



## **AFRICA IN MOVIMENTO / AFRICA ON THE MOVE**

**MACERATA 17 -20/09/2014**

**TITLE: .**

**PHILOSOPHY AND CULTURAL MOBILITY: CONTRIBUTIONS OF AFRICAN SCHOLARS TO CHRISTIAN THOUGHT**

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**ABSTRACT:** Cultural exchanges between Africa and the rest of Europe have existed for centuries. One remarkable area of these exchanges is in the development of Christian Thought as well as the potential of Africa being a fertile ground for the Christian faith to take root. Undoubtedly, narratives from anthropologists such as Pliny the Elder, Levy-Bruhl, James Frazier, Edward Taylor, amongst others, were a catalyst in these exchanges. However, while religious actors from Africa such as St. Augustine, Origen, etc, have put forward submissions that tended to have culturally enriched their spaces of influence, scholars from Europe such as Placide Tempels, E. A. Ruch, etc engaged in intellectual cross fertilization of ideas that expanded the scope of philosophical scholarship in Africa.

This panel seeks to examine the roles cultural mobility plays in the politics of knowledge that has shaped the cultural spaces of Africa and Europe. It raises questions concerning the axiological dimension of these exchanges from antiquity to date, and examines how well the discourse of power and knowledge has facilitated the mutual appreciation of cultural mobility as an index of global intellectual development.

Some of the questions it seeks to address include the following: Did the exchanges between these two parts of the world attain mutual cultural enrichment? What are the benefits derivable from these exchanges? Or is it just the case that these cultural exchanges are a one-sided affair that disadvantaged the African?

### **CONVENOR ACADEMIC PROFILE:**

Prof. Muyiwa Falaiye is Professor of African Socio -Political Philosophy at the University of Lagos, Nigeria. He is currently the Chair of the Philosophy Department and a prominent member of the African Studies community in Africa, Europe and Asia.