BOOK LAUNCH
Wednesday 19 February 2014, 5.30pm
Khalili Lecture Theatre, SOAS

The International African Institute, the Department of Anthropology, the Centre of South East Asian Studies, the Centre of Migration and Diaspora Studies, and the Centre of African Studies (SOAS) warmly invite you to the launch of Marloes Janson’s book. This monograph is the first on the Tablighi Jama’at in Africa. It focuses on a transnational Islamic missionary movement that has its origins in the reformist tradition that emerged in India in the mid-nineteenth century. The work brings a perspective on the dialogue between Sufi and reformist Islam and the interconnection between Islam, translocality and gender.

Through extensive fieldwork in the Gambia, where knowledge of Islamization processes is largely lacking, Janson explores how the movement could appeal to the local Muslim population, youth and women in particular. She analyses how Gambian youths go about their lives within the framework of neo-liberal reforms and negotiated parameters informed by the Tablighi model of how to be a ‘true’ Muslim: a believer who is able to reconcile faith with a modern lifestyle.

‘A well-documented and reasoned examination of the inclusion of Gambian youth into an Islamic transnational movement.’ – Mamadou Diouf

‘By putting the accent on gendered and generational dimensions of Tablighi practice, Janson’s ethnography illuminates the critical role of faith in the forging of modern youthful identities.’ – Adeline Masquelier

Panel discussion with Richard Fardon, Peter Geschiere, Marloes Janson & Parvathi Raman

Refreshments available, all welcome

RSVP to sk111@soas.ac.uk