

The Center for Religious Studies

The Center for Religious Studies (CERES) is one of Germany's leading institutions in the field of the scientific study of religions (German: *Religionswissenschaft*). Being part of the fifth largest German university, students and researchers alike can benefit from the vast expertise of a particularly large number of subjects. Both the independence of the center within the university structure as well as its close cooperations with various historical, socio-cultural, and philological disciplines and area studies of Ruhr-Universität Bochum and beyond ensures an in-depth and wide-ranging scientific focus on religions.

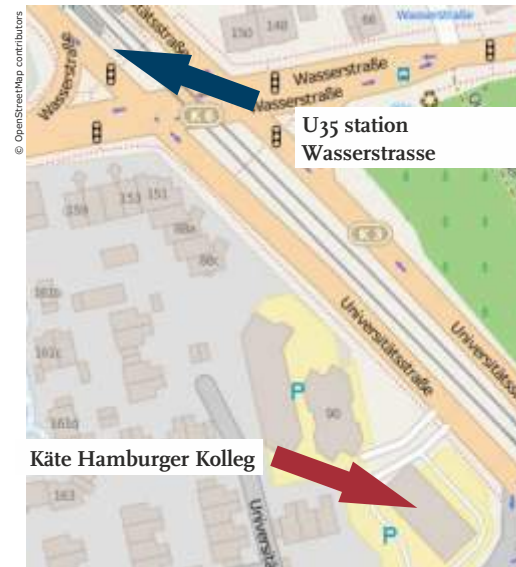


The Käte Hamburger Kolleg

The Käte Hamburger Kolleg *Dynamics in the History of Religions between Asia and Europe* is the largest research project of CERES. It commenced its research activities under the direction of Prof. Dr. Volkhard Krech in April 2008. In addition to the visiting research fellows, numerous local scholars from Ruhr-Universität Bochum are involved in the institute's research programme, which brings together scholars from a wide range of academic disciplines. It's research programme focuses on the formation and expansion of religions, the mutual permeation of religious traditions and their densifications into the complex figurations called 'world religions.' Regionally, the research covers these phenomena in Europe and Asia. The academic goal is to establish and test a typology of contacts of religions and an overarching theory regarding the transfer of religions.

Directions

Public Transportation: Take the U35 CampusLinie towards *Hustadt* from the center of Bochum or Hauptbahnhof (central station) and get off at the station *Wasserstraße*. From there turn right and cross the street, then left cross the crossroads passing by the copy shop at the corner and continue for approx. 200 metres until you reach *Universitätsstraße 90a*.



By Car: The quickest route is via the motorway junction Bochum/Witten, where the autobahns A43 and A44 meet. Simply take the exit Bochum-Querenburg, follow the signs to *Bochum Zentrum* to the crossroads of *Universitätsstraße* and *Wasserstraße*. Take a u-turn left. Continue this road for approx. 200 metres, until you reach *Universitätsstraße 90a*. Parking is possible in front and behind the building.

CONVENERS

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ORGANIZATION

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Käte Hamburger Kolleg *Dynamics in the History of Religions between Asia and Europe*, Center for Religious Studies, Ruhr-Universität Bochum



RUB

RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

ARABIC AND ISLAM ON THE MOVE: Cross-Cultural Encounters between Arabia and Malabar 900s-1500s

23 & 24 May 2017 | CERES Conference Room *Ruhrpott*

Conveners: Ophira Gamliel



SPONSORED BY THE



ARABIC AND ISLAM ON THE MOVE: CROSS-CULTURAL ENCOUNTERS BETWEEN ARABIA AND MALABAR 900S-1500S

Malabar on the west coast of South India was an important node in the medieval Indian Ocean maritime trade networks at the juncture of cross-cultural encounters between Southwest and Southeast Asia. The workshop will



focus on the role of Arabic and Islam in engendering the transregional networks that operated across the long-distance trade routes. Especially Madayi, in north Malabar, is a promising ground for interdisciplinary research combining archaeological excavations, textual studies in Arabic -

and Arabic-Malayalam and ethnoarchaeology to uncover the hidden history of Islam in Malabar. Archaeologists, historians, ethnologists and experts on language and culture in the Arab world and in South Asia will gather for combining their respective methodological approaches and analytical perspectives in studying the social and cultural history of the region.

This Workshop is jointly organized by CERES and the Department of History, Government Brennen College in Kerala, South India, following a bilateral workshop that took place at Madayi in April 20-22, 2017.

Picture: © Ophira Gamliel, Quranic verses above the entrance of the Thazhathangady mosque, Kottayam

Tuesday, 23 May 2017

11:00 - 11:15 Welcome Address

Tim Karis (Bochum)
Ophira Gamliel (Bochum)

11:15 - 12:15 *Session 1: Textual Networks*

Chair: István Perczel (Budapest)

Making the Indian Ocean Archive - Arabia and Malabar

Elizabeth Lambourn (Leicester)

12:15 - 12:30 **Coffee Break**

12:30 - 01:30 *Session 2: Transregional Networks*

Chair: Volkhard Krech, Bochum

Arab, Jewish and Christian Settlements on the Pre-Portuguese Malabar Coast

Rajan Gurukkal (Bangalore & Thiruvananthapuram)

01:30 - 02:30 **Lunch**

02:30 - 03:45 *Session 3: Interconnected Landscapes*

Chair: Jessie Pons (Bochum)

Mosque Architecture in Malabar

Natalie Shokoohy (London)

Encounter of Jainism and Islam in Kerala: An Art Historical Perspective

Patrick Krüger (Bochum)

03:45 - 04:00 **Coffee Break**

04:00 - 05:15 *Session 4: Non-Muslim Arab Networks*

Chair: Rajan Gurukkal (Bangalore & Thiruvananthapuram)

Yemen, Coffee Trade and the Jews along the Indian Ocean, 16th-18th Centuries

Menashe Anzi (Be'er Sheva)

Hidden Christians, Jews and Other Identity Issues in Indian Ocean-Mediterranean Trade

Alexandra Cuffel (Bochum)

05:15 - 05:30 **Coffee Break**

05:30 - 06:45 *Session 5: Literary Vehicles*

Chair: Barbara Roggema (Bochum)

The Arabic Mawlid as a Literary Genre and a Traveling Text

Ines Weinrich (Heidelberg)

Arabic-Malayalam Māla/Mawlid: Language Hybrids and Generic Tapestries

Ophira Gamliel (Bochum)

07:00 **Dinner**

Wednesday, 24 May 2017

09:15 - 10:30 *Session 6: Arabic Across the Ocean*

Chair: Kianoosh Reznia (Bochum)

Inscriptions from Malabar

Mehرداد Shokoohy (London)

The Arabic Script in the Indian Ocean: A South Indian Perspective

Torsten Tschacher (Berlin)

10:30 - 10:45 **Coffee Break**

10:45 - 12:00 *Session 7: From the Field*

Chair: Elizabeth Lambourn (Leicester)

Coastal Landscapes and Settlement Names in the Early and Medieval Coastal Region of South India, and the Archaeological Evidence from Madayi in Kerala

Veeraswamy Selvakumar (Thanjavur)

Material Tides and Materialist Approach to Ethnoarchaeology: An Attempt to Contextualize Traditional Metallurgy in Kerala

Vasco La Salvia (Chieti)

12:00 - 12:15 **Coffee Break**

12:15 - 01:30 *Session 8: Reorienting Malabar*

Chair: Adam Knobler (Bochum)

Ottoman-Indian Relations: The Current Stage of Research

Markus Koller (Bochum)

Exploring the Christian and Muslim Mappila Manuscript Archives in Malabar: What has been done and what should be done?

István Perczel (Budapest)

01:30 - 02:30 **Lunch**

02:30 - 04:30 *Session 9: Towards Institutional and International Collaboration*

Chair: Markus Koller (Bochum)

Roundtable Discussion

Dinesan Vadakkiniyil (Brennen College, Thalassery, India)
Ophira Gamliel (Ruhr Universität, Bochum, Germany)
Vasco La Salvia (Chieti University, Italy)
Elizabeth Lambourn (De Montfort University, Leicester, UK)