

The MA Program of the Wilf Family Department of Politics at NYU presents:

# DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER FORUM

Guest Speaker:

**Dr. Gezim Alpion**

*Department of Sociology, University of Birmingham, UK*

***Mother Theresa;  
Saint or Celebrity?***



Born in Albania and educated at the Universities of Tirana, Cairo and Durham, Dr Gëzim Alpion is Lecturer in Sociology and Media Studies at the University of Birmingham, UK. Prior to joining the Department of Sociology at Birmingham in 2002, he lectured at the University of Huddersfield and Sheffield Hallam University. Dr Alpion's research addresses the sociology of the media, fame, religion, nationality and authorship. One of the authorities on Mother Theresa, Dr. Alpion is particularly interested in celebrities, political correctness, brain drain, the notion of 'Britishness', and the representation of the 'other' in the British and European media. His current research develops the idea of 'fame capital' as a variable in an intranational and international context. Dr Alpion's books include *Foreigner Complex: Essay and Fiction about Egypt* (UBCPS, 2002), *Mother Teresa: Saint or Celebrity?* (Routledge, 2007 & 2008) and *Encounters with Civilizations: From Alexander the Great to Mother Teresa* (Meteor Books, 2008). He has contributed articles and reviews to a number of peer-reviewed journals: *Continuum: Journal of Media & Cultural Studies* (Routledge, Australia), *Journal of Southern Europe and the Balkans* (Routledge, UK), *The Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* (Blackwell, UK), *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations Journal* (Routledge, UK), *Scope* (Online journal of the Institute of Film & Television Studies, University of Nottingham, UK), *The Review of Communication* (Routledge, USA), *Film & History: An Interdisciplinary Journal* (USA), and *Albanian Journal of Politics* (Globic Press, USA). He has been invited to give talks and lectures at several British universities as well as in the USA, China, Canada, India, South Africa, Germany, Italy, France, Macedonia, Kosova and Albania. Dr. Alpion is also a political and culture analyst, journalist and playwright. His features have appeared in *The Middle East Times*, *The Guardian*, and *The Birmingham Post*.

PLACE:

The Conference Room in the Department.  
19 West 4st, Room 217

DAY

February 11th, 2008

TIME:

18:20-20:20.

EXTRAS:

Foods and Refreshments will be served!!

CONTACTS:

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