

## The Center for Religious Studies

The Center for Religious Studies (CERES) is one of Germany's leading institutions in the field of the scientific study of religions (German: *Religionswissenschaft*). Being part of the fifth largest German university, students and researchers alike can benefit from the vast expertise of a particularly large number of subjects. Both the independence of the center within the university structure as well as its close cooperations with various historical, socio-cultural, and philological disciplines and area studies of Ruhr-Universität Bochum and beyond ensures an in-depth and wide-ranging scientific focus on religions.



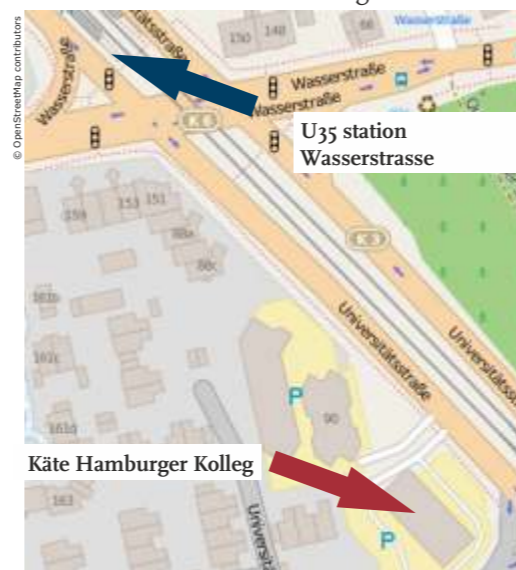
## The Käte Hamburger Kolleg

The Käte Hamburger Kolleg *Dynamics in the History of Religions between Asia and Europe* is the largest research project of CERES. It commenced its research activities under the direction of Prof. Dr. Volkhard Krech in April 2008. In addition to the visiting research fellows, numerous local scholars from Ruhr-Universität Bochum are involved in the institute's research programme, which brings together scholars from a wide range of academic disciplines. It's research programme focuses on the formation and expansion of religions, the mutual permeation of religious traditions and their densifications into the complex figurations called 'world religions.' Regionally, the research covers these phenomena in Europe and Asia. The academic goal is to establish and test a typology of contacts of religions and an overarching theory regarding the transfer of religions.

## 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. Continue this road for approx. 200 metres, until you reach *Universitätsstraße 90a*. Parking is possible in front and behind the building.



## CONVENERS

Alexandra Cuffel | alexandra.cuffel@rub.de & Adam Knobler | adam.knobler@rub.de  
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## ORGANIZATION

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Käte Hamburger Kolleg *Dynamics in the History of Religions between Asia and Europe*, Center for Religious Studies, Ruhr-Universität Bochum



RUB

RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

# RETELLING TALES AND RECREATING COSMOLOGIES AS STRATEGIES OF GLOBAL ENCOUNTER AND EXPANSION 600—1800

20—22 November 2019 | CERES Conference Room *Ruhrpott*  
Conveners: Alexandra Cuffel, Ana Echevarria-Arsuaga & Adam Knobler

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## Retelling Tales and Recreating Cosmologies as Strategies of Global Encounter and Expansion 600-1800

The workshop will explore the ways in which tales, whether expressed in written, oral, theatrical or other visual form, were transformed as they crossed from one cultural realm to another, and then were used as a way of explaining, incorporating or resisting other cultures. In particular we wish to examine ways in which dominant, often invading cultures attempted to insert themselves into the cosmologies of those they wished to conquer, and how in turn, these cultures transformed their own cosmological understandings to account for and often resist the rhetoric of the others, designed to push for changes in religion, rituals, and moral behaviors.

### Wednesday, 20 November 2019

#### Session 1

09:30 - 10:00 **Welcome Address & Introduction**  
Adam Knobler (Bochum)

10:00 - 11:15 **Retelling Tales with Computers:  
Remarks from a Digital Humanities Perspective**  
Frederik Elwert (Bochum)

11:15 - 11:30 **Coffee Break**

11:30 - 12:15 **Demonstrating Medieval Textual Transmission with  
Digital Storytelling**  
Lynn Ramey (Nashville)

12:15 - 01:00 **Studying Buddhist Narratives in the Age of Digital  
Humanities: Perspectives from Gandhara**  
Jessie Pons (Bochum)

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

#### Session 2

02:00 - 02:45 **Facets of Arab Presence in Lusignan Cyprus:  
The Artefactual and Manuscript Evidence**  
Marina Tompouri (Athens)

02:45 - 03:30 **And God blessed them saying ... subdue the earth (I. Mos. 1,28):  
How to Culturally conquer the World according to Latin  
European Ideas, 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> C.**  
Felicitas Schmieder (Hagen)

03:30 - 04:00 **Coffee Break**

04:00 - 04:45 **Retelling the Narratives of the East in the West: The Unique  
Morisco Account of the Polemic of Wāsil of Damascus**  
Monica Colimnas (Berlin)

04:45 - 05:30 **Discussion**

06:00 **Dinner**

### Thursday, 21 November 2019

#### Session 3

10:30 - 11:15 **Replacing One Ethiopia with Another during the Expansion  
of Crusading: Nubia and Ethiopia**  
Adam Simmons (Bochum)

11:15 - 11:30 **Coffee Break**

11:30 - 12:15 **Pagan Religious Practices in Medieval Ethiopia:  
Development and Resistance of the Christian  
Kingdom (1434-1468)**  
Solomon Gebreyes (Hamburg)

12:15 - 01:00 **Discussion**

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

#### Session 4

02:00 - 02:45 **Cogitating Religious/Ideological Confrontation between  
Nahua and Catholic Moral Systems in the Stories of the  
Huehuetlahtolli**  
Lars Pharo (Bodø)

02:45 - 03:30 **Being God, Creating God, Eating God: Inventing Stories  
of Apotheosis in the Early Colonial Americas**  
Adam Knobler (Bochum)

03:30 - 04:00 **Coffee Break**

04:00 - 04:45 **When Europeans are Exotic: The Iberians in Japan in the Early  
Modern Age**  
Alexandra Curvelo (Lisbon)

04:45 - 05:30 **Discussion**

06:00 **Dinner**

### Friday, 22 November 2019

#### Session 5

10:00 - 11:15 **Mapping Medieval Jewish-Christian Relations from  
the Mediterranean to the Indian Ocean – The JewsEast  
Interactive Map**  
Bar Kribus & Sophia Dege-Müller (Bochum) (*JewsEast Project*)

11:15 - 11:30 **Coffee Break**

11:30 - 12:15 **Early Islam in Southeast Asia: Tales from Different Shores**  
Aglaia Iankovskaia (Moscow)

12:15 - 01:00 **Shah of the Arabs: Islamic Counter-Narratives  
in Early Persian Epic**  
George Warner (Bochum)

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

02:00 - 03:30 **Retelling Tales and Recreating Cosmologies as Strategies of  
Global Encounter: Commentaries & Conclusions**  
Alexandra Cuffel (Bochum) & Ana Echevarria-Arsuaga (Madrid)

03:30 - 04:00 **Coffee Break**

04:00 - 04:45 **Final Discussion**  
Ana Echevarria-Arsuaga (Madrid), Alexandra Cuffel &  
Adam Knobler (Bochum)