The gradualappropriation and development of Buddhism in China, taking momentum with the first translations in the second century C.E., led to complex patterns of reception and adaptation among Buddhists, Taoists and Confucians, which should leave a lasting impact on the religious field until the confrontation with Christianity in the 16th century.

Although the topic of «Sinification» is ubiquitous in secondary literature (in particular as regards the question whether «Buddhism» was distorted by contact with «Taoism»), the diverse underlying patterns of reception and adaptation processes have not been sufficiently explored. Thus related studies still tend to focus on the import of a «foreign» religion into a usually statically perceived cultural environment.

On the backdrop of the question of «Sinification», the aim of the workshop is to present a range of case studies on a choice of the manifold and multi-layered processes of interreligious reception and processing of soteriological notions, meditation practices, rituals, image programs, etc., and discuss the hermeneutic basis and consequences of these processes.

	Friday, 05 August 2011		Saturday, 06 August 2011
09.00 h	Welcome & Introduction Jörg Plassen	09.00 h	From <i>vajra-pāṇi</i> to Vajrapāṇi: The Transformation of a Buddhist Deity along the Silk Road
09.15 h	Keynote Address: The Problematics of Sinification Robert M. Gimello, Notre Dame, U.S.A.	40.00 h	Jessie Pons, Bochum, Germany
11.15 h	Coffee Break	10.00 h	The Ever-changing Five Thearchs in the Medieval Era: Did They become Buddhist? Licia DiGiacinto, Bochum, Germany
11.30 h	From 'Cause and Effect' to 'Deficient Cause and Great Effect': Transformations and Distortions of the <i>mārga</i> in Medieval China	11.00 h	Coffee Break
	Christoph Anderl, Bochum, Germany	11.15 h	The Original Sinification? The Foundational Indian Influence on Early Taoism and the
12.30 h	Lunch		Conceptualization of China Christopher I. Beckwith, Bloomington, USA /
14.00 h	On the Appropriation and Borrowing of Spells in the Inter-religious Meeting between Daoism and		Bochum, Germany
	Esoteric Buddhism Henrik Soerensen, Copenhagen, Denmark / Bochum,	12.15 h	Lunch
	Germany	14.00 h	Some Musings on what Happened to the Perfect Teaching
15.00 h	What is the Meaning of <i>dharāṇī</i> when Translated into China?		Jörg Plassen, Bochum, Germany
	Hermann-Josef Röllicke, Düsseldorf, Germany	15.00 h	Borderland Complex and the Sinification of Buddhism: A Few Preliminary Thoughts
16.00 h	Coffee Break		Jinhua Chen, Vancouver, Canada
16.30 h	Buddhist Traces in Song Daoism: The Case of Wang Wenqing and Leifa Daoism	16.00 h	Coffee Break
	Carmen Meinert, Bochum / Esssen, Germany	16.15 h	Final Discussion
17.45 h	Departure for Dinner	17.15 h	End of the Conference

SCIENTIFIC COORDINATION

Prof. Dr. Jörg Plassen Christian Mularczyk, M.A.

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REGISTRATION

Attendance is possible without registration. Those interested in attending are encouraged to inform Jörg Plassen by email.

DIRECTIONS

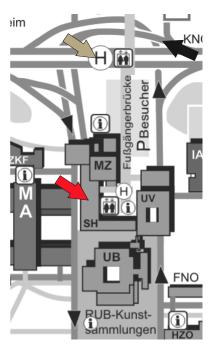
By plane or train:

From Dusseldorf Airport via, or directly from, Bochum Hauptbahnhof (Central Station) take the U35 towards Bochum Querenburg (Hustadt) and get off at stop »Ruhr-Universität« (→) (Ticket needed: Preisstufe A).

At the exit to the station turn right and walk about 100 m. Enter the Studierendenhaus (SH) building on your right (under sign for «Kulturcafé»). Go up one flight of stairs and follow signs to KHK «Dynamics in the History of Religions».

By car:

Motorway A 43, interchange »Bochum-Witten«, exit at »Bochum-Querenburg/Universität« (exit no. 19). Universitätsstraße direction Universität/Zentrum, exit at »Uni - Mitte« (♣), about 2 km. Free parking is sign posted.





Between Borrowing and Taking Over

The Problem of "Sinification" and its Implications for a Theory of Religious Contact



05 – 06 August 2011 Ruhr-University Bochum Studierendenhaus 1 Room 187

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