



21.5., 18.15

ATTENTION – NEW VENUE: GW2, S6

Beyond Jihad in Africa – Muslim Youths, Violence, and Visions of the Future

Round Table Discussion:

Khalid Ayong, BIGSAS

Georg Klute, Professor Anthropology of Africa, University of Bayreuth

Achim von Oppen, Professor African History, University of Bayreuth

Rüdiger Seesemann, Professor Islamic Studies, University of Bayreuth

Abdifatah Shafat, Anthropology, University of Kansas

The current expansion of jihadist movements in different parts of Africa – in the southern Sahara, around Lake Chad, and in Somalia – is a source of concern and amazement for many of us.

This roundtable, bringing together scholars from Africa and Germany in different Africa-related disciplines, seeks to go beyond horrifying news and suspicious connections. It aims at exploring some less attended issues that may help to reach a better understanding of such violent movements of Muslim youths in Africa:

What is their social and historical background – does it go beyond usual patterns of mobilization? To what extent do these movements actually represent a new departure from established models of society and knowledge, with more radical visions of future (and past) than others? Can they be associated with particular, "local" lines of conflict and aspiration in Africa and the African diaspora, or rather with more "global" tendencies in Islam, as they claim themselves?

These and other questions will be discussed among the panellists and with the audience.

The roundtable is hosted by the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies.

Everybody is warmly welcome.