

# African Diaspora Archaeology Newsletter

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## Crossroads in Cultural Studies Conference University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica

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**Call for Papers  
Crossroads in Cultural Studies Conference  
University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica.  
Seventh International Conference, July 3-7, 2008.**



**7th International Crossroads in Cultural Studies Conference  
of the Association for Cultural Studies, Cultural Studies  
Initiative, University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica.**

**Proposals are invited for sessions at the 7th International Crossroads in Cultural Studies Conference of the Association for Cultural Studies, scheduled for July 3 to 7, 2008 in the Caribbean. The deadline for submission of session proposals is June 30, 2007.**

**The Caribbean could well be regarded as one of the first crossroads of the modern era, where Africa and Asia met Europe on Amerindian soil. The conditions were a forced and bitter crucible. The results of that encounter contributed not only to the making of the modern western world but also to the dynamism that is central to all the cultures of the Western Hemisphere.**

**Being a site of conquest, dislocation, crossings, enslavement and rebellion, but also of memory and survival, hope of return, culture-building, in-between-ness, and immense creativity and heritage, the Caribbean is a relevant site for hosting the 7th International Crossroads in Cultural Studies Conference, under the theme Of Sacred Crossroads.**

**Contemporary emphasis on materialism and consumerism as measures of our humanity, arising from the unbridled excesses to which science and technology have been sometimes put, is of growing concern, putting under duress the intangibles embodied in the values by which we live as human beings. Out of these concerns has sprung deepening dialogue at the interface between science and spirituality. UNESCO's celebration of the intangible heritage of humankind is a timely reminder that civilizations rise not only on great edifices, monuments and artefacts that defy time, but also on those moments of 'livity,' or human relationships, that last only as long as they are lived, without which human life would have little meaning.**

**"Of Sacred Crossroads" captures many of these concerns in a manner that allows for the broadest of interpretation and accommodation across disciplines and forms -- religion, art, dance, song, orature, healing, re-creation,**

**performance, ritual, belief systems, ethics, globalization, communication, among others.**

**Key themes for the Conference include: Rituals of arrival and contact; Crossings, the art of the crossroads; Spirituality and identity; Language rituals; Globalization and the spirit; Indigenous spiritualities; Rituals of conflict, rites of rebellion; Virtual realities; virtual spiritualities; (Spiritual) Tourism; Rituals, substances and sacred geographies; The spirit of music; Cultures of reconciliation; Storytelling; Crossroad deities and divination; Geographies of the body and spirit.**

**Guidelines for submission of proposals: the deadline for submission of session proposals is June 30, 2007. Please see the Session Organizer's Manual posted on the website for information on length, format and guidelines for submission of proposals. Please submit you session abstracts on our website.**

**For further details on the Conference visit the conference website at <http://www.crossroads2008.org>.**