

Lecture as part of the Teaching Assistantship Programme 2017

## **Northern Ghana's Witch Camps: A Reflection of unfulfilled and unfinished Mission of Modernization?**

### **Organizational details**

Instructor: *Baba Iddrisu Musah*

Date: July 5, 2017 from 16.00 to 18.00 h

Location: Campus Wirtschaftswissenschaften, Licher Strasse 68, D-35390 Giessen, room 024 (HS 024)

### **Content**

African societies have different ways of viewing and interpreting the world. These worldviews and interpretations, which are informed and indeed expressed as part of their beliefs and practices, and reinforced through socialization, include, among others, beliefs in and the practices of witchcraft. With the onset of modernization on the continent, with its prescriptions of logical and scientific interpretations of events, traditional ways of acting and doing receding, modernization tenets assumed that beliefs in and the practices of witchcraft will easily fade away. This was and is not to be. Witchcraft is still embedded in the every-day lives of many African societies. The penchant to adopt witchcraft to offer solutions to every-day problems is alive; this is succinctly demonstrated in the existence of witches' camps in Ghana. This article, which is part of my ongoing PhD work, positions the existence of the witches' camps in Ghana within the framework of existing modernization and witchcraft literature. Among other perplexing issues, the article offers readers to ponder on whether or not the existence of the witches' camps in Ghana is a reflection of the unfulfilled and unfinished mission of modernization.

### **Target group**

Students, Doctoral Candidates and Postdocs of all Faculties

### **Course language**

English

### **Registration**

No registration needed