

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name: Muthuraj Swamy
Contact Details: Cambridge Centre for Christianity Worldwide, Westminster College,
Maddingley Road, Cambridge CB3 9HG, United Kingdom.
Tel.: (0044) 1223 330641; Email: ms2522@cam.ac.uk

Academic Qualifications

Religion & Theology

Degree/ Course	Area of Research	Year	College	University	Class
PhD	Interfaith Dialogue (Religious Studies)	2012	School of Divinity	Edinburgh, UK	
Master of Theology (M.Th.)	Theology, Religion	2005	United Theological College, Bangalore	Serampore, India	First
Bachelor of Divinity		2001	UTC, Bangalore	Serampore	First
Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.)		1997	Madras Theological Seminary & College	Serampore	First

Social Sciences

Degree/ Course	Major	College/University
M.A	Political Science	Madurai Kamaraj University, India
M.A. (Open)	Sociology	Annamalai University, India
B.A.	Political Science	Madurai Kamaraj University, India

Professional Experience

Current Positions:

2018- Director, Cambridge Centre for Christianity Worldwide, Cambridge
2018- Theological Education Project Manager, Anglican Communion Office, London

Previous Work:

2010-2018: Faculty member at the Serampore University, India (at the Union Biblical Seminary,
Pune) – worked as Lecturer, Assistant Professor and Associate Professor.
2017-2018: Dean of Postgraduate Studies, UBS.
2016-2018 Editor, Mission Theology in the Anglican Communion, London.
2013-2018: Dean/HOD, Faculty of Theology and Ethics, UBS.
2011-2014: Faculty-in-Charge, Research Resource Centre (Library & Archives), UBS.
2008-2010: Tutor, Department of Religious Studies, University of Edinburgh.

Visiting Faculty

Invited to be part of the Harmony Lecture Series for the Professional Doctorate
in Interfaith Studies programme at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David
April 2017- Visiting Fellow, St. John's College, Durham University, United Kingdom
Jan-Mar 2017 Sabbatical at Wycliffe Hall, University of Oxford.
2015- Institute for Advanced Christian Studies, Madras Christian College, Chennai
2014- South Asia Institute for Advanced Christian Studies (SAIACS), Bangalore
2010- The Association for Theological Education by Extension (TAFTEE), Bangalore

Teaching in Cambridge (2018-2019)

Divinity Faculty:	B7 World Christianities (lectures during the Michaelmas and Lent Terms) B7 – supervision of essays Supervision of DTM student
Federation:	Teaching the Module ‘Theology and Practice of Mission’ for MA (Lent and Summer Terms) BTh Teaching Supervision of MA Common Award Dissertation

Research Interests

- Religious plurality; lived and expressed religion
- Christianity in India/Asia; World Christianity; Contextual theologies
- Peace studies and conflict resolution
- Ecumenism and interreligious dialogue
- Methodologies in the study of religion
- Theological Education; History of Theology; Theological Methods
- Science-religion dialogue
- Comparative religious fundamentalisms
- Religion-State relationships; Religion-secular distinctions
- Religion and Marxism; Current debates on secularisation and secularism
- Issues in individual and community relations
- Identity, conflicts and the significance of multiple identities

Current Research Projects

- CCCW-Tearfund research project on ‘Local churches’ responses to conflicts’.

This project studies situation in seven countries which are currently undergoing conflicts, and field research is done in two countries. I am involved in this project as its Principal Investigator and work along with a Research Associate based at CCCW.

- A Book Project on Indian Christianity: ‘Reactions to Christianity in Contemporary India: Perceptions, Interpretations and Responses’ for Fortress Press, Philadelphia

This project studies and interprets, with the support of ethnographic field research, the resistance to Christianity in order to evaluate the generalizations and reductionist views on resistance to Christianity in India, and to study the complex nature of the variety of oppositions (political, organizational, nationalist, religious, ethnic as well as in ordinary lives, etc.) in their contexts.

- Revisiting the Religious Pluralism Debates

This project studies various proposals placed in relation to religious pluralism within the field of theology of religions since the mid-20th century and also many reactions to it. The objective is to offer a contemporary reading of these debates in order to show and interpret the significance of these debates for the contemporary context.

- A Project on ‘Current Approaches to Interfaith Dialogue: A Critical Overview’

I am preparing a manuscript critically presenting and studying various approaches, both positive and critical, to interfaith dialogue. This book is intended to be a sourcebook for students and scholars of interfaith dialogue and peace studies in the global context, and it critically presents and discusses dialogue in twenty major approaches to it.

Publications

Published Books:

1. *Reconciliation, Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2019*. London: SPCK & Delhi: ISPCCK, 2018. (ISBN-13: 9780281080083).
2. *The Problem with Interreligious Dialogue: Plurality, Conflict and Elitism in Hindu-Christian-Muslim Relations*. London: Bloomsbury, 2016. (ISBN-13: 9781350048591).

Edited Books:

1. *Witnessing Together: Global Anglican Perspectives on Evangelism and Witness*. A Pre-Lambeth 2020 Book Vol 2 of 3. Co-edited work. London: Anglican Communion Office, 2019. (ISBN-13: 9781911007142).
2. *Walking Together: Global Anglican Perspectives on Reconciliation*. A Pre-Lambeth 2020 Book Vol 1 of 3. Co-edited work. London: Anglican Communion Office, 2019. (ISBN-13: 9781911007128).
3. *Christian Engagement in Social Change: The Role of Theological Education*. Co-edited work. New Delhi: Christian World Imprints, 2018. (ISBN 13: 9789351482253).

Forthcoming Monographs:

1. *Reactions to Christianity in Contemporary India: Perceptions, Interpretations and Responses*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 2019/20.
2. *Deconstructing the Antecedents of Interreligious Dialogue*. Postcolonialism and Religion Series. New York: Palgrave Macmillan (Proposal accepted, work in progress)

Select Research Essays and Articles

Forthcoming:

1. “Reformation, *Sola Scriptura* and Christian Mission” in *Reformation and Missional Hermeneutics: Indian Perspectives*, ed. J. Thomaskutty. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 2019.
2. “Prayer as Engagement with God and with the Struggles of the World” in *Listening Together: Global Anglican Perspectives on Prayer and the Renewal of the Religious Life*. Edited by Muthuraj Swamy and Stephen Spencer. London: Anglican Communion Office, 2020.
3. “Christian Missionary Constructions Hinduism: Issues and Implications for Mission Studies,” *Oxford Handbook of Mission Studies*, edited by Kirsteen Kim and Knud Jorgensen. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2020.
4. “Re-Forming the Reformation in the Light of Contemporary Ecumenical Developments,” in *‘Such a time as this’: A Re-imagining of Reformation*, ed. Y. T. Vinayaraj.
5. Book Review: *Encyclopedia of Christianity in the Global South* in *Reading Religion*. <http://readingreligion.org/books/encyclopedia-christianity-global-south>.
6. Book Review: *The Economics of Religion in India* by Sriya Iyer, Harvard University Press, 2018.

2019

7. "The Disciples' Misconceptions of God's Mission and Jesus' Correctives: Insights for Evangelism and Witness Today" in *Witnessing Together: Global Anglican Perspectives on Evangelism and Witness*. Edited by Muthuraj Swamy and Stephen Spencer. London: Anglican Communion Office, 2019, pp.103-127.
8. "Walking together for reconciliation in the Holy Land" in *Walking Together: Global Anglican Perspectives on Reconciliation*. Edited by Muthuraj Swamy and Stephen Spencer. London: Anglican Communion Office, 2019, pp. 1-13.
9. "Reconciliation Grounded in Self-Criticism, Pro-activism and Justice" in *Walking Together: Global Anglican Perspectives on Reconciliation*. Edited by Muthuraj Swamy and Stephen Spencer. London: Anglican Communion Office, 2019, pp. 101-110.

2018

10. "The Theological Potentials of Local Ecumenical Efforts in Ordinary and Everyday Life: An Ethnographic Study of South Indian Context" in *Ecclesial Practices* (Brill) 5/2 (December 2018): 138-156.

2017

11. "Refugee Crisis and Migration Today: Challenges for Doing Theology," *Theology* 120/5 (September-October, 2017): 334-346.
12. "The Joy of Relationships for an Anglican," in *The Joy of Being an Anglican*. Chawton, Hants, UK: Redemptionist Publications, 2017, pp. 112-122.
13. "Living Faith in the Context of Suffering," *Word & Worship* 50/3 (July-Sep 2017): 232-254.
14. "Reading Martin Luther's *The Freedom of a Christian* as Catholics and Protestants Together," *Jnanadeepa: Pune Journal of Religious Studies* 21/2 (July-December 2017): 145-162.
15. "Towards an Active Christian Public Engagement in the Context of Hindu(tva) Fundamentalism," in *Christian Engagement in Social Change: The Role of Theological Education*, edited by Muthuraj Swamy and Wilson Paluri (New Delhi: CWI, 2017), 155-169.
16. "Christian Mission as Invitation," *New Life Theological Journal* 7/1 (Jan-June 2017): 53-64. An earlier version published online (<http://www.missiontheologyanglican.org/>), October 2016.
17. "Reformation and Rethinking as Ongoing Processes" in *Church Reformed: Always Reforming*, edited by Vincent Rajkumar. Delhi: Christian World Imprints, 2017, pp. 189-197.
18. "Christian Responses to Religious Fundamentalism in India Today: Postures, Pitfalls and Prospects," *Clark Theological College Journal* VI/2 (January 2017): 21-37.

2016

19. "Interpreting Christianity in Relation to Other Religions & Secular Ideologies: The Challenge of M. M. Thomas," *Religion & Society* 61/3 & 4 (September-December 2016): 73-101.
20. "Theological Writing in India Today," *New Life Theological Journal* 6/2 (July 2016): 17-32.
21. "Cyprian and the Unity of the Church: The Continuing Significance of *De Ecclesiae Catholicae Unitate*," *UBS Journal* 10/2 (November 2016): 21-35.
22. "Imagining Christian Identity in Relation to Reformed Secularism," *National Council of Churches in India Review* CXXXVI/9 (October 2016): 525-543.
23. "K. C. Sen on Christ and Christianity," *Bangalore Theological Forum* 47/1 (June 2016): 116-31.
24. "Objections to the Perspicuity and Clarity of Scripture: A Survey of Historical and Contemporary Arguments," *UBS Journal* 10/1 (March 2016):102-145.
25. "Indian Christian Responses to Anti-Conversion Activities: A Proposal for Enhancement and Alternatives," *Journal of Mission and Intercultural Studies* 3/1 (Jan-June 2016): 56-68.

2015

26. "Radical Pluralism and Christic Principle in Raimon Panikkar's Theology of Religions," *Indian Journal of Theology* 57/2 (December 2015): 76-95.
27. "Building Church through Building Relationships: A Biblical Case for Crossing Borders," *National Council of Churches in India Review*, CXXXV/11 (December 2015): 600-618.

2012

28. "Women's Work and Sexual Division of Labour: Critiques from Feminist Perspectives," in *Women's Issues and Reflections*, Christina Manohar, ISPCK, Delhi, 2012, pp.107-123.

2009

29. "What does Interfaith Dialogue Mean at the Grass Roots? Reflections from Field Research in South India," *Journal of the Fellowship of St Thomas*, Dunblane, UK (Sep 2008-Jan 2009).

2008

30. "Religion and State in St Ambrose and in Hindu Nationalism: A Comparative Study," *Asia Journal of Theology*, 22:2 (October 2008): 350-375.
31. "The Bible and Postliberal Theologies," *Bangalore Theological Forum*, XL: 1 (2008): 31-55.

2003

32. "The Mission of the Church: Peace with Justice," *Masihi Sevak: Journal of Christian Ministry*, Vol. XXVII, No. 3 (March 2003): 13-17.

2001

33. "Religious Conversion in the Hindutva Context," (Tamil) in *India or Hindutva?* Eds. Vijayakumar and J. M. Razu, Education for Democracy Series, NCCI-URM, 2001, pp. 63-77.

Select Book Reviews/ Review Articles:

1. *A Tale of Two Theologians: Treatment of Third Word Theologies* by Ambrose Mong, Cambridge: James Clarke & Co, 2017 in *Reading Religion*, 2018, <http://readingreligion.org/books/tale-two-theologians>
2. *Vernacular Catholicism, Vernacular Saints*, edited by Reid B. Locklin, New York: SUNY Press, 2017 in *Reading Religion*, 2017. <http://readingreligion.org/books/vernacular-catholicism-vernacular-saints>.
3. *The Oxford Handbook of Early Modern Theology*, New York: Oxford University Press, 2016 in *Reading Religion*, 2017. <http://readingreligion.org/books/oxford-handbook-early-modern-theology-1600-1800>.
4. *Dialogue: The Church and the Voice of the Other*, Peter Lang, 2007 in *Studies in World Christianity*, 17: 3, Dec. 2011, Edinburgh University Press, pp. 295-297.
5. 'People's Power': *Asian/Indian's Liberation Theology* by Anthoniraj Thumma, Delhi: ISPCK in *Bangalore Theological Forum*, XXXVI: 2, December. 2004, pp. 131-136.

Paper Presentations & Participation in Select Conferences/Events

- Theological Education for Mission in the Anglican Communion (TEMAC) Inter-continental Conference on 'Prayer and the Renewal of the Religious Life', St. Paul's University, Limuru, Kenya, May 29-June 2, 2019 (**Paper to be presented** on "Prayer as Engagement")
- Anglican Consultative Council, Hong Kong, April 27-May 5, 2019.
- Postcolonial Theology Seminar at the Centre for Anglican Communion Studies, Virginia Theological Seminary, March 14, 2019.

- Lesslie Newbigin Summer Institute on 'Jesus and the World's Faiths,' Trinity Hall, Cambridge, July 9-12, 2018. (**Two papers to be presented** on "Christianity and the challenge of pluralism in Indian perspective" and "Christian Mission and Hospitality")
- Mission Theology in the Anglican Communion (MTAC) Conference on 'Evangelism and Witness,' Dallas, USA, May 28 to June 3, 2018 (**Paper presented** on "The Disciples' Misconception of Mission and Jesus' Correctives")
- Durham University International Conference on 'Ecclesiology and Ethnography,' September 12-14, 2017 (**Plenary paper presented** on "The Significance of the Local Churches' Efforts for Ecumenism in South India: An Ethnographic Study")
- Senate of Serampore College Workshop on 'Science and Religion in Theological Education,' Kolkata, August 12-15, 2017.
- Jnana Deepa Vidyapeeth (Papal Seminary), Seminar on '500 Years of Reformation: A Journey of Discovery,' Pune, July 27, 2017 (**Paper Presented** on "Understanding Reformation in the Light of the Ecumenical Perspectives Today")
- National Biblical Catechetical Liturgical Centre (NBCLC), Bangalore, Conference on 'Pilgrimage towards Unity: Transcending the Barriers' (**Paper presented** on "Living Faith in the Context of Suffering: A Reason for Church Unity," April 29, 2017).
- Christian Institute for the Study of Religion and Society (CISRS) and Ecumenical Christian Centre, Bangalore, Consultation on '500th year of Reformation and 80th year of Rethinking Christianity in India,' April 25-27, 2017 (**Paper presented** on "Rethinking Christianity Movements: Challenges for 'Church Always Reforming'")
- Mission Theology in the Anglican Communion (MTAC) Inter-Continental Conference on 'Reconciliation and Mission,' St. George's College, Jerusalem, March 27-30, 2017 (**Paper presented** on "Reconciliation Grounded in Self-Criticism, Pro-activism and Justice")
- Mission Theology in the Anglican Communion (MTAC) Seminar, Lambeth Palace, March 16, 2017, Durham University, February 22, 2017 & seminar at the Church Mission Society, Oxford, March 15, 2017 (**Paper presented** on "Christian Responses to Anti-Conversion in India")
- Mission Theology in the Anglican Communion (MTAC) Conference on 'Contextual Mission in India' Seminar, Ecumenical Christian Centre, Bangalore, October 19-21, 2016 (**Paper presented** on "Mission as Invitation")
- South Asia Theological Research Institute National Colloquium on 'Reclaiming Religions in the Context of Religious Fundamentalism,' Hyderabad, Aug9-11, 2016 (**Paper presented**).
- International Justice Mission (IJM) Consultation on 'Overcoming Violence and Pursuing Justice,' Pune, September 8-10, 2016.
- Global Theological Initiative (GTI) Conference on 'Holy Scripture: Canon and Community in a Global Age,' Delhi Bible Institute, Delhi, January 28-30, 2016 (**Paper presented**)
- Board of Theological Education of the Senate of Serampore College (BTESSC) and the National Council of Churches in India (NCCI) Workshop on 'The Writing on the Wall,' Pune, November 26-28, 2015 (**Paper presented**).
- National Council of Churches in India (NCCI) Workshop on 'Integrated Living in a Plural Society,' Nagpur, October 7-9, 2015.
- Centre for Mission Studies (CMS) Conference on 'Freedom of Religion and Christian Identity,' Union Biblical Seminary, Pune, November 5-7, 2015 (**Paper presented**)
- Crossway Workshop on 'Writing Bible Study Courses,' Minneapolis, September 10-14, 2012.

Research Projects Supervised: Inter-religious Marriage and its Impact on Churches in India
Theological Education and Church Growth
Rag Pickers and Their Attitudes to Gospel in Mumbai
City Churches and Urban Mission

Graduate Level

Union Biblical Seminary, Pune: Science & Religion; Introduction to Christian Theology; Theological Methods; Hinduism; Introduction to Major Religions; Histories of Religions and Cultures in India; Indian Christian Theology; Christian Witness in Pluralistic Societies; Modern Religious and Secular Movements; Sociology; Study Methods for Theological Education

Research Projects Supervised: Comparative Theologies; Marxism and Religion; Hindu Nationalism; Eco-theologies; Zionism and Hindutva

University of Edinburgh (Tutor): 'Religion in the Contemporary World: Indigenous Religions and the Religions of Asia'; and 'Religion and Society: Social Scientific Approaches to the Study of Religion' for the Seniors

Languages Known

Apart from Tamil which is my mother tongue, and English, I have some basic knowledge in Sanskrit, Arabic and Greek.

Awards/Grants/Prizes

- Funding from Tearfund at CCCW for a six-month research project on local churches' conflicts to conflicts, 2019.
- Funding from Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, and Mission Theology in the Anglican Communion, London for Sabbatical Research, January-March 2017.
- St. Augustine's Foundation Grant for PhD, 2006-2009.
- The University of Edinburgh School of Divinity Postgraduate Scholarship, 2006-2009.
- The University of Edinburgh College of Humanities and Social Sciences Scholarship, 2006-2009.
- Several Prizes for academic distinction in Bachelor of Divinity and Master of Theology studies at the United Theological College, Bangalore, 1999-2001 & 2003-2005
- World Alliance of Reformed Churches (WARC) Georges Lombard Prize for International Essay Competition on 'The Bible, Theology and Economics,' Geneva, Switzerland, 2001.

February 2019