

**RELIGIOUS PLURALISM AND ENCOUNTER  
BETWEEN EUROPE AND ASIA  
Transatlantic Perspectives**

The Eurasian history of religions has always developed and still proceeds under plural conditions. As religions ascribe to themselves a normative and ordering power, religious plurality can become a challenge not only for religious traditions in encountering each other but also for the political and legal regulation of religions. The conference will take a relational approach to religious plurality in Europe and Asia that perceives the process of pluralization as a phenomenon of encounter and a form of interaction. The presented papers will deal with the conditions, modes and consequences of inter- and intra-religious relations on the basis of case studies.

This event complements the conference “Conditions, Modes, and Consequences of Plurality in the Eurasian History of Religions” and is a joint venture of the Religious Studies Department and the Department of Classics, University of Texas at Austin, and the Käte Hamburger Kolleg *Dynamics in the History of Religions between Asia and Europe* at Ruhr University Bochum.

**Wednesday, 01 October 2014**

- 05.00 pm **Arrival and Registration**
- 05.30 pm **Welcome Address and Introduction to the Conference Topic**  
Volkhard Krech (Bochum)
- 06.00 pm **Keynote: Pluralisms and Religious Practice in Japan**  
John Traphagan (Austin)
- 07:30 pm **Reception**

**Thursday, 02 October 2014**

- 09.00 am **Coffee**
- 09.30 am **Pluralism and Orientalism: Unwarranted Assumptions about Asian Religion(s)**  
Hans Martin Krämer (Heidelberg)
- 10.30 am **Displaying Diversity for Fun and Profit: Human Exhibitions and Empire Building**  
Adam Knobler (Bochum)
- 11.30 am **Coffee Break**
- 11.45 am **The Pluralism of Commiseration in Urdu**  
Syed Akbar Hyder (Austin)
- 01.00 pm **Lunch**
- 03.00 pm **Sociology of Interfaith Dialogue as a Communication Format of Religious Pluralism - the Case of Christian-Muslim Dialogue**  
Levent Tezcan (Bochum)
- 04.00 pm **When Pluralism Isn't Enough: Women and Islamic Law**  
Hina Azam (Austin)
- 05.00 pm **Coffee & Socializing**
- 07.00 pm **Dinner**

**Friday, 03 October 2014**

- 09.00 am **Coffee**
- 09.30 am **Christian Mission in Korea and Knowledge Transfer**  
Marion Eggert (Bochum)
- 10.30 am **“I Don't Mind Coming to Buddhist Services”: Christian Identity among Japanese Canadian Nisei**  
Hisako Omori (Hamilton)
- 11.30 am **Coffee Break**
- 11.45 am **Buddhist Antimission against Evangelicals in Seoul**  
Florence Galmiche (Paris)
- 12.45 pm **Concluding Remarks**
- 01.30 pm **Lunch**
- 03.30 pm **Possibility to visit a local Mosque (German Open Mosque Day)**

## DIRECTIONS

### Public Transportation:

Take the U35 towards Bochum Querenburg (Hustadt) from Bochum Hauptbahnhof (Central Station) and get off at the stop »Ruhr-Universität«. From there you turn right and cross the pedestrian bridge keeping left while you pass the university library. The FNO building is on your left-hand side.

### By Car:

The quickest route is via the motorway junction Bochum/Witten, where the A43 and A44 meet. Simply take the exit Bochum-Querenburg, follow the signs "Ruhr-Universität" and then the (electronic) information boards.



## CONVENERS

**Prof. Dr. Volkhard Krech** | volkhard.krech@rub.de  
 Center for Religious Studies, Ruhr-Universität Bochum  
 Käte Hamburger Kolleg „Dynamics in the History of Religions between Asia and Europe“

## ORGANIZATION

CERES Coordination | ceres-coordination-office@rub.de | Phone +49 234 32-23341

## RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

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