



Online-Conference

Open and Relational Theology and its Social and Political Implications Muslim and Christian Perspectives

7.–8. Dezember 2022 | 17–20 Uhr
December 7 and 8, 2022 | 9–12 am (MT)



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It is no coincidence that it is precisely in the 20th century that various explicitly relational philosophies and theologies are breaking out. Never before have people been more aware of how highly interconnected their lives are, how interdependent they are economically and ecologically, politically, psychologically and socially – and also how fragile this complex balance is in which our civilization moves. The Corona pandemic, the Russian war, and the worsening climate crisis have once again shown us this in all urgency in the past years.

To take this integration into larger contexts seriously and to consider it philosophically and theologically is one of the basic concerns of Alfred N. Whitehead's process philosophy, and then especially of John Cobb's process theology. Since then, process thinking has been characterized by a high level of interest in issues of social justice, political engagement, and environmental ethics.

Contemporary Islamic theological approaches inspired by the philosophy of freedom or the theology of process reveal very similar concerns – and Open Theism as an evangelical awakening movement also fits into this motif, insofar as it claims not only to shape individual piety but also to promote the public responsibility and influence of human beings.

The online conference "Open and Relational Theology and its Social and Political Implications: Muslim and Christian Perspectives" takes place in the light of this topical background. It asks about the potentials of a relational and "open" theology in both religious traditions to empower people and to grant them social and political self-efficacy:



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- ▶ What does an “open” or relational theology bear out in a time of pandemics, war, and climate crisis?
- ▶ Where are the peace-promoting and democracy-building potentials of an “open” or relational theology – and where its dangers?
- ▶ What are the connections between theology (and more narrowly: the image of God) and social/political engagement?

Participants include Gregory Boyd and John Sanders, two thought leaders of Open Theism, and prominent figures in process theology Thomas Jay Oord, Catherine Keller, and (via video message) John B. Cobb. In the Islamic tradition, Mouhanad Khorchide, Saida Mirsadri, Jared Morningstar and Adis Duderija, among others, will present keynote addresses on Muslim perspectives on the field of “Open and Relational Theology”. A detailed schedule for the conference is given below.

- ▶ Registration for the conference runs via the following link: [Registration](#). The zoom link for online participation will be sent via email after successful registration and shortly before the conference.
- ▶ If you have any further questions about the conference, please feel free to contact Ms. Bilgehan Asena Ayvaz (b_ayva01@uni-muenster.de).



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Mittwoch, 7. Dezember 2022/Wednesday, December 7, 2022

17:00 Uhr/9:00 am	Welcome and Introduction	Thomas Jay Oord Mouhanad Khorchide Manuel Schmid
17:20 Uhr/9:20 am	Video <i>People of the Book and the Future of Process Theology</i>	John Cobb
17:30 Uhr/9:30 am	Presentation 1 <i>Process-Relational Thought and Islam: Proposing a Novel Framework for Constructive Engagement with Modernity</i>	Jared Morningstar
17:40 Uhr/9:40 am	Response	Jay McDaniel
17:50 Uhr/9:50 am	Discussion	
18:15 Uhr/10:15 am	Break	
18:20 Uhr/10:20 am	Presentation 2 <i>A Call for a United Faith Response To Our Current Climate Crisis</i>	Gregory Boyd
18:30 Uhr/10:30 am	Response	Aaron Langenfeld
18:40 Uhr/10:40 am	Discussion	
19:05 Uhr/11:05 am	Presentation 3 <i>Iqbal's Process Relational Worldview; An Islamic Response to Modern Challenges</i>	Saida Mirsadri
19:15 Uhr/11:15 am	Response	Michael Lodahl
19:25 Uhr/11:25 am	Discussion	
19:50 Uhr/11:50 am	Wrap Up	Thomas Jay Oord Mouhanad Khorchide Manuel Schmid



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Donnerstag, 8. Dezember 2022/Thursday, December 8, 2022

17:00 Uhr	Welcome	Thomas Jay Oord Mouhanad Khorchide Manuel Schmid
17:10 Uhr/9:10 am	Presentation 1 <i>Open and Relational Theology and its Social and Political Implications: Perspectives from Progressive Islam</i>	Adis Duderija
17:20 Uhr/9:20 am	Response	Dave Andrews
17:30 Uhr/9:30 am	Discussion	
17:55 Uhr/9:55 am	Presentation 2 "Birds with Wings Outspread": Christianity Islam and the Earth	Catherine Keller
18:05 Uhr/10:05 am	Response	Johannes Grössl
18:15 Uhr/10:15 am	Discussion	
18:40 Uhr/10:40 am	Break	
18:45 Uhr/10:45 am	Presentation 3 <i>Nurturant Religion for a Better World</i>	John Sanders
18:55 Uhr/10:55 am	Response	Shabir Ally
19:05 Uhr/11:05 am	Discussion	
19:30 Uhr/11:30 am	Wrap Up/Closing perspective	Thomas Jay Oord Mouhanad Khorchide Manuel Schmid