

Public Lectures on Peace-Theology 2021

POST-COLONIAL APPROACHES

to building Just Peace

Building Peace with Justice constantly investigates power relations, asks for the different perspectives involved in a conflict, and strives to pay specific attention to those, whose voices are usually silenced. In this regard, postcolonial studies provide indispensable knowledge and wisdom.

Postcolonialism is the academic study of the cultural legacy of colonialism, focusing on the human consequences of the control and exploitation of colonized people, their lands, their bodies. It is a critical theory analysis of the history, culture, literature, and discourse of European imperial power. The ambiguous term *colonialism* refers to a world view underlying that system.

In general, postcolonialism represents an ideological response to colonialist thought. On a simple level, it may seek to build a better understanding of colonial life from the point of view of the colonized people, based on the assumption that the colonial rulers have produced “unreliable narrators”. On a deeper level, postcolonialism examines the social and political power relationships that sustain neocolonialism, including the social, political and cultural narratives surrounding the colonizer and the colonized. This approach may draw examples from history, political science, philosophy, sociology, anthropology, human geography – and theology!

Christian theology and theological ethics are in fact late comers in the broad research on postcolonialism. But certainly, the de-colonization of theology has become one of the most progressive and revealing attempts of our times.

This series of public lectures intends to provide some more general ways of thinking as well as presenting examples from specific contexts. The discussions following the lectures will seek to explore the implications **for building just peace**.

Tuesday / Thursdays, 13.30-15.15 h

Location: online (Zoom)

1. April 2021 **“Epistemic Violence” – Revisiting Just Peace from Postcolonial Perspective(s)**
Prof. Dr. Fernando Enns & Friederike Cord
- Fernando Enns holds the chair for (Peace-) Theology and Ethics at the VU Amsterdam. He is also the director of the Amsterdam Centre for Religion and Peace & Justice Studies, and the director of the Center for Peace Church Theology at the University of Hamburg. Fernando's research focuses on peace and justice from a theological and ethical perspective.
- Friederike Cord is the Research Assistant and PhD candidate the Center for Peace Church Theology at the University of Hamburg/Germany.
8. April 2021 **Theologising Brexit: A Liberationist and Postcolonial Critique**
Prof. Dr. Anthony G. Reddie
- Anthony Reddie is the director of the Oxford Centre for Religion and Culture. Anthony is also Professor Extraordinarius in the Department of Philosophy, Practical and Systemic Theology at the University of South Africa.
15. April 2021 **Healing or Haunting? Towards a Postcolonial Theology**
Prof. Dr. Judith Gruber
- Judith Gruber is a Research Professor at the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, at KU Leuven. She is also the coordinator of the Centre for Liberation Theologies, which carries out academic research at the interface of Systematic Theology and significant challenges of the contemporary societies.
20. April 2021 **Modernidad/Des-colonialidad en los procesos de construcción de paz de las mujeres afrocolombianas”**
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“Modernity/Decoloniality in the Peacebuilding Processes of Afro-Colombian Women” *Dr. Betty-Ruth Lozano*
- Dr. Betty Ruth Lozano Lerma is Director of Research in the Fundacion Universitaria Bautista (Baptist University Foundation) of Cali (Colombia).

22. April 2021

Civil Disobedience and Theological Reflections on Hong Kong Anti-Extradition-Bill Movement – from a Post-Colonial Perspective

HsinYin Yu

HsinYin Yu is a Research-Master Student of “Peace, Trauma, and Religion” at the VU-Faculty of Religion and Theology at VU Amsterdam, and currently working on her thesis regarding this topic.

29. April 2021

Is God a White Racist? Wake work for Theology

Prof. Dr. Robert Beckford

Robert Beckford is professor of Black Theology at The Queen's Foundation, and Associate Professor of Black Theology at the VU Amsterdam. He is also a BAFTA award winning documentary filmmaker. He has written and presented over twenty films for the BBC, Channel 4 and Discovery USA.

Registration

To attend these lectures, please register by filling in the following form:

<https://forms.gle/BEEUXrZQxhc5yghu5>

You will receive the ZOOM invitation by Email before each lecture.

