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AN INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
AND COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLE ON

Islam, Islamism, and Human Rights in Africa

In an effort to understand the phenomenon of Islamist groups in Africa and elsewhere, we go beyond sensational media headlines to the historical roots of current events as we examine groups such as Boko Haram, Seleka, and Al-Shabaab. We will consider such issues as cultural values, global interests, socioeconomic conditions, and human rights.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2015 • 9:30AM – 4:00PM
UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO NORTH CAMPUS
CLEMENS HALL 120

COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLE
FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2015 • 12:00PM – 2:00PM
BURCHFIELD PENNEY ART CENTER
1300 ELMWOOD AVENUE

Schedule of Events

ALL EVENTS ARE **FREE** AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

THURSDAY, APRIL 23 | **SYMPOSIUM** 120 CLEMENS HALL

9:30 Registration

10:00 **Welcoming remarks**, Ellen Dussourd and Shaun Irlam, Co-Chairs, and Helene Kramer, Past Chair, ALD Memorial Committee

10:00- 11:30 **The Interplay of Politics and Religion**

The Rationality of Abusing Civilians in Civil War

Jacob D. Kathman, Associate Professor in Comparative Politics and International Relations, Department of Political Science, UB

Historical Perspectives on Jihadism in Africa: The Religious Logic of Boko Haram

Ndubueze Mbah, Assistant Professor of African History, Department of History, UB

11:30-12:30 Lunch

12:30-2:00 **The Interplay of Terrorism and Modernity**

Terror, Jihad, and Modern Society

Martin Klein, Professor Emeritus of History, University of Toronto

What are the Islamist Solutions to Post-colonial Crises in West Africa?

Rethinking Competing Muslim Modernities in Mali

Bruce Hall, Associate Professor of History, Duke University

2:00-3:30 **Focus on Human Rights**

Challenges to Human Rights Research and Documentation in Central and East Africa

Maria Burnett, Senior Researcher, Africa Division, Human Rights Watch

Terrorism and State Culture: Creating a Human Rights Agenda in Somalia (via Skype)

John Foley, Advocacy & Research Manager with the East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project (EHAHRDP)

3:30-4:00 **Wrap-up General Discussion**

FRIDAY, APRIL 24 **COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLE** 1300 ELMWOOD AVENUE

12:00-2:00 **The Interplay of Politics, Religion, Terrorism and Modernity**
Bruce Hall, Associate Professor of History, Duke University; Martin Klein, Professor Emeritus of History, University of Toronto; Ndubueze Mbah, Assistant Professor of African History, Department of History, UB

THE *Alison L. Des Forges* MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Sponsors: University at Buffalo Department of History, Department of Political Science, Humanities Institute and Office of the Vice Provost for International Education

Co-Sponsors: Buffalo State College's The Anne Frank Project, Muslim Public Affairs Council of Western New York, University at Buffalo Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy