



***The Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences,
The Royal Museum for Central Africa &
The Royal Museums of Art and History***

are pleased to invite you to the
International Symposium

***EXPRESSIONS OF
TRADITIONAL WISDOM***

Friday 28 September, 2007

Palais des Académies – Paleis der Academiën
rue Ducale 1 – Hertogsstraat 1
1000 BRUSSELS

Africa
Tervuren

KONINKLIJK MUSEUM
VOOR MIDDEN-AFRIKA
MUSÉE ROYAL
DE L'AFRIQUE CENTRALE



SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

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BAETENS BEARDSMORE Hugo	Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences and Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Belgium)
BOUTTIAUX Anne-Marie	Royal Museum for Central Africa (Belgium)
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COLLARD Patrick	Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences and Universiteit Gent (Belgium)
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VAN NOTEN Francis	Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences and Royal Museums of Art and History (Belgium)
VERMEULEN Urbain	Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences and Universiteit Gent (Belgium)
VINCK Honoré	Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences and Centre Aequatoria – Centre de recherches culturelles africanistes (Belgium)
WILLEMEN Charles	Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences and Universiteit Gent (Belgium)

9.00 Opening Session

Christian STURTEWAGEN, *President of the Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences*

Welcome Address

Wim VAN BINSBERGEN, *Professor, Erasmus University (The Netherlands)*

African Wisdom Today: Appropriative Reification or Global Resource?

9.30 Session 1. Chairman: Urbain VERMEULEN

Emer. Professor, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Belgium) & Universiteit Gent (Belgium) and Member of the Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences

Main Conferences

Michel TANRET, *Professor, Universiteit Gent (Belgium)*

“When Walking about, Keep your Feet on the Ground!” Traditional Wisdom from Mesopotamia

Gino SCHALLENBERGH, *Researcher, Universiteit Gent (Belgium)*

Transmission of Sufi Wisdom from Sheikh to Novice: A Contested Tradition

Communication

Filipe VERDE, *Professor, University of Lisbon (Portugal)*

A Comparative View of Ethical Naturalism: The Bororo, Spinoza and Freud

Discussion

COFFEE BREAK

11.00 Session 2. Chairman: Anne-Marie BOUTTIAUX

Head of Department, Royal Museum for Central Africa (Belgium)

Main Conferences

Christian CANNUYER, *Professor, Université Catholique de Lille (France)*

Les sagesses égyptiennes et l'éminente dignité de l'homme

Winand CALLEWAERT, *Professor, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Belgium)*

The Upanishads and the New Age Literature

Communications

Marc SEIFERT, *Professor, Universität zu Köln (Germany)*

Traditional Wisdom and Ideas about History in Bantu Oral Traditions of Namibia and Angola

Thabo MANETSI, *South-African Heritage Resources Agency (South Africa)*

Indigenous Knowledge: A Grounding Tool for African Wisdom

Discussion

LUNCH BREAK

Afternoon Session

13.45 Session 3. Chairman: Francis VAN NOTEN

Hon. Director, Royal Museums of Art and History (Belgium) and Member of the Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences

Main Conferences

Patrick COLLARD, *Professor, Universiteit Gent (Belgium) and Member of the Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences*

La sagesse libératrice de Mackandal (à propos de la première partie du *Royaume de ce Monde* d'Alejo Carpentier)

Laurence CUELENAERE, *PhD Candidate, University of California, Berkeley (USA)*

“Roads We Live by”: Walking on the Bolivian Altiplano

Communications

Denis BUKURU, *Chargé de cours, Université du Burundi (Burundi)*

Les connaissances traditionnelles des Barundi et leur rôle dans la structuration des institutions de la royauté sacrée

Ndu Life NJOKU, *Senior Lecturer, Imo State University (Nigeria)*

Amamihe? The Wisdom behind the Phenomenon of the Evil Forest in Traditional Igboland, Nigeria

Yewande NTEKIM-REX, *Assistant Lecturer, University of Lagos (Nigeria)*

Proverbs as Vehicle of Traditional Wisdom in Yoruba Culture

Discussion

COFFEE BREAK

15.45 **Session 4. Chairman: Charles WILLEMEN**

Professor, Universiteit Gent (Belgium) and Member of the Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences

Main Conference

Françoise LAUWAERT, *Professor, Université Libre de Bruxelles (Belgium)*
La sagesse chinoise: une notion à remettre sur le métier

Communications

Abiodun ADENJI, *Lecturer, University of Lagos (Nigeria)*
Traditional Wisdom as Literary Artefact: The Example of D. O. Fagunwa's Prose Narratives

Hilde LINK, *Professor, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (Germany)*
5 + 5 = 9. Numeric Classification Systems in Southern India and Eastern Indonesia as Part of Man's World View

Mei-Yen LEE, *Professor, National Pingtung University of Education (Taiwan, Republic of China)*
The Role of *Sentiments* in Liang Chi-Chao's and Tsai Yuen-Pei's Aesthetical Thoughts — Observing the Transition from Traditional Confucianism to Modern Aesthetics

Leonidas KOUTSOUMPOS, *Researcher, University of Edinburgh (United Kingdom)* & Yue ZHUANG, *Lecturer, School of Architecture, Tianjin University (People's Republic of China)*
The Way of *Phronesis*: Revisiting Traditional Wisdom in Architecture

Discussion

17.00 **Closing Session**

Niels WEIDTMANN, *Scientific Leader, Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen (Germany)*
Traditional Wisdom in Sub-Saharan Africa: An African Origin of Philosophy

Christian STURTEWAGEN, *President of the Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences*
Conclusions

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Expressions of Traditional Wisdom

Brussels, 28 September, 2007

☐ Prof.	☐ Dr	☐ Ms	☐ Mr
FAMILY NAME:			
FIRST NAME:			
FUNCTION:			
INSTITUTE / ORGANIZATION / COMPANY:			
.....			
ADDRESS:			
.....			
TELEPHONE: E-MAIL:			
.....			
☐ Will attend accompanied by..... person(s).		☐ Will not attend.	

Registration is **free** and can be faxed (00 32 2 539 23 53), e-mailed
(kaowarsom@skynet.be) or sent to the Academy
(Prof. Danielle Swinne, Defacqzstreet 1/3, 1000 Brussels)
Deadline: 21 September, 2007