Plan Overview

A Data Management Plan created using DMPonline

Title: Christian Apologetics within the Socio-Political and Religious Background of Ethiopia: Toward a Contextualised Approach

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Data Manager: Daniel Yilma

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Project abstract:

The context within which apologetics is practiced is of great significance. My basic assumption is that standard accounts of apologetics suppose that the sort of intellectual questions and problems connected to the Christian faith are those which are common to the majority in the West. However, because most of these questions stem from the critical, rational, and largely atheistic Western mindset, they may fail to address difficulties that are perceived by the majority of those living in the Two-Thirds' world, for example in Ethiopia.

In the Ethiopian context, most of the intellectual challenges for Christians come from traditional religions and Islam. As a result, the existence of God and a transcendent realm hardly has to be accounted for. On the other hand, Ethiopian Christians have to face intellectual challenges which are not addressed in standard Western forms of apologetics. For example, Ethiopians often consider Christianity as the religion of one ethnic group only – in this case even the group of their colonizers. Culture and religion are unified so that for a non-Christian to accept the message of the Gospel is seen as equivalent to denying one's own nationhood and culture. The apologetical challenge here is to show how religion may transcend the boundaries of specific nations, groups, and cultures, being multi-ethnic and multi-cultural.

Hence, this project investigates to what extent current Western approaches to Christian apologetics are appropriate and effective in the contemporary Ethiopian context, and to what extent they are not. Additionally, it will explore the most prominent intellectual challenges that are specific to Ethiopian Christians and investigate what these challenges mean for the type of apologetics appropriate to Ethiopia's unique cultural setting. By doing this, we may discover how Christian apologists in Ethiopia can develop their own patterns of reasoning, true and sensitive to their own cultural context and that of the people with whom they share the Gospel.

my method will be critical analysis. I will examine approaches to Christian apologetics popular in current Western scholarly literature. I will also carry out a literary study of documents written by Ethiopian authors to figure out apologetics questions within the Ethiopian context.

I will compare and contrast the apologetic questions handled by these authors with apologetic questions arising within Ethiopia, and therefore evaluate the appropriateness and effectiveness of current Western approaches to apologetics for the modern Ethiopian context. This mainly requires comparative textual studies. Next, I will sketch the contours of a more local and contextualized apologetics by developing ways to address the main questions arising within the Ethiopian context.

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Christian Apologetics within the Socio-Political and Religious Background of Ethiopia: Toward a Contextualised Approach

0. General information

0.1 Document version & date

Version 0.1
14/3/2023

0.2 Project title

Christian Apologetics within the Socio-Political and Religious Background of Ethiopia: Toward a Contextualised Approach

0.3 Project summary

The context within which apologetics is practiced is of great significance. Apologetics within a Western context usually assumes that the sort of intellectual questions and problems connected to belief and unbelief will be those which are common to the majority in the West. This is for the most part correct. However, because most of the arguments in Western apologetics are aimed at the Western critical, rational, and atheistic mind, they do not address the difficulties that are perceived by the majority of those living in the Two-Thirds world, for example in Ethiopia.

My research focuses on the contextual methods of Apologetics. In doing so, I will compare and contrast the apologetic questions handled by Western authors with apologetic questions arising within Ethiopia. Therefore, I will evaluate the appropriateness and effectiveness of current Western approaches to apologetics for the modern Ethiopian context. Next, I will sketch the contours of a more local and contextualized apologetics by developing ways to address the main questions arising within the Ethiopian context

The Western presuppositions and methods may not be applicable in every case. Non-Westerners come with particular frames of reference and views of what is certain and what is not. Hence, this research investigates to explore to what extent current Western approaches to Christian apologetics are appropriate and effective in an Ethiopian context. Studying Western apologetics methods provides an essential pedagogical resource for Ethiopian apologists. It is only by studying them that we can discover to what extent Western apologetics is useful in Ethiopia and to what extent it is contextually limited to the West. It has a critical role as well.

By doing this, we might discover how Christian apologists in Ethiopia can develop their own patterns of reasoning true and sensitive to their own cultural contexts and those of the people with whom they share the Gospel.

0.4 Your contact details

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ORCID (LibGuide): 0009-0003-6940-8397
University: Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
Faculty/Institute: Faculty of Religion and Theology
Department/Research Group: VU, Bavinck research group

0.5 List other people involved, including those at partner organisations in the project (if applicable)

Full name partner organization: Not applicable

Full name of person(s) involved: Prof. Gijsbert van den Brink
Their role(s) in the project (please refer to the CRediT contributor roles): Not applicable
Telephone number: Not applicable
Email: g.vanden.brink@vu.nl
ORCID (LibGuide): N/A
University: VU
Faculty/Institute: Graduate School of Religion and Theology
Department/Research Group: Reformed and Evangelical

0.6 Funding organisation & grant number (if applicable)

Funding organisation: N/A
Grant number: N/A

0.7 Project code (if applicable)

Not Applicable

0.8 Consulted data management expert(s)

Name: Tycho Hofstra
RDM Steward
Email: rdm@vu.nl
University: VU

1. Data description

1.1 Will you collect and/or process personal data in this project?

- No

My research is library-based.

1.2 Will you use existing data? If yes, what is their source?

Yes, I am going to use existing materials. It will be books and journals from the Ethiopian Graduate school library, VU university library, and online journal articles and electronic books. I will not copy books. I will read and take notes. I may develop an annotated bibliography or list and classify all the articles according to it relative importance for my project.

1.3 Will you collect or produce new data? If yes, please describe how.

Using flash discs and hard discs, I will collect data from existing materials such as books, PDF books, and journal articles. I will classify all of my data in an organized manner and list them down.

1.10 What kinds of outputs will you produce in this project? Please describe these data assets.

Raw data
Data asset: a number of different books and journal articles related to my research area. Text documents.
Description: I will read electronics and hard copies of material, analays,take notes, and write.
Format: text document with pdf
Processed data:
Data assets: Textual data
Description: existing material analysis by reading
Format: Text document pdf
Analyzed data:
Data assets: Text documents books and journals
Description: reading and analysis to gain insights
Format: Text document pdf
Other:
Research documentation:
Analysis software: Not applicable

1.11 How much digital data storage will your project require?

- 0 - 50 GB

1.12 Will you collect physical data? If yes, please describe these.

No

1.13 Will you take measures to ensure data quality? Please describe these, if applicable.

not applicable

2. Legal and ethical requirements, codes of conduct

2.2 What legislation applies to your research project? Please tick the relevant boxes for your project.

- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)/ Algemene Verordening Gegevensbescherming (AVG)

2.3 Do you require approval of an ethical committee for this project? If yes, please indicate which ethical committee and whether you have obtained approval for this project.

- No

My research is library based.

2.4 Will you work with data for which intellectual property and/ or confidentiality are an issue? If yes, please describe.

- No

2.5 Do you plan on generating a marketable product from your research project? if yes, please describe

- No

3. Storage and back-up during the research process

3.2 What measures will you take to secure and protect data during the research process? Please describe, for each separate data asset you described for question 1.10, how you will ensure data security, where the data assets are stored & backed up, and who has authorization to access the asset.

Data asset: ..Different literature such as books and articles
Storage: .. I will use local storage and personal library at home to store books and other printed materials.
Backup: ..external Hard disc, and Laptop
Access: .. my promotors Prof. Gijsbert van den Brink and Co-supervisor Prof. Daniel Louw,

Processed data:
Data asset: ..litratures
Storage: ..G drive, laptop, hard disc
Backup: ..Hard disc and flash disc
Access: .. my promotors Prof. Gijsbert van den Brink and Co- supervisor Prof. Daniel Louw.

Security measures: ..Password protection

3.6 Is it necessary to transfer the (physical or digital) data assets to other locations or research partners? If yes, please describe how you secure the file transfer.

- No

4. Data archiving and publishing

4.1 Which data assets will be archived and which will be published?

All data assets

4.2 Where will you archive your data assets?

- Yoda

4.3 What other archive(s) do you intend to use to archive data assets?

Name: Ethiopian Graduate School of Theology
Role: Educational institution repository (Not yet fully functional therefor I will depend on Yoda)
Country: Ethiopia

4.5 For how long will the data be available in the archive?

10 years

4.7 Where will you publish your data assets?

I have not yet decided where but I will publish it.

4.8 How will you ensure your data assets get a persistent identifier (e.g. a DOI-code)?

By publishing and archiving open science framework

4.9 Will you register your datasets in an online registry other than PURE? If yes, where?

No

4.11 Are there restrictions to data publishing? If yes, please specify the reasons and list the data assets you do not wish to share publicly.

No

4.12 When will you share the data? If not immediately after completion of the project, please specify the reasons.

Immediately after completion

4.13 Please indicate the license and/ or terms of use under which you share your data.

It depends on the publisher and not decided yet.

5. Documentation

5.1 What documentation and metadata will accompany the project?

Not sure but FAIR data principles will be by principle. I may use metadata documentation with data description.

5.2 What metadata and documentation will accompany the data assets?

project level documentation

5.3 What methods, software or hardware are needed to access and use your data?

Internet explorer, word, and pdf viewer

6. Data management responsibilities and resources

6.1 Who will be responsible for management of the data assets during the project? Please specify their name, position, role in the project, and faculty/ institution/ group.

Please provide the following details: Daniel Yilma Denbu
Your role in the project (please refer to the CRediT contributor roles): project administrator
Telephone number: +251911882548
Email: dde239@vu.nl
ORCID (LibGuide):
University: VU
Faculty/Institute: Religion and Theology
Department/Research Group: VU, Bavinck research group

6.2 Who will be responsible for management of the data assets after completion of the project (e.g. the project lead/ dedicated data manager/ department head)? Please specify their name, position, role in the project, and faculty/ institution/ group.

please provide the following details for each of your collaborators:
Data manager
Your role in the project (please refer to the CRediT contributor roles): principal investigator
Telephone number:
Email: rdm@vu.nl
ORCID (LibGuide):
University: Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
Faculty/Institute: N/A
Department/Research Group: N/A

6.3 For data that are only available upon request, what methods will be used to handle requests for access and how will data

be made available to those requesting access?

The Publisher will be communicating the publishing house.

6.4 What resources (for example financial and time) will be dedicated to research data management? Please estimate their cost.

I have no idea