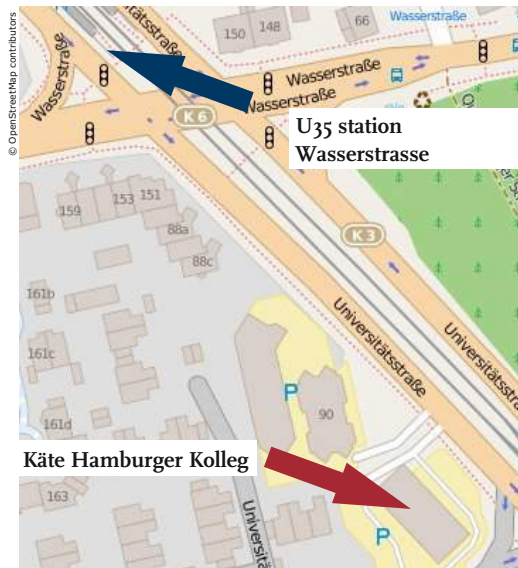


## DIRECTIONS

**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 and continue this road for approx. 200 metres, until you reach *Universitätsstraße 90a*. Parking is possible in front and behind the building.



## CONVENERS

Eduard Iricinschi | [eduard.ircinschi@rub.de](mailto:eduard.ircinschi@rub.de)  
Kianoosh Rezania | [kianoosh.rezania@rub.de](mailto:kianoosh.rezania@rub.de)

## ORGANIZATION

Alexandra Redel, M.A. | [ceres-coordination-office@rub.de](mailto:ceres-coordination-office@rub.de) | Phone +49 234 32-23341

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

Cover: © British Library Board, Extract from "Mani with Shāpūr" by anonymous artist, folio 404b, Agra (India), 1610-1620, Mughal Period (British Library, London, Add. 5600)



RUB

RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

## FORMATIVE EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE SASANIAN EMPIRE AND LATE ANTIQUITY ROME

## ZOROASTRIANISM, MANICHAISM, AND CHRISTIANITY IN CONTACT

01 & 02 June 2017 | CERES Conference Room *Ruhrpott*

Conveners: Eduard Iricinschi & Kianoosh Rezania

SPONSORED BY THE



Federal Ministry  
of Education  
and Research

## Formative Exchanges between the Sasanian Empire and Late Antique Rome: Zoroastrianism, Manichaeism, and Christianity in Contact

This workshop will explore formative dynamics of contacts, interactions, and exchanges that took place in the Sasanian and Roman Empires between Zoroastrianism, Manichaeism, and Christianity at multiple levels. The participants will investigate the cognitive, ritual, and material scope of religions represented as “minorities” within larger ethnic and ideological landscapes, such as Christians and Manichaeans in the Persian Empire, or Manichaeans in the Roman Empire. Also, they will enquire into how the subsequent reactions from the political, ethnic, and religious “majority” of the Persian and Roman Empires led not only to various manners of accommodation or rejection of religious minorities by the religious establishment, but also to the transformation of these majorities themselves as a result of religious contacts, influences, and borrowings.

### Thursday, 01 June 2017

- 02:00 - 02:30 **Welcome Address & Opening Remarks**  
Volkhard Krech, Kianoosh Rezania & Eduard Iricinschi (Bochum)
- 02:30 - 04:00 **Opening Keynote Speech**  
Chair: Volkhard Krech (Bochum)
- Mazdeans and Christians in Front of the End of the World: The Circulation of Eschatological Speculations in Late Antiquity**  
Antonio Panaino (Bologna)
- 04:00 - 04:30 **Coffee Break**
- >>> **Session 1: Defining Religion between the Sasanian Empire and Late Antique Rome**  
Chair: Carmen Meinert (Bochum)
- 04:30 - 05:00 **The Co-Formation of the Manichaean and Zoroastrian Religions in Third Century Iran**  
Jason BeDuhn (Flagstaff, AZ)
- 05:00 - 05:30 **‘Religion’ in Late Antique Zoroastrianism and Manichaeism: Developing a Term in Counterpoint**  
Kianoosh Rezania (Bochum)
- 05:30 - 06:30 **Discussions**
- 07:00 **Dinner**

### Friday, 02 June 2017

- >>> **Session 2: Religious Identities and Literacy Matters: Landscape & Representation in Contact**  
Chair: Max Deeg (Cardiff/Bochum)
- 09:00 - 09:30 **The Environmental, Urban and Architectural Matrices of Roman-Sasanian Identity Formation and Exchange**  
Matthew Canepa (Minneapolis, MN)
- 09:30 - 10:00 **Visual Catechism in Third-Century Mesopotamia: Reassessing the Pictorial Program of the Dura-Europos Synagogue in Light of Mani’s Book of Pictures**  
Zsuzsanna Gulácsi (Flagstaff, AZ)
- 10:00 - 11:00 **Discussions**
- 11:00 - 11:15 **Coffee Break**
- >>> **Session 3: Women, Fire, and Dangerous Heretics: Martyrdom and Propaganda between the Sasanian and the Roman Empires**  
Chair: Alexandra Cuffel (Bochum)
- 11:15 - 11:45 **The Literary Portrayal of Christian Heretics in Sasanian Iran: Manichaeans in the Syriac Acts of the Persian Martyrs**  
Flavia Ruani (Ghent)
- 11:45 - 12:15 **Female Martyrs and Male Authors between Rome and Iran**  
Richard Payne (Chicago)
- 12:15 - 01:15 **Discussions**
- 01:15 - 02:30 **Lunch Break**
- >>> **Session 4: Taking Charge of Fate: Cosmology and Medicine in the Sasanian Empire and Late Antique Rome**  
Chair: Adam Knobler (Bochum)
- 02:30 - 03:00 **The Teaching of the ‘Two Principles’ (*dō bun*) and the Motif of Light and Darkness in Late Antique Iran**  
Götz König (Bochum)
- 03:00 - 03:30 **‘God bears witness that I have been sick for three months’ (P. Kellis Copt. 82): Affliction and Therapy in Manichaeism**  
Eduard Iricinschi (Bochum)
- 03:30 - 04:30 **Discussions**
- 04:30 - 05:00 **Coffee Break**
- 05:00 - 06:30 **Final Discussions & Conclusions**  
Moderated by Eduard Iricinschi & Kianoosh Rezania (Bochum)