

# Religious Curiosities, Masculinities and the Baha'i Faith in Cameroon, 1950s-1970s

a lecture by *Jacqueline-Bethel Mougoué*, Assistant Professor at Baylor University

The Basel Mission Society, a Christian missionary society, was influential in West Cameroon from 1886 until the late 1950s when it collapsed, causing a social and religious crisis affecting young men of low social and economic positioning. For these young men, Christian church membership fees were onerous, and they had no access to church leadership positions. Many converted to Bahá'í, occupied Basel Mission churches and converted them to Bahá'í Houses of Worship. Mougoué will examine this process by which young men claimed social and religious authority in their communities.

Thursday April 12, 2018

2:00pm

LCB (LeRoy E. Cowels Building) 225



Jacqueline-Bethel Mougoué is an Assistant Professor of History at Baylor University. Mougoué is particularly interested in the gendering of identities in modern Africa. Mougoué first book, *Gender, Separatism, and Anglophone Nationalism in Twentieth-Century Cameroon* (University of Michigan Press, 2018) examines the gendering of political identity, nationalism, and separatist/secession movements in twentieth-century Cameroon. Mougoué's work has appeared in *Feminist Africa*, *Gender & History*, and *Journal of West African History*.



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