

THE SIXTH CONFERENCE ON
LAW AND RELIGION IN AFRICA

LAW, RELIGION, AND HUMAN FLOURISHING

20-22 MAY 2018
BAZE UNIVERSITY
ABUJA, NIGERIA



ACLARS
AFRICAN CONSORTIUM FOR
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African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies

“Law, Religion, and Human Flourishing”

**Abuja, Nigeria
20-22 May 2018**

Organized by:

Baze University, Nigeria;

African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies, South Africa;

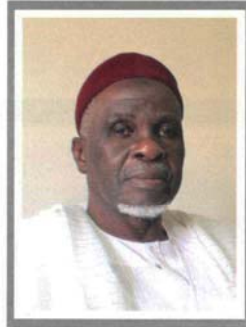
International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies, Italy;

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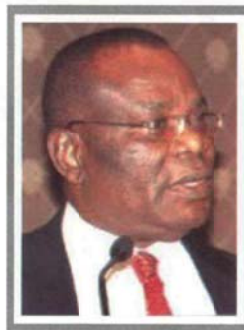
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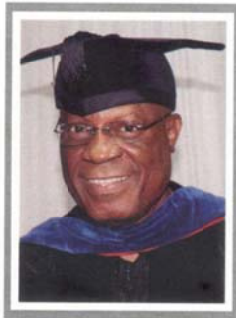
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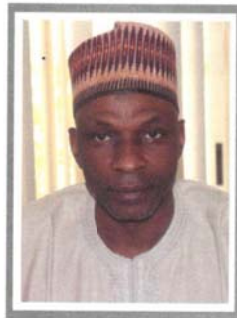
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PROGRAMME

SUNDAY, 20 MAY 2017

16:00 – 17:45 REGISTRATION

17:45 – 18:00 OPENING AND WELCOME

Fraser Suites Conference Hall, Abuja

Speakers:

Pieter Coertzen, President, African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies; (Retd.) Faculty of Theology, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

Professor Tahir Mamman, OON, SAN, Vice-Chancellor, Baze University, Nigeria

18:30 – 19:30 FIRST PLENARY SESSION

Chair:

W. Cole Durham, Jr., Susa Young Gates University Professor of Law and Founding Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University, United States; Past President, International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies, Italy

Speakers:

Matthew Hassan Kukah, Bishop, Roman Catholic Diocese of Sokoto, Nigeria

Elder Neil L. Andersen, Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Sheik Abdul-Raham Olanrewaju Ahmad, Chief Missioner, Ansar-ud-Deen Society of Nigeria

Archbishop Nicholas Okoh, Archbishop of Abuja and Primate of Church of Nigeria in the Anglican Communion

Chief Dubi Emevbore, Oluwo of Ijo Orunmila, Nigeria

Opening Reception

MONDAY, 21 MAY 2018

8:30 – 9:00 REGISTRATION

9:00 – 10:30 KEYNOTE SESSION

“LAW, RELIGION, AND HUMAN FLOURISHING IN AFRICA”
Room: Law Auditorium Block C

Chair:

Akin Ibidapo-Obe, Professor of Law, Faculty of Law, University of Lagos, Nigeria

Speakers:

Yemi Osinbajo SAN, GCON, Vice President of Nigeria

Ján Figel, Special Envoy for the Promotion of Freedom of Religion or Belief outside the European Union, European Commission, Slovakia

Cardinal John Onaiyekan, Archbishop of Abuja, Roman Catholic Church, Nigeria

Sanusi Lamido Sanusi, Emir of Kano, Nigeria

Ayo Atsenuwa, Dean and Professor of Law, University of Lagos, Nigeria

Sen. Yusuf Datti Baba-Ahmed, PhD, FSAN, Founder, Pro-Chancellor, Member of the Board of Trustees, Baze University, Nigeria

10:30 – 11:00 BREAK AND GROUP PHOTO

11:00 – 12:00 THIRD PLENARY SESSION

“JUDICIAL REFLECTIONS ON RELIGION AND HUMAN FLOURISHING”

Room: Law Auditorium Block C

Chair:

Rt. Honourable Justice Modibo Alfa Belgore, GCON, Member of the Board of Trustees, Baze University, Nigeria

Speakers:

Kudirat M.O. Kekere-Ekun, Justice of the Supreme Court, Nigeria
“Religious Beliefs and Practices that Contribute to or Undermine Human Flourishing”

Chima Nweze, Justice of the Supreme Court, Nigeria
“Relationships and Tensions between Religious Ideals of Flourishing and Legal Regimes (e.g. Democracy, Rule of Law, Religious or Secular State)”

Amina Adamu-Augi, Justice of the Supreme Court, Nigeria
“Visions, Ideals and Ethics of Human Flourishing in Religious Traditions in Africa”

12:00 LUNCH

13:00 – 14:30

PARALLEL SESSIONS 1:

“HUMAN FLOURISHING AND REFORM IN ISLAM”

Room: Post Graduate School, Block F, Room 66

Chair:

Muhammed Haron, Professor of Religious Studies, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Botswana, Botswana

Speakers:

Mohamed Abdelaal, Assistant Professor, Alexandria University Faculty of Law, Egypt

“Religious Human Flourishing: Rule of Law in Islam”

Mohammed Dejen Assen, Lecturer, College of Law and Governance Studies, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

“Islamic Reform Movements and Government Strategies of Countering Religious Extremism in the Horn of Africa: Pitfalls and Discontents”

Tolulope Anthony Adekola, Lecturer, Department of Business Studies, Landmark University, Nigeria

“A Review of Decided Cases on the Use of Hijab in Secular Public Schools in Nigeria: A Call for Alternative Dispute Resolution”

Adams Olufemi Akewula, Faculty of Arts, Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria

“Islamic Perspectives on Law, Religion, and Human Flourishing in African Society”

“RELIGION, FLOURISHING, AND DEVELOPMENT”

Room: Post Graduate School, Block F, Room 76

Chair:

Ayo Atsenuwa, Professor and Dean of Law, University of Lagos, Nigeria

Speakers:

Yousra Abourabi, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, International University of Rabat, Morocco

“Human Flourishing and Human Security: Challenges and Limits of a New Developmental Project”

Júlio Machele, Assistant Lecturer, University Eduardo Mondlane, Mozambique

“The Relationship between Religion and Development Strategies in Mozambique”

Mahfoud Ali Zoui, Association Professor of Civilization, Guelma University, Algeria

“Education Reform, Religion, and the Pursuit of Development and Human Flourishing in the Maghreb Countries: The ‘Basmala’ Controversy in Algeria 2017”

Leo Igwe, Former President, Nigerian Humanist Association, Nigeria
“Human Flourishing Beyond Religion: Insights from Kenya”

“JUDICIAL REFLECTIONS ON LAW, RELIGION, AND HUMAN FLOURISHING”

Room: Post Graduate School, Block F, Room 65

Chair:

Mark Hill QC, Extraordinary Professor, University of Pretoria, South Africa; Visiting Professor, Cardiff University, United Kingdom

Speakers:

H.A. Abiru, Justice of the Court of Appeals, Jos Division

“Religion, Economics and Development in Africa and Tension between Models of Social and Economic Development”

A.O. Obaseki-Adejumo, Justice of the Court of Appeals, Lagos Division

“Various Compartments of Human Flourishing including Health Care, Environmental Protection, Gender Relations, and Arts and Culture”

E.F. Ikponmwon, Chief Judge, Edo State

“Law, Religion, Marriage and Human Flourishing”

M.B. Idris, Judge of the Federal High Court, Lagos Division

“The Contribution of Peace-Building and Conflict Resolution to Human Flourishing”

14:30 – 15:00

BREAK

15:00 – 16:30

PARALLEL SESSIONS 2:

“CRISIS, CORRUPTION, AND CHILDHOOD”

Room: Post Graduate School, Block F, Room 65

Chair:

Saleh D. Bala, Brigadier General (Rtd.), Senior Adviser, Ministry of the Interior, Nigeria

Speakers:

Jean-Baptiste Sourou, Professor, Department of Mass Communications, CeDReS, Benin

“Flux Migratoires: Reflet d’une Crise de l’îpanouissement humain en Afrique?”

Theodros Assefa Teklu, Lecturer in Theology, Dean of Studies, Ethiopian Graduate School of Theology, Ethiopia

“Scarcity and the Culture of Corruption in Africa: Religious and Legal Implications”

Mary J.N. Okolie, Lecturer, Department of English and Literary Studies, University of Nigeria Nsukka, Nigeria

“Religious Border, Extremism, and Traumatized Childhood: A Literary Perspective”

Esubonteng

“Neo-Pentecostal Churches and Social Engagement: A Case Study of the Asuza Street Children’s Project

“GENDER, MARRIAGE RIGHTS, AND THE STATE”

Room: Post Graduate School, Block F, Room 66

Chair:

Abiola Akiyode-Afolabi, General Secretary, West African Center for Law and Religion Studies; Lecturer, Faculty of Law, University of Lagos, Nigeria

Speakers:

Abamfo Ofori Atiemo, Professor, Department for the Study of Religions, University of Ghana, Ghana

“Love Lost between Faith-based and Secular Human Rights Advocates over LGBT Rights in Ghana?”

Dennis Matotoka, Attorney, Commission for Gender Equality, South Africa

“The Non-Recognition of Muslim Marriages in South Africa: An Oxymoron of Democracy”

Ahmed Salisu Garba, Faculty of Law, Misau Campus, Bauchi State University, Nigeria

“Interfaith Marriage and Human Flourishing in a Democratic Society: Tunisia under Scrutiny”

“RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND MEDIA”

Room: Post Graduate School, Block F, Room 83

Chair:

Virginia Manzitti, Policy Assistant, Special Envoy for the Promotion of Freedom of Religion or Belief outside the EU, European Commission, Italy

Speakers:

Omomayowa Olawale Abati, Post Graduate Student, Department of Political Science, Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria

“Freedom of Religion and Freedom from Religion: Perspectives from Religious Sound Disturbances at Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria”

Mohammed Jemal Ahmed, Lecturer and Researcher of History and Tourism, Wollo University, Turkey

“Social Medias as an Alternative Space for Faith: Inter and Intra-Religions Plemics among the Ethiopian Diasporas”

Célestin Gnonzion, Enseignant Chercheur UFR-Information, Communication Et Arts-Université Felix Houphouet Boigny, Côte D’Ivoire

“Ethical Issues and Challenges to Social Cohesion from Religious Social Media Services in Côte D’Ivoire”

“JUDICIAL REFLECTIONS ON LAW, RELIGION, AND HUMAN FLOURISHING”

Room: Post Graduate School, Block F, Room 76

Chair:

Pieter Coertzen, President, African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies; (Retd.) Faculty of Theology, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

Speakers:

H.M. Ogunwumiju, Presiding Justice, Court of Appeals, Enugu Division

“African Indigenous Ideas of Human Flourishing”

A.O. Belgore, Presiding Justice, Court of Appeals, Ekiti Division
“Law, Religion and Programs of Human Flourishing of Children, Youth, and Future Generations”

M.A. Oredola, Justice, Court of Appeals, Owerri Division
“Examination of Regional and Specific Governmental Policies on Human Flourishing”

M.A. Adumein, Justice, Court of Appeals, Benin Division
“The Role of Religious NGOs and Faith-Based Advocacy Organizations in the Positive and Constructive Promotion of Human Flourishing including Provision of Social Services (e.g. Health and Education)”

16:30 – 17:00

BREAK

17:00 – 18:00

PARALLEL SESSIONS 3:

“WOMEN, WIVES, AND FLOURISHING IN AFRICA”

Room: Post Graduate School, Block F, Room 65

Chair:

Mary Anne Plaatjies van Huffel, Senior Lecturer in Ecclesiology, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa

Speakers:

Serawit Bekele Debele, Postdoctoral Fellow, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, Germany

“On Being ‘An Extreme Feminist’ and a ‘Good Wife’ in Ethiopia: The Effects of Female Genital Mutilation on Muslims and Ejagham Women of Cameroon”

Olanike S. Adelakun-Odewale, Lecturer, American University of Nigeria, Nigeria

“Effect of Talaq Invocation on Women’s Rights and Development of Nigerian Family Law”

“ANIMAL FLOURISHING, RITUALS OF SLAUGHTER AND DIET IN AFRICA”

Room: Post Graduate School, Block F, Room 66

Chair:

Sohail Wahedi, PhD Candidate in Legal Theory, Erasmus School of Law, The Netherlands

Speakers:

T. Jeremy Gunn, Professor of Law and Political Science, Université Internationale de Rabat, Morocco

“Sharia and the Treatment of Animals in Islam”

Helena van Coller, Professor, Faculty of Law, Rhodes University, South Africa

“Ritual Slaughter and Religious Freedom: The Impact on the Flourishing of Religious Communities in South Africa”

Fortune Sibanda, Associate Professor in Religious Studies, Department of Philosophy and Religion Studies, Simon Muzenda School of Arts, Culture, and Heritage Studies, Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe

“Promoting Human Flourishing through Rastafari *Ital* Foodways in Africa”

“COMPARATIVE APPROACHES: AFRICA AND EUROPE”

Room: Post Graduate School, Block F, Room 83

Chair:

Johan D. van der Vyver, I.T. Cohen Professor of International Law and Human Rights, Emory University School of Law, United States

Speakers:

Christof Sauer, Professor, Department of Religious Studies and Missiology, Evangelical Theological Faculty, Leuven, Belgium;

“The Challenges of Transnational Comparison of FoRB and its Violations: A Comparison of Approaches”

Vanja-Ivan Savić, Assistant Professor of Law, University of Zagreb, Croatia

“Religion in Consociational State: Any Lessons to Exchange between Africa and Europe?”

Marlino E. Mubai, Lecturer and Chair, History Department, Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique

“In Pursuit of the Nation’s Soul: Politics, Religion, and Human Flourishing in Post-Colonial Mozambique”

“LAW, RELIGION, AND HUMAN FLOURISHING: NIGERIA”

Room: Post Graduate School, Block F, Room 76

Chair:

Chris Ohuruogu, Professor and Dean, Faculty of Law, Baze University, Nigeria

Speakers:

Samuel Amadi, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Law, Baze University, Nigeria

“Squaring the Circle: Freedom of Religion and State Neutrality in Nigeria’s Constitution”

Idowu A. Akinloye, Faculty of Law, Rhodes University, South Africa
“Threats of the Increase in Church Disputes on Human Flourishing: The Nigerian Experience”

Wahab Egbewole, Faculty of Law, Department of Jurisprudence and International Law, University of Ilorin, Nigeria; **Hanafi A. Hammed**, Senior Lecturer, Public and International Law Department, Al-Hikmah University, Nigeria

“Religious Freedom and the Rule of Law as Panacea for Human Flourishing in Nigeria”

TUESDAY, 22 MAY 2018

9:00 – 10:30

FOURTH PLENARY SESSION

Room: Law Auditorium Block C

“CHALLENGES TO HUMAN FLOURISHING IN CONFLICT-AFFECTED REGIONS: LEGAL AND RELIGIOUS CONSIDERATIONS”

Chair:

Rosalind I.J. Hackett, Professor and Head, Department of Religious Studies, Distinguished Professor in the Humanities, University of Tennessee, United States

Speakers:

Niklas Hultin, Assistant Professor, Global Affairs Program, George Mason University, United States

“Human Flourishing and Conflict in African Human Rights Law”

James Latigo Ojera, Academic Programs Director, Marcus Garvey Pan-African Institute, Uganda

“Indigenous Conceptions of and Resources for Human Flourishing Among the War-Affected Acholi of Northern Uganda”

Tricia Redeker Hepner, Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Tennessee, United States

“The Dead Must Flourish Too: Improper Burials and Post-War Justice in Northern Uganda” (videotaped presentation)

10:30 – 10:45

BREAK

11:00 – 12:30

PARALLEL SESSIONS 4

“MESSIANIC AND PROPHETIC VOICES ON HUMAN FLOURISHING”

Room: Post Graduate School, Block F, Room 65

Chair:

Len Hansen, Faculty of Theology, Director of Research, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa

Speakers:

Sohail Wahedi, PhD Candidate in Legal Theory, Erasmus School of Law, The Netherlands

“Messianic Policies and Human Flourishing in Africa: Where Religion Meets Law and Politics”

Edmore Dube, Lecturer, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe

“Enhancing Human Flourishing: Reflections on the Zimbabwe Catholic Bishops’ Conference as an Enduring Prophetic Voice (1957-2017)”

Elias K. Bongmba, Harry and Hazel Chair in Christian Theology, Professor of Religion, Rice University, United States; **Richard Talla Tanto**, University of Bamenda, Cameroon (to be read by co-author, Richard Tanto Talla)

“Family Ties: A Key to Wellbeing”

“WOMEN AND GENDER: PRACTICES AND POLITICS”

Room: Post Graduate School, Block F, Room 66

Chair:

Gina Lende, The Oslo Coalition on Freedom of Religion and Belief, Norway

Speakers:

Helen Linonge-Fontebo, Lecturer, Department of Women and Gender Studies, University of Buea, Cameroon

“The Effects of Female Genital Mutilation on Muslims and Ejagham Women of Cameroon”

Habibat Oladosu-Uthman, Lecturer, Department of Arabic/Islamic Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria

“Must She Walk Half-Naked? On Human Flourishing and Gender Politics among the Vodun Worshipers in Lome, Togo”

Abiola Akiyode-Afolabi, General Secretary, West African Center for Law and Religion Studies; Lecturer, Faculty of Law, University of Lagos

“Beyond Hijab: Human Flourishing and Girl Child Education in Nigeria”

“SELF-DETERMINATION AND SPACE FOR DIVERSITY”

Room: Post Graduate School, Block F, Room 83

Chair:

Shehu Abdullahi Zuru, Professor of Law and Dean, Faculty of Law,
Nile University of Nigeria, Abuja

Speakers:

Johan D. van der Vyver, I.T. Cohen Professor of International Law
and Human Rights, Emory University School of Law, United States
“Human Flourishing through the Right to Self-Determination of
Religious Communities”

Yolanda van der Vyver, PhD Candidate, University of the Free State,
South Africa

“Diversity and Human Flourishing made Visible in the South African
Constitutional Court Building”

12:30 – 13:30

LUNCH

13:30 – 14:30

**“PERSPECTIVES ON LAW, RELIGION, AND HUMAN
FLOURISHING”**

Room: Post Graduate School, Block F, Room 76

Chair:

Is-haq Oloyede, Registrar, Joint Admission and Matriculation Board,
Abuja, Nigeria

Speakers:

Thoko Mkhwanazi-Xaluva, Chairperson, Commission for the
Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Cultural, Religious and
Linguistic Communities (CRL Rights Commission), South Africa

Tshimangadzo Edward Mafadza, CEO, CRL Rights Commission,
South Africa

Mehammed Dube, Director of Peace and Trust Building, Ethiopia

Justus Kangwagye, Head of Political and Civil Society Department,
Rwanda Governing Board

Lt. Gen. (Rtd) Abdulrahman Bello Dambazau, Minister of Interior,
Nigeria

14:30 – 15:00

BREAK

15:00 – 16:30

FIFTH PLENARY PANEL:

Room: Law Auditorium Block C

“NEW RELIGIOUS MOVEMENTS IN AFRICA AND HUMAN FLOURISHING”

Chair:

Abudmumin Oba, Professor and Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Ilorin, Nigeria

Speakers:

Asonzeh Ukah, Professor, Department of Religious Studies, University of Cape Town, South Africa

“The Faith of Unity Religion in Uganda”

Janice Desire Busingye, Lecturer, College of Education, Open and Distance Learning, Kampala International University, Uganda
The ‘Relevant Religion’ and the Practice of Holistic Spirituality: A Study of a New Pentecostal Church in Kampala, Uganda

Esha Faki, Lecturer in Islamic Studies and Acting Chair, Department of Religion, Theology, and Philosophy, Maseno University, Kenya

“Chant, Be Happy, and Safe: The Children Act of 2001 and ISKCON’s Rehabilitation of Street Children in Kisumu, Kenya”

Enyinna Sodienye Nwauche, Professor of Law, Rhodes University, South Africa

“African Courts and the Arbitration of New Religious Movements”

16:30 – 17:00

BREAK

17:00 – 18:00

CONCLUSION AND ANNUAL ACLARS ASSOCIATION MEETING – Law Auditorium Block C

Chair:

Kofi Quashigah, Professor of Law, Faculty of Law, University of Ghana, Ghana

18:00 – 18:30

BREAK

18:30 – 20:00

CONCLUDING DINNER

SPECIAL THANKS

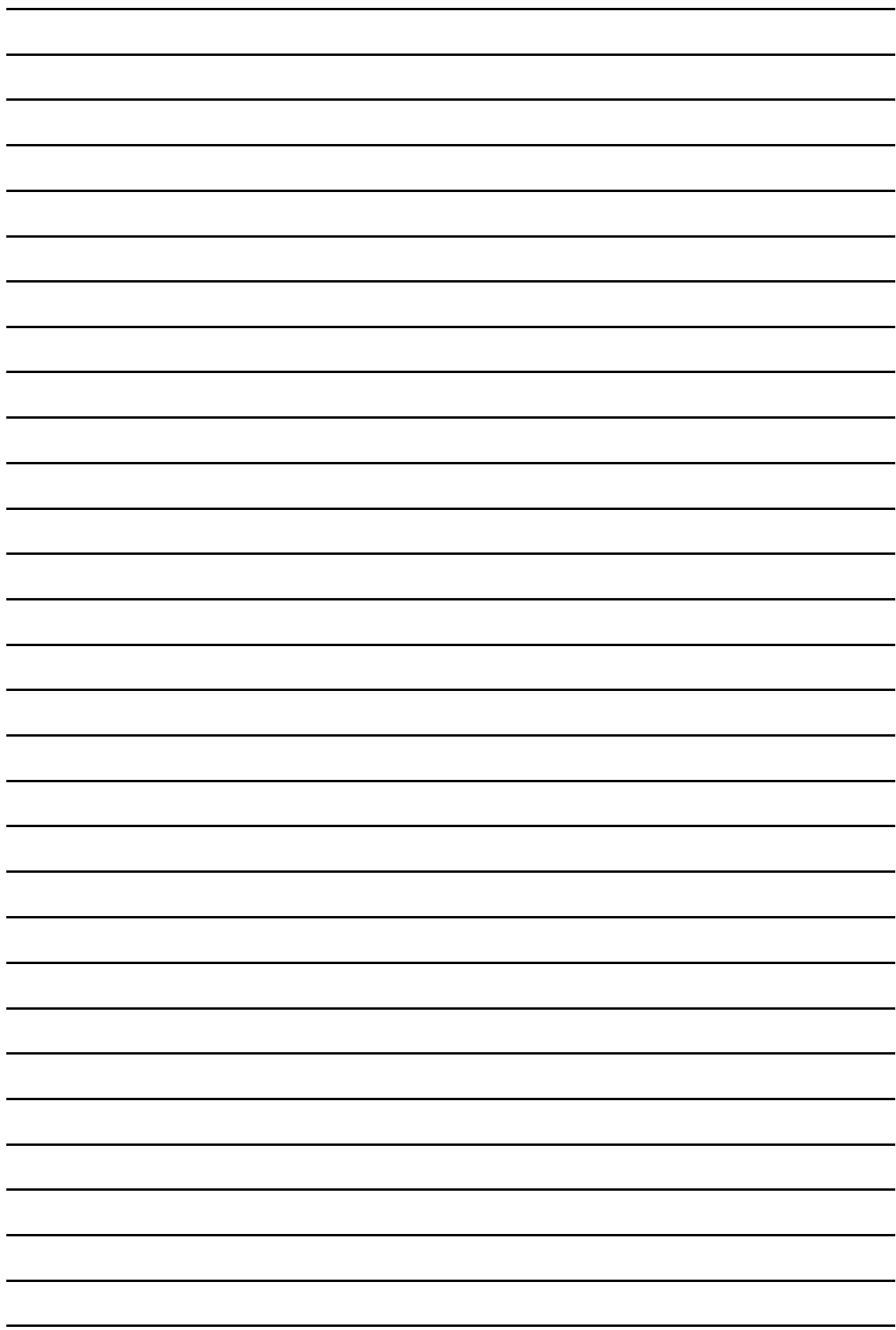
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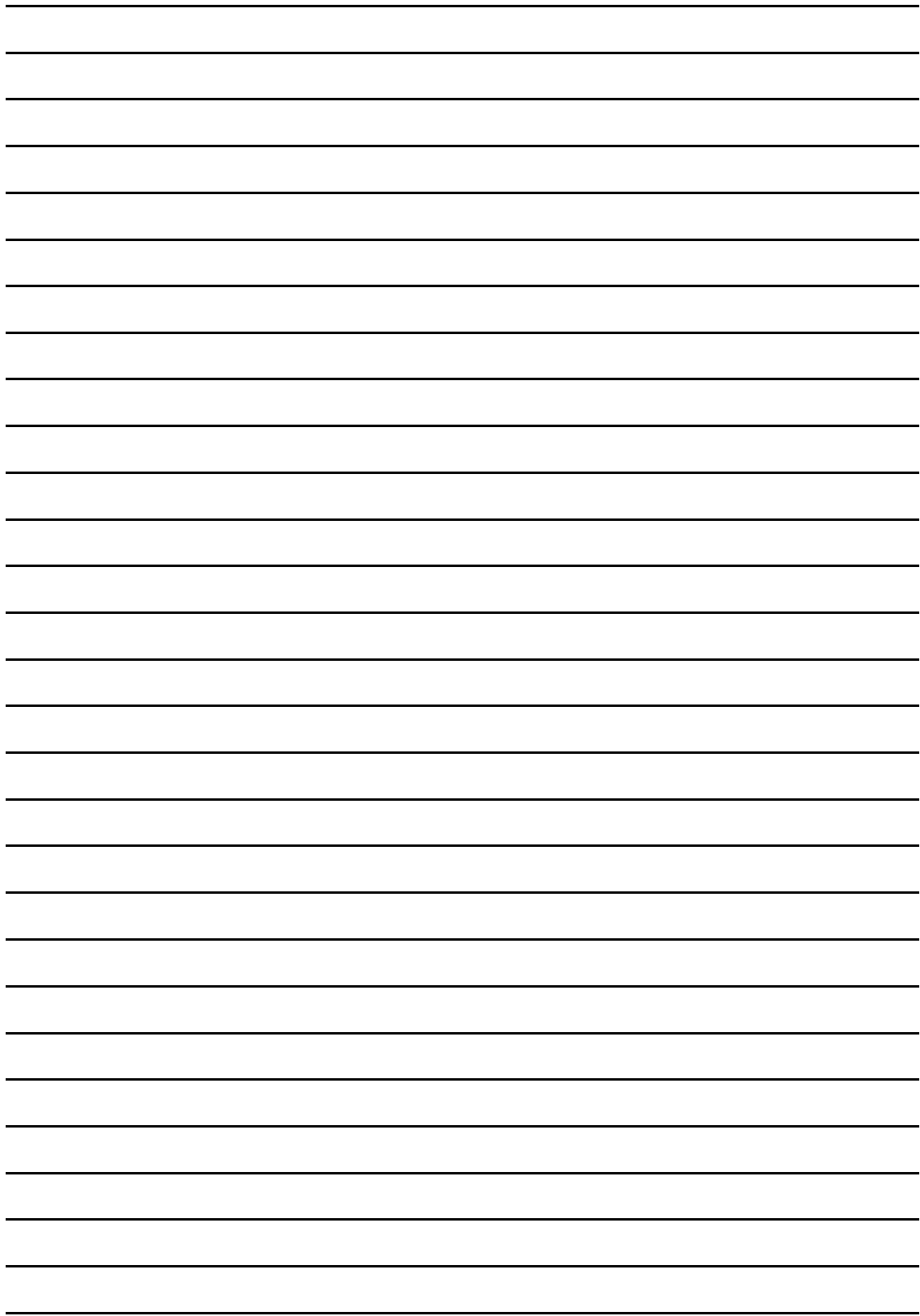
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