Yale-Edinburgh Group
on the History of the Missionary Movement
and Non-Western Christianity

LIBERTY, SLAVERY, AND CHRISTIAN MISSIONS

A conference co-sponsored by the Overseas Ministries Study Center and the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition

June 28-30, 2007

Yale Divinity School
New Haven, CT
This is the seventeenth meeting of the Yale-Edinburgh Group on the History of the Missionary Movement and Non-Western Christianity, conferences sponsored by the Centre for the Study of Christianity in the Non-Western World, University of Edinburgh, the Overseas Ministries Study Center, and Yale Divinity School.

Prior meetings were:

March 1992 at Yale: “From Christendom to World Christianity”
September 1992 at Edinburgh: “Intercontinental Connexions”
September 1993 at Yale: “Language, Culture, and Translation”
June 1995 at Yale: “World Christianity and the Teaching of History”
June 1996 at Edinburgh: “Missions and Ethnicity”
June 1997 at Yale: “Missions and Consequences: The Historical Impact of the Missionary Movement”
July 1999 at Yale: “Youth and the Missionary Movement: Inter-Generational Challenge and Opportunity”
July 2000 at Edinburgh: "Representations and Misrepresentations of Missions"
July 2001 at Yale: “Missions and Human Rights”
July 2002 at Edinburgh: “Missions and the Powers: Seen and Unseen”
July 2003 at Yale: “Conversion and Converts”
July 2004 at Edinburgh: “Missions, Money, Privilege”
Programme

Thursday, June 28

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Registration in Day Missions Reading Room, Divinity Library
12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch available in Kenneth Scott Latourette Room, YDS S-223

1:00 - 1:45 p.m – Day Missions Reading Room
   Welcome: Dean Harold Attridge
   Opening paper: Lamin Sanneh
   Slavery, Antislavery, and Moral Progress: Comparative Soundings on Muslim and Western Slavery

1:50 – 3:00 p.m. SESSION 1
   A. RSV Room  Chair: Jon Bonk
   "Laboring to civilize, civilizing through labor: comparing the role of work in slave evangelization"
   Paul Kollman / University of Notre Dame
   "Blackbirding": the labor trade in the Pacific Islands in the 19th century
   Andrew Robson / University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh
   B. Day Missions Room  Chair: Gerald Anderson
   "Chinese Emigration, Indentured Servants and Christianity"
   Jessie G. Lutz / emeritus, Rutgers University
   "The Tian Zu Hui (Natural Foot Society)"
   Brent Whitefield / Valparaiso University

3:00-3:30 Coffee/Tea Break - Latourette Room

3:30 - 4:40 p.m. SESSION 2
   A. Day Missions Room  Chair: T. Jack Thompson
   "To unite different races in Christ" - An analysis of the Church Missionary Society's policy on the indigenous church at the start of the 20th Century
   Ken Farrimond / College of the Resurrection, Mirfield
   J. H. Oldham’s “Christianity and the Race Problem”
   Richard Haney / Ph.D candidate, University of Wales
   B. RSV Room  Chair: Robert Frykenberg
   Liberty, Slavery and Christian Mission: British Protestant Missionaries and Slavery in India, 1793-1900
   G. A. Oddie / University of Sydney
   Freedom's Wake: John Sadiq in Central India Post-Independence
   Ryan Weimer / Ph.D. candidate, University of Edinburgh

4:45 –5:55 p.m. SESSION 3
   A. RSV Room  Chair: Moses Moore
   Emancipation, the African American Great Awakening and World Christianity
   Jay R. Case / Malone College
   The Schoolhouse of Slavery: Reflections on the Theology of Plantation Songs by an American Missionary Association Field Superintendent
   Craig Ginn/ Ph.D. candidate, University of Leeds
   B. Day Missions Room  Chair: Paul Stuehrenberg
Liberating ties? Yun Chi-ho’s Internationalism and Southern Methodist Missions in Colonial Korea
Yeonseung Lee / Ph.D. candidate, Boston University

The Identity, Dignity, and Rights of the Ethnic Minorities and Christian Missions in Burma: A Christian Kachin’s Perspective
La Seng Dingrin / Ph.D, Princeton Theological Seminary

6:15 – 7:30 Dinner reception sponsored by the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Luce Hall Common Room, 34 Hillhouse Ave.

7:30 – 8:30 p.m. Screening of forthcoming documentary film, The Better Hour: William Wilberforce: A Man of Character Who Changed the World - Luce Hall auditorium

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Friday, June 29

8:00 – 8:45 a.m. – Continental breakfast - Latourette Room

8:45 – 9:30 a.m  SESSION 4  – Day Missions Room
Social reality, spiritual condition? The language of servility and liberation in missionary discourse
Andrew Walls

9:35 – 10:45 a.m.  SESSION 5
A. Day Missions Room  Chair: Andrew C. Ross
The Kikuyu Central Association and a Kenyan proto-theology of liberation in 1929.
Kevin Ward / University of Leeds
Slavery or custom? A debate over bride price in the files of the International Missionary Council
Andrew Barnes / Arizona State University

B. RSV Room  Chair: Jon Bonk
“Wise as Serpents, Harmless as Doves: Slaves and Missionaries in Demerara after the 1823 Slave Rebellion”
Todd Hartch / Eastern Kentucky University
Missionaries and the Jamaican Slave Revolt of 1831
Geoff Johnston

10:45- 11:15 Break

11:15 - 12:25 SESSION 6
A. Day Missions Room  Chair: Edward Cleary
Christianizing the Heathen in the West Indies: Missionary Outreach in Two Centuries
Paula Aymer / Tufts University
Slavery among the Cherokee tribes of North America
Sandra Costen Kunz / Ph.D., Princeton Theological Seminary

B. RSV Room  Chair: Richard Pierard
Liberating Germany – North American Protestant missions to West Germany in the wake of World War II
James Enns / Ph.D candidate, University of Cambridge

Lutheranism and Slavery
12:25 – 1:25 Lunch - Latourette Room

1:25 – 2:35 SESSION 7
A. RSV Room Chair: Todd Johnson
   The Politics of Faith: Christian Activism and Liberation Struggles in Maoist China
   Joseph Tse-Hei Lee / Pace University
   The Persecution Cycle: Why Religious Liberty Matters
   Brian J. Grim / Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life

B. Day Missions Room Chair: Jon Miller
   A Man, a Christian . . . and a Gentleman?: John Day and the Free Black Missionary Movement to Liberia
   Betsy Flowers / Texas Christian University
   Gnimbin Ouattara / Spelman College

2:35-3:05 p.m. Break

3:10 – 4:20 p.m. SESSION 8 - Niebuhr Lecture Hall
   Chair: Andrew Walls
   "O the folly of this politico-theology": Methodist missions, anti-slavery and political thought, 1813-33
   Michael Gladwin / MA student, Australian National University
   The Abolitionist Legacy in Methodist Missions to Africa
   Paul W. Harris / Minnesota State University, Moorhead

4:20 – 4:50 p.m. Resources/Projects Session - Niebuhr Lecture Hall
   Dana Robert
   Michael Poon
   Paul Stuehrenberg

5:00 – 6:00 p.m. DAY ASSOCIATES LECTURE - Niebuhr Lecture Hall
   Capturing the Image. African Missionary Photography as Enslavement and Liberation
   T. Jack Thompson

6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Dinner Reception sponsored by the Dean of the Yale Divinity School - YDS Common Room

7:30 – 8:30 p.m. Program of African American music – Great Hall, Yale Divinity School
   Patrick McCreless, Chair of the Yale University Department of Music

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Saturday, June 30

8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Continental breakfast available in the Latourette Room

9:00 – 10:10 a.m. SESSION 9

A. RSV Room  
Chair: Dwight Baker
Liberating the Enslavement: Aboriginal Australians and Christian Mission History  
Raul Fernandez-Calienes / St. Thomas University
Left to Tell?: Canadian Missions and the Challenge of the Rwandan Genocide  
Kate Bowler / Ph.D. candidate, Duke University

B. Day Missions Room  
Chair: Robert Frykenberg
Madiga Christians and the Subversive Gospel  
James Taneti / Ph.D. candidate, Union Theological Seminary-PSCE
Slavery, Mission and Identity Assertion: Pulaya Encounters with Christianity in Kerala  
George Oommen / formerly of United Theological College, Bangalore

10:10 – 10:30 a.m. - Break

10:30 -11:40 a.m. SESSION 10

A. Day Missions Room  
Chair: Richard Pierard
The Enlightenment Veneer: Missions and the Rise of Immediate Abolitionism.  
Robert D. Woodberry / University of Texas, Austin
An American Kairos: St. Louis Area Churches and the Dred Scott Court Case of 1846-1857  
J. Nelson Jennings / Covenant Theological Seminary

B. RSV Room  
Chair: Lamin Sanneh
Liberty and domination: Primal, Christian and Muslim perspectives on slave raiding and liberation of slaves in the northern part of Ghana in second half of the 19th century.  
Allison M. Howell / Akrofi-Christaller Institute, Ghana
Spiritual conversion and social freedom: An analysis of some slave conversion stories from late nineteenth-century Gold Coast.  
Maureen O. Iheanacho / Akrofi-Christaller Institute, Ghana

12:00 – 1:00 Luncheon sponsored by the Overseas Ministries Study Center – at OMSC, 490 Prospect Street

1:00 - 1:30 p.m. Resources/Projects Session – at OMSC  
Ruth Tonkiss Cameron, Michael Boddy
Yvonne Wilkie
Jon Miller
Wright Doyl

1:30 -2:00 Wrap-up; plans for next year
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