



ST ANTONY'S COLLEGE

62 Woodstock Road · Oxford · OX2 6JF



Education, Purpose and Human Flourishing in Uncertain Times

Theme 3: History and Politics

This seminar series, like the previous two in our research programme on *Education, Purpose and Human Flourishing in Uncertain Times*, explores how we might better understand the 'idea' or indeed the ideal of flourishing, and the importance of education as a pathway to it. Previously, we first examined a variety of important concepts concerning personhood and society as it relates to flourishing, such as character and virtue, and asked whether flourishing lies in the development of these. In the second seminar series, we turned our attention to other notions interdependently related to flourishing, specifically the notions of *culture* and *context*. We asked whether and how the development of mind and socio-emotional qualities such as character, virtue, open-mindedness, resilience, and actualisation are differently, but no less meaningfully, shaped by history and culture across world contexts. In this third series we are turning to the impact of history and politics on pathways and understandings of human flourishing. We ask to what extent we should consider enabling and disabling historical factors in national and international contexts, and point towards examples of collective endeavour and struggle in response to adversity.

The following seminars will be given at **5pm on Tuesdays** in the Pavilion Room, St. Antony's College. These seminars are open to the public, and can be joined virtually on the following MS Teams link: [Click here to join the meeting](#). Recordings of past seminars can be found at [this link](#).

Dr David Johnson

17 Jan: '**Bhutan**: human flourishing at the confluence of old and modern meanings of life'

TWCF Visiting Fellow, Dr Garene Kaloustian, World Learning

24 Jan: '**Lebanon**: on the importance of social and emotional learning in conflict settings'

Dr Andrew Cunningham, Aga Khan Foundation

31 Jan: '**Afghanistan**: culture and community in teaching and learning'

Professor João Costa, Education Minister, Portugal

7 Feb: '**Portugal**: reflections on new and old challenges for education'

Dr Christopher Hays, Biblical Seminary of Colombia

14 Feb: '**Colombia**: faith and education after forced displacement'

Dr Natasha Robinson, University of Bristol

21 Feb: '**South Africa**: on the importance of history education post colonialism'

Dr Susan Kilonzo, Maseno University

28 Feb: '**Kenya**: indigenous knowledge systems for peace and flourishing in Kenya's North Rift'

Dr Abdullah Awad, The Institute for Critical Thought

7 Mar: '**Jordan**: on the practice of Istijarah for human flourishing'

For more details, please contact Dr Fiona Gatty
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