Religion as Resource
Local and Global Discourses

Summer School Workshop
Graduate Academy for Academics and Scientists
(Excellence Initiative, DFG funded, in co-operation with SFB 1070 Resource Cultures)

Convenors: Dr Vibha Joshi and Dr Andrea Luithle-Hardenberg

18-20 July 2014
Venue: Schloss Hohentübingen (room 165)

The Summer School Workshop takes into account the continuing contemporary relevance of religion (and secularism) as an integral part of modernity. The theme ‘Religion as Resource’ will explore the (dictionary) meaning of the term resource as ‘assets that can be drawn on by a person or organization in order to function effectively’ and as ‘an action or strategy which may be adopted in adverse circumstances.’ It will address the role of religion in ideology, education, healing practices, shaping and marking the landscape, art, ritual economy, religious revival and conversion. It draws on the research expertise of invited, international scholars and current projects of faculty members of the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Tübingen University. International scholars with confirmed participation are: Dr Masooda Bano (Oxford, UK), Prof Dr Simon Coleman (Toronto, Canada), Prof Dr John Cort (Denison, USA), Dr Sondra Hausner (Oxford, UK), Dr Jonathan Miles-Watson (Durham, UK), Prof Dr Magnus Marsden (Sussex, UK). Faculty from Tübingen, Germany: Prof Dr Gabriele Alex, Prof Dr Roland Hardenberg, Dr Sabine Klocke-Daffa, Dr Vibha Joshi, Dr Andrea Luithle-Hardenberg, Dr Shahnaz Nadjmabadi, Prof Dr Monique Scheer and Prof Dr Pamela Klassen (Toronto/Tübingen).

The Summer school is free but there are limited places on first come first basis for which registration is required. To register, please send emails to jeany.weisheit@student.uni-tuebingen.de and philipp.erath@student.uni-tuebingen.de
Friday, July 18th

8:30-9:00 Registration
9:15-9:30 Welcome: Dr. Vibha Joshi and Dr. Andrea Luithle-Hardenberg

9:30-10:15 Keynote Lecture 1: Prof. Simon Coleman, University of Toronto, Canada
From Creation to Creationism: Religion as a Resource in Constructing Persons and Publics

Panel 1
10:15-12:00
Prof. Simon Coleman (University of Toronto) / Dr. Vibha Joshi (University of Tübingen)

Personhood and Education in Christian Values

Illyana Angelova, University of Oxford, UK
‘Catch them young': Church strategies for socialising children and adolescents into Baptist Christian life in Nagaland, Northeast India

10:45-11:00 Tea/coffee break

Marcos Calo Medina, Blackfriars Hall, University of Oxford, UK
Our way of proceeding: Religion, personhood, and the Jesuit Mission among the Tzeltal of Chiapas, Mexico

Kseniya Miadzvedzeva, Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia
Russian Orthodox monasteries in a religion-as-resource perspective

12:00-13:30: Time for a walk/ Lunch (Buffet at the Venue)

Panel 2
13:30-18:00
Prof. Gabriele Alex (University of Tübingen) / Dr. Vibha Joshi (University of Tübingen)

Religion, Identity and Healing in Indigenous Communities

13:30-14:00 Position Paper “Healing and Religion” (Prof. Gabriele Alex)

Ruijing Wang, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle, Germany
Ritual healers among Akha Community of Southwestern China

Baktygul Tulebaeva, University of Tübingen, Germany,
Taking away our child's anxiety: Islamic and non-islamic concepts in healing child diseases

15:00-15:15 Tea/coffee break

15:15-15:45 Position Paper “Religion and Identity” (Dr. Vibha Joshi)

Meenaxi Barkataki-Ruscheweyh, Göttingen University, Germany
Rangfraism amongst the Tangsa in Northeast India: recasting traditional practices to bolster pan-Tangsa identity

Lea Schulte-Droesch, University of Groningen, Netherlands
Ritual and the performance of religious identity among the Santal of Central India.

17:00-18:00 A tour around the Castle Hohentübingen

19:00 Dinner (Forelle)
Saturday, July 19th

09:00 - 09:45 Keynote Lecture 2: Prof. John Cort, Denison University, USA
Material Culture as a Resource for the Study of Religion: The Ornamentation of Jain Icons

09:45-10:00 Tea/coffee break

Panel 3
10:00 -13:00

Prof. John Cort (Denison University) / Dr. Andrea Luithle-Hardenberg (University of Tübingen)

The Sacred as (re) source: Places, Divinities and Saints

10:00-10:30 Position Paper “The Sacred as (re) source: Places, Divinities and Saints” (Dr. Andrea Luithle-Hardenberg)

Tillo Detige, Ghent University, Belgium
Religion as resource, resource as reflex: The ascetic ideal in Digambara Jainism

Jessica Hackett, Ecole des hautes études en Sciences Sociales, France
Heritage in the Making: How a local goddess becomes a village asset

11:30-11:45 Tea/coffee break

Hans Jürgen David, University of Vienna, Austria
Re-writing narratives: Origin and fiction in a Himalayan pilgrimage

Justus Weiss, University of Tübingen, Germany
Learning from Gorakhar: “before” Transformation of local Siddha traditions in Kollimalai

Cora Gäbel, University of Tübingen, Germany
Mundaneness in the extramundane: The Maha Kumbh Mela in Allahabad 2013

13:15 -14:30 Lunch (Buffet at the Venue)

Panel 4
14:30 -17:30

Prof. Magnus Marsden (Sussex University, UK) / Prof. Roland Hardenberg (University of Tübingen)

Religion and Economy

14:30-15:00 Position Paper "Religion and Economy I" (Prof. Magnus Marsden)

Stefanie Kicherer, University of Tübingen, Germany
Barakat: The ‘small money of God’, as a currency in the Tajik Pamirs

Katharina Müller, University of Tübingen, Germany
Alms in the Pilgrimage to Imam Reza/Mashhad (Iran)

16:00-16:15 Tea/coffee break

16:15-16:30 Position Paper "Religion and Economy II" (Prof. Roland Hardenberg)

Raphael Susewind, University of Bielefeld/University of Bielefeld (Germany) / University of Oxford (UK)
Real estate, religious revivalism and local politics in contemporary Lucknow

Lisa Zülf, University of Tübingen, Germany
Feeding the Gods - feeding the masses: The economy of Jagannath Puri

18: 30 Tour to Bebenhausen Abbey followed by Dinner
Sunday, July 20th

9:00-9:45 Keynote Lecture 3: Dr. Sondra Hausner, University of Oxford
Defining Religion in a Diaspora - Nepali Religiosity in the UK

09:45-10:00 Tea/coffee break

Panel 5
10:00-11:00
Dr. Sondra Hausner

Re-thinking Religiosity and Diaspora in Europe

Tine Vekemans, Ghent University, Belgium
Negotiating Jainism in the diaspora: An exploration of the Jain e-diaspora

Konrad Siekierski, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland
The Chronotopes of the Armenian Diaspora in Romania: Religious Feasts and Shrines in the Making of Community

11:00-11:15 Coffee/tea break

Panel 6
11:15-13:15
Dr Jonathan Miles-Watson (Durham University, UK)/ Prof. Pamela Klassen (University of Toronto, Canada)

Sacred Landscape Reconsidered

11:45 -13:45 Position Paper: “Sacred Landscape” (Dr Jonathan Miles-Watson, Durham University, UK)

Nurzat Sultanalieva, University of Tübingen, Germany,
Changing sacred landscapes of the Issyk-Kul lake

Julia Andreeva, Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography, St Petersburg, Russia
The spiritual search and sacred spaces in Russian New Age movement “Anastasia”

Franz Graf, University of Vienna, Austria
Earth based spiritualities as a resource to challenge human-environment relations? An example of neo-Pagans in and around Bristol/UK

13:45 - 14:45 Lunch (Buffet at the Venue)

Panel 7
14:45-18:00
Dr. Masooda Bano (University of Oxford, UK) / Dr. Sabine Klocke-Daffa (University of Tübingen)

Secular versus Islamic Education

14:45-15:15 Position Paper: “Secular versus Islamic education” (Dr Masooda Bano, University of Oxford, UK)

Andreas Dürr, Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany
Out of the campus and into the village: Afghan students and the negotiation of local traditions in the context of Islamic higher education

Yanti Hölzchen, University of Tübingen, Germany
Kyrgyzstan's new mosques: achieving and converting resources in Central Asia

16:15-16:30 Tea/coffee break

Anneke Newman, University of Sussex, UK
Religious knowledge as resource: Using Islamic education to contest caste inequality in Senegal

Fulera Issaka-Toure, University of Bayreuth, Germany
A Ghanaian brand of Islam: A perspective on gender

17:30-18:00 Tea/coffee break

18:00 Final Discussion/ Round Table
20:00 Dinner (Neckarmüller - followed by a Punting Tour on the Neckar)