CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

National Unity: Secular or Pluralistic?
Conference to commemorate 65 Years of the Spirit of Bandung,
14-15 December 2020, University of Dar es Salaam, Mwalimu Nyerere Campus

The **University of Dar es Salaam** (Society and Religion Research Centre, Department of Sociology and Anthropology) and **Radboud University Nijmegen** (Faculty of Philosophy, Theology and Religious Studies, NIM Institute) solicit submission of abstracts on **"National Unity: Secular or Pluralistic?"**

After independence most "non-aligned" countries opted for philosophies of national unity to guarantee peace and stability. In the case of Tanzania, this philosophy (Ujamaa) was secular (a-religious, although Tanzania had a "civic religion"). In the case of Indonesia, this philosophy (Pancasila) was "pluralistic" (recognizing five later six "official" religions). In both countries, the philosophy of national unity is contested. 65 years later, the question is: what philosophy succeeds better in promoting stability? Are there comparable examples from other countries?

SUB THEMES

Papers should be around the following (but not limited) to the following sub themes

SUB THEMES:

1. Revival of Philosophies of Unity: *Ujamaa* (Tanzania) and *Pancasila* (Indonesia). Did *ujamaa* and *Pancasila* succeed in creating/promoting unity through promoting religious pluralism, secularism and inclusiveness?
2. *Ubuntu* – how does/will *Ubuntu* philosophy help in creating unity?
3. How did religious institutions respond to these philosophies of unity through secularism?
4. Did other philosophies namely: Negritude, Humanism, Consciencism, etc succeed in promoting sustainable unity in their respective countries?

5. Is unity a product of an ideology? How do philosophy and/or religion inform an ideology?
6. What are the fundamental differences between philosophies of unity in Africa and Asia? – Are there fundamental common elements between these philosophies?
7. How can we use these philosophies of unity to promote tolerance and a global society which is multi-cultural and multi-religious?
8. How can we use these philosophies of unity to solve contemporary conundrums such as ethnicity, tribalism, bigotry, social exclusion, religious cleansing, ethnicity and tribal cleansing?
9. How can we use these philosophies of unity to promote regional integrations and continental unity? - how can these philosophies of unity enhance effective functioning of the continental machineries such as African Union.
10. How do Oriental Philosophies and religions deal with the issue of unity, inclusiveness, secularism and pluralism (Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, Confucianism and etc.)

SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS AND IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract should be written in English language and should be spaced. Abstract should be in word format with maximum of 250 words. Abstract must be submitted before **31st April 2020**. All abstracts should be directed to Thomas Ndaluka and Frans Wijsen through email: **thomas.j.ndaluka@gmail.com; f.wijsen@ftr.ru.nl**. Accepted authors will be notified before **30th May 2020**. Full papers should be submitted on **31st October 2020**.

PUBLICATIONS

Authors will be invited to submit their full papers based on the presentation for peer review after the conference. Accepted papers will be published in a book or a journal.