

Call for Papers: Invitation to participate in panels and roundtables on African Rhetoric on the theme, “Africa, Africanity and Afrocentricity: A New Rhetoric” at Howard University

Roundtable organised by the Editor, *African Journal of Rhetoric* (AJR)
In commemoration of the Journal’s 10th Anniversary

Date: March 28 2019

Venue: Howard University, Washington DC

For the past five decades, scholars and researchers in anthropology, ethnology, communication, linguistics, and classical rhetoricians have investigated and shown the depth of African rhetoric as both a study and a practice on the continent. Of these varied research programs, one of the most distinctive and enduring has been the African Rhetoric Project. This research initiative is arguably the most prominent collective investigating African rhetoric today ever since it emerged two decades ago out of the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa, as part of the institution’s effort to promote African scholarship. Its activities have included organizing workshops and conferences, publishing the most widely disseminated scholarly journal focused on African rhetoric, and inspiring books and course curricula.

This roundtable, assembled to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the African Rhetoric Project’s flagship journal, the *African Journal of Rhetoric* (AJR), calls on emerging and established voices in African rhetoric to participate in panel conversations and reflective roundtables on the contours of African rhetoric. There is now a growing realization that African rhetorics are not confined to practices on the continent. The goal of the roundtable is to display the spectacular breadth of African rhetorical theory, criticism, and practice – spanning topics from national to diasporic identity, political to economic rhetorics, oral to written literacies, analog to digital media.

Toward this end, this call for papers invites scholars and intellectuals to reflect on the state of African rhetoric on the broad theme, “Africa, Africanity and Afrocentricity: A New Rhetoric.” This roundtable is an opportunity for scholars to ruminate on the definition, theory, methodology and practical applications of African Rhetoric in all its ramifications. Each interested panellist is encouraged to submit an abstract (of not more than 300 words) by January 1, 2019. Essays submitted will be published in a special edition of *Balagha: African Rhetoric Review* [Online and print]. Please submit your essays [6000 words max] in the form of a word doc. or word docx document to Dr. Segun Ige at the following address: Johnson.ige@howard.edu

Convener: Dr Segun Ige, Howard University