



NEWSLETTER

22 September 2014

The Shamima Shaikh Memorial Lecture

The Department of Religious Studies, together with the Muslim Youth Movement hosted the inaugural Shamima Shaikh Memorial lecture on Saturday 20 September at the Women's Gaol, Constitutional Hill, Johannesburg. Shaikh (d.1998) was South Africa's best known Muslim feminist writer and activist. The event was attended by over 150 people from the academic, activist and Muslim community. Na'eem Jeenah and Farhana Ismail delivered tributes dealing with her impact on gender justice and Muslim women's rights in South Africa.

The keynote address, entitled "Muslim Feminism, Islamic Law and the Quest for Gender Justice" was delivered by internationally renowned Muslim feminist scholar and author, Dr Kecia Ali, Associate Professor of Religion at Boston University.

Liberation and Ethics Theologian

18 September 2014

On Thursday the 25 Sept 18:00-20:00 Prof de la Torres will give the third of his 7 week seminar series. This week the discussion is on 'The Sin of Neoliberalism: Beyond the Empire'. The seminar will be held in the departmental seminar room on the 6th floor Ring A.

Liberation Theologies: 21st Century

27 September 2014

Morning seminar on Liberation Theologies - **Too large a Banquet – too few Diners – Exploring the competing demands on contours of Liberation Theology in the 21st Century.** Prof de la Torres will be addressing this interesting topic. Prof de la Torres is a leading Ethical and Liberation Theologian who has published 30 books and works at Iliff School of Theology in Denver. Time: 09:30-12:30 Venue: Humanities Common Room Ring C

Religion and Social Theory Reading group

2 October 2014

The department is hosting a series of six reading groups on a Thursday from 11:00-13:00. Next week we are reading Clifford Geertz 'Religion as Cultural System' (Page 61 – 82) Mary Douglas 'Land Animals, Pure and Impure' (Page 194-209) and Talal Asad 'The Construction of Religion as an Anthropological Category' (Page 114-132). For more information and readings please contact Ashraf religionstudiesuj@gmail.com.

Departmental discussion: Women and Liberation 30 September 2014

On Tuesday the 30 September at 13:00 there will be an informal discussion with Prof de la Torres on women and liberation. Dr Nortje-Meyer will introduce the discussion. We will meet in the seminar room.