



Vortrag im Rahmen des Afrikakolloquiums

20. Juni 2007

**Kai Kresse
(St. Andrews/ZMO)**

**Will to Knowledge, Lack of Power and the Double-
Periphery: Coastal Muslims in Postcolonial Knowledge**

This talk discusses the postcolonial setting for coastal Muslims in Kenya in terms of two basic conceptual axes that intersect and overlap: firstly, a 'double-periphery' which sees them situated on the edge of the Kenyan state and of the Muslim world; and, secondly, a 'knowledge economy' which refers to conceptions and practices of Swahili sociality that are reciprocal in character, knowledge-oriented, implicitly linked to Islam and carry moral and social obligations with them.

KAI KRESSE is a Lecturer in Social Anthropology at the University of St Andrews and currently a Research Fellow at the Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin. He was Evans-Pritchard Lecturer at All Souls College, Oxford (2005) and is a co-editor of the online journal 'polylog: forum for intercultural philosophy' (www.polylog.org). His current research is on Islamic discourses and everyday life in postcolonial coastal Kenya. He has also worked and published on African philosophy, African literature (particularly Swahili literature and society), Islam in East Africa, and Cultural Philosophy. He is the author of *Philosophising in Mombasa: Knowledge, Islam, and Intellectual Practice on the Swahili Coast* (2007) and has edited a number of volumes, including *Sagacious Reasoning: H. Odera Oruka in Memoriam* (1997), *Reading Mudimbe* (special issue of African Cultural Studies, 2005), and *Symbolisches Flanieren: Kulturphilosophische Streifzüge* (2001). Another edited volume, *Struggling with History: Islam and Cosmopolitanism in the Western Indian Ocean*, will appear in July 2007.

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Invalidenstr. 118, Raum 410**

Zeit: 18.30 Uhr

Alle Interessierten sind herzlich eingeladen!