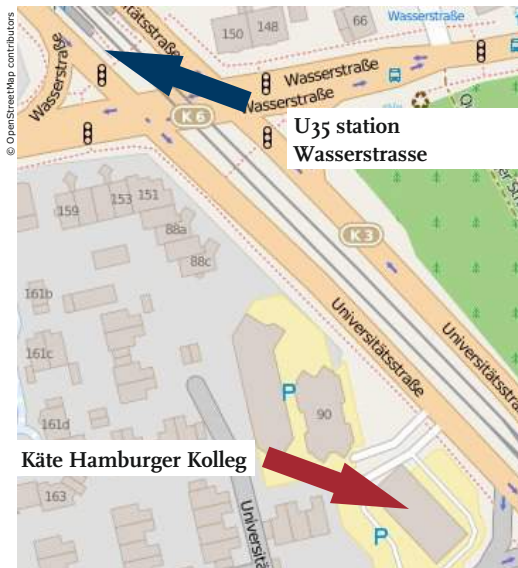


DIRECTIONS

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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Cover: Two Female Deities (Pelliot chinois 4518 (24); Bibliothèque nationale de France, Manuscripts Department)



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RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

FORMATIVE EXCHANGES IN WESTERN AND CENTRAL ASIA

ZOROASTRIANISM, MANICHAISM, AND BUDDHISM IN CONTACT

27-28 June 2018 | CERES Conference Room *Ruhrpott*

Conveners: Eduard Iricinschi, Carmen Meinert, & Kianoosh Rezania

SPONSORED BY THE



Formative Exchanges in Western and Central Asia: Zoroastrianism, Manichaeism, and Buddhism in Contact

The workshop addresses cases of religious interactions between Zoroastrianism, Manichaeism, and Buddhism in the Iranian plateau, the Indian subcontinent, Central Asia, and China to the end of the first millennium CE. The participants to the workshop investigate formative dynamics of contacts, interactions, and exchanges that took place between Zoroastrianism, Manichaeism, and Buddhism at multiple levels: knowledge, ritual, material, and experiential.

The workshop considers the literary and social negotiations Manichaeism carried with Zoroastrianism, as an imperially-mandated religion, in the Sasanian Empire, between the third and the seventh centuries. To this, it adds the perspective of religious interactions across central Asia and into China, to the end of the first millennium CE. The workshop participants will examine the various ways along which Manichaeism moved eastward, out of the Sasanian Empire, and transformed itself in contact with Buddhism. In analyzing the ways in which religions were imported, adopted and transformed in Western and Central Asia, the 2018 workshop regards transformation, hybridization, and adaptation as various outcomes of religious encounters. To discuss these formative interactions of religions on the move, the organizers invited scholars to investigate primary sources in Middle Persian, Parthian, Greek, Latin, Coptic, Syriac, Sogdian, Uyghur, and Chinese, which describe religious contacts across Western and Central Asia until the end of the first millennium CE.

Wednesday, 27 June 2018

11:00 - 11:30 Welcome Address & Introductions

Carmen Meinert, Kianoosh Rezaia, & Eduard Iricinschi (Bochum)

Session 1: Encountering Buddhism

Chair: Carmen Meinert (Bochum)

11:30 - 12:30 On the Role of Chinese Buddhism as a Facilitator for other Religions in Central and East Asia

Henrik Sørensen (Bochum)*

12:30 - 02:00 Lunch

02:00 - 03:00 The Changing Vocabulary of Manichaean Visual Syntax in Uyghur East Central Asia

Zsuzsanna Gulacsi (Flagstaff, AZ)

03:00 - 04:00 Manichaeism to Buddhism – Similarities and Differences Seen in Old Uyghur Texts

Yukiyo Kasai (Bochum)*

04:00 - 04:30 Coffee Break

Keynote

Chair: Alexandra Cuffel (Bochum)

Introduction: Yukiyo Kasai (Bochum)

04:30 - 06:30 Manichaeism Meets Buddhism? Traces in a Recently Published Text

Yutaka Yoshida (Kyoto)

06:30 Dinner

Thursday, 28 June 2018

Session 2: Encountering Zoroastrianism

Chair: Kianoosh Rezaia (Bochum)

10:30 - 11:30 On the History of Element Theories in Ancient and Late Antique Iran

Götz König (Berlin)

11:30 - 12:30 Interactions of Wonders and Healings at Crossroads of Manichaeism, Buddhism, and Zoroastrianism

Andrea Piras (Bologna)

12:30 - 02:00 Lunch

Session 3: Encountering Manichaeism

Chair: Flavia Ruani (Ghent)

02:00 - 03:00 Mani Maitreya: The Place of Buddhism in Mani's Self-Understanding and Earliest Manichaeism

Jason D. BeDuhn (Flagstaff, AZ)

03:00 - 04:00 'Because of the negligent, weak mind' (*Xwāstwānift*): Visions, Confessions, and Emotional Landscapes in Eastern Manichaeism

Eduard Iricinschi (Bochum)

04:00 - 04:30 Coffee Break

Session 4: Encountering Christianity

Henrik Sørensen (Bochum)

04:30 - 05:30 Shifting Cosmology and Soteriology in Chinese Christian Sources from the Tang Period

Max Deeg (Cardiff)

05:30 - 06:30 General Discussions

Chair: Kianoosh Rezaia (Bochum)

07:00 Dinner (Bochum city center)

* Based on the findings of the ERC funded research project *BuddhistRoad*