



WALTER H. CAPPS CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF  
ETHICS, RELIGION, AND PUBLIC LIFE

For immediate release:  
December 15, 2012

Contact: Dr. Leonard Wallock, Associate Director  
Walter H. Capps Center for the Study  
of Ethics, Religion, and Public Life  
(805) 893-2317 / leonard.wallock@cappscenter.ucsb.edu

N E W S R E L E A S E

**Wade Clark Roof Lecture on Human Rights**

**Samantha Nutt**  
*Damned Nations:*

*Ending the Global War Against Women and Children*

**Tuesday, January 17 / 8:00 p.m. / Free**

**Fleischmann Auditorium**

**Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History**

**2559 Puesta del Sol**

S U M M A R Y F A C T S

- **Dr. Samantha Nutt, Founder and Executive Director of War Child**
- **"Damned Nations: Ending the Global War Against Women and Children"**
- **Tuesday, January 17 / 8:00 p.m. / Free**
- **Fleischmann Auditorium, Santa Barbara Museum of Modern History, 2559 Puesta del Sol**
- **Copies of *Damned Nations: Greed, Guns, Armies and Aid* will be available for purchase and signing at this event courtesy of The Book Den**
- **Information: Walter H. Capps Center for the Study of Ethics, Religion, and Public Life at UCSB (805) 893-2317**
- **Digital copies of press materials available at <http://www.cappscenter.ucsb.edu/news/press-releases/>**

### **Event Description:**

In 1995, twenty-five-year-old Samantha Nutt, a recent medical-school graduate and a field volunteer for UNICEF, touched down in Baidoa, Somalia, “the City of Death.” What she saw there -- gangs of young men roaming the streets armed with rocket launchers; a woman in a clinic line holding a dead baby; an aid agency working in such an unsafe environment that its workers had to travel with armed escorts high on drugs -- would spur her on to a lifetime of passionate advocacy for children and families in war-torn areas around the world. *Damned Nations: Greed, Guns, Armies, and Aid* is the brilliant distillation of Dr. Nutt’s observations over the course of fifteen years providing hands-on care in some of the world’s most violent flashpoints, all the while building the world class non-profit War Child North America.

### **Speaker Profile:**

Dr. Samantha Nutt is the Founder and Executive Director of War Child. As a medical doctor, she spent more than fifteen years working in some of the world’s most violent flashpoints with War Child, the United Nations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Darfur, Iraq, Afghanistan, The Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Burundi, northern Uganda, and the Thai-Burmese border. She just recently returned from her latest review of the conditions in Ethiopia and South Sudan.

Nutt is a recipient of "Canada’s Top 40 under 40 Award." She was designated by *Time* as one of “Canada’s Five Leading Activists.” In June 2011 Nutt was awarded the prestigious Order of Canada, lauded for her efforts to help young people in dangerous conflict zones. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from McMaster University, earned an MSc with distinction from London University, and holds a Fellowship in Community Medicine (FRCPC) from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. She is currently on staff at Women’s College Hospital.

### **Description of *Damned Nations: Greed, Guns, Armies, and Aid*:**

Nutt’s just-released book, *Damned Nations: Greed, Guns, Armies, and Aid*, which combines original research with her personal story, makes for a deeply thoughtful meditation on war as it is being waged around the world against millions of civilians - with significant impact on women and children. She lays out real, lasting solutions to these problems and shows how to move beyond outdated notions of charity towards a more progressive, inclusive, and respectful world view.

### **Reviews of *Damned Nations: Greed, Guns, Armies, and Aid*:**

"This is an extraordinarily riveting book. The anecdotes are heart-wrenching; the analysis is trenchant, principled, uncompromising. I never read a book in one sitting: I read *Damned Nations* in one sitting, and I regretted that it came to an end. It's not an easy read, but it's filled with emotional and intellectual power." – Stephen Lewis, former Canadian Ambassador to the United Nations, and Chair of the Board of the Stephen Lewis Foundation

“This book is a passionate reaction to so much of the stupidity and calumny that leads to death and destruction, and yet, it incorporates insightful and cool headed reasons as to why. An important book for our times.” – Lloyd Axworthy, President, University of Winnipeg and former Minister of Foreign Affairs

“A brave, eloquent, and necessary book.” – Lewis Lapham, editor of *Lapham's Quarterly*

"This is an extraordinary book. From its opening scenes, my heart was in my throat. Samantha Nutt is a genuine hero for all of us who want to make a difference in the world. She has helped those who, through no fault of their own, find themselves trapped in terrifying conditions of terror, injustice, oppression and extreme poverty. All of us living in the comfort and affluence of industrialized countries owe it to the rest of humanity to read this powerful book." – David Suzuki, co-founder, The David Suzuki Foundation, and Professor Emeritus, University of British Columbia

“Samantha Nutt drives us to the front lines of an ongoing conflict between empathy and barbarism. Her words, and the lessons she asks us to heed, come from what she herself has witnessed. The passion that Dr. Nutt has for the important work she does is reflected in the pages of this remarkable book.” – Seamus O’Regan, co-host, *Canada AM*

**Sponsors:**

Presented by the Walter H. Capps Center for the Study of Ethics, Religion, and Public Life at UCSB.

**For more information, call  
UCSB Walter H. Capps Center for the  
Study of Ethics, Religion, and Public Life  
at (805) 893-2317**

**Editor: For color images,  
please call Leonard Wallock at (805) 893-2317.**