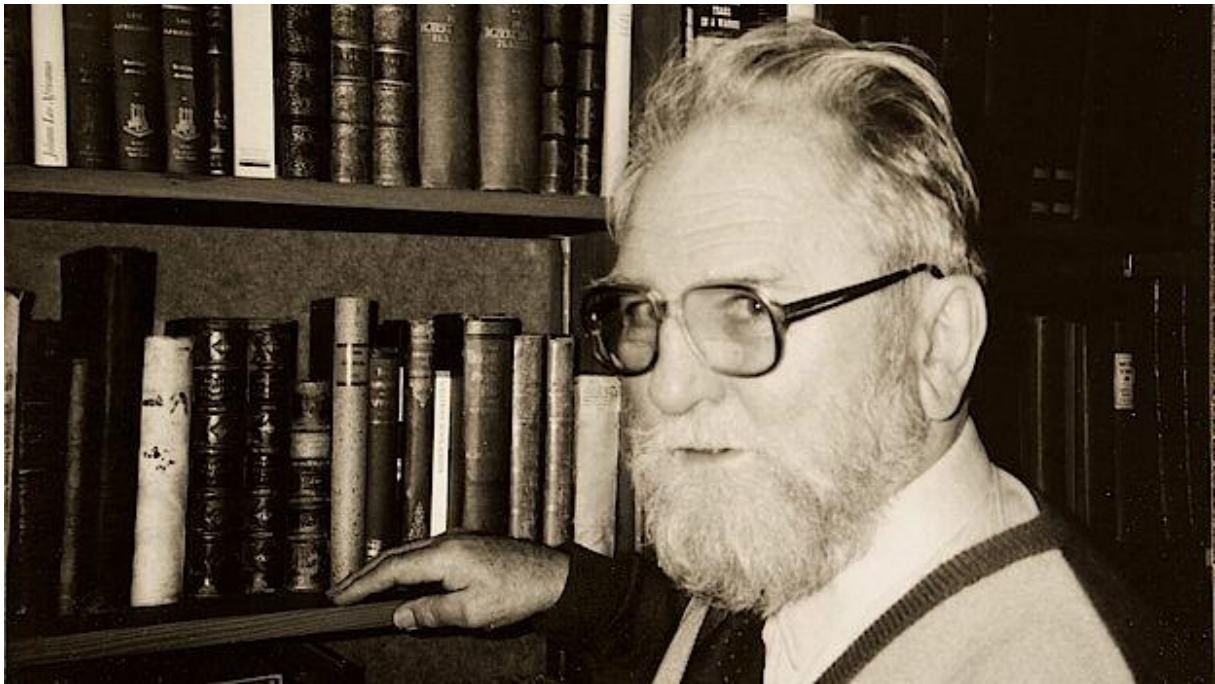


# Revisiting Histories and Cultures of African Diasporas, Religion and Belief



## Hans Werner Debrunner Symposium Programme

**Datum/Date:** 9 and 10 June 2023

**Tagungsort/Venue:** Basler Afrika Bibliographien, Klosterberg 23

[www.baslerafrika.ch](http://www.baslerafrika.ch)

With financial support from



**Freiwillige Akademische  
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## THURSDAY 8 June 2023

### Guided Tours

A. 14:00 Mission 21 Archive (formerly, Basel Mission Archive), by Patrick Moser  
Meeting point: Reception Hall, Missionsstrasse 21

B. 16:00 "Africa in Basel" city tour, by Veit Arlt, curated by ZASB.  
Meeting point: Basler Afrika Bibliographien, Klosterberg 23

## FRIDAY 9 June 2023

8:30-9:30 Arrival | Registration | Coffee/Tea

9:30-9:40 Welcome | Introduction of Keynote Speaker, by Ernest Sewordor

9:40-10:30

- "Locating 'Impartial History' During the Era of Decolonisation: Debrunner's Reflections on Science, Suffering, and Prejudice in Recollections of the African Past," by *Cassandra Mark-Thiesen* (University of Bayreuth) Keynote Address

10:30-10:50 Coffee/Tea Break

10:50-11:40

- "The Impetus Hans Debrunner Gave to Post-colonial Readings of Presbyterian/Basel Mission History in Ghana," by *Paul Jenkins* (affiliate of the University of Basel/Mission 21)

11:40-12:15 Moderated Discussion

12:15-13:00 Light Lunch

13:00-14:00 Guided tour of Hans Werner Debrunner's Collections at the BAB,  
with Albert M. Debrunner (BAB), and Susanne Hubler Baier (BAB)

14:00-15:30 Panel 1: Religion and Ethnicity in Ghana and Togo

- "'He came to his own': Hans Debrunner on Indigenous Reception and African Initiatives in Mission History," by *Nana Opape Kwakye* (University of Ghana)
- "Hans Werner Debrunner and the Conception of 'Religion' and 'Ethnicity' in Ewe Studies: A Critical Reappraisal," by *Meera Venkatachalam* (University of Mumbai), *Malika Kraamer* (Ghana National Museum), and *Ablavi M. Amegnonka* (University of Kara, Togo)

### Q&A

15:30-16:00 Coffee/Tea Break

16:00-17:00 "Transcultural archival inventory of the intellectual legacy of John S. Mbiti, theologian and philosopher of religions", by *Maria Mbiti* (Art College, Berne)

### Q&A

17:30-18:30 Reception

19:00 Dinner by invitation from the Debrunner family





**SATURDAY** 10 June 2023

9:30-9:40      Welcome | Coffee/Tea

9:40-11:10      Panel 2: Presence and Prestige

- “Black Names Matter: Debrunner on African Presence and Prestige,” by *Paul Grant* (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
- “Lyrics, Spirits and Awakened Temporalities: Rethinking Presence and Disruption in the African Diaspora,” by *Angelantonio Grossi* (Saint Mary’s College of California)

Q&A

11:10-12:00      Coffee/Tea Break

12:00-13:00      Closing Session with AfroBasel, on What does Debrunner’s Research Mean to Afro-Diasporic Communities in Basel Today?

Moderated Discussion

13:00              Light Lunch





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