

The Fifth International Conference on Media, Religion, and Culture:

The Sigtuna Foundation, Stockholm/Sigtuna/Uppsala, Sweden, 6–9 July, 2006



Thursday, July 6

10.00 – 14.00 Registration (Toleransen) and lunch (Dining hall)

14.00 – 14.30 Welcome and Conference information (Stora salen)
Alf Linderman, Conference director
Mia Lövheim, Assistant conference director

14.30 – 15.45 **PLENARY I** (Stora salen):

Sacred Symbols and Sacred Freedom – in the context of multicultural tension

Perspectives on the publication of the Mohammed caricatures:

Abmed Abu Laban, Imam, Islamic Society in Denmark, Denmark

Tim Jensen, Associate Professor, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark

Barbro Hedvall, Senior Editor, Dagens Nyheter, Sweden

Knut Lundby, Professor, University of Oslo, Norway

Moderator: *Alf Linderman*, Uppsala University/The Sigtuna Foundation, Sweden.

15.45 – 16.15 Coffee and Tea

16.15 – 17.30 *Parallel session A*

(1) PANEL (Framtiden): **Implications of the Sacred in Nordic Media and Religion Studies**

Moderator: *Jobanna Sumiala-Seppänen*, Helsinki University, Finland

Panelists: *Stig Hjarvard*, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Titus Hjelm, Helsinki University, Finland

Jeanette Sky, University of Trondheim, Norway

Knut Lundby, University of Oslo, Norway

Mia Lövheim, Uppsala University, Sweden

Respondent: *Lynn Schofield Clark*, University of Colorado at Boulder, USA.

(2) PAPER SESSION (Karakteren): **Media and Society**

- European Public Broadcasting, Religion and Diversity. *Jim McDonnell*, SIGNIS, World Catholic Association for Communication, UK
- Mass Media and Religion and Cultural Universalism. *Dobrinka Peicheva*, SWU, Neofit Rilsky, Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria
- The Use and Misuse of Media in Building Religious Affiliations in India. *Jacob Srampickal*, Interdisciplinary Centre for Social Communications, Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, Italy.
- Communication Patterns of Behaviours and Religious Affiliations as Predictors of the Romanians' Attitudes Towards The Country's Integration in the European Union. *Valentina Marinescu*, Faculty of Sociology and Social Work, University of Bukarest, Romania
- Chair: *Ester Pollack*, Department of Journalism, Media and Communication, Stockholm University

(3) PAPER SESSION (Tacksamheten): **Religious Media/Religion in Media**

- Israeli Rabbis & the Media, *Yoel Cohen*, School of Communications, Netanya Academic College, Department of Communication, Lifshitz Religious Education College, Jerusalem, Holon Academic Institute of Technology, Israel
- Religious Media in Romania: Pluralism or Monopoly? *Oana Romocea*, International Institute for Communications Excellence, Oxford, UK

- Religion in the Process of Democracy Building in Poland, *Maria Marczewska-Rytko*, Faculty of Political Science, Maria Curie Skłodowska University, Lulin, Poland
- Impact of Islamic Resurgence on the Management of Radio and Television Malaysia (RTM), *Zulkipli Abd Ghani*, Department of Dakwah and Leadership Studies, National University of Malaysia, Selangor, Malaysia
- The Construction of Religious Group Image Through The Media. The Role of Advertising, Satellite Broadcasting and Videos in the Image Strategy of Agonshu. *Erica Baffelli*, Hosei University, Faculty of Social Sciences, Tokyo, Japan
- Chair: Adan Merano, JM Communication, Houston, USA

18.00 – 19.00 Welcome reception (Luthersalen/Rosengården)

19.00 Dinner

21.00 Film (Stora salen)

Så som i himmelen (2004) 127 minutes, aka “*As in Heaven*”

Introduction: *Tomas Axelsson*, Dalarna University, Uppsala University

Friday, July 7

07.30 – 08.45 Breakfast

09.00 – 10.15 **PLENARY II** (Stora salen): *Media and Ritual*

Nick Couldry, Reader in Media, Communications and Culture, Department of Media and Communications, London School of Economics

Daniel Dayan, Fellow at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique in Paris, Professor of Media Sociology at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris

Moderator: *Johanna Sumiala Seppänen*, Helsinki University, Finland

10.15 – 10.45 Coffee and Tea

10.45 – 12.00 *Parallel Session B*

(4) PAPER SESSION (Karaktären): **New Media I**

- Mediatizing faith, *Knut Lundby & Birgit Hertzberg Kaare*, Department of Media and Communication, University of Oslo, Norway
- Texting God: SMS and Religion in the Philippines, *Anthony G Roman*, FABC-office of Social Communication, University of Santo Tomas, Manilla, Philippines
- Who is a Sikh? Colonial and Contemporary Media Constructions of Sikh Identity, *Doris R. Jakobsb*, Department of Religious Studies, University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada
- Chair: *Anders Sjöborg*, Sociology of Religion, Faculty of Theology, Uppsala University

(5) PAPER SESSION (Tacksamheten): **Music**

- Religious Quality of Popular Music. *Thomas Feist*, Landesjugendpfarramt Sachsen & Musicology, University of Leipzig, Germany
- Mediating the Religious Divide in Nigeria through Gospel Music. *Walter C. Ibejirika*, Centre for the Study of African Culture and Communication, Catholic Institute of West Africa
- The Role of the Internet in the Construction of a Trans-national Christian Metal Music Scene. *Marcus Moberg*, Comparative Religion, Åbo Akademi University, Finland
- Allah as Entertainment. Spreading Black American Islamic Faith through Hiphop. *Marius Lien*, University of Oslo, Norway
- Chair: *Andreas Häger*, Åbo Akademi University, Finland

(6) PAPER SESSION (Framtiden): **Film and Religion**

- Female Messiah and the Question of Religious Power, *Sofia Sjö*, Comparative Religion, Åbo Akademi University.
- Movies, Mind and Meaning - Studying Audience and Favorite Films, *Tomas Axelsson*, Media and Communication Studies Dalarna University/Sociology of Religion Uppsala University
- Protect us from God: Religion as oppression in Ingemar Bergman's Winter Light and Fanny & Alexander, *Jeanette Sky*, University of Trondheim, Norway
- Relations Between Jews and Non Jews in Contemporary European Films and Societies, *Stephanie Knauss*, Institut für Fundamentaltheologie, University of Graz
- Chair: *Arni Svanur Danielson*, Systematic Theology, University of Iceland

(7) PANEL (Toleransen): **Religion and Media at National Borders and Boundaries,**

- Islam in British Media: the Case of Documentaries, *Hossein Godazgar*, Department of Social Sciences, University of Tabriz, Iran
- Breaking Through the Border: Viewing Current U.S. Border Policy through an Analysis and History of the U.S. / Mexico Border Wall. *Cari Skogberg Eastman*, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Colorado
- Being A Non-Muslim in the Islamic Republic of Iran: Media Consumption, Meaning, and Religion among Young Iranians - *Morebshin Allabyari*, Teheran University, Iran
- The consumption of Iranian and Armenian satellite TVs by Iranian-Armenians *Loosineb Markarian*, Teheran University, Iran
- Chair: *Lynn Schofield Clark*, University of Colorado at Boulder

12.00 Lunch

14.00 – 15.15 *Parallel Session C*

(8) PAPER SESSION (Toleransen): **Popular Culture and Popular Religion**

- Super-Size Saviour – Morgan Spurlock, Super Size Me and Theories of the Atonement, *Arni Svanur Danielson*, Systematic Theology, University of Iceland
- "No More New Age; No Tired Tripartite": How the US Healthy Living Media is Evolving the New Age to a 'Spirituality of Sustainability, *Monica Emerich*, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Colorado at Boulder, USA
- Animals are People, Too: Pet Heaven in Popular Books, *John P. Ferré*, Department of Communication University of Louisville, USA
- The Mediatization of Religious Imagination, *Stig Hjarvard*, Dept. of Media, Cognition, and Communication, University of Copenhagen
- Chair: *To be decided*

(9) PANEL (Karakteren): **Controversial Ecclesiastical Art as Visual and Material Media**

Chair: *Juba Malmisalo*, Practical Theology, University of Helsinki

Panelists:

- *Britt-Inger Johansson*, Art History, Lund University: A Clash of Cultures – the Reception History of a Controversial Altarpiece
- *Juba Malmisalo*, Practical Theology, University of Helsinki: The Rock of Golgotha, Female Christ, and the Head of the Devil – The Reception and Pertinent Visual Construction of Three Finnish Lutheran Controversial Altarpieces
- *Anna Niedzwiedz*, Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Jagiellonian University, Poland: The Political and Popular Use of Sacred Images in Post-Communist Poland

(10) PAPER SESSION (Tacksamheten): **Religion and Culture**

- Mickey Made Me: Walt Disney Productions as Civil Religion for a Global Order, *Rebecca L. Self*, International Communications, Franklin College, Switzerland
- Looking for What You Cannot See: The U. S. Fascination with Forensic Drama and the Blind Faith of George W. Bush, *Jenna Tiitsman*, Religion Department, Hunter College, Auburn Theological Seminary, USA
- Publish the Danish Cartoons? Piss on Jesus? How Free Speech Contentions Miss the Point of Democracy, *Sarah Whalen*, Waco, Texas.
- The Category of "Culture" in the Study of Media, Religion and Culture, *Andreas Häger*, Department of Sociology, Åbo Akademi University, Finland
- Culture and/or religion? *Maria Way*, School of Media, Arts and Design, University of Westminster, UK
- Chair: *Gordon Lynch*, Department of Theology and Religion, University of Birmingham, UK

(11) PANEL (Framtiden): **Perceptions and Representations of Religion in Global Cinema**

Chair: *Jolyon Mitchell*, University of Edinburgh

Panelists:

- *Miljia Radovic*, University of Edinburgh: The Theologies of Resistance in Independent Serbian Cinema.
- *Dwight Friesen*, University of Edinburgh: Karunamayudu: A Vision of Jesus in Indian Cinema
- *Yam Chi-Keung*, University of Edinburgh: Popular Hong Kong Cinema as Challenge to Public Theological Expressions
- *Jaap Timmer*, Radboud University Nijmegen: Belonging to the Promised Land: Indigenous Visualisation of the Lost Temple on Malaita, Solomon Islands.

- 15.15 Coffee and Tea
- 15.45 Bus to Uppsala
- 17.00 – 18.15 Guided tour of Uppsala
Reception at Theological Faculty Room, Uppsala University
Per Ström, The Vice-Chancellor's and the Registrar's Office, Uppsala University
Thomas Ekstrand, Theological Faculty, Uppsala University
- 19.30 Boat trip and dinner

Saturday, July 8

- 07.30 – 08.45 Breakfast
- 09.00 – 10.15 **PLENARY III** (Stora salen): *Journalism, Religion and the Media:*
Aaqil Ahmed, Commissioning Editor for religion, Channel 4 UK
Lisbeth Gustafsson, former Editor for religion, Swedish Broadcasting Corporation, head of Council of Culture, Church of Sweden
Moderator: *Mia Lövheim*, Uppsala university, Sweden.
- 10.15 – 10.45 Coffee and Tea

10.45 – 12.00 *Parallel Session D*

(12) PANEL (Tacksamheten): **Theological Perspectives on Dialogic Communication in the Context of Religious/Cultural Tensions**

Moderator: *Frances Forde Plude*, Research Professor, Notre Dame College

Panelists:

- *Franz-Josef Eilers*, Federation of Asian Bishops, Manila Social Communication Understood and Practised by Religions in Asia
- *Giuseppe Mazza*, Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome Liminal and Performative Aspects of Religious Communication and Practice in Relation to Social Coexistence
- *Joseph Palakeel, Rubalaya* Theological College, Ujjain, India How Communication Theology Can Contribute to Easing Cultural and Communal Tensions and Conflict
- *Robert White*, Center/Study of African Culture and Communication Forging Common Symbols of Religious Education in the Context of Interreligious Conflict

(13) PAPER SESSION (Karaktären): **News Media and Religious Coverage**

- Religion as a Roundtable Topic for Media Credibility, *Nilo Figur*, Journalism, University of Texas, Austin, Texas, USA
- Covering a New pope. How Misperceptions worked in Reporting the Election of Benedict XVI, *Miriam Diez I Bosch*, Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, Italy
- “The Canadian Seems Nicer”: Television News Audience Perceptions of American and Canadian Evangelicals”, *David M. Haskell*, Journalism, Wilfrid Laurier University, Ontario, Canada
- The Role of Media in Portraying and Creating an Image of a Religious Movement: The case of Black Muslim Movement (Nation of Islam) Experience in the USA and the UK, *Nuri Tinaz*, Department. of Sociology and the Sociology of Religion, Centre for Islamic Studies, Istanbul, Turkey
- Chair: *Anna Roosvall*, Department of Journalism, Media and Communication, Stockholm University

(14) PAPER SESSION (Toleransen): **New Media II: Religious Organizations, Community Building, and Resistance**

- Posting Images on the Web: The Creative Viewer and Non-violent Resistance against Terrorism, *Jolyon Mitchell*, New College, University of Edinburgh, Scotland
- Religious Affiliation, Religiosity and Internet Use in Singapore: a National Survey, *Benjamin H. Detenber & Randolph Kluver*, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
- Diaspora on the Electronic Frontier: Developing Virtual Connections with Sacred Homelands, *Christopher Helland*, Sociology of Religion, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada
- Exploring the Role of Computer-Mediated Communication in Progressive Religion, *Gordon Lynch*, Department of Theology and Religion, University of Birmingham, UK
- Chair: *Mia Lövheim*, Theological Faculty, Uppsala University

(15) PANEL (Framtiden): **New Religious Media in Africa**

Moderator: Rosalind Hackett, Department of Religious Studies, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, USA.

Panelists:

- *Benjamin Soares*, Afrika-Studiecentrum, Leiden, The Netherlands.
- *Asonzeh Ukab*, Religionswissenschaft, Universität Bayreuth, Germany
- *Muhammed Haron*, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Botswana, Gaborone, Botswana
- *Sverker Finnström*, Department of Cultural Anthropology and Ethnology, Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden.
- *Walter C. Ibejirika*, Centre for the Study of African Culture and Communication, Catholic Institute of West Africa

12.00 Lunch

14.00 – 15.15 *Parallel session E*

(16) PANEL (Tacksamheten): **Visualizing Material Religion**

Moderator: *David Morgan*, Valparaiso University, USA

Panelists:

- *Anna Catalani*, Leicester University, UK: Displaying Yoruba Religious Objects in Western Ethnographic Museums, Lessons Learned from Indigenous-inspired Exhibitions.
- *Gabriel Hanganu*, University of Oxford, UK: Visualizing Spiritually-Entangled Objects: Orthodox Christian Icons Between Documentation and Dissemination
- *Anna-Karina Hermkens*, Radboud University Nijmegen, Netherlands: The Power of Rosaries and Statues: Visualizing Marian Devotion in Papua New Guinea
- Respondent: *Chris Pinney*, UCL, UK

(17) PAPER SESSION (Toleransen): **Theoretical Perspectives**

- Pathways through Diversity: Propositions for the Conceptualization and Analysis of Media and Religion from a Cultural Perspective. *Peter Horsfield*, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia
- The Visible Witness of Particularity. *Amy Richards*, New College, School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh, Scotland
- The Westernization of Hinduism and Buddhism: Intercultural Communications Paradigms in the Process of the Religious Globalization. *Andreu Rocha Scarpetta*. Theology of Religions and Ecumenism – Pontifical University Regina Apostolorum, Rome, Italy
- Networked – Subjectivity Revisited. Alexander Darius Ornella. Institute for Fundamental Theology, Graz University, Austria
- Chair: *Jacob Srampickal*, Interdisciplinary Centre for Social Communications, Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, Italy.

(18) PANEL (Framtiden): **Religion, Identity, Work and Vocation**

Chair: *Stewart M. Hoover*, Centre for Media, Religion and Culture, University of Colorado, USA

Panelists:

- *Monica Emerich*, University of Colorado, USA: Zen Masters, Legacies, and Fair Trade: The Healthy Living Media's Idea of 'Right Livelihood'
- *Nick Couldry*, London School of Economics, UK: Media Consumption and the Elusive Dynamics of Public Connection
- *Stewart M. Hoover and Curtis Coats*, University of Colorado, USA: Men, Masculinity, Religion and Spirituality: Elusive Resources in Mediated Understandings of Vocation and Work
- *Lynn Schofield Clark*, University of Colorado, USA: Religion, Media, and Vocation: Interactions in Youth Culture
- Respondent: To Be Determined.

15.15 – 15.45 Coffee and Tea

15.45 – 17.00 *Parallel session F*

(19) PANEL (Tacksamheten): **Religion Online: Looking Towards Third Wave Research**

Moderator: *Heidi Campbell*, Texas A&M University, USA

Panelists:

- *Heidi Campbell*, Texas A&M University, USA
 - *Christopher Helland*, Dalhousie University Canada
 - *Mia Lövheim*, Uppsala University, Sweden
- Respondent: *Lynn Schofield Clark*, University of Colorado Boulder, USA

(20) PAPER SESSION (Toleransen): **Media and Sacred Space**

- Globalized Apparitions, *Clemens Cavallin*, Department of Religious Studies, University of Bergen, Norway
- Performative Approaches to the Sacred, *Anita Hammer*, Department of Cultural Studies and Oriental Languages, University of Oslo, Norway
- 'Eventization' and 'Globalization' of Religion: The XX. Catholic World Youth Day as a Hybrid Media Event. *Andreas Hepp*, Faculty of Cultural Studies, University of Bremen, Germany and *Veronika Krönert*, Faculty of Cultural Studies, University of Bremen, Germany
- Chair: *Jeanette Sky*, Religious Studies, University of Trondheim, Norway

(21) PANEL (Framtiden): **What Price Communication Rights? Freedom of Expression and Inter-Religious Dialogue in a Multicultural Europe (WACC)**

Moderator: *Randy Naylor*, General Secretary of WACC

Panelists: *Thomas Günther*, Evangelisch-Theologische Fakultät Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany

Juha Rajamaki, WACC-Europe Vice-President, Finland

Dag Tuvelius, editor in chief Kyrkans Tidning/Church Magazine, Sweden

18.00 Reception (Luthersalen/Rosengården)

Hosted by Routledge and The Center for Media, Religion and Culture Research, University of Colorado at Boulder

19.00 Conference banquet (Stora salen)

Sunday, July 9

07.30 – 08.45 Breakfast

09.00 – 10.15 *Parallel session G*

(22) PANEL SESSION (Framtiden): **The Felt Life of Belief in Material and Visual Culture**

Chair: *David Morgan*, Valparaiso University, USA

Panelists:

- *Erika Doss*, Fine Arts, University of Colorado: Mediating Redemption, Commemorating Slavery and Lynching in Contemporary American Culture.
- *David Morgan*, Humanities and Art History, Valparaiso University: The Visual Construction of the Sacred.
- *Marie Fablén*, Religious Studies and Theology, University of Gothenburg: Young Peoples Reception of Contemporary Images of Christ.
- *Joseph Oladejo Faniran*, Centre for the Study of African Culture and Communication, Catholic Institute of West Africa, Nigeria: Images of Communalistic Rituals in Yoruba Video Films

(23) PAPER SESSION (Tacksamheten): **Popular Culture**

- Subversion or Submission? The Case of the Witch Girl in Popular Media, *Kenneth Granholm*, Comparative Religion, Åbo Akademi University, Finland
- Liberation within Normativity. Young Women Watching Sex and the City, *Marta Axner*, Faculty of Theology, Uppsala University, Sweden
- Creative Tension: Knitting Heaven while on Earth, *Joyce Smith*, School of Journalism, Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada
- Christening Fiction: Sermonising the Popular in the Kenyan Popular Press, *George Ogola*, Department of Journalism, Lancaster Business School, University of Central Lancaster, UK
- Chair: *Titus Hjelm*, Helsinki University, Finland

(24) PAPER SESSION (Toleransen): **Youth, Media & Organised Religion**

- Seeking Serenity. *Ryan Torma*, Luther Seminary, St Paul, Member of the Ministry Staff of Spirit Garage, Minneapolis, USA
- Media Consumption and Social Capital. *Maria Klingenberg*, Practical Theology, University of Helsinki, Finland
- Can You Hear the Army? – Studying Identity and Community Narratives in Alternative Worship through the SCOT Project. *Heidi Campbell*, Department of Communication, Texas A&M University, USA and *Gordon Lynch*, Department of Theology and Religion, University of Birmingham, UK
- Branding, Identity and Young People: a Case Study in Irish Radio. *Colum Kenny*, School of Communications, Dublin City University, Dublin, Ireland.
- Chair: *Tomas Axelson*, Media and Communication Studies Dalarna University/Sociology of Religion Uppsala University

10.15 – 10.45 Coffee and Tea

10.45 – 12.00 **PLENARY IV** (Stora salen): *Media, Religion and Culture: Future Challenges and Directions.*

Stewart Hoover, professor of Media Studies, University of Colorado at Boulder.
Appointed responses

12.00 Closing of the conference (Stora salen)
Alf Linderman, Conference director
Mia Lövheim, Assistant conference director

12.30 Lunch and departure

INFORMATION

Sigtunastiftelsen
P.O.Box 57
SE-193 22 Sigtuna
Sweden
+46 8 592 589 00
www.sigtunastiftelsen.se

STREET ADDRESS

Manfred Björkquists allé 2–4
Sigtuna, Sweden

