

Locating Religions Contact, Diversity and Translocality

The aim of this conference is to analyse the relationship between spatial settings or constructions on the one hand and the ways past societies organised religious diversity on the other. Religions are always located in a certain cultural and spatial environment, but often tend to locate (or translocate) themselves beyond that original setting. Furthermore, many religious traditions show the common trait that they are not only tied to or associated with the one area its respective adherent live in, but are in fact bilocal or even "multilocal", as they closely relate to various spatial centres or plains at once. Religious diversity or plurality on the other hand not only refers to the different beliefs of people, but also to the environments they are located in. The diversity of religions in the same space – be it at religious centres, at contact zones between religions or at imagined spaces – and the exchanges or other forms of contact it generated will be analysed in a series of settings within and between Asia and Europe.

Wednesday, 8 February 2012

Location: Haus der Geschichte des Ruhrgebiets

- 19.00 h **Exoticism and Otherness: Medieval Ethnography on the Genesis of Religious Divergence**
John Tolan

Thursday, 9 February 2012

Location: Haus der Geschichte des Ruhrgebiets

Chair: Jens-Uwe Hartmann

- 09.00 h **Introduction**
Reinhold Gleiß / Nikolas Jaspert
- 09.30 h **Measuring Religious Diversity in Ancient Rome**
Andreas Bendlin
- 10.15 h **Space, Connectivity and Contact. On How to Narrate the History of Christianity (550–1350)**
Dorothea Weltecke
- 11.00 h **Coffee Break**
- 11.30 h **Forest Śramaṇas and Urban Śramaṇas. On the Lifestyles of Early Buddhist Monks**
Christopher I. Beckwith
- 12.15 h **Translocating Religion in the Mediterranean Space. Nestorian and Mozarabic Christianity in Cross-Contact**
Ana Echevarria
- 13.00 h **Lunch**

Chair: Juan-Pedro Monferrer

- 14.30 h **Where the Two Oceans Meet and Beyond. How Islamisation Transformed the Geography of the Alexander Legend**
Anna Akasoy
- 15.15 h **Imagining the Kingly Other in Three Pre-Modern Faiths**
Adam Knobler
- 16.00 h **Coffee Break**
- 16.30 h **From Geographical Migration to Transmigration of Souls. Negotiating Religious Difference and Space among Jews in Early Modern Safed**
Alexandra Cuffel
- 17.15 h **Ancestral Myths, Hidden Lands, and Deified Cults. Soteriology and Kingship in 17th Century Tibet**
Georgios Halkias
- 19.00 h **Dinner**

Friday, 10 February 2012

Location: Haus der Geschichte des Ruhrgebiets

Chair: Michael Lackner

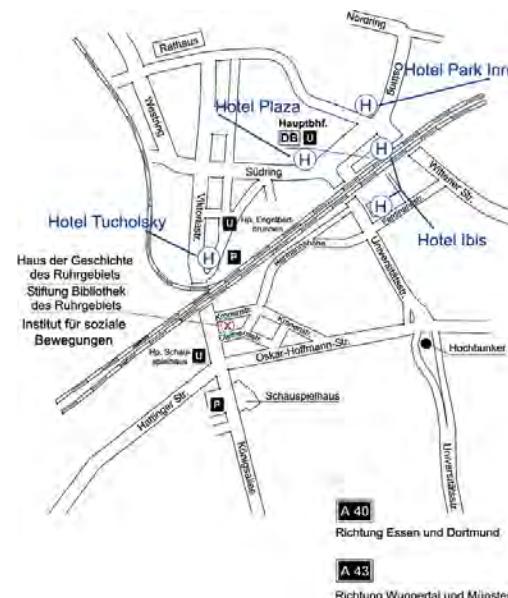
- 09.30 h **The Meeting of Daoist and Buddhist Spatial Imagination. The Construction of the Netherworld in Early Pre-Modern China**
Henrik Sørensen
- 10.15 h **Apocalyptic Places and Peoples. Some Reflections on the 'Prophecies of Agaton' and its Multi-Religious Context**
Zara Pogossian
- 11.00 h **Coffee Break**
- 11.30 h **Locating the Dialogue. On the Topology of the Setting in Medieval Religious Colloquies**
Knut Martin Stünkel
- 12.15 h **The Portuguese 'Discovery' of Buddhism**
Stephen Berkowitz
- 13.00 h **Lunch**
Chair: Johannes Pahlitzsch
- 14.30 h **From Relics to Rice. Buddhism and Buddhist Landscape of Central India**
Michael Willis
- 15.15 h **Local Religion in the Pope's Own Country. Earthquakes and Eschatology, Malaria and Magic**
Thomas Hauschild
- 16.00 h **Coffee Break**
- 16.30 h **Summary (and General Discussion)**
Jörg Rüpke

DIRECTIONS

Haus der Geschichte des Ruhrgebiets
Clemensstr. 17-19
44789 Bochum

Deutsche Bahn:
Ab Bochum Hauptbahnhof Straßenbahn 308 bzw. 318 in Richtung Hattingen bzw. Bochum-Dahlhausen bis Haltepunkt Engelbert-Brunnen oder Schauspielhaus. Zu Fuß in ca. 10 Minuten vom Hauptbahnhof über Ferdinandstraße und Hermannshöhe bis zum Haus der Geschichte des Ruhrgebiets.

PKW:
Autobahn A 43 bis AK Bochum-Witten. Von dort die Universitätsstraße Richtung Bochum Innenstadt. Über Oskar-Hoffmann-Straße und Königsallee gelangen Sie zum Haus der Geschichte des Ruhrgebiets.



Conference Organization

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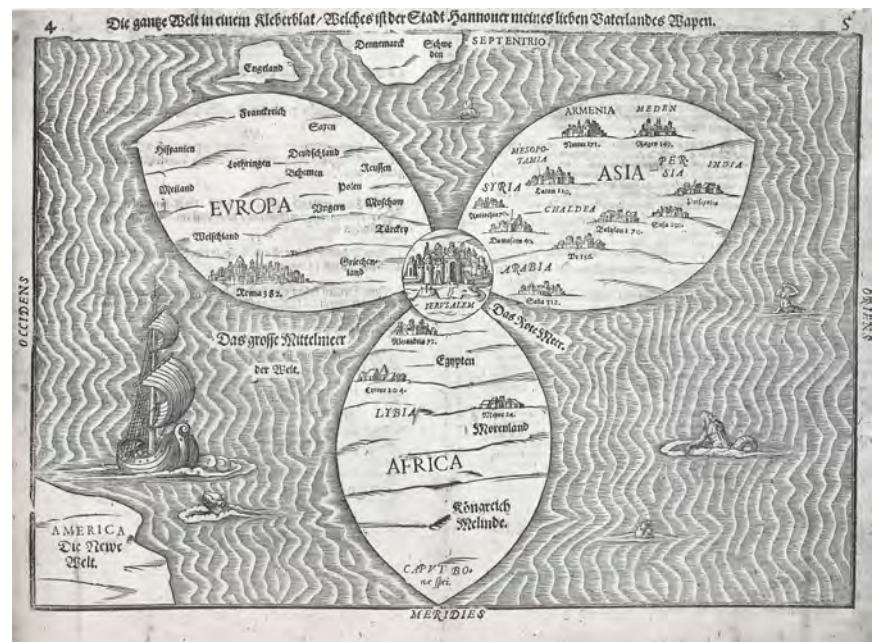
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Frontpage Illustration
Heinrich Bünting, Die gantze Welt in einem Kleberblatt, 1588
(aus Bekemeier, Reisen nach Jerusalem)



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Ruhr-Universität Bochum

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