

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## CHRISTOPHER PAUL CLOHESSY

### 1. ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

**Bachelor of Sacred Theology** (01-05-89. *Magna Cum Laude*. Pontificia Universitas Urbaniana. Rome. Italy)

**Diploma in Pastoral Studies** (12-06-98. *Summa Cum Laude*. Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies. Rome. Italy)

**Certificate in Arabic Grammar** (14-06-99. Dar Comboni. Cairo. Egypt).

**Diploma in Arabic Studies** (16-06-00. *Magna Cum Laude*. Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies. Rome. Italy).

**Masters in Arabic and Islamic Studies** (12-06-01. *Magna Cum Laude*. Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies. Rome. Italy).

**Doctorate in Arabic and Islamic Studies** (03-02-06. *Summa Cum Laude*. Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies. Rome. Italy).

### 2. ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

**1990** Lecturer in Christology, Adult Education Program of the Archdiocese of Cape Town, Lecturer in Islamic Studies, St. Francis Xavier Seminary, Cape Town, Guest Lecturer in Islamics, St. Augustine's University, Johannesburg.

**2002-2004** Lecturer, Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome, Lecturer, Pontifical Beda College, Rome.

**2005-2009** Rector, St. Francis Xavier Major Seminary, Cape Town.

**2015** Professor of Islamic Studies, Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome, Lecturer in Fundamental Theology, Ecclesiology, Mariology, Islam, Pontifical Beda College, Rome

**2015** Lecturer in Fundamental Theology, Ecclesiology, Mariology, Islam, Pontifical Beda College, Rome

### **3. TEACHING POSITIONS (Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies)**

**2002-2004:** Introduction to Shī‘ī Islam, Islamic History, Methodology, Liturgical Texts

**2015-2024:** Introduction to Shī‘ī Islam Introduction to the Qur’ān, Islamic Ethics History of Muslim-Christian Dialogue, Shī‘ī Texts

### **5. TEACHING POSITIONS (Pontifical Beda College)**

**2016-2024:** Fundamental Theology, Ecclesiology, Mariology, Introduction to Islam

## **5. PUBLICATIONS**

### **5.1 ARTICLES**

“Islām in South Africa” in *Encounter* n. 242, February 1998, Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome.

“Glimpses along a Sūfī Path” in *Encounter* n. 265, July 2000, Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome.

“Karbālā’, the Face of Islam Flushed” in *Encounter* n. 285, June 2002, Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome.

“The Gospel of Barnabas: A Précis” in *Encounter* n. 295, June 2003, Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome.

“Islamic Discourses” in *St. Augustine Papers*, vol. 4, n. 1, 2003, Johannesburg, South Africa

“Islam” in *Trefoil*, n. 266 (2003), n. 267 (2004), n. 268 (2005), n. 269 (2006), Johannesburg, South Africa.

“Mary and Fāṭima in the Catholic and Shi‘a Traditions” in O’MAHONEY A et al., (eds.), *Catholics and Shi‘a in Dialogue*, Melisende Press, London 2004.

“Notes on Fāṭima, Daughter of Muhammad” in *Encounter* n. 314, April 2005, Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome.

“The Project of God: Muhammad and the *ahl al-kitāb*” in *Grace & Truth*, vol. 23, n. 2 (August 2006), Johannesburg, South Africa

“Islam in South Africa” in *Grace & Truth*, vol. 23, n. 2 (August 2006), Johannesburg, South Africa.

“The Text of Barnabas I” in *Trefoil*, n. 272 (2007), Johannesburg, South Africa.

“The Text of Barnabas II” in *Trefoil*, n. 273 (2008), Johannesburg, South Africa.

“The Text of Barnabas III” in *Trefoil*, n. 274 (2009), Johannesburg, South Africa.

“Christian-Muslim Encounters in South Africa” in O’MAHONEY A & LOOSLEY E., (eds.), *Christian Responses to Islam*, Manchester University Press, Manchester 2008.

“Mixed Marriage and Islamic Law” in *Trefoil*, n. 276 (2010), Johannesburg, South Africa.

“Weeping Mothers: Tears and Powers in Fāṭima and Mary” in *Islamochristiana* 36 (2010), Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome

“Notes on Fāṭima, Daughter of Muhammad” in *Encounter* n. 314, April 2005, Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome.

“A Heart Attuned to Mercy: The Intercession of Mary and Fāṭima” in *Encounter* n. 41/1, 2016, Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome.

“Some Notes on *mağlis* and *ta‘ziya*” in *Encounter* n. 41/3, 2016, Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome.

“The Colours of Mourning. A Christian Reflection on Karbalā’ as Anamnesis” in *Islamochristiana* 45 (2019), Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome

“El Islam sudafricano” in *Misiones extranjerias*, n. 189, Mayo-Junio 2002

“Theologies of resistance. An intertextual examination” in *Islamochristiana* 47 (2021), Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome

“Tracking al-‘Abbās b. ‘Alī through Abū Mikhnaf” in *Islamochristiana* 48 (2022), Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome

## 5.2. BOOKS

*Fāṭima, Daughter of Muḥammad*, Gorgias Press, New Jersey 2009 (2<sup>ND</sup> ed. 2018)

*Half of my Heart. The Narratives of Zaynab, Daughter of ‘Alī*, Gorgias Press, New Jersey 2018

*Angels Hastening. The Karbalā’ Dreams*, Gorgias Press, New Jersey 2021

*The Outrider. Abū al-Faḍl al-‘Abbās*, Gorgias Press, New Jersey 2024

## 6. MAJOR CONFERENCE PAPERS

**May 2016**, Amsterdam, The Journées d’Arras Conference on Muslim-Christian Dialogue

**September 2016**, London, The Shi’ah Institute Annual Symposium 2016 ‘Lamenting Karbala’: Commemoration, Mourning and Memory’

**February 2019**, Cambridge, Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Cambridge, ‘Shiism and Minorities’

**March 2019**, Cambridge, The Woolf Institute, University of Cambridge ‘The Legacy of Fatima’

**March 2019**, London, Islamic College of London, ‘Half of My Heart’

**March 2019**, London, KSIMC, ‘Fatima and Zaynab’ (online)

**February 2020**, Birmingham, Husayn Summit, ‘Lady Zaynab’

**March 2020**, London, KSIMC and Hikma Foundation, ‘Fatima, Daughter of Muhammad’

**September 2020**, London, Hyderi Islamic Centre, ‘The Legacy of Fatima’

**October 2020**, Stand with Dignity, ‘The Sister of al-Husayn’ (online)

**November 2020**, Ottawa, Imam Hossein Cultural Centre, ‘Lady Zaynab as a role model at Karbala’ (online)

**February 2021**, Ali the Spirit of Reform Conference (Online)

**May 2021**, Cape Town, Ahl al-Bayt Centre, ‘The Document on Human Fraternity’ (online)

**May 2021**, Mashhad, University of Mashhad, ‘Lady Fatima in Western Studies’ (online)

**2021**, UMAA and Stand with Dignity, ‘Imam Ali’ (online)

**2021**, Stand with Dignity, Imam al-Husayn Day (online)

**July 2021**, London, al-Khoei Foundation, ‘Angels Hastening’

**September 2022**, Birmingham, al-Mahdi Institute, ‘The Chronicles of Karbala’

**September 2022**, Birmingham, KSIMC, ‘The Dreams of Karbala’

**December 2022**, London, Islamic College, Dialogue and Religion Conference (online)

**New Jersey 2022**, Princeton Institute for Advanced Studies, Gorgias Press, ‘Angels Hastening’ (online)

**New Delhi 2022**, Iran Culture House and Who is Hussein, ‘Imam al-Husayn and the Struggle for Justice’ (online)

**Australia 2022**, , Imam Husayn Conference (online)

**London 2022**, City University of London, ‘Fatima the Model of Life’ (online)

**March 2023**, Birmingham, al-Mahdi Institute, ‘Death and the Nature of the Soul’

**March 2023**, Rome, Pontifical Urbanianum University, ‘Pope Francis and Islam’

**April, 2023**, Zurich, Eglise réformée zurichoise de langue française, Fatima and Zaynab

**May 2023**, London, Islamic College, ‘Zaynab at Karbala’

**July 2023**, Illinois, Northwestern University, ‘Abbas the Water Bearer’ (online)

**November 2023**, Zurich, Eglise réformée zurichoise de langue française, ‘al-Abbas’

**February 2024**, Rome, Pontifical Gregorian University, ‘The Cross and Islam’

**June 2024**, Suffering in the Monotheistic Religions (Associazione Carità Politica, Rome)

## **7. EDITORSHIP**

**Editor**, *Encounter, Documents for Muslim-Christian Understanding*, Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome (2003-2004)

## **8. AWARDS**

2021 28<sup>TH</sup> Islamic Republic of Iran's World Book Award, for 'Distinguished Researcher in Shī'ī Islam

2021 *Half of my Heart. The Narratives of Zaynab, Daughter of 'Alī*, Gorgias Press, New Jersey 2018  
named by The Book Authority in conjunction with Forbes Magazine and CNN as one of the '95 Best Islamic  
History Books of All Time'

## 9. THESES DIRECTED

### Licentiate theses

**2004, thesis director:** The struggle for Political Identity by the Bosnian Muslims (Marijo Vukoja)

**2004, thesis director:** The West and the Crisis of the Search for an Enemy: A Muslim View of Contemporary  
Relations between Islam and the West (Juan Carlos Munera Montoya)

**2004, second reader:** Islam in the contemporary world: according to Nadīm al-Gisr (Hyun Soo Lim)

**2005, thesis director:** Arabic Renaissance and the narcissistic wound: a critique of Jūrj Tarābīshī of  
contemporary Arabic Islamic radicalism (Antonio Nunez Baldenebro)

**2005, thesis director:** Religious freedom in Islam: a general over-view of religious freedom in Islam according  
to 'Abd al-Muta'ālī al-Sa'īdī (Dominic Eibu)

**2005, second reader:** Islam and the status of women (Marija Seric)

**2005, second reader:** The political perspective and the caliphate in an Arab/Islamic civilization (Onesmas  
Godfrey Otieno Ogola)

**2016, second reader:** Rūh al-Qudus : a study on father Joseph Azzi's book Bayna al-Masīhiyya wa-l-Islām  
(Fadi Kmeid)

**2017, second reader:** The concepts of Dār al-Islām and Dār al-Harb and their role in the contemporary global  
jihād in the understanding of Ridwān al-Sayyid (Augustin Sawadogo)

**2017, thesis director:** Adopting effective remedies against terrorism: the advocacy of normative Islam in the endeavours of Shayh ‘Abd Allāh b. Bayyah (b. 1935) (Isa Emmanuel Saliu)

**2018, thesis director:** The blasphemy laws and their impact in Pakistan (Shahzad Khokhar)

**2019, second reader:** Al-Ihtilāf fī al-taqāfa al-‘arabiyya: l’omosessualità nell’Islam tra utopie e realtà (Eleonora Pede)

**2019, second reader:** The concept of Gihād in Gamal al-Bannā: a critical analysis (Celestine Chukwubunna Muonwe)

**2019, thesis director:** Islamic conception of the beginning of life and its impact on abortion: a critique on Ibrahīm b. Muhammad Qāsim b. Muhammad Rahīm (Ted Masiye Chigamba)

**2020, second reader:** Ijthād in the thought of Shāb Walī Allāh (Toffique Younis)

**2021, second reader:** Democrazia e laicità nel pensiero di Burhan Ghalioun (Claudio Trapani)

**2021, thesis director:** The educational theory of Muhammad ‘Abduh: a model for female education in Kano State, Nigeria (James Inusa Aminu)

**2022, second reader:** Excellence of Himma: the spirit of entrepreneurialism in the Islamic tradition (Davide Ravazzoni)

**2022, thesis director:** The constituent elements of the Garden in Islam and their implications for Muslims (Clement Wie Tuureh)

**2022, second reader:** Il movimento islamico nel pensiero politico di Muhammad Husayn Fadlallāh: il caso di Hizbullāh (Francesco Di Bella)

**2022, thesis director:** The importance and the challenges of the Islamic obligation of commanding what is good and forbidding what is evil in contemporary Arab society according to Muhammad Shahrur (Fidèle Mugalihya Macara)

**2023, thesis director:** Āmina Nusayr: alcune questioni relative al matrimonio e alla condizione della donna: La poligamia come eccezione alla regola, il modello di Muhammad e Khadīja (Sara Feliciello)

**2024, second reader:** Il patrimonio e il rinnovamento tra l'Imam al-Tayyeb e Hassan Hanafi: (Muhammad Hasan Abdulghaffaar Muhammad Ali)

### **Doctoral theses**

**2023, thesis director:** Redemptive suffering in Catholicism and ithnā 'asharī Shī'īsm: an analytical study of Mahmoud Ayoub's theory (Mohammadmahdi K. Moraveji). Shahid Motahari University, Tehran 2023

**2023 co-director:** Eschatological Unity. Findings from a Catholic-Shī'ī Experience of the Light of Unity (Piotri Zygulski), Sophia University Institute

**2024 co-director:** From knowledge to political authority: the case of Abū Ḥāmid al-Ġazālī and Thomas Aquinas (Vanessa G. Breidy), Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome