

Luther and Beyond Luther

An International Conference on 500th Anniversary

of the Lutheran Reformation (1517)

15th & 16th of September 2017

The Department of Western Classical Culture and Christian Culture, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka, in association with National Christian Council (NCC)

Call for Papers

“I am bound by the Scriptures I have quoted and my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and I will not retract anything, since it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience. I cannot do otherwise, here I stand, may God help me, Amen”.

[Luther at the Diet of Worms (1521), LW 32:112–13] - See more <http://lutheranreformation.org> (sighted on 4th May, 2017)

Background:

On 31 October 1517, Martin Luther wrote to Albrecht, Archbishop of Mainz and Magdeburg, protesting against the sale of indulgences. He enclosed in his letter a copy of his "Disputation of Martin Luther on the Power and Efficacy of Indulgences," which came to be known as **The 95 theses**.

Historians are of the opinion that Luther had no intention of confronting his own church of felony of integrity and moral valour, but saw his disputation as an intellectual objection to church practices, and the tone of his writing as one of soul searching, rather than a strict doctrinaire wanting to oppose the church hierarchy per se. For Luther it was a matter of conscience fired by his intellectual rootedness, erudite scholarship in scripture and his allegiance to the Augustinian order.

16th century is yet another historic turn of events within the Western Patriarchate that embarks on a journey ever since the event that precipitated the final separation between the Eastern Christian patriarchate (led by the patriarch of Constantinople, Michael Cerularius and the Western patriarchate (led by Pope Leo IX).

Aims & Objectives : The suggestion and the attempt of the conference is to revisit the historical event and its contribution, influence as well as to re-imagine ‘the beyond’ in the areas of interest in theology, dogma, contextualization of theology,

ecumenical studies, interdisciplinary pursuits via history, political science, philosophy, sociology, economics, intercultural studies, literature, comparative philosophy, Pluralism and homophobia, Dialogue and reconciliation.