



**Venue:**  
Leibniz Institute of European History (IEG)  
Alte Universitätsstraße 19  
55116 Mainz  
Germany  
[www.ieg-mainz.de/en](http://www.ieg-mainz.de/en)

**Organizers:**  
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Photo 1:  
Fragment of a Christian silk painting from Dunhuang (China), 9th century. Source: Wikimedia Commons.

Photo 2:  
Depiction of the cross on a lotus flower from a church in Fangshan (China), 13th century. Source: Wikimedia Commons.



MARTIN-LUTHER-UNIVERSITÄT  
HALLE-WITTENBERG



## International Conference

# Interreligious Appropriations: Modes and Practices of Coping with Religious Diversity in the Global History of Christianity

22–24 June 2023

## Thursday, 22 June

14:30	Arrival and refreshments	10:00
15:00	Welcome Nicole Reinhardt (Mainz)	
	Introductory remarks Stanislau Paulau (Halle/Mainz) and Philip Forness (Leuven)	11:00
	<b>Session 1</b>	11:30
15:15	Benedict Totsche (Mainz) “The Philosophers are Witnesses”: <i>Athenagoras of Athens on Gods, Angels and Demons</i>	
16:15	Coffee break	12:30
16:30	Li Tang (Cambridge/Salzburg) <i>Jesus, Mani, and Buddha in Medieval Chinese Religious Texts</i>	14:00
17:30	Jonathan Stutz (Munich) <i>Seeking Islamic Wisdom: The Legacy of Fakhr al-Din al-Razi and the Coptic Arabic Renaissance</i>	15:00
19:00	Dinner	16:00
	<b>Session 2</b>	16:30
9:00	Sophia Dege-Müller (Hamburg) <i>The ›Life of Susanna‹ in the Light of the Beta Israel Manuscript Tradition</i>	

## Friday, 23 June

		10:00
		11:00
		11:30
		12:30
		14:00
		15:00
		16:00
		16:30

Emy Merin Joy (Vienna) <i>The ›Paravur Dialogues‹: Introducing the First Early Modern Interreligious Dialogue in Kerala, South India</i>	17:30
Coffee break	19:00
Mònica Colominas Aparicio (Groningen) <i>The Conditions of Christian Minorities in Muslim Iberia and Interreligious Appropriation in Justino Antolínez de Burgos’ Historia Eclesiástica de Granada (1557–1637)</i>	
Lunch	
<b>Session 3</b>	
Jürgen Heyde (Leipzig) <i>Uncovering the Hagia Sophia: An Armenian Traveler’s Visit to Istanbul in the Seventeenth Century</i>	10:00
Sergei Zotov (Coventry) <i>Islamic Evangelists and Christian Hermes: Reinterpretations of Religious Otherness in Arabic and European Alchemical Illumination</i>	11:00
Coffee break	11:40
<b>Session 4</b>	12:30
Nikolay Tsyrempilov (Astana) <i>From “Paganism” to “Buddhism”: How Christian Orthodox Missionaries Influenced the Self-Identification of the Buddhists in Imperial Russia</i>	

## Saturday, 24 June

		17:30
		19:00
		9:00
		10:00
		11:00
		11:15
		11:40
		12:30

Marius-Adrian Călin (Heidelberg) <i>The Cult of the Virgin Mary in the Tamil Context as an Interreligious Meeting Place: A Historical Perspective</i>	
Dinner	
<b>Session 5</b>	
Sebastian Elsässer (Kiel) <i>The 1938 Personal Status Code of the Orthodox Copts: An Illegitimate Appropriation from Muslim Family Law?</i>	
Lukas Pieper (Göttingen) <i>Paulos Mar Gregorios, Indian Religions, and the Re-Imagination of Saint Thomas Christianity in Post-Colonial India</i>	
Coffee break	
Responses Hartmut Leppin (Frankfurt) and Manfred Sing (Freiburg/Mainz)	
Concluding discussion	
Light lunch and departure	