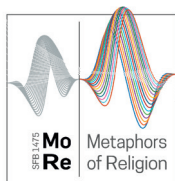




12TH DECEMBER 2024 –
13TH DECEMBER 2024



CERES BUILDING,
UNIVERSITÄTSSTR. 90A,
ROOM "RUHRPOTT" (4.13)



CONFERENCE

MORE LIGHT ON THE METAPHORS OF LIGHT

conference conveners:

Carmen Meinert, Jan-Ulrich Sobisch,
Claudia Jürgens (A03)

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Thursday, 12th December

13:00–13:30 Welcome, Introduction to CRC Metaphors of Religions, and Metaphor Papers

AFTERNOON SESSION I

Chair: Kianoosh Rezania

13:30–14:15 **Rosel Pientka-Hinz** (Ruhr-Universität Bochum),
Mesopotamian Luminous Beings—The Aura of the Gods

14:15–15:00 **Nikita Artemov** (Ruhr-Universität Bochum),
Light Metaphors in the Book of Psalms

15:00–15:30 *tea break*

AFTERNOON SESSION II

Chair: Jan-Ulrich Sobisch

15:30–16:15 **Licia Di Giacinto** (Ruhr-Universität Bochum), “*Spiritual Luminaries*” or “*Spiritual Illumination*”? *The Binomial shenming and Light-Metaphor in Some Early Chinese Texts*

16:15–17:00 **Floriana Marra** (Ruhr-Universität Bochum),
Is the Manichaeon Father of Greatness Light?

17:00–17:15 *tea break*

17:15–18:15 *general discussion*

19:00 *dinner*

MORNING SESSION I

Chair: Nikita Artemov

- 09:30–10:15 **Nic Newton** (independent scholar), *The More the Brighter: Proliferation, Patterns of Knowledge, Aesthetic Experience, and Metaphors of Light in the Gaṇḍavyūhasūtra*
- 10:15–11:00 **Jan-Ulrich Sobisch** and **Claudia Jürgens** (Ruhr-Universität Bochum), *What the Flame of a LED Butter Lamp can Tell about our Mind. A Light Metaphor in the Field of Tibetan Buddhist Meditative Practice*
- 11:00–11:30 *tea break*

MORNING SESSION II

Chair: Gerrit Lange

- 11:30–12:15 **Giacomella Orofino** (Università Degli Studi di Napoli “L’Orientale”), *Illuminating the Sacred: Metaphor, Meaning, and Sign in Tibetan Bon Religious Literature*
- 12:15–13:00 **Knut Stünkel** (Ruhr-Universität Bochum), *Towards a Refined Every-day Metaphorics of Light. On Cusanus’ Sermons CXXVIII, CXXIX and CXXX*
- 13:00–14:15 *lunch*

AFTERNOON SESSION I

Chair: Rosel Pientka-Hinz

- 14:15–15:00 **Götz König** (FU Berlin), *Towards an Absolute Metaphor ‘Light’ in Antique/Late Antique Iranian Religion?*
- 15:00–15:45 **Carmen Meinert** (Ruhr-Universität Bochum), *The Great Wisdom Mind like the Light of the Sky: Light Metaphors in the Early Tibetan Buddhist Dzogchen Tradition*
- 15:45–16:15 *tea break*

AFTERNOON SESSION II

Chair: Carmen Meinert

- 16:15–17:00 **Andrea Piras** (Università di Bologna), *The Recovering of Light. Metaphors of Rescuing the Light Soul in Manichaeism*
- 17:00–18:00 *general discussion*
- 19:00 *dinner*

What's it all about? Topic of the conference

In our Collaborative Research Center (CRC) 1475 “Metaphors of Religion”, we investigate religious meaning-making in language, and we assume that metaphors have a fundamental share in this process. Two further assumptions guide us as broad principles in our research. Firstly, as a working basis, we borrow from Lakoff (1986) the model according to which in metaphors, meaning is transferred between semantic domains. Secondly, applying this model to religion, which cannot directly articulate its ultimate subject (the transcendent), we operate with the assumption that religion in its meaning-making process draws from its semantic environment (source domain), transferring meaning to its own domain (target domain).

In the conference of the DiF group LIGHT, initiated by Carmen Meinert, our focus is on light as one of the basal metaphors in religious communication pointing to transcendence. A ground-breaking contribution was Hans Blumenberg's ([1960] 2010) analysis of light as an absolute metaphor that, due to its high degree of abstraction lacks a real reference to metaphors in the material world and cannot be explained through other metaphors. He thus declared it to be unsuitable as a source domain. The conference aims to challenge this assumption and invites contributions to test Blumenberg's hypothesis.

We aim to approach textual and visual sources from different religious traditions and compare them through the four dimensions: experience, its bodily dimension, organization into knowledge, and translation into action (e.g. through rituals or other means of regulation) as dialectical processes between the mental and the social.

Contact

General organizational issues:
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