The Department of Religious Studies Interfaith Fund presents

An Unraveling Braid: The Complex History of Religions in Nigeria

Friday March 31st 2017 6:30 PM – AH116 (Anderson Hall)



Nigeria is one of the most religiously diverse countries in the world today. Home to various traditional religions as well as some of the largest populations of Christians (80 million – roughly equivalent to the entire population of Germany) and Muslims (76 million – more than the Muslim population of Egypt) in the world, Nigeria occupies a major place in the the world's religious landscape. The various traditional religions and denominations of Christianity and Islam in the country have a long and fascinating history of cooperation, co-option, compromise, competition, and conflict. Focusing on Yoruba-speaking Southwestern region of the country, the lecture will explore various trends in Muslim-Christian interactions that extend far beyond the stories of conflict that dominate Western headlines about religion in Nigeria.



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Prof. Ogunnaike, a recent graduate of Harvard University's Dept. of African and African American Studies, is currently writing a monograph on Sufism in West Africa