

Program

Thursday, 29th August 2013

14.30 – 15.00	Introduction		
15.00 – 15.30	Robert M. Gimello (Notre Dame): The question of abhūta and mithya in early Buddhism and the idea of sin in Christianity.	10.15 - 10.45	Break
15.30 – 15.40	Response: Catherine Cornille (Boston)	10.45 – 11.15	Jan-Marc Nottelmann-Feil (Düsseldorf): ‚Heaven‘, ‚Hell‘ and the ‚Pure Land‘: An Inventory of Terms in the <i>Larger Sūtra of Immeasurable Life</i>
15.40 – 16.15	Discussion	11.15 – 11.25	Response: Hermann-Josef Röllicke (Düsseldorf)
16.15 – 16.45	Coffee Break	11.25 – 12.00	Discussion
16.45 – 17.15	Bernhard Nitsche (Freiburg): Personal Elements in Mahāyāna- Buddhism from a Christian Perspective. Christian Exegesis or Eisegesis?	12.00 – 14.30	Lunch Break
17.15 – 17.25	Response: Daniel Rumel (Paderborn)	14.30 – 15.00	Catherine Cornille (Boston): Humility and Truth in Buddhist-Christian Comparative Theology
17.25 – 18.00	Discussion	15.00 – 15.10	Response: Klaus von Stosch (Paderborn)
18.30	Japanese Buffet at Ekō Centre	15.10 – 15.45	Discussion

Friday, 30th August 2013

09.00 – 09.30	James L. Fredericks (Los Angeles): Evaluating the Political: the City of God and the Aśokāvadāna	16.15 – 16.45	Hermann- Josef Röllicke (Düsseldorf): “Incomparability” of the <i>prajñāpāramitā</i>: A Reading of the ‘Acintya’ Chapter of the <i>Aṣṭasāhasrikā prajñāpāramitā sūtra</i> [<i>Daoxing jing</i> 道行經]
9.30 – 9.40	Response: Joseph O’Leary (Tōkyō)	16.45 - 16.55	Response: Bernhard Nitsche (Freiburg)
9.40 – 10.15	Discussion	16.55 – 17.30	Discussion

Saturday, 31st August 2013

9.00 – 9.30	Joseph O’Leary (Tōkyō): The Concept of Non-Duality in the <i>Vimalakīrtinirdeśasūtra</i>
9.30 – 9.40	Response: James L. Fredericks (Los Angeles)
9.40 – 10.15	Discussion
10.15 – 10.45	Break
10.45 – 11.15	Jörg Plassen (Bochum): A question of faith: Some musings on changing conceptions of the Way and their implications for practice in Early Tang Buddhism
11.15 – 11.25	Response: Anne Weber (Paderborn)
11.25 – 12.00	Discussion

Organisation and administration of the symposium:

Prof. Dr. Klaus von Stosch, Universität Paderborn
Dr. habil. Hermann-Josef Röllicke, Düsseldorf

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EKŌ-Haus der Japanischen Kultur e.V.

Buddhism and Comparative Theology

In their long histories, Buddhism and Christianity have come in touch in multifarious ways, from the 2nd century A.D. onward and from the Mediterranean all through India, China and Japan. However, to this day their different scholarships and cultures of discourse have not experienced equally fertile contacts. Among the factors that have hindered this are enormously complex linguistic and translational challenges, as well as the canonical scriptures, commentaries, and vocabularies that are laid down in those languages.

While some form of a "Comparative Buddhology" seems to not yet have emerged in world history up to this day, in the U.S. as well as in Europe a new strand of scholarship has been recently developing called "Comparative Theology". It takes its starting point from the guiding principle that, in the full breadth of reflexion of one's own belief, it can be decisive to enter into a conversation with representatives of different religions. In our conference we would therefore like to seriously engage in such an in-depth conversation to bring theology and Buddhology together in order to test this principle through well-implemented examples.

Starting by problematizing the idea of 'reality' we want to undertake the attempt of mutual understanding and translation from Buddhist and from Christian perspective. Moreover, we want to discuss the possibility of using comparative hermeneutics in the dialogue of Buddhists and Christians.

Anfahrt:

Öffentliche Verkehrsmittel:

Linien U70, U74, U75, U76, U77 bis Belsenplatz, weiter mit Bus 834, 836, 828 bis Niederkasseler Kirchweg

Mit dem Auto aus Richtung Neuss/Mönchengladbach:

Am AB-Kreuz Kaarst auf die A 52 Richtung Flughafen/Theodor-Heuss-Brücke.

Ausfahrt: Seestern/Oberkassel/Niederkassel, an der Ampel rechts auf die Lütticher Straße, dann geradeaus an der ARAL-Tankstelle vorbei, an der nächsten Ampel links in den Niederkasseler Kirchweg, die erste Straße links ist der Brüggener Weg.

Adress:

EKÖ-Haus der Japanischen Kultur e.V.
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Admission free, no registration required!

For questions please contact:

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Symposium Comparative Theology and Buddhism

29th-31st August 2013

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Kultur e.V., Düsseldorf

