

NISIS & NOSTER

AUTUMN SCHOOL

Religion and Modernity: Oppositional Pairing?



Mon 24—Thursday 27 October 2016

VU University Amsterdam & University of Amsterdam



NOSTER

Nederlandse Onderzoekschool voor Theologie en Religiewetenschap
Netherlands School for Advanced Studies in Theology and Religion



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INTRODUCTION

In 2015, the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (Koninklijke Nederlandse Academie van Wetenschappen; KNAW) published the report 'Klaar om te wenden' on the current state of theology and religious studies in the Netherlands. This report underlines the importance of collaboration in the academic field of theology and religious studies. Therefore, NISIS and NOSTER have strengthened ties, resulting in the organization of this joint Autumn School. During the Autumn School we will gather around one of the questions of the Dutch National Research Agenda (Nationale Wetenschapsagenda) #61 *Are religion and modernity each other's opposites?*

Theme: Religion and modernity: oppositional pairing?

Scholars working on religious and societal phenomena ascertain that religion is not disappearing from western societies as was predicted by secularization theses, but that there is in fact a global increase in the role of religion in contemporary societies. This increase consists of traditional religions changing shape as well as the emergence of new religious forms: new spirituality, public religion or new religious forms introduced by migration flows. Such new or modified forms of religion induce questions concerning changes within religious traditions, communities and expressions, as well as in the role of religion in the public domain.

Tensions concerning the role of religion in the public domain manifest themselves and seem to be intensified by the occurrence of violent events which are explained in public debate as stemming from and being fed by fundamentalist

or extremist religiosity. Events such as the attacks by Anders Breivik in Norway in 2011, the assault of women on New Year's Eve 2015 in Cologne, the attack on the editorial office of Charlie Hebdo, the Bataclan theatre and the religiously motivated Orlando nightclub shooting all create social upheaval, and foreground the issue of the compatibility of religion and modernity.

Questions on the role of religion in modern society often focus on issues related to gender and (homo)sexuality, such as the position and emancipation of women and members of the LGBT community within religious communities. These questions center on issues such as the veiling of women, the position of civil servants who are conscientious objectors to same-sex marriage, the firing of homosexual teachers at denominational schools in the Netherlands, or the subsidy of religious humanitarian organizations which reject same-sex relationships.

Such issues lead to questions concerning conservative-religious views in civil society, and concerns about women and LGBT people as a "minority within a minority" in religious communities. But they also reveal the ways in which modernity has become intertwined with views on autonomy, agency and emancipation.

This Autumn School will examine the relationship between religion and modernity. Scholarly research and knowledge from the field of religious studies, theology and Islamic studies and the intersection of these fields may provide insight into the position of religion in the growing diversity of our contemporary societies. NISIS and NOSTER have invited various distinguished international scholars that will deliver keynote lectures relating to religion and modernity. In the workshops of this Autumn School, students will also relate their own research to this theme, guided by the keynote speakers.

NISIS

The Netherlands Interuniversity School for Islamic Studies (NISIS) is a collaboration between nine Dutch universities with a substantive scholarship on Islam and Muslim societies. As national research school NISIS covers the field in its broadest dimension, by acknowledging that Islam can only be properly studied from different disciplinary angles and with a multidisciplinary sensitivity, without ignoring its doctrinal, cultural and historical specificities. Students and researchers participating in NISIS activities have disciplinary backgrounds in law, history, religious studies, theology, anthropology, sociology, political studies, media studies, security studies and philology. NISIS covers a wide range of regional expertise, as geographically, NISIS members work on the Middle East, Turkey, Iran, Africa, Indonesia, Western Europe, Central Asian, India, Russia and China.



NOSTER

The Netherlands School for Advanced Studies in Theology and Religion NOSTER is a major platform for research and training in the fields of theology and religious studies in the Netherlands and Flanders. Thirteen research institutes in these fields have joined forces, providing a stimulating environment for some 200 members of staff, 75 PhD candidates and 25 Research Master students.

NOSTER is institutionally embedded in the Faculty of Humanities of Utrecht University. The school is responsible for the national training program for PhD candidates (and ReMA students) and a national research program that clusters the activities of the twelve participating institutions on this research area. This interdisciplinary research program covers a wide range of academic disciplines,

in which different religious and philosophical traditions and practices are studied, using historical, literary, systematic or empirical methods, from an insider's perspective as well as by studying religion and philosophy of life as social, historical and cultural phenomena. In the school religious scholars, theologians, philosophers (of religion), historians, and social and literary scientists work together. In order to stimulate disciplinary but especially interdisciplinary cooperation between senior members, NOSTER provides financial support for Research Collaboration Groups (RCG) and Thematic Seminars that are organized by NOSTER members themselves.



NOSTER

Nederlandse Onderzoekschool voor Theologie en Religiewetenschap
Netherlands School for Advanced Studies in Theology and Religion

LOCATIONS

VU University Amsterdam

Morning sessions (Tue 25 & Wed 26 October):

Location: BelleVUe
Address: De Boelelaan 1091
1081 HV Amsterdam

Workshop rooms : BV-0H36, BV-0H38, BV-0H53

Route description: BelleVUe is accessible via the entrance of the main building (De Boelelaan 1105).

Afternoon sessions (Mon 24, Tue 25 & Wed 26 October):

Location: Main building, Agora complex
Address: De Boelelaan 1105
1081 HV Amsterdam

Route description: From the entrance of the main building, turn left towards the 6 lift group. Take the lift to the 3rd floor. When you arrive at the third floor, you will see the Agora complex.

PLATTEGROND VU CAMPUS EN VU MEDISCH CENTRUM



Building BelleVUe is labelled 1091 on this map and is accessible via the entrance of the main building (1105 Hoofdgebouw)

University of Amsterdam

Morning session (Thu 27 October)

Location: Bushuis/Oost-Indisch Huis
Address: Kloveniersburgwal 48
1012 CX Amsterdam



Workshop rooms morning session: Bushuis F0.21, Oost-Indisch Huis D3.06

Lunch: VOC Hall

Keynote lecture Prof. dr. Jan Assmann (NGG conference): VOC Hall

Restaurants

Monday 24 October (invited guests only)

The Basket

De Boelelaan 1109b

1081 HV Amsterdam (inside main building VU University)

Tuesday 25 October (invited guests only)

Restaurant Oliver's

Claude Debussylaan 78

1082MD Amsterdam

Wednesday 26 October—Conference dinner (all programme participants)

Restaurant De Nieuwe Poort

Claude Debussylaan 2

1082 MD Amsterdam

PROGRAMME

MONDAY 24 OCTOBER 2016 (VU UNIVERSITY AMSTERDAM)

Afternoon session: Opening session & Keynote Lectures

Location: Agora Zaal 1, Main Building

Chairs: Prof. dr. Bert Jan Lietaert Peerbolte (VU University Amsterdam) & Prof. dr. Thijl Sunier (VU University Amsterdam)

13.30 - 14.00: Registration with coffee and tea

14.00 - 14.10: Official opening by Prof. dr. Ruard Ganzevoort (VU University Amsterdam, head of the Department Beliefs & Practises / Faculty of Theology, elected Dean per January 1st 2017. Senator for the "Green Left" party)

14.10 - 14.30: Welcome and Introduction of the Autumn School theme – 'Religion and modernity: oppositional pairing?' by Prof. dr. Thijl Sunier (VU University Amsterdam)

14.30 - 15.15: Keynote lecture by Prof. dr. John Voll (Georgetown University, USA), 'Is There a Religious Modernity? Is There an Islamic Modernity?'

15.15 - 15.30: Questions and discussion

15.30 - 16.00: Coffee and tea break

16.00 - 16.45: Keynote lecture by Dr. Timothy Fitzgerald (Critical Religion Association), 'Abolishing Politics: Religion and Politics as Post-colonial remains'

- 16.45 - 17.00: Questions and discussion
17.00 - 18.00: Drinks and book presentation
18.30: Dinner (invited guests only)

TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER 2016 (VU UNIVERSITY AMSTERDAM)

Morning session: Parallel Workshops

Workshop 1 (NISIS)

Location: BV-0H36

Chair: Prof. dr. Marjo Buitelaar (University of Groningen)

09.15 - 09.30: Introduction by Prof. dr. John Voll

09.30 - 09.45: Presentation 1, by Khatibah (State Islamic University of North Sumatra), 'Prophetic Rhetoric: An Analysis of Hadith Texts in Sahih Al-Bukharī and Sahih Al-Muslim'

Discussant: Ade Jaya Suryani

09.45 - 10.00: Presentation 2, by Yvonne Moonen (VU University Amsterdam), 'Pluralism is Gods will- human beings should learn to deal with this phenomenon'

Discussant: Melle Lyklema

10.00 - 10.30: Questions and discussion

10.30 - 11.00: Coffee and tea break

11.00 - 11.15: Presentation 3, by Ade Jaya Suryani (Leiden University), 'Muslim Baduy: Ethnicity, Modernity and Religious Movement'

Discussant: Khatibah

11.15 - 11.30: Presentation 4, by Melle Lykema (Utrecht University), 'Modern conceptions in the historiography of religion: Islam as a mis-

sionary religion'

Discussant: Dorieke Molenaar

11.30 - 11.45: Presentation 5, by Dorieke Molenaar (University of Amsterdam), 'Fatwa shopping or imam hopping?'

Discussant: Yvonne Moonen

11.45 - 12.30: Questions and discussion

13.00 - 14.30: Lunch

Workshop 2 (NOSTER)

Location: BV-0H38

Chair: Prof. dr. Henk van den Belt (University of Groningen)

09.15 - 09.30: Introduction by Dr. Timothy Fitzgerald

09.30 - 10.30: Discussion keynote lecture and texts

10.30 - 11.00: Coffee and tea break

11.00 - 11.20: Presentation 6, by Iris Busschers (University of Groningen), 'Redrawing Boundaries: Missionary Identities in Contested Situations (Papua, c. 1900-1949)'

11.20 - 11.30: Response by Marinus de Jong (Theological University Kampen)

11.30 - 11.50: Discussion

11.50 - 12.10: Presentation 7, by Daan Oostveen (VU University Amsterdam), 'Multiple religious belonging from the perspective of critical religion'

12.10 - 12.20: Response by Iris Busschers

12.20 - 12.40: Discussion

12.40 - 13.00: Wrap-up discussion

13.00 - 14.30: Lunch

Workshop 3 (NISIS)

Location: BV-0H53

Chair: Prof. dr. Herman Beck (Tilburg University)

09.15 - 09.30: Introduction by Prof. dr. Herman Beck

09.30 - 09.45: Presentation 8, by Al Farabi (Leiden University), 'Religion and Modernity: Legal Reform and Problematic Views of Divorce in Indonesia'

Discussant: Muhammad Latif Fauzi

09.45 - 10.00: Presentation 9, by Jamilah Sailan (Radboud University Nijmegen), 'Women, divorce and modernity; Piety on my own'

Discussant: Maria Vliek

10.00 - 10.30: Questions and discussion

10.30 - 11.00: Coffee and tea break

11.00 - 11.15: Presentation 10, by Muhammad Latif Fauzi (Leiden University), 'Sharia and state-law in Indonesia: Revisiting fatwas on marriage registration'

Discussant: Al Farabi

11.15 - 11.30: Presentation 11, by Maria Vliek (Radboud University Nijmegen), 'Fallen Out of Love with God'

Discussant: Jamilah Sailan

11.30 - 12.00: Questions and discussion

13.00 - 14.30: Lunch

Afternoon session: Keynote Lectures

Location: Agora Zaal 1, Main Building

Chair: Prof. dr. Bert Jan Lietaert Peerbolte

- 14.30 - 15.15: Keynote lecture by Dr. Jens Kreinath (Wichita State University, USA), 'Modernity, Postmodernity, and the Formations of Anthropological Studies of Islam'
- 15.15 - 15.30: Questions and discussion
- 15.30 - 16.00: Coffee and tea break
- 16.00 - 16.45: Keynote lecture by Prof. dr. Frances Flannery (James Madison University, USA), 'Our Apocalyptic Moment: The Rise of Terrorism, the Collapsing of Modernity, and the Fight for Social Memory'
- 16.45 - 17.00: Questions and discussion
- 17.00 - 19.00: Presentation by the Netherlands Academy of Religion
- 19.30: Dinner (invited guests only)



WEDNESDAY 26 OCTOBER 2016 (VU UNIVERSITY AMSTERDAM)

Morning session: Parallel workshops

Workshop 4 (NISIS)

Location: BV-0H36

Chair: Prof. dr. Karin van Nieuwkerk (Radboud University Nijmegen)

- 09.15 - 09.30: Introduction by Dr. Jens Kreinath
- 09.30 - 09.45: Presentation 12, by Michiel van der Padt (University of Amsterdam), 'Gay Rights as a Judeo-Christian, Humanist Tradition'

and anti-Semitism as an Ancient Islamic Practice: An Analysis of Postsecular Nationalist Discourse in the Netherlands'

Discussant: Merve Kayikci

09.45 - 10.00: Presentation 13, by Muhammad As'ad (Radboud University Nijmegen), 'Shalawat Performance and Pop Culture: Contestation of Authenticity and Ideology of Mawlid Celebration in Indonesia'

Discussant: Hasan Sazali ✓

10.00 - 10.30: Questions and discussion

10.30 - 11.00: Coffee and tea break

11.00 - 11.15: Presentation 14, by Hasan Sazali (State Islamic University of North Sumatra), 'Design of Religious Development Communication: An Analysis of Religious Tolerance Building in Bogor City'

Discussant: Muhammad As'ad

11.15 - 11.30: Presentation 15, by Mailin (State Islamic University of North Sumatra), 'Ethnic Resentment or Interreligious Conflict: Relation Between Malay and Chinese in Tanjungbalai Indonesia'

Discussant: Michiel van der Padt

11.30 - 11.45: Presentation 16, by Merve Kayikci (KU Leuven), 'Something for God: Piety is a Commitment to Community'

Discussant: Mailin

11.45 - 12.30: Questions and discussion

13.00 - 14.30: Lunch

Workshop 5 (NOSTER)

Location: BV-0H38

Chair: Prof. dr. Rick Benjamins (Protestant Theological University)

09.15 - 09.30: Introduction by Prof. dr. Frances Flannery

09.30 - 10.30: Responses to keynote lecture

10.30 - 11.00: Coffee and tea break

11.00 - 12.30: Discussion texts

12.30 - 13.00: Wrap-up discussion: relating texts and discussion to research projects participants

Afternoon session: Keynote Lectures

Location: Agora Zaal 1, Main Building

Chair: Dr. Petra de Bruijn (Leiden University)

14.30 - 15.15: Keynote lecture by Dr. Jeanette Jouili (University of Pittsburgh, USA), 'Islam and Culture: Dis/junctures in a Modern Conceptual Terrain'

15.15 - 15.30: Questions and discussion

15.30 - 16.00: Coffee and tea break

16.00 - 16.45: Keynote lecture by Dr. Adriaan van Klinken (University of Leeds, UK), 'Born Again vs. Coming Out: Religion, Sexuality and Modern Narratives of Personhood in Africa'

16.45 - 17.00: Questions and discussion

17.30: Conference dinner at Restaurant de Nieuwe Poort (all programme participants)

THURSDAY 27 OCTOBER 2016 (UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM)

Morning session – Parallel workshops

Location: Bushuis/Oost-Indisch Huis

Workshop 6 (NISIS)

Location: Bushuis F0.21

Chair: Prof. dr. Thijl Sunier (VU University Amsterdam)

09.15 - 09.30: Introduction by Dr. Jeanette Jouili

09.30 - 09.45: Presentation 17, by Arshad Muradin (Leiden University), 'The Use and Operation of Informal Dispute Resolution in a Dutch Mosque'

Discussant: Semiha Sözeri

09.45 - 10.00: Presentation 18, by Naheed Ghauri (University of London), 'The Rise of Secular-Religious Tensions in Europe-A Case Study of Muslim Women and Muslim Religious Tribunals'

Discussant: Heleen van der Linden

10.00 - 10.30: Questions and discussion

10.30 - 11.00: Coffee and tea break

11.00 - 11.15: Presentation 19, by Heleen van der Linden (VU University Amsterdam), 'Islam and 'modernity' in the Netherlands: some initiatives and trends regarding leisure and lifestyle'

Discussant: Naheed Ghauri

11.15 - 11.30: Presentation 20, by Semiha Sözeri (University of Amsterdam), 'Mosque education and the next generation of Muslim Dutch citizens: Dilemmas of separation and integration'

Discussant: Arshad Muradin

11.30 - 12.00: Questions and discussion

Workshop 7 (NOSTER)

Location: Oost-Indisch Huis D3.06

Chair: Prof. dr. Marcel Barnard (Protestant Theological University)

09.15 - 09.30: Introduction by Dr. Adriaan van Klinken

09.30 - 09.50: Presentation 21, by Jelle Wiering (University of Groningen),
“Others Think I am Airy-fairy”: Practicing Navayana Buddhism
in a Dutch Secular Climate’

09.50 - 10.00: Response by Lieke Schrijvers (Utrecht University)

10.00 - 10.30: Discussion

10.30 - 11.00: Coffee and tea break

11.00 - 12.00: Discussion keynote lecture and texts

Afternoon session – Lunch and keynote lecture NGG conference

Location: VOC Hall

12.00 - 13.00: Lunch NISIS, NOSTER & NGG participants

13.00 - 13.15: Welcome NGG Conference by Prof. dr. Gerard Wiegers
(University of Amsterdam)

13.15 - 14.15: Keynote lecture by Prof. dr. Jan Assmann (University of Kon-
stanz), ‘The Secret and the Sacred in Ancient Egypt’

the political struggle between the local expression of Islam and Islamic reform movement on the issue of the correct model of Islam. Most importantly, this thesis will cover how the proponent of mawlid uses pop culture in maintaining the tradition of mawlid among Indonesian Muslims.

In investigating the contestation of discourses on shalawat performance, this thesis will use the proposed analysis of Talal Asad in examining Islamic belief and practice. According to Asad, "one should begin, as Muslims do, from the concept of discursive tradition that includes and relates itself to the founding texts of the Qur'an and the hadith." This concept is useful to see the reasoning behind the argument of each Muslims groups in authenticating a religious practice based on their understanding of what is correct or not correct in Islam.

Muhammad As'ad is a lecturer at University of Hasyim Asy'ari, Jombang, Indonesia. He is now PhD student at Radboud University the Netherlands.

Hasan Sazali (State Islamic University of North Sumatra): 'Design of Religious Development Communication: An Analysis of Religious Tolerance Building in Bogor City'

Distinct from 'secular' 'Western' nation-states, religion plays an important role in the Indonesian national development system. Any actors involved in development policies must directly or indirectly contend with religion as inseparable element of Indonesian society. Using qualitative and critical analysis method, this paper analyzed the role of the Bogor City government and other stakeholders in the design of 'religious development communication' (*I. komunikasi pembangunan agama*) to strengthen religious tolerance through 'structural' and 'cultural' approach. The structural approach is here defined as the communica-

tive effort of the government bureaucracy through its various institutions in strengthening religious tolerance. The cultural approach is here defined as the community-based effort through the involvement and assessment of cultural value and local wisdom in strengthening religious tolerance. Statistical tools were used to ensure the comprehensiveness of data collection and analysis. It was found that the Bogor City government had a weak role in designing religious development communication, leaving the role to be mostly played by religious figures in non-government, societal-led organizations.

Hasan Sazali is an alumni of the prestigious UGM's Postgraduate Program. He has been teaching at State Islamic University of North Sumatra (UINSU) since 2003. A member of Indonesia Interfaith Dialogue Institute (Interfidei), he has published actively in the fields of religious development communication and participated enthusiastically in Pancasila-related academic events.

Mailin (State Islamic University of North Sumatra): 'Ethnic Resentment or Interreligious Conflict: Relation between Malay and Chinese in Tanjungbalai Indonesia'

Religious and cultural pluralities are important factors in the analysis of modern Indonesian development. Using qualitative approach, this paper examined the interaction and dynamic between culture and religion in Tanjungbalai plural society. Located in North Sumatra, a province often perceived as a model for interreligious harmony, Tanjungbalai is a small coastal city which recently was besieged with an 'inter-religious' conflict. A harmless, yet offensive and insensitive criticism of the loud noise of prayer call by a non-Muslim (Buddhist), non-pribumi (Chinese) woman, incited a 'minor' physical riot and a major online 'revolt' towards the Buddhist and Chinese community in Tanjungbalai specifi-