



NEWSLETTER

August 2019

Publications and other news from the department

Prof amina wadud, arguably the world's most famous Muslim feminist scholar presented a public lecture hosted by the department on Tuesday 27 August. Her well-attended lecture was titled "*Is there a Feminist in the House of Islam?*"

Prof Farid Esack did two radio interviews on Radiosondergense on 12 August. The one interview dealt with the place of religious holidays in a secular democratic South Africa and the other on the significance of *Id' al-Adha* which was celebrated on 12 August. *Id al Adha* is one of the two major Muslim holidays of the year.

Ms Clementine Nishimwe, Mr Ali Masawudu, Prof Maria Frahm-Arp and Dr Elina Hankela will be presenting the following papers at the conference of the Association for the Study of Religion in Southern Africa (ASRSA) in Pretoria in the first week of September:

- Frahm-Arp: Why in the Fourth Industrial Revolution are Miracle Churches Attracting so many People?
- Hankela: Xenophobia and Innovation: Thinking with Migrant-dominated Pentecostal Churches in Johannesburg
- Masawudu: Islam and the Economy: A Capitalistic Tendency among South African Muslims
- Nishimwe: The Politics of Ecclesiastical Economy: Migrant Women's Experiences of Enmeshment and Support Received at an Anglican Church in Johannesburg

Dr Elina Hankela graduated with a Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education (Wits) in July.

Mawlana Irshad Sedick and **Mawlana Ismail Hendricks**, both MA students in the department, returned in August from a three-week stay in Mecca and surrounds where they performed the Hajj, the obligatory pilgrimage for all Muslims who have the physical and financial means to do so. Welcome back!

Happy Muslim New Year

The **Muslim New Year** started on 1 September with the sighting of the moon for the month of Muharram. This first of this month also signifies the beginning of a period of mourning for the martyrdom of The Prophet' Muhammed's grandson, Hussain and his family in 680 AD who lead an uprising against the tyrannical of that time.