

## PROJECT

*BuddhistRoad* aims to create a new framework to enable understanding of the complexities in the dynamics of cultural encounter and religious transfer in pre-modern Eastern Central Asia—a region that was the crossroads of ancient civilisations whose uniqueness was determined by complex dynamics of religious and cultural exchanges gravitating around an ancient communication artery, commonly referred to as the Silk Road.

The spread of Buddhism overrode the ethnic and linguistic boundaries along the Silk Road creating a civilisational whole, which despite its diversity, expressed a set of common Buddhist ideas from various cultural perspectives. One specific aspect of this process in Eastern Central Asia was the rise of the local forms of Buddhism. The project intends to investigate such Buddhist localisations between the 6<sup>th</sup>–14<sup>th</sup> centuries.

## CONFERENCE

The aim of this, the 2<sup>nd</sup> conference of the BuddhistRoad project, is to investigate different aspects of material culture and transfer in and between the Central Asian Buddhist communities during the 6–14<sup>th</sup> centuries, as well as dealing with issues relating to ritual and religious practices. Material transfer includes the exchange of iconographical models and religious imagery, book culture, cave sanctuaries, etc. Ritual practices as conceived here is meant to focus on the transmission, formulation and re-formulation of salient forms of ritual performances, including meditation and visualisation. Given that rituals generally take place in pre-arranged, ritual spaces, it is in the nature of things that a certain overlapping between material culture and ritual practices has taken place in Central Asian Buddhism, something that is also likely to be borne out in a number of the presentations.

It is hoped that a more inclusive approach afforded by the two over-arching topics of the conference will assist us in the formulation of new methods of research.



Line-drawing of a hand with 'power points' for use in the forming of ritual hand gestures (Skt. mudrā). After P. 3835. Ink on paper. Dunhuang, 10<sup>th</sup> century.

## VENUE

Beckmanns Hof | RUB Campus | Universitätsstraße 150 | 44801 Bochum

## CONVENER

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## ORGANIZATION

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RUB

RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

ERC Project BuddhistRoad Mid-Project Conference

# ESTABLISHING OF BUDDHIST NODES IN EASTERN CENTRAL ASIA 6<sup>TH</sup> TO 14<sup>TH</sup> C.

## Part II: Visual and Material Transfer, Practices and Rituals

16 - 18 September 2019 | Ruhr-Universität Bochum | Beckmanns Hof

Convener: Henrik H. Sørensen



BuddhistRoad



CERES

# ESTABLISHING OF BUDDHIST NODES IN EASTERN CENTRAL ASIA 6<sup>TH</sup> TO 14<sup>TH</sup> C.

## Part II: Visual and Material Transfer, Practices and Rituals

### MONDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2019

- 18:00 - 18:15 **Welcome Addresses**  
Volkhard Krech (Director of CERES, Bochum)  
Carmen Meinert (PI BuddhistRoad, Bochum)
- 18:15 - 19:00 **Keynote Speech**  
Introduction: Henrik H. Sørensen (Bochum, BuddhistRoad)  
**DID THE SILK ROAD(S) EXTEND FROM DUNHUANG, MOUNT WUTAI, AND CHANG'AN TO KYOTO, JAPAN? A REASSESSMENT BASED ON MATERIAL CULTURE FROM THE TEMPLE GATE TENDAI TRADITION OF MIIDERA**  
George A. Keyworth (Saskatchewan)
- 19:00 **Dinner Reception**

### TUESDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 2019

- >>>>>>>>> **VISUAL & MATERIAL TRANSFER**  
Chair: Jessie Pons (Bochum)
- 09:15 - 09:30 **Introduction to BuddhistRoad Project**  
Carmen Meinert (Bochum, BuddhistRoad)
- 09:30 - 10:30 **The Practice of Painting Series of Large-size Buddha Figures in the Buddhist Caves of Kucha**  
Ines Konczak-Nagel (Leipzig)  
**Response**  
Ciro Lo Muzio (Rome)
- 10:30 - 11:00 **Coffee & Tea Break**
- 11:00 - 12:00 **Khotanese 'Themes' in Dunhuang: Visual and Ideological Transfer in the 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> Centuries**  
Erika Forte (Vienna)  
**Response**  
Lilla Russel-Smith (Berlin)
- 12:00 - 13:00 **Buddhist Painting in the South of the Tarim Basin: A Chronological Connundrum**  
Ciro Lo Muzio (Rome) [↗](#)

- Response**  
Erika Forte (Vienna)
- 13:00 - 14:30 **Lunch (Optional Visit of the Botanical Garden)**  
>>>>>>>>> **VISUAL & MATERIAL TRANSFER 2**  
Chair: Licia DiGiacinto (Bochum)
- 14:30 - 15:30 **The 'Sogdian Deities' Twenty Years on: A Reconsideration of a Sketch from Dunhuang in the Light of New Research and Newly Discovered Buddhist and Manichaean Paintings**  
Lilla Russell-Smith (Berlin)  
**Response**  
Yukiyo Kasai (Bochum, BuddhistRoad)
- 15:30 - 16:00 **Coffee & Tea Break**
- 16:00 - 17:00 **Seeking the Pure Land in Tangut Art**  
Michelle C. Wang (Washington D.C.)  
**Response**  
Hou Haoran (Bochum, BuddhistRoad)
- >>>>>>>>> **PRACTICES & RITUALS 1**  
Chair: Licia DiGiacinto (Bochum)
- 17:00 - 18:00 **Worship of the Great Black One: Tantric Fierce Rites of Mahākāla in the Tangut Empire (1038–1227)**  
Haoran Hou (Bochum, BuddhistRoad)  
**Response**  
Jacob P. Dalton (Berkeley, CA)
- 18:30 **Dinner**

### WEDNESDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER 2019

- >>>>>>>>> **PRACTICES & RITUALS 2**  
Chair: Max Deeg (Cardiff)
- 09:00 - 10:00 **Tantric Rituals beyond Contingencies of Time and Space in Chinese Manuscripts from the Karakhoto Collection**  
Carmen Meinert (Bochum, BuddhistRoad) [↗](#)

- Response**  
Jan-Ulrich Sobisch (Bochum)
- 10:00 - 11:00 **Vajragarbha Bodhisattva's Three-Syllable Contemplation: A Chinese *guanxiang* Text from Late Medieval Dunhuang**  
Amanda Goodman (Toronto)  
**Response**  
Henrik H. Sørensen (Bochum, BuddhistRoad)
- 11:00 - 11:30 **Coffee & Tea Break**
- 11:30 - 12:30 **Visualising Oneself as the Cosmos: An Esoteric Buddhist Meditation Text from Dunhuang**  
Henrik H. Sørensen (Bochum, BuddhistRoad)  
**Response**  
Amanda Goodman (Toronto)
- 12:30 - 14:00 **Lunch**  
>>>>>>>>> **PRACTICES & RITUALS 3**  
Chair: Jan-Ulrich Sobisch (Bochum)
- 14:00 - 15:00 **Samaya from Yoga to Mahāyoga: Evidence from Dunhuang**  
Jacob P. Dalton (Berkeley)  
**Response**  
Dylan Esler (Bochum)
- 15:00 - 15:30 **Coffee & Tea Break**
- 15:30 - 16:30 **Bodhisattva Cult in Turfan and Dunhuang**  
Yukiyo Kasai (Bochum, BuddhistRoad):  
**Response**  
Peter Zieme (Berlin)
- >>>>>>>>> **PRACTICES & RITUALS 4**  
Chair: Carmen Meinert (Bochum, BuddhistRoad)
- 16:30 - 17:30 **Practice and Rituals in Uyghur Buddhist Texts**  
Jens Wilkens (Göttingen)  
**Response**  
Jens-Uwe Hartmann (Munich)
- 18:00 - 20:00 **Dinner**
- 20:00 - 21:30 **Closing Discussion**