

DIRECTIONS

Public Transportation: Take the U35 CampusLinie towards *Hustadt* from the center of Bochum or Hauptbahnhof (central station) and get off at the station *Wasserstraße*. From there turn right and cross the street, then left cross the crossroads passing by the copy shop at the corner and continue for approx. 200 metres until you reach *Universitätsstraße 90a*.

By Car: The quickest route is via the motorway junction Bochum/Witten, where the autobahns A43 and A44 meet. Simply take the exit Bochum-Querenburg, follow the signs to *Bochum Zentrum* to the crossroads of *Universitätsstraße* and *Wasserstraße*. Take a u-turn left and continue this road for approx. 200 metres, until you reach *Universitätsstraße 90a*. Parking is possible in front and behind the building.



CONVENERS

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RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

DYNAMICS, STABILITY & TRADITION: THE ROLE OF THE RELIGIONS OF IRANIAN SPEAKERS IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN ASIA

14 - 15 March 2019 | CERES Conference Room *Ruhrpott*
 Conveners: Yukiyo Kasai & Carmen Meinert

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**Dynamics, Stability & Tradition:
The Role of the Religions of Iranian Speakers in Central and Eastern Asia**

Iranian speakers had their homeland in Central Asia. Some of them are known as the traders on the Silk Road and dominated the trade route up to China. They had a contact with various religions through their trade activities: Zoroastrianism, Manichaeism, Buddhism and Christianity (especially the Church of East). In the Western area, after the Arabic conquest in the 8th century, the Islamic influence became stronger. Because of their religious diversity, the Iranian speakers often played a major role as the cultural intermediaries in Central and Eastern Asia. Thus, the contact with them triggered the dynamic change for several ethnic groups. On the other hand, the Iranian speakers were also impacted by others in their religious orientation.

The workshop will offer the ideal platform for a discussion between scholars from various fields.

Thursday, 14 March 2019

10:30 - 11:00 **Welcome Address & Introduction**

Kianoosh Rezania (Bochum)

————— **Session 1: Religious Exchanges of Iranian Speakers**

Chair: Kianoosh Rezania (Bochum)

11:00 - 12:00 **Buddhist and Indian Elements in Manichaean Onomastics**

Iris Colditz (Berlin)

12:00 - 02:00 **Lunch**

————— **Session 2: Iranian Speakers in Central Asia**

Chair: Eduard Iricinschi (Bochum) & Jennifer Griggs (Osnabrück)

02:00 - 03:00 **The Sogdians and their Religions in Turfan as Proved in their Written Sources: The Catalogue of the Middle Iranian Fragments in Sogdian Script of the Berlin Turfan Collection**

Christiane Reck (Berlin)

03:00 - 04:00 **Turfan: Communities and Linguistic Perspectives at the Monastery of Bulayiq**

Erica C. D. Hunter (London)

04:00 - 04:30 **Coffee Break**

04:30 - 05:30 **Metaphoric Conceptions of Fire and Water Reflected in Buddhist Narrative Texts from Central Asia**
Hiromi Habata (München)

06:00 **Dinner**

Friday, 15 March 2019

————— **Session 3: Iranian Speakers and Buddhism**

Chair: Carmen Meinert (Bochum, PI BuddhistRoad)

09:30 - 10:30 **Was Buddha a Sogdian God?**

Pavel Lurje (St. Petersburg)

10:30 - 11:00 **Coffee break**

11:00 - 12:00 **Mahāyāna Sūtras through the Lens of a Khotanese Tradent**
Chen Ruixuan (Heidelberg)

12:00 - 01:00 **Reflexes of Iranian Buddhism in Tocharian Texts**
Georges-Jean Pinault (Paris)

01:00 - 02:30 **Lunch**

————— **Session 4: Religious Influence of Iranian Speakers in China**

Chair: Yukiyo Kasai (Bochum, team member BuddhistRoad)

02:30 - 03:30 **Sogdian Buddhist Monks in Tang Political History**
Mie Nakata (Kyoto)

03:30 - 04:30 **The Brilliant Teaching: Iranian Christians in Tang China and Their Identity**
Max Deeg (Cardiff)

04:30 - 05:00 **Coffee Break**

05:00 - 05:30 **Closing Remarks**
Masaki Mukai (Kyoto)