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 6th–14th centuries.

CONFERENCE

The aim of this conference is to investigate the complexities concerning patronage and donors in Central Asian Buddhist communities on the one hand, and issues relating to sacred spaces and pilgrimage on the other. While the focus will be on the cultures that thrived along the Silk Road during the period 6-14th centuries, the scope of the meeting will also include these thematics in adjacent areas and cultures in order to provide viable comparative and theoretical basis for further elucidation and discussion.

VENUE

Beckmanns Hof | RUB Campus | Universitätsstraße 150 | 44801 Bochum

CONVENERS

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ORGANIZATION

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ESTABLISHING OF BUDDHIST NODES IN EASTERN CENTRAL ASIA 6TH TO 14TH C.
Part I: Sacred Space, Pilgrimage, Patronage, Legitimation Strategies

WEDNESDAY, 23 MAY 2018

06:00 - 06:15 Welcome Addresses
Andreas Ostendorf (Vice Rector, Ruhr-Universität Bochum)
Volkhard Krech (Director of CERES, Bochum)

06:15 - 07:00 Keynote Speech
Introduction: Carmen Meinert (PI BuddhistRoad, Bochum)

THURSDAY, 24 MAY 2018 SACRED SPACE & PILGRIMAGE

09:30 - 10:00 Introduction to BuddhistRoad Project
Carmen Meinert (Bochum, BuddhistRoad)

10:00 - 11:00 Sacred Space in Uyghur Buddhism
Jens Wilkens (Göttingen)
Response
Kirill Solonin (Bejing/Bochum, BuddhistRoad)

11:00 - 11:30 Coffee & Tea Break

11:30 - 12:30 Old Uyghur Pilgrims: A Glimpse behind their Records
Simone-Christiane Raschmann (Berlin)
Response
Yukiyo Kasai (Bochum, BuddhistRoad)

12:30 - 02:30 Lunch & Visit of the Botanical Garden

FRIDAY, 25 MAY 2018 PATRONAGE & LEGITIMATION

09:00 - 10:00 Keynote Speech
WHO IS LEGITIMATING WHOM? ON JUSTIFYING BUDDHISM’S PLACE IN THE BODY POLITIC
Sem Vermeersch (Seoul)

10:00 - 11:00 Uyghur Royal Patronage and the Buddhist Legitimation
Yukiyo Kasai (Bochum, BuddhistRoad)
Response
Jan-Ulrich Sobisch (Bochum)

11:00 - 11:30 Coffee & Tea Break

11:30 - 12:30 The Patron-Preceptor Relationship (yon mchod) in Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries—Tibetan History Reinterpreted
Shen Weirong (Beijing)
Response
Henrik H. Sørensen (Bochum, BuddhistRoad)

12:30 - 02:00 Lunch

02:00 - 03:00 Tangut Imperial Patronage and Buddhist Translations in the Tangut Empire
Kirill Solonin (Bochum, BuddhistRoad)
Response
Shen Weirong (Beijing)

03:00 - 04:00 Images of Patronage in Khotan
Erika Forte (Bochum, BuddhistRoad)
Response
Michelle McCoy (Berlin)

04:00 - 04:30 Coffee & Tea Break

04:30 - 06:00 Patronage and Esoteric Buddhism in Dunhuang during the 10th Century
Henrik H. Sørensen (Bochum, BuddhistRoad)
Response
Matthew Kapstein (Paris/Chicago)

06:30 Dinner