



International Online Conference on  
**Global Transformation of  
Christian Zionism**

Register to join on Zoom: <https://cutt.ly/6EZkBfA>

**Oct 23-25, 2021**

**Oct 23 (Sat) 8:10 pm -12:10 am (JST)**

- Opening Remarks: Mari Oka (Kyoto University)
- Introduction: Yoshihiro Yakushige (Kyoto University)

**Session 1: Liberation Theology towards  
Transnational Solidarity (8:35 pm - 10:15 pm)**

- Munther Isaac (Bethlehem Bible College)
- Yong-Bock Kim (Hanshin University)
- Commentator: Akira Usuki (Japan Women's University)
- Commentator: Akira Iwaki (Bishop William's Theological Seminary)

**Session 2: Theological Critique of Christian  
Zionism in the Non-Western World  
(10:30 pm - 12:10 am)**

- Cynthia Holder Rich (Tumaini University Makumira)
- Philip Peacock (World Communion of Reformed Churches)
- Commentator: Tsutomu Aguro (Ichinomiya Christian Institute)
- Commentator: Megumi Ishiida (Doshisha University)

**Oct 24 (Sun) 10:20 pm -12:10 am (JST)**

- Opening Remarks: Ranjan Solomon (Indo-Palestine Solidarity Network)

**Session 3: Challenging Religious  
Nationalism and Political Utilization of  
Religion (10:30 pm - 12:10 am)**

- Chandra Muzaffar (International Movement for a Just World)
- Shamsul Islam (Formerly with Delhi University)
- Commentator: Iyas Salim (Doshisha University)
- Commentator: Jude L. Fernando (Trinity College Dublin)

**Oct 25 (Mon) 10:20 pm -12:10 am (JST)**

**Session 4: Deconstructing Zionism,  
Reconstructing Solidarity (10:20 pm - 12:00 am)**

- Robert O. Smith (Briarwood Leadership Center)
- Mark Braverman (Kairos USA)
- Commentator: Miyuki Kinjo (Ritsumeikan University)
- Commentator: Tina Ottman (Doshisha University)
- Closing Remarks: Yoshihiro Yakushige

Co-hosted by: International Conference on the Global Transformation of Christian Zionism Organizing Committee;  
Center for Interdisciplinary Education and Research, Graduate School of Human and Environmental  
Studies, Kyoto University

Sponsored by: Unit of Kyoto Initiatives for the Humanities and Social Sciences, Kyoto University

## The Aims of the Conference

This conference aims to explore the dynamics of the recent transformation in discourses on the Palestinian cause, especially with regards to Christian discourses in both Western and non-Western countries.

The Trump administration's radical pro-Israel policies demonstrated how Christian Zionism still plays pivotal roles in US policies vis-à-vis the Middle East. However, such an overt political utilization of religion is apparently becoming less ideologically persuasive, even among American evangelicals who have been recognized as the core of Christian Zionism. Recently, it is reported that young American evangelicals are becoming comparatively less pro-Israel.

On the contrary, in non-Western countries, where anti-colonial discourses have been predominant after WW2, Christian Zionism seems to be penetrating more and more into Protestant minority communities. Furthermore, sympathy for Israel can be seen not only in Christian communities but also in some non-Christian majority communities where chauvinistic religious nationalism is on the rise. Examples include Hindus in India, Buddhists in Sri Lanka, Shintoists / Buddhists in Japan.

Taking these temporal and spatial transformations of the Gentile Zionist constellation into consideration, we can analyze and characterize Christian Zionism in the wider historical and geopolitical context. So far, academic research on Christian Zionism has almost exclusively focused on the context of Britain and the US. We need to relativize this originally Eurocentric phenomenon from a new perspective.

To tackle this challenge, we will hold panels inviting speakers from different countries and areas, religious backgrounds, and academic disciplines, but with a shared aspiration for justice and peace in Palestine/Israel and beyond. We will make academic exchanges to promote interdisciplinary research of transnational/intersectional politics spanning religion, ethnicity, nation, gender, class and more. Anyone interested in these subjects are welcome to join this ambitious event. (Yoshihiro Yakushige, Organizing Chair)

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\* All sessions will be conducted in English

Contact: czconference2021@gmail.com

	Japan / Korea	Malaysia	India	Palestine
Session 1 (Oct 23) * Including opening remarks and introduction	8:10 pm - 10:15 pm	7:10 pm - 9:15 pm	4:40 pm – 6:45 pm	2:10 pm - 4:15 pm
Session 2 (Oct 23)	10:30 pm - 12:10 pm	9:30 pm - 11:10 pm	7:00 pm - 8:40 pm	4:30 pm - 6:10 pm
Session 3 (Oct 24) * Including opening remarks	10:20 pm - 12:10 pm	9:20 pm - 11:10 pm	6:50 pm - 8:40 pm	4:20 pm - 6:10 pm
Session 4 (Oct 25) * Including closing remarks	10:20 pm - 12:10 pm	9:20 pm - 11:10 pm	6:50 pm - 8:40 pm	4:20 pm - 6:10 pm
	UK / Ireland	Eastern	Central	Pacific
Session 1 (Oct 23) * Including opening remarks and introduction	12:10 pm - 2:15 pm	7:10 am - 9:15 am	6:10 am - 8:15 am	4:10 am - 6:15 am
Session 2 (Oct 23)	2:30 pm - 4:10 pm	9:30 am - 11:10 am	8:30 am - 10:10 am	6:30 am - 8:10 am
Session 3 (Oct 24) * Including opening remarks	2:20 pm - 4:10 pm	9:20 am - 11:10 am	8:20 am - 10:10 am	6:20 am - 8:10 am
Session 4 (Oct 25) * Including closing remarks	2:20 pm - 4:10 pm	9:20 am - 11:10 am	8:20 am - 10:10 am	6:20 am - 8:10 am