

## CURRICULUM VITAE

**Name:** Ahmed Khalid Ayong

**Nationality:** Cameroonian

### Current Address

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### Current Position

- Fritz Thyssen Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Bayreuth, Germany. Project: *Sheikh Yūsuf al-Dijwī (1870-1946) His Life, Works and Ideological Battles*
- Research Project Collaborator “Changing Structures of Islamic Authority and Consequences for Social Change: A Transnational Review” Oxford University.

### Education

**2017** Doctor of Philosophy, BIGSAS, University of Bayreuth, Germany Dissertation Title: “*Traditional Islamic Scholarly Culture in Northern Cameroon, 1900 to the Present.*” Overall Result: *Magna cum Laude* (with high honors).

**2011** Master of Arts, (Muslim World Issues), International Islamic University Malaysia Title: *The Impact of the Tablighī Jamāat in Contemporary Cameroon*

**2008** Bachelor of Arts, (Arabic & Islamic Studies), University of Medina, Saudi Arabia

### Professional Appointments

**2009-2010** Part-time Teaching Arabic as a Second Language, National Defence University of Malaysia

**2010-2011** Part-time Teaching Arabic as a Second Language, ISTAC, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 2013-15

Junior Research fellow (DFG Project) “Competing Traditions of Islamic Knowledge in Africa” 2015-

**2016** Teaching Assistant, (Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter), University of Bayreuth

### Courses Taught University of Bayreuth

- Winter Semester 2015: *Yusuf al-Qaraḍāwī and Contemporary Muslim Thought*
- Summer Semester 2016: *Introduction to Shī'i Islam*
- Summer Semester 2016: *Sources of Authorities in Muslim Societies*
- 2015 Research Project Collaborator “Changing Structures of Islamic Authority and Consequences for Social Change: A Transnational Review” Oxford University.

## Area of Specialization and Occupational Field

Islamic theology, classical & modern Islamic thought, Islamic revivalism & reformism, contemporary Islamic movements, Islamic intellectual history, Sūfism, Global Salafism, Islamic religious authorities, Heresiography in Islam, Inter & Intra-Religious dialogue, *Wāsaṭiyya* (moderation & toleration), Peaceful coexistence, Conflict mediation and resolution, History of Islam in Africa, the Middle-East, South East Asia, Sociology and Anthropology of Religion, World religions, classical Islamic subjects etc.

## Languages

- Bafia: (mother tongue)
- French: (Fluent)
- Arabic: (Fluent)
- English: (Fluent)
- Fulfulde: (Fluent)
- Bassa: (fluent)
- German: (average)

## Publications

In the Stage of Revision and Publishing Process:

- ***“Shaping a Scholarly and Spiritual Authority: The Case of Traditionally-Trained Ulama in Northern Cameroon”*** (forthcoming) Modern Africa, Politics, History and Society
- ***“Modibbo Yahya Bakari (1905-1984) and the Transmission of a Muslim Scholarly Culture in Northern Cameroon”*** submitted for publication in a collective volume, ed. Britta Frede, Noah Salomon and Rüdiger Seesemann.
- ***“The Jāmī/Surūrī dispute and its impact on the Islamic University in Medina”*** under review, Die Welt des Islams, International Journal for the Study of Modern Islam.

## Conferences and Scholarly Presentations

July 2016: ***“Becoming Ustādh: Medina Graduates and their enterprise for scholarly and religious authority in Northern Cameroon”*** Academic Visitor: “Changing Structures in Islamic Authority and Consequences for Social Change” University of Oxford, England.

May 2016: ***“Producing Moral Norms and Orthodoxy through the Tafṣīr: The Role of Reformist-Minded Scholars in Northern Cameroon”*** International Workshop “Islam, Urban life and the Production of Moral Norms” Berlin, ZMO, Center for Modern Oriental Studies, Germany.

May 2016: ***“The jauleru and the jāmiah: From contestation to cooperation? An Account of an Intellectual and Religious Rivalry in Northern Cameroon”*** presented at the International Conference: “Peace and Conflict in Contemporary Africa”, Ambassador Hotel, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

March 2016: ***“The Jāmī/Surūrī dispute and its impact on the Islamic University in Medina”*** International Workshop on: “Saudi-Salafism and Global Shifts” University of Oxford, England.

November 2015: ***“From the Jauleru to the Jāmiah: The Life and Activities of Sheikh Abdourrahman Nasrou (1933-2004)”*** Paper presented at the American Academy of Religion, Contemporary Islam:

“Connecting Islam in Africa: Patterns of Islamic Reform and Politics of Change in Africa” Atlanta, United States of America.

August 2015: ***“Islamic Learning in Adamawa, Northern Cameroon between Tradition and Innovation: The Life and Career of Sheikh Mohammed Aly Dewa (1941-2013)”*** The International Association for the History of Religions, Erfurt, Germany.

July 2015: ***“Islamic Erudition in Northern Cameroon between the Jauleru and the Madrasa: A Historical and Ethnographic Overview”*** Paper presented at the European Conference on African Studies, ECAS (Islamic Education in Africa: Reform and (Re-) Configurations) Paris, France.

May 2015: “Round Table: ***“Beyond Jihad in Africa, Muslim Youths, Violence and Visions of the Future”*** University of Bayreuth, (Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies), Bayreuth, Germany.

April 2015: ***“The School of Yola and the Rise of Fulani Scholarly Networks in Northern Cameroon”*** Paper presented at the International Workshop “Muslim Scholars in Africa: Past and Present” University of Leiden, The Netherlands, African Studies Centre.

January 2015: ***“The Social Role of Traditional Muslim Scholars in Northern Cameroon”*** Paper presented at the Bayreuth International School of African Studies’ Colloquium, Iwalewa House, University of Bayreuth, Germany.

November 2014: ***“Islamic Scholarship in Northern Cameroon: The Jauleru Tradition”*** Paper presented at the International Workshop “Muslim Ulama in the Intellectual History of the Wider Lake Chad Region University of Cape Town, Department of Religious Studies, CCI (Centre for Contemporary Islam) Cape Town, South Africa.

June 2014: ***“Modibbo Yahya Bakari (1905-1984) and the Transmission of a Muslim Scholarly Culture in Northern Cameroon”*** Paper presented at the African Studies Association in Germany, VAD 2014, Bayreuth, Germany.

May 2014: ***“Shaping a Scholarly and Spiritual Authority: The Case of Traditionally-Trained Ulama in Northern Cameroon”*** Paper presented at the European Association for the Study of Religions, Groningen, The Netherlands.

August 2013: ***“Observations on the Northern Cameroonian Islamic Intellectual Milieu with Focus on the Majālis al-ilmīyya”*** Paper presented at the Summer School of the Berlin Graduate School of Muslim Cultures & Societies, “Re-Configurations of Islam in Sub-Saharan Africa” Berlin, Germany.

June 2012: ***“The Transmission of Islamic Reformism to Northern Cameroon: The Role of Middle Eastern-Trained Ulama”***. Paper presented at the Bayreuth Workshop: “Religion in Contemporary Africa”, Bayreuth, Germany.

October 2012: ***“The Quest for Religious Purism: The Case of the Tablīghī Jamāat in Cameroon”*** Paper presented at the International Workshop “The Tablīghī Jamāat: Studies of a Transnational Islamic Revivalist Movement” Oxford University, (OCIS) Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, England, United Kingdom.

## **Academic Referees**

### **Prof. Dr. Ruediger Seesemann**

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### **Prof. Dr. Muhammad Kamal Hassan**

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