

## Drawing the Boundary: Interreligious Demarcation and Resistance in East Asia

If seen from the long-term perspective, the history of East Asian religions definitively lacks the conflicts of Western and Middle East traditions. The Chinese “Three Teachings” (san jiao 三教) framework supported coexistence rather than struggle and competition and, therefore, terms such as “hybridism,” “syncretism,” or “eclecticism” have always played a major role in the field of East Asia areas studies. Yet, the importance of eclecticism and thematic/social overlapping notwithstanding, it is questionable whether East Asian religions could have survived through the centuries without a consistent synchronic and diachronic effort to construct the own religious luggage and to distinguish themselves from more or less contiguous religious realms. To replace the focus on demarcation with a one-sided emphasis on the absorption of themes, practices, beliefs on the part of given religious and cultural spheres appears to be a fairly illogical approach, at least if one looks at historical evidence or the scholarly debates about the concept of alterity. Accordingly, the workshop aims to collect case studies from the East Asian realm that might help (a) to describe the features of the interreligious differentiation processes at a given point in time and (b) to map constants and changes of these processes through history.

### Thursday, 12 July 2012

10:00–10:15 **Welcome and Introduction**  
Licia Di Giacinto (Bochum)

#### *On Classical China*

10:15–11:00 **Demarcation of 'Schools' in Early China**  
Heiner Roetz (Bochum)

11:00–11:15 **Break**

#### *Islam and Christianity*

11:15–12:00 **Some Notes on Demarcation in Chinese Islam**  
Felix Siegmund (Bochum)

12:00–12:45 **Competing Images of the Cross: Interreligious Exchange and Differentiation in Early Modern Korea**  
Sung Deuk Oak (Los Angeles, Bochum)

12:45–14:30 **Lunch**

14:30–15:15 **The Scholarly Circle of Sŏngho Yi Ik and Confucian Strategies of Demarcation in 18<sup>th</sup> Century Chosŏn Korea**  
Andreas Müller-Lee (Bochum)

#### *The Daoist Perspective*

15:15–16:00 **How to Deal with Religious Plurality in Song China? Examples from Daoist and Popular Cults**  
Carmen Meinert (Bochum)

16:00–16:30 **Break**

16:30–17:15 **Grading the Way: On Daoist Internal Alchemy and Its Relation to Self-Cultivation Practices**  
Fabrizio Pregadio (Erlangen)

19:00 **Dinner**

### Friday, 13 July 2012

#### *Buddho-Daoist Interplay and Differentiation*

09:00–09:45 **Three Teachings and Two Teachings. Context and Strategies of Interreligious Demarcation in the Court Debates of the Early Tang**  
Frederike Assandri (Heidelberg)

09:45–10:30 **Differentiating Sameness: Iconographic Re-appropriation in Buddho-Daoist Interchange**  
Dominic Steavu (Heidelberg)

10:30–11:00 **Break**

#### *The Buddhist Perspective*

11:00–11:45 **Techniques of Demarcation in Medieval East Asian Buddhism**  
Jörg Plassen (Bochum)

11:45–12:30 **Just Another Case of "Different Paths Leading to the Same End"? Focusing on Structures and Metaphors in Kim Sisŭp's Attempt to Harmonize Buddhism and Neo-Confucianism in the Chodong owi yohae**  
Christian Mularzyk (Bochum)

12:30–14:15 **Lunch**

14:15–15:00 **Language as Tool of Sectarian Demarcation: Some Examples from Chan/Zen Buddhism**  
Christoph Anderl (Bochum)

15:00–16:00 **Discussion**

## 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.



## CONFERENCE CONCEPTION

Licia Di Giacinto

## CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

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The Diagram of the Three Sages (Confucius, Buddha, and Laozi). Illustration from the Xingming guizhi: 性命圭旨, Daozang jinghua lu: 道藏精華化錄, Hangzhou: Zhejiang guji chubanshe, 1989.

## RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

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DYNAMICS  
IN THE  
HISTORY OF  
RELIGIONS

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