



Invitation

Thursday, June 7th, 2012, 6 pm

African Philosophy and Literature: An Interplay

Lecture by Prof. Euphrase Kezilahabi

Venue:

Zentrum Moderner Orient
Kirchweg 33

14129 Berlin

In this presentation the relationship between African philosophy and literature is discussed in the African post-colonial context. It is observed that the basic requirements for the existence of a philosophy and a literary theory are interestingly similar. Both are paths to ontological and epistemological knowledge and understanding of the world. The Subject/Object problematic is also discussed with reference to philosophical and literary topical issues. The relationship between mythos/logos, and ontos/episteme are highlighted in both Western and African world views. The telos and the conception of time are brought into the picture before coming to the conclusion which summarizes the major problematic and points of contention in the global and the "glocal."

Euphrase Kezilahabi is one of Tanzania's most renowned contemporary Swahili authors. Having studied at the University of Dar es Salaam, he obtained his PhD at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the USA, and is now Professor of African Literature, Theatre and Drama, and Creative Writing at the University of Botswana in Gaborone. His academic publications include two monographs on Shaaban Robert (1909-1962), the 'founding father' of modern Swahili literature, and a wide range of articles on African literatures. As a writer, he has published six novels, many short stories, a satirical drama, and three collections of poems. The reception of his works has been wide-ranging, not least for his innovative efforts in terms of themes, forms and styles.

GEFÖRDERT VOM



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