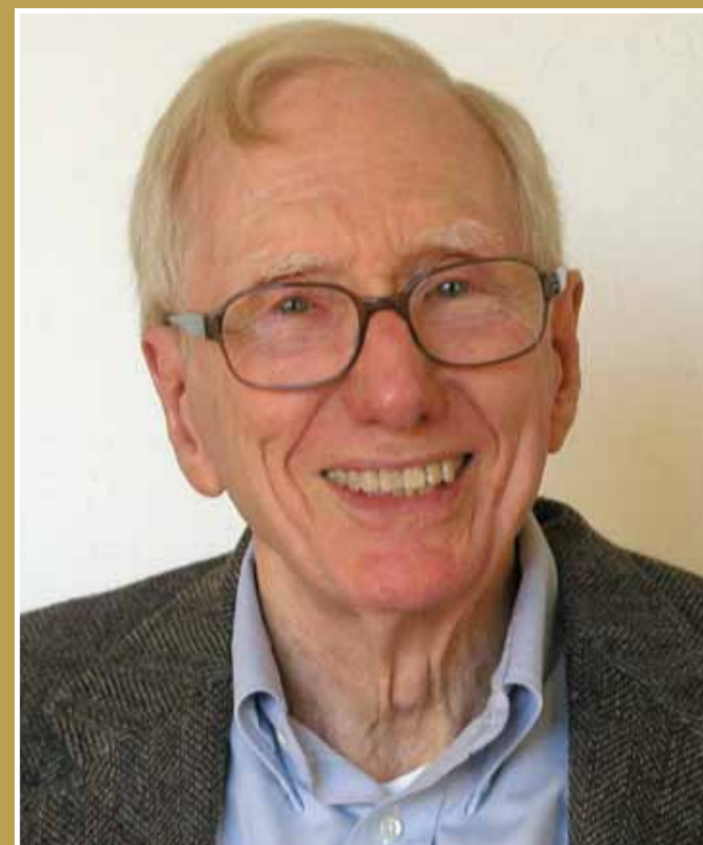


City Univerisity Distinguished Lecture Series

Speaker

Professor Robert N. Bellah

*Elliott Professor of Sociology Emeritus
University of California at Berkeley*



Can We Imagine a Global Civil Religion?

on

Monday, 12 December 2011 at 4:30 pm

at

Connie Fan Multi-media Conference Room

4/F Cheng Yick-chi Building (Lift 12)

City University of Hong Kong

Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon

Abstract

The lecture will question whether a global civil religion is possible or even desirable, but it will argue for the necessity of some kind of global civil society. For the creation of a viable and coherent world order a global civil society is surely an essential precondition, and any actual civil society will have a religious dimension, will need not only a legal and an ethical framework, but some notion that it conforms to the nature of ultimate reality. The biggest immediate problem is the strengthening of global civil society, and it is on that the lecture will focus, but it will have some hints and suggestions that perhaps the religious communities of the world may have something to contribute to that global civil society, and that their participation may be essential for its success. It will refer to ways in which Christianity and Confucianism have contributed and can even more in the future contribute to some kind of viable global civil society, but not without serious reflection on their own past histories.

All are Welcome

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