

Curriculum Vitae

Isabel Mukonyora

Department of Philosophy and Religion

Western Kentucky University

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EDUCATION

D.Phil, University of Oxford, United Kingdom. Dissertation: "The complementary of male and female imagery in religious language: a study of the Valentinian Gnostic and Masowe Apostles", 1998.

Master of Letters Degree, University of Aberdeen. Dissertation, "Independent Churches among the Shona: the dynamics of their emergence and interpretation." Center for the Study of Christianity in the non-Western world, 1989.

Bachelor of Arts, Theology (CNAAB). Trinity College, Bristol/London Bible College, London, UK, 1983.

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

2004-now Assistant Professor, Religious Studies, Department of Philosophy and Religion, Western Kentucky University. Subjects: Introduction to Religion, Christian History and Thought, Women and Religion, Christianity in Africa and Postcolonial Christianity

2002-2003 Visiting Scholar for two semesters in the Department of Religious Studies, University of Virginia, Subjects: Christianity in the Third World, and, Women and Religion.

2000-2002 Part-time lecturer in the same Department of Religious Studies, University of Virginia. Subjects: Christianity in Africa, Women and Religion.

2001-2002 Post-doctoral Fellow in the Carter G. Woodson Institute, University of Virginia. Work on the book manuscript titled "Wandering a Gendered Wilderness: Suffering and Healing in an African Initiated Church." New York: Peter Lang, 2007.

2000-2001 Senior Fulbright Scholar Department of Religious Studies, University of Virginia.

1996-2000 Full-time Lecturer awarded tenure in Theology in Department of Religious Studies, Classics and Philosophy, University of Zimbabwe. Subject : Issues in Contemporary Christian Thought. Feminist/Womanist Theology.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

1. *Wandering a Gendered Wilderness: Suffering and Healing in an African Initiated Church*, New York: Peter Lang Publishing Group 2007.
2. *Rewriting the Bible: The Real Issues*, eds. I. Mukonyora, J.L. Cox, and F.J. Verstraelen. Gweru: Mambo Press, 1992.

MAJOR ARTICLES

1. "Foundations for Democracy among Evangelical Christians in Zimbabwe." *The Bible and Ballot Box: Evangelical Faith and Third World. Politics*. New York: Oxford Univ. Press, 2008, 131-160.
2. "Masowe Migration: A Quest for Liberation in the African Diaspora," *Religion Compass* 2. Oxford: Blackwells, February 2008, 1-9.
3. "Women of the Diaspora Within: the Masowe Apostles," in *Women and Religion in African Diaspora*. Griffiths M. and Savage B. eds. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2006, 59-80.
4. "Gender and Marginality as Categories of Social Protest in African Christian Experience," in Antonio E. ed. *Inculturation & Postcolonial Discourse in African Theology*. New York: Peter Lang Publishers 2006, 161-172.
5. "The Identity of African Christians," *Review of The History of the Church in Africa* by Bengt Sundkler and Christopher Steed, H-Net@h-net.msu.edu, 2001.
6. "Women and Ecology in Shona Religion," *Word and World Journal* (St Paul, MN: Luther Seminary) 19 (Summer 1999): 276-284.
7. "The Dramatization of Life and Death by Johane Masowe," *University of Zimbabwe Humanities Journal* 25, no. 2 (1998): 192-207.
8. "Marginality and Protest: The Role of Women in Shaping the Masowe Thought Pattern," *Southern African Feminist Review (SAFERE)* 4, no. 2 and 5, no. 1 (2000-2001): 1-21.
9. "Christian Orthodoxy and Ecumenism," *The Ecumenical Review* (World Council of Churches) 49, no. 4 (October 1997): 451-456.

REVIEW ARTICLES

1. Commentary on articles on the "Invention of African Christian Orthodoxy" in *Journal of Religion in Africa* 38. Koninklijke Brill NV, Leiden 2008, 1-5.
2. "The Church of Women: Gendered Encounters between Maasai and Missionaries," Hodgson, Dorothy L. *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* Vol. 72, n. 2, June 2006, 521-524
3. "Foundations of an African Ethic: Beyond the Universal Claims of Western Morality. By Benezet Bujo. and Proclaiming Political Pluralism" Churches and Political Transition in Africa. By Isaac Phiri." *American Academy of Religions (AAR) Journal*, Fall 71/3.2003.

ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLES

1. "Zimbabwe," *The Encyclopedia of Christianity*, Volume 5. Lieden: Eerdmans/Brill Pproject, 2007.
2. "Alice Lenshina Mulenga (c1924-1978)" in *Encyclopedia of Women in World History*, Editor in Chief, Bonnie G. Smith. New York: Oxford University Press, 2007.
3. "Johane Masowe (John of the Wilderness)," *Holy People of the World: A Cross-Cultural Encyclopedia*, ed. Jestice P. ed. Santa Barbara/Denver/Oxford: ABC, 2005, 434.
4. "Masowe Wilderness Apostles," *Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature*, ed. Bron Taylor. London: Concilium, 2005, 1054-1056.

POSITIONS AND AWARDS

1. Marquis Who is Who of American Women, 2008.
2. American Academy of Religions: a) Member of the Task Force on Sustainability 2008 – now; Religion and Ecology Group - Member of Steering Committee 2007- now; c) African Religions Group
3. *Compass Journal* on-line, Oxford: Blackwells - Editorial Board Member (African Religions).
4. *Western Scholar* Fall 2006; 9; Junior Scholarship Award 2004/2005; Regular Faculty Scholar 2006/007.
5. "O" Visa Issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the US Justice Department in September 2003.
6. Member of the Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University Research Group for the "Women and Religion in the African Diaspora Project" (2002-2004).

7. Carter G. Woodson Post-doctoral Research Fellow, University of Virginia 2001/2002
8. Fulbright Senior Scholar, c/o Department of Religious Studies, University of Virginia, Charlottesville. 2000/2001.
9. Chairperson for the Association for Theological Institutions in Southern and Central Africa (ATISCA), 1998-2000.
10. Coordinator of Workshop on Women and the Environment held in the Monomotapa Hotel, August 5, 1999 in association with the Zimbabwe International Book Fair.
11. British Commonwealth Scholar, Doctoral Studies, University of Oxford, UK, 1992-1996.

CONFERENCES, PUBLIC LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS 2006-2008

1. "Together in the Moonlight: Post-colonialism and Gender in African Spirituality." Public Lecture: Department of History, Department of Religion and the African Studies Group at Florida State University. March 28, 2008.
2. "Living with Death in Masowe Apostolic Theology," Paper presented at the African Religions Group at the American Academy of Religions, San Diego 2007.
3. "Christianity as the Religion of the African Diaspora." Paper presented at the African Christianity and the Neo-Diaspora at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota. March 23-25, 2006.
4. Africa and African Diasporic Knowledges Workshop. University of Cape Town, South Africa. October 21-25, 2006.
5. Discussant on The Religion and Ecology Panel on Religious and Theological Reflection on Environmental Issues in Africa. November 19, 2006. American Academy of Religions Meeting in Washington DC
6. "Women and the Imago Dei in the Religious Imagination of Bantu Peoples," Paper presented at the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture. April 6-9, 2006 University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida.

WORK IN PROGRESS

2. Research on African Environmental Theology.