



# ETHIOPIA: QUO VADIS?

22 December 2021, 5.30-6.30 pm HKT (via Zoom)

<https://hku.zoom.us/j/91891702694?pwd=TGgyZ2lodGhUQ1NhYWNIa3ZKY2c0Zz09>



In the past year Ethiopia has come back on the international media scene. This visibility has to do with

an ongoing war that pits the Ethiopian government against the Tigray Liberation Front (TPLF) - a rebel group in the north of the country.

The protagonists of the conflict, international media and humanitarian agencies have been important actors in framing narratives of the war through the deployment of terms such as genocide, terrorism and humanitarian crisis.

How did Ethiopia go from an example of rapid economic transformation in Africa to a society embroiled in large-scale violence? Is it a civil war or some sort of an ethnic cleansing? Are we observing

the collapse of a fragile ethnic federal political system? Is the country facing disintegration?

Beyond providing answers to such questions, this seminar will try to make sense of the current situation in Ethiopia by delving into the war narratives that dominate the perception of the conflict, and by elucidating their complex and problematic nature. The seminar will also attempt to situate the war within the general African context and the conventional narrative that associates the continent with war and crisis.

Furthermore, thinking beyond the current crisis, it will provide possible avenues for

understanding the future of Ethiopia and Africa in general.

## Our expert panelists:

**Dr Facil Tesfaye**  
(HKU, African Studies)

**Dr Samson Bezabeh**  
(HKU, African Studies)

Photo by Karon Magwood