"Decolonial Approaches Towards Social Transformation. Potentials of African Biblical Hermeneutics as Sources of New Theological Insights for Social Change."

Panel | 24 October 2022 | 18:00–20:00 (CEST / SAT) | online via Zoom Please register with <u>bettina.schoen@hu-berlin.de</u> to receive the link to the video conference.

The German–South African International Research Training Group (IRTG) *Transformative Religion: Religion as situated knowledge in processes of social transformation* is happy to invite you to a panel on Potentials of African Biblical Hermeneutics as Sources of New Theological Insights for Social Transformation.

The IRTG program broadly focuses on religion as situated knowledge in processes of social transformation from a decolonial and transdisciplinary perspective.

Reading Christian scripture from an Afrocentric point of view African biblical hermeneutics contribute to debates on decolonizing social transformation in several ways. Such readings not only challenge Western secular notions of "development" that have been disseminated with colonial modernity but also challenge interpretative hegemony of Eurocentric biblical readings enriching it with perspectives built on African knowledge.

The panel seeks to address questions of who's reading matters, what constitutes an African or Afrocentric reading, what enriching African knowledge can be found through an Afrocentric reading of Christian scripture and what role mother tongue plays in the interpretational process.

The objective is to unfold the liberational and transformational potentials of African biblical hermeneutics and its contributions towards societal wellbeing - rebuilding societies in decolonized terms.

Panelists

Madipoane Masenya (Ngwan'a Mphahlele) is a Professor, Biblical and Ancient Studies, University of South Africa, Pretoria, South Africa. Her research focus is Hebrew Bible and gender, especially in African contexts. She served as one of the associate editors of *The Africana Bible: Reading Israel's Scriptures from Africa and the African Diaspora* (Fortress-Augsburg). Her book, *How Worthy is the Woman of Worth? Rereading Proverbs 31:10-31* was published by Peter Lang. She has co-edited with K.N. Ngwa, a volume titled, *Navigating African Biblical Hermeneutics: Trends and Themes from our Pots and our Calabashes* (Cambridge Scholars Press, 2018).

Frederick Mawusi Amevenku is Director (Dean) of Graduate Studies at the Trinity Theological Seminary, Legon Accra, Ghana. His research interests include the New Testament and African Biblical Hermeneutics. He got his PhD at Stellenbosch University, Western Cape, SA. He is one of the editors of a volume on *Biblical Exegesis in the African Context. Interpreting, Translating and Rooting the Bible in the Sub-Saharan Context: Essays on African Biblical Hermeneutics.* (Regnum Africa, 2022), pp (at press) and is one of the authors of *Biblical Exegesis in the African Context* (Vernon 2022). He is ordained minister of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church Ghana (EPCG).

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