

Abate Gobena

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EDUCATION

PhD	Eastern Christian Studies (University College Stockholm)	2023
MSc	Nature Management (Swedish University of Agriculture)	2012 – 2014
MSc	Forest Conservation (Göttingen University, Germany)	2011 – 2012
MA	Sustainable Development (Middlesex University, UK)	2005 – 2007
BTh	Theology (Holy Trinity University, Ethiopia)	1996 – 2000
BSc	Agricultural Engineering (Hawassa University, Ethiopia)	1993 – 1996

EMPLOYMENT

Lecturer	Sankt Ignatios (Stockholm School of Theology)	2019 to date
Deputy Rektor	Tewahido Seminary (Sankt Ignatios Folkhogskolan)	2019 to date
Parish Priest	Ethiopian Orthodox Church, London, UK	2014 – 2018
Rural Policy Intern	Campaign to Protect Rural England, UK	2009 – 2011
Parish Priest	Ethiopian Orthodox Church, London, UK	2007 – 2010
Lecturer (<i>Part-time</i>)	Holy Trinity Theological College, Addis Ababa	2002 – 2003
Project Coordinator	EOC-DICAC, Rural Development Projects	2000 – 2004

MEMBERSHIP

EOTC-TGA-Europe (Ethiopian Orthodox Theology Graduates' Association in Europe)

BIAPT (British and Ireland Association of Practical Theology),

ECOTHEE (Ecological Theology and Environmental Ethics),

SAPREJ (Sustainable Alternatives for Poverty Reduction and Ecological Justice)

AGGBAA (Abba Giorgis of Gassicha Books' Aid Association)

Tiet Ethiopia (Teit Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido Supplementary School)

RESEARCH INTEREST

Church history, hagiography, patristics, eco-ethics, church forests, environment,

PUBLICATIONS

- Gobena, A. *Sanctity and Environment in Ethiopian Hagiography: The Case of Gedle Gebre Menfes Qiddus*. Doctoral Thesis. University College Stockholm. 2023.
- Gobena, A. "The Church as Hospital for Sinners: A Theological Reflection". in Stallworth, D.R. and Mattis, K. (Eds) *Wounded in the Manger: Black Theological Essays on Church Hurt*. 2023 (pp. 46-53)
- Gobena, A. *Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido Church: Sanctuary of Natural and Spiritual Life*. Published by the Ethiopian Orthodox Church-Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission (EOC-DICAC), for the Annual International Conference on Church Forests on the 9th of November 2023. 2023
- Gnisci, J. and Gobena, A. "Ethiopian Crosses: Art in Motion". in *Africa and Byzantium*, edited by Andrea Achi. New York, NY: The Metropolitan Museum of Art, 2023 (pp. 225-226)
- Gobena, A. "Theological Motivations behind Conservation of Church Forests in Ethiopia". in Werner, D. et al (Eds) *International Handbook on Creation Care and Eco-Diakonia Concepts and Perspectives from the Churches of the Global South*. Eds. Regnum Handbooks; 2022 (p. 332-340)
- Gobena, A. "Detached from the World and Attached to Nature: Contribution of Monasticism for Biodiversity in Ethiopia and Eritrea". in Werner, D. et al (Eds) *International Handbook on Creation Care and Eco-Diakonia Concepts and Perspectives from the Churches of the Global South*. Eds. Regnum Handbooks; 2022 (pp. 568-573)
- Gobena, A. *Brief Discussion on the Ethiopian Liturgy: Origin, Adaptation and Indigenization*. Paper Presented at the Academic Conference of the Holy Trinity University, Addis Ababa, on 14 April 2021. 2021
- Gobena, A. "A church without trees is like a priest without a beard": eco-practice of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tawahido Church, in Rimmer, Philips and Tomren (Eds.) *Religion, Sustainability and Education: pedagogy, perspectives and praxis toward ecological sustainability*. Steinkjer: Embla Akademisk, 2019 (pp. 220-241)
- Gobena, A. "A short Essay on Church Forests in Ethiopia". in Andrianos, L. and Tomren, T.S. et. al. (Eds) *Contemporary ecotheology, climate justice and environmental stewardship in world religions*. Ecothee Volum 6: Ortodox Acedmy of Crete: 2019. p. 249
- Gobena, A. *Importance of teaching and practices of Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church in forest biodiversity conservation: Implications for national conservation policy*. Masters Thesis. SLU: Southern Swedish Forest Research Centre. 2018.