

Call for Panel Papers

Panel: ?Way of Life and/as Religious Knowledge. Premodern Constellations?

on XXI IAHR World Congress August 23-29, 2015 in Erfurt, Germany - Dynamics of Religion: Past and Present

Congress area: Practices and discourses: Innovation and tradition

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Panel Abstract

With special focus on the agents of religious innovation the panel aims at exploring the dynamic relationship between way of life and religious knowledge in Pre-Modern times.

Religious knowledge is strongly linked to individual and collective practices and discourses. We are especially interested in the dynamic mechanisms of innovation processes which involve both agents (founding/ charismatic figures) and their lifestyles as well as the making of canons and institutions. Therefore, our panel explores the developments of religious knowledge (e.g. ascetical, anthropological, eschatological, cosmological) against the background of the agents' way of life, and their biographical, social, historic, and intellectual environments (and vice versa).

Our leading question is: On the basis of which practices and discourses is the way of life performed and how are such practices and discourses generated, and transformed, by taking up (innovative) lifestyles? To what extent are institutions involved? Do they repel or foster the innovation process?

Contributions ranging from the ancient Mediterranean and Mesopotamian religions to Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism to Christianity will address these issues from Antiquity up to the Pre-Modern times. We welcome papers from all disciplines of the Study of Religion and related fields of research.

Each panel paper should be limited to 20 minutes. The abstract should not exceed 150 words.

Please submit abstracts no later than September 1, 2014 to alexandra.stellmacher@fu-berlin.de.

The following information must be included: Academic Title, Full Name, Home Institution/ City, E-mail, Paper Title, Abstract max 150 words, Relevant Literature (max. 3 titles).