoven           |
| 12:15-13:00              | ‘How to (Un)learn to Speak of Spirits and the Spirit World’   | Debele              |
| 13:00-14:00              | Lunch break   |                     |
| 14:00-14:45              | ‘Socializing the Spirit through Ritual Practices’   | Eze                 |
| 14:45-15:30              | ‘Exploring Spiritual Grammar of Identification (SGI) in African Pentecostalism among the Yorubas’   | Abolaji             |
| 15:30-16:15              | Panel discussion (communities)  | Speakers of the day |
|                          |   |                     |
| <b>Sunday 5 Sep 21</b>   | <b>Optional</b>   |                     |
| 12:00-14:00              | Online church service   |                     |

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|------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| <b>Monday 6 Sep 21</b> |   |                       |
| 10:30-11:15            | Discussion church service   |                       |
|                        | <b><i>The grammar of spiritual power and anointing</i></b>                                |                       |
| 11:15-12:00            | Keynote address [title to be announced]   | Kwabena Asamoah-Gyadu |
| 12:00-12:15            | Discussion  |                       |
| 12:15-13:00            | 'Copy and Paste, or: Theo-linguistic Strategies of Streamlining "Charisma"'               | Heuser                |
| 13:00-14:00            | Lunch break   |                       |
| 14:00-14:45            | 'African Traditional Religion and the Grammar of the Spirit World'                        | Ozioko                |
| 14:45-15:30            | 'The Grammar of Sound (Music) in Ghana's Indigenous Religions and Pentecostal Traditions' | Nrenzah               |
| 15:30-15:45            | Coffee break  |                       |
|                        | <b><i>The grammar of the spirit world – conclusions</i></b>                               |                       |
| 15:45-16:00            | Summary of findings   | Kroesbergen           |
| 16:00-16:45            | Discussion and way forward  |                       |