

PROGRAM AGENDA

“ISLAMIC WEST AFRICA’S LEGACY OF LITERACY AND MUSIC TO AMERICA AND THE WORLD”

AND

“SLAVERY AND ITS LEGACY”

(Intergenerational—Transferring the Legacy)

February 19-22, 2011

(Most Recent Draft)

Tougaloo College and the **International Museum of Muslim Cultures (IMMC)**, along with **Sound Vision** (our virtual audience media partner), through a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)*, is hosting this National Conference, **“Islamic West Africa’s Legacy of Literacy and Music to America and the World,”** February 19-20, 2011 in Jackson, Mississippi. Joining the **Islamic West Africa’s Legacy Conference** is **Tougaloo College** and **Brown University’s “Slavery and Its Legacy” Conference**, which opens the afternoon of February 20, 2011 with a blended session of Scholars from both conferences. The **“Slavery and Its Legacy”** conference will be hosted at the Tougaloo College campus on February 21-22, 2011. The two conferences brings to Jackson more than 40 leading national and international scholars, humanities practitioners, activists, artists and artisans, who are on the cutting edge of research and practical application of these newly discovered resources.

The **Islamic West Africa’s Legacy** national conference includes a forum and workshop which builds on IMMC’s established program initiatives, and focuses specifically on **“The Legacy of Timbuktu: Wonders of the Written Word” International Exhibition Program**. The primary emphasis surrounds the collection of ancient African manuscripts from the **Mamma Haidara Memorial Library at Timbuktu** of The Republic of Mali, of which 45 are showcased in the Exhibit at IMMC. **Sheikh AbdelKader Haidara**, the heir and director of the Haidara Library, is our special guest and keynote speaker at the Conference.

A significant and expanding body of research has connected the **American blues to Muslim roots and Malian music tradition**, which is explored in the Timbuktu Exhibition and a special panel discuss at the conference. **This is a critical historic link in the current work unfolding on the Mississippi Blues Trail.**

The impetus for the **“Slavery and Its Legacy”** conference is related to Brown University President Ruth Simmons, who initially planted the seeds in her Monograph **“Creating a Paradigm and Research Agenda for Comparative Studies of the Worldwide Dispersion of African People”** (1990). She subsequently mandated a study of Brown University's deep roots in the Atlantic slave trade and created the University’s Steering Committee on Slavery and Justice who completed the Slavery and Justice report. This inspired the Tougaloo College administration and faculty to respond by proposing this Slavery Conference in collaboration with Brown, who has provided funding for this conference. The conference focus is on historic and modern forms of slavery, showing how slavery evolved from the forced servitude of individuals based on racial grounds to modern-day trafficking of individuals--primarily women and children--for purposes of prostitution, domestic labor, and other forms of exploitation. Focus will also be on the abolition of slavery in all its forms, strategies for bringing justice to the victims of slavery, and efforts to confront modern forms of slavery.

The conferences are intergenerational with a focus on outreach to young adult leaders.

Friday February 18, 2011

10 am to 5 pm Early Registration and Tour of the Exhibition
All Day and Between Sessions on Saturday

Saturday February 19, 2011

7 am to 8 am Continental Breakfast

8 am to 8:30 am Opening Program, Welcoming Presentations

8:30 am to 10 am Artistic and Aesthetic Value of the Material
Culture of Mali and Demonstration

10 am to 12 pm Panel: "Islam and the Promotion of Literacy"
(Keynote: "Literature and Ancient African
Manuscripts)

12 pm to 1 p.m. LUNCHEON/Keynote Presentation:
"The American Muslim Cultural Identity,
It's Debt to Imam Warith Deen Mohammed,
El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz (Malcolm X),
Muhammad Ali"

1 pm to 3 pm Panel: Islamic West Africa's Cultural
Impact on America and the World/Keynote:

3 pm to 5 pm Panel: Islam in Early America and
Present Day Influence

IMMC/Arts Center of Mississippi

Jackson Convention Complex

Hosts: Tougaloo College and IMMC

Moderator: Ann Saunders
Boubacar Sedeck Najim,
Timbuktu Master Artisan

Moderator: Audrey Shabbas
Sheikh Abdel Kader Haidara,
Mamma Haidara Memorial Library
Dr. Beverly Mack, Author
University of Kansas
Imam Faheem Shu'aibe
Islamic Thinker & Leader
Tariq Beard, Owner
Omar Ibn Said Manuscript

MC: Abdul Malik Mujahid
Imam Plemon El-Amin
Atlanta Masjid of Al Islam

Moderator: Dr. Vibert White
Dr. Ali Mazrui, Author
Binghamton University,
State University of New York
Dr. Babacar Mbengue,
DePaul University
Marietta Harper, African Specialist
Library of Congress

Moderator: Aisha Waheed
Dr. Sylviane Diouf, Author Schomburg
Center, New York
Dr. Allan Austin, Author
Emeritus Prof. Springfield College
Dr. Sulayman Nyang, Author
Howard University
Dr. Aminah McCloud, Author
DePaul University

6 pm to 7:30 pm	EVENING RECEPTION PROGRAM	MC: Dr. Rubina Inamdar Scholars, Presenters, Dignitaries, And Funders Honored
6:30 to 7:30 p.m	SPECIAL YOUNG ADULT BREAKOUT SESSION	
7:30 pm to 9:30 pm	Muslim Roots of the Mississippi Blues TO HIP HOP	Moderator: Dr. Marvin Haire Dr. Sylviane Diouf Jonathan Curiel, Journalist/Author Malian Musician Abdul Rasheed, Blues Musician Tougaloo College Gospel Choir
9:30 pm to 12 am	Blues and HIP HOP Jam Session & Concert	Blues and Hip Hop Muslim, African, African American Artists HEADLINERS: Amir Sulaiman (Spoken Word Artist); Abdul Rasheed & The Central MS Blues Musicians; And Other Artists
<u>Sunday February 20, 2011</u>		
7 am to 8 am	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST	
8 am to 12 pm	Strategic Planning Workshop Session (This session represents the core of the national conference. Its primary function is to engage presenters in development of a national program draft that can be taken across America to educate the public about the Islamic World.)	Scholars, Humanities Practitioners Conveners: Emad Al-Turk, Okolo Rashid, Loye Ashton, Audrey Shabbas; Jeanne Lockett (Concurrent Session)
9 am to 12 pm	A New History for A New Future: “Building a Youthtopia, An Ideal Society with the Power of Youth Involvement” (Special Roundtable Conversation among Young Leaders of the Next Generation)	Dr. Rami Nashashibi, Inner-City Muslim Action Network (IMAN) Imam Mansoor Sabree, Atlanta Masjid of Al Islam Dr. Chico Chapman, Jackson State University (Concurrent Session)
12 pm to 1 pm	LUNCHEON/Keynote Presentation: “Dr Martin Luther King, Jr., the Civil Rights Movement and American Muslims”	MC: Fawad Siddiqui Imam Zaid Shakir Zaytuna College
1 pm to 5 pm	SPECIAL BLENDED SESSIONS: 1) Opening Keynote “Lies My Teacher Told Me” (Reflect on distortions of African American history)	Scholars from both Conferences: Moderator: Dr. Chris Harth Dr. James Loewen, Author Drs. Marvin Haire; Aminah McCloud

2) "Measures by slave owners and traders to Stamp Out Literacy and Cultural identity among Enslaved Africans"

**Moderator: Dr. Sakinah Abdur-Rashied
Drs. Allan Austin; Sulayman Nyang;
Babacar Mbengue; Imam Faheem
Shu'aibe**

3) "Faith and Learning
(the Islamic heritage of cultivating
Learning and how religion has helped
And hindered advancement in learning
In the American context)

**Moderator: Dr. Steve Smith
Imam Plemon El-Amin;
Father Jeremy Tobin; Rev. Carol
Spencer; Rabbi Debra Kassoff**

4) "The Racial Wealth Divide and African
Americans in the U.S. Today

**Moderator: Amadou Shakur
Dr. Rose Brewer
University of Minnesota
Imam Zaid Shakir;
Senator Hilman Frazier**

5 pm to 6:30 pm

**DINNER/Special Keynote
"Scholars of Peace, Islamic Jurisprudence:
A Pathway to Alternative Dispute Resolution
For African Americans"**

**MC: Sababu Rashid
Moderator: Judge Ali ShamsidDeen
Dr. Stephanie Diakite', JC-JD
Judge Denise Owens, JD
Attorney Isaac Byrd
Oleta Fitzgerald, Children's Defense**

6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

**Special Presentation and Discussion:
Global Reparations Movement and
The Ancient African Manuscripts**

**Moderator: Abdul Malik Aziz
Dr. Musa Dan-Fodio, JD
Chokwe Lumumba, JD
Representative Robert Clark**

Monday, February 21, 2011

CONFERENCE ON "SLAVERY AND ITS LEGACY" OPENS

8:00-8:30 a.m.

Registration

Tougaloo College Campus

8:30-8:45 a.m.

Welcome and conference overview

8:45-9:30 a.m.

**Keynote Address
"Gender in Slavery Studies: Enslaved and
Free Women of Color in the Americas."**

**Dr. Darlene Clark Hine
Northwestern University**

9:45-11:15 a.m.

Panel on Slavery and the North-South Divide

Discussant: **Dr. William Green**
Tougaloo College

"The Influence of the Underground Railroad"

Dr. Scott Hancock
Gettysburg College

**"Northern Mill Hands, Southern Field Hands,
And the Business of Plantation Provisioning
Business of Plantation Provisioning in
Antebellum America"**

Dr. Seth Rockman
Brown University

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	<p>Panel on Slavery and the Slave Trade: Rhode Island and Mississippi "Slavery and its Impact on Rhode Island"</p>	<p>Discussant: Dr. Arthur McLin Tougaloo College Dr. Joanne Melish University of Kentucky</p>
	<p>"The Legacy of Slavery in Mississippi"</p>	<p>Dr. John Dittmer DePauw University</p>
1:00-2:15 p.m.	<p>LUNCH Roundtable interaction with presenters</p>	
2:30-4:00 p.m.	<p>Panel on Slavery and Resistance "Spirituality, Culture and Resistance"</p>	<p>Discussant: Dr. Rico Chapman Jackson State University Dr. Margaret Washington Cornell University</p>
	<p>"Slave Revolts and Their Political Reactions"</p>	<p>Dr. Hasan Crockett Morehouse College</p>
<p><u>Tuesday, February 22</u></p>		
9:00-10:30 a.m.	<p>Panel on Literature, Oral history, and the Arts of Slavery</p>	<p>Discussant: Dr. Andrea Montgomery Tougaloo College</p>
	<p>"The Preservation of African Culture and Tradition in Slave Society"</p>	<p>Dr. David Dennard East Carolina University</p>
	<p>"Slavery and Visual Arts"</p>	<p>Prof. Johnnie Gilbert Tougaloo College</p>
	<p>"A Linguistic Legacy of Slavery"</p>	<p>Dr. Elise Morse-Gagne Tougaloo College</p>
10:45 a.m.- 12:15 p.m.	<p>Panel on Slavery and its Legacy Today "Abolishing Slavery in Lincoln's Time And Ours: Histocial Memory and Human Trafficking"</p>	<p>Discussant: Prof. Robert Walker Jackson State University</p>
	<p>"Who Won the Civil War?"</p>	<p>Dr. James Loewen Washington, DC</p>
12:30-1:30 p.m.	<p>LUNCH Roundtable interaction with presenters</p>	