Contributors

Jaco Beyers is associate professor in Science of Religion and programme manager for Biblical and Religion Studies at the University of Pretoria. After completion of his undergraduate studies at the University of Pretoria he served as church minister. During this period he completed post-graduate studies. He attended and studied at the Universities of Bayreuth, Marburg and Heidelberg in Germany. He was also recently guest lecturer at the University of Vienna (2014) and University of Porto (2017). Fields of research include world religions, secularisation and theology of religions. Contact details:

Suleiman Chembea holds a PhD in Islamic studies from the Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies (BIGSAS), University of Bayreuth, Germany; Master of Arts (Religion), and Bachelor of Education (Arts) Degrees from Moi University, Kenya. He served as Associate Lecturer of Religion at Moi and Mount- Kenya Universities, Mombasa Campuses. His research interests include *waqf*s (Religious endowments), Religious acculturation, Religion and Politics, and Muslim-Christian relations. Contact details: chembea.suleiman@uni-bayreuth.de

Joseph Chita holds a Masters of Education in Religious Studies from the University of Zambia and Masters in International Education and Development (Oslo Metropolitan University). He coordinated the Norwegian Masters (NOMA) — sandwich programme (Oslo Metropolitan University, Afhad University for Women, and The University of Zambia). He is a lecturer in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Zambia. His area of interest in research includes Religion and society. Contact details: chonochitajoseph@gmail.com; joseph.chita@unza.zm

Ezra Chitando is a Professor in History and Phenomenology of Religion in the Department of Religious Studies, Classics and Philosophy at the University

of Zimbabwe and Theology Consultant on HIV and AIDS for the World Council of Churches. He holds a Dphil from the University of Zimbabwe. He has published on various themes in sole authored volumes, edited books, refereed journals and chapters in books.

Zorodzai Dube holds a PhD in New Testament studies from the University of Oslo. Currently he is senior lecturer in New Testament Studies at the university of Pretoria. His research interests are in African Biblical hermeneutics, Embodiment hermeneutics and Healing during the New Testament times. Contact details: zoro.dube@up.ac.za

AbdulGafar Olawale Fahm is a native of Nigeria. He received his B.A. in Islamic Studies from University of Ilorin, Nigeria. He obtained his M.A. from International Islamic University Malaysia and his Ph.D. in the same University. His areas of interest are Islamic Spiritual Culture, Contemporary Issues, and Islamic Thought. In addition, Dr. Fahm is a Lecturer in Department of Religions, University of Ilorin, Nigeria. He has published papers in various journals amongst which is "Islam as an Embodied Faith for the Young Minds: Aisha Lemu and Religious Education in Nigeria" in *Journal of Religious Education* and "Islamic Ethics and Stem Cell Research" published in *Islam and Civilisational Renewal*. Contact details: fahm.ao@unilorin.edu.ng

Roderick Hewitt is a graduate of Kings College, University of London with MPhil and PhD in theology. He has served as the Academic Leader for Theology and Ethics and also for Research and Higher Degrees in the School of Religion Philosophy and Classics, University of Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa. He is Associate Professor in Systematic Theology and lectures in African Theologies in the Diaspora, Ecumenical Theology and Missiology. In addition to his peer reviewed journal articles and book chapters he has coedited books including the acclaimed 2016 WCC /Regnum Book, "Ecumenical Missiology- Changing Landscapes and New Conceptions of Mission". His seminal Book is the 2012 Cluster publication, Church and Culture. Professor Hewitt is a Jamaican with global ecumenical experience, having served as an Executive staff with responsibilities for Education in Mission for the Council for World Mission and later for two terms as its Moderator. He currently serves the organization as Chairman for its Programme Reference Group and a

Contributors

consultant with the WCC Conference on World Mission and Evangelism and the World Communion of Reformed Churches. Contact details: Hewitt@ukzn. ac.za

Dennis Masaka holds a Doctorate in Philosophy from the University of South Africa (UNISA). He teaches philosophy at Great Zimbabwe University in Zimbabwe where he is a senior lecturer in the Department of Philosophy & Religious Studies. Currently, his main research focus is on the quest for epistemic liberation for the subaltern communities with a special focus on Africa. Contact details: dennis.masaka@gmail.com; and dmasaka@gzu.ac.zw

Loreen Maseno is a Humboldt Fellow, University of Bayreuth, Germany. She has more than twelve years of teaching experience at undergraduate and graduate levels, both locally and internationally. Her research interests include Feminist theology and ecology, Gender and sexuality, African literature and Theology, Religion and Media. Additionally, she is a Senior Lecturer, Department of Religion, Theology and Philosophy, Maseno University. Contact details: loreenmas@gmail.com

Sarah Yeukai Mukungurutse is a lecturer at the Zimbabwe Open University in Zimbabwe where she is a Programme Coordinator in the Department of Languages and Literature Studies. Her research interests include communication, language and literature as well ODL issues. She is currently pursuing her PhD studies at the University of Free State in South Africa. Contact details: sarahyeukai@gmail.com, mukungurutses@zou.ac.zw

Nelly Mwale lectures at the University of Zambia in the Department of Religious Studies. Her research interests are in Catholicism and the public sphere, religion and education, African Religions, and Zambian Church history. She has widely published on these areas. She holds a Master of Education in Religious Studies from the University of Zambia. Contact details: nelmwa@gmail.com/nelly.mwale@unza.zm.

Henrietta Nyamnjoh is a research fellow at African Centre for Cities, University of Cape Town. She was a 2017 Carnegie Fellow through the African Humanities Program, and during her tenure researched on Religion and healing among Cameroonian migrants in Cape Town. Her research interests include

migration and mobility, transnational studies, and migrants' urban transformation/appropriation and migration and health. Additionally, she is also interested in understanding religion in the context of migration and migrants' experiences of seeking health care in Cape Town and Johannesburg. Henrietta has researched and published on migrants' appropriation of Information and Communication Technologies, Hometown Associations and migrants' everyday lives. Contact details: henrietta.nyamnjoh@uct.ac.za

Damaris Seleina Parsitau (Ph.D.) is a Sociologist of Religion and Gender with a focus on Pentecostal Christianity and Gender. She is also the Director of the Institute of Women, Gender and Development Studies (2012-2018) at Egerton University in Kenya, a Centre of excellence in gender research, leadership, mentorship, policy making and advocacy for gender equity and equality in Kenya. Dr Parsitau is also the immediate former Echidna Global Scholar 2017 at the Brookings Institutions, Centre for Universal Education (CUE), Washington DC, USA. Parsitau holds a Ph.D in Religion, Gender and Public Life from (Kenyatta University), an MA in Sociology of Religion (University of Nairobi) and a Bachelor of Arts in History, Egerton University. Currently, is a visiting Research Associate and Fellow at the College of Williams and Mary in Williamsburg, in Virginia USA and the University of South Africa (UNISA) respectively. Parsitau has previously held Visiting Research Fellowships at the University of Cambridge in the UK and the University of Edinburgh in Scotland. Parsitau has over twenty years' experience in teaching, research, leadership training and mentorship. She is also well travelled and is highly published in peer reviewed journals and book chapters, with two forthcoming manuscripts. Parsitau has a strong multidisciplinary background and is well grounded in social science research. Contact details: dparsitau@yahoo.com

Storia Cynthia Seitisho is an ordained Minister of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa. She holds a Master of Theology Degree in Gender, Religion and Health with the University of KwaZulu-Natal. She is currently serving in the Limpopo District, Letaba Circuit where her research in food autonomy and maternal health led to the establishment of a vegetable garden in the remote village of Mashobye. Her passion is the empowerment of women in the rural areas of Sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Africa in particular. Contact details: storias@msn.com

Contributors

Lilian Cheelo Siwila is a lecturer in the School of Religion, Philosophy and Classics. She is currently the Programme leader for Systematic Theology. She has also worked extensively in the field of Gender and sexuality, Theology and Culture. She is a member of the Circle of Concerned African Women Theologians, CHART, Ujamaa and AARS. Her research interests include Gender and Culture, Sexual and reproductive health and its interface with Theology, and Social and economic trends in contemporary theologies. Contact details: Siwila@ukzn.ac.za

Johannes A. Smit (DLitt) is a graduate of the University of Durban-Westville (now University of KwaZulu-Natal), founding editor of the SAPSE journal *Alter*nation and served as research chair of the Humanities for some years. He has a lifelong commitment to interdisciplinary learning and critical research capacity development in the Arts and Humanities. He is former Dean and Head of School of the School of Religion, Philosophy and Classics, as well as of the School of Arts (Acting) at UKZN. He teaches Comparative Religion (main focus Christianity), and is the founder of the postgraduate Programme in Religion and Social Transformation in 2000. Contact details: smitj@ukzn.ac.za