

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

22–24 June 2023

Venue: Leibniz Institute of European History Mainz, Alte Universitätsstraße 19, 55116 Mainz,
Conference Room, 1st Floor

Conveners: Stanislaw Paulau (Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg / Leibniz Institute of
European History Mainz) & Philip Forness (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven)

Thursday, June 22, 2023

14:30–15:00 Arrival and Refreshments

15:00–15:05 Welcome
Nicole Reinhardt (Mainz)

15:05–15:15 Introductory Remarks
Stanislaw Paulau (Halle / Mainz) and Philip Forness (Leuven)

Session 1

15:15–16:15 Benedict Totsche (Mainz)
“The Philosophers are Witnesses”: Athenagoras of Athens on Gods, Angels and
Demons

16:15–16:30 Coffee Break

16:30–17:30 Li Tang (Cambridge / Salzburg)
Jesus, Mani, and Buddha in Medieval Chinese Religious Texts

17:30–18:30 Jonathan Stutz (Munich)
Seeking Islamic Wisdom: The Legacy of Fakhr al-Din al-Razi and the Coptic
Arabic Renaissance

19:00 Dinner

Friday, June 23, 2023

Session 2

- 09:00–10:00 Sophia Dege-Müller (Hamburg)
The *Life of Susanna* in the Light of the Beta Israel Manuscript Tradition
- 10:00–11:00 Emy Merin Joy (Vienna)
The *Paravur Dialogues*: Introducing the First Early Modern Interreligious Dialogue in Kerala, South India
- 11:00–11:30 Coffee Break
- 11:30–12:30 Mònica Colominas Aparicio (Groningen)
The Conditions of Christian Minorities in Muslim Iberia and Interreligious Appropriation in Justino Antolínez de Burgos' *Historia Eclesiástica de Granada* (1557–1637)
- 12:30–14:00 Lunch

Session 3

- 14:00-15:00 Jürgen Heyde (Leipzig)
Uncovering the Hagia Sophia: An Armenian Traveler's Visit to Istanbul in the Seventeenth Century
- 15:00-16:00 Sergei Zotov (Coventry)
Islamic Evangelists and Christian Hermes: Reinterpretations of Religious Otherness in Arabic and European Alchemical Illumination
- 16:00-16:30 Coffee Break

Session 4

- 16:30–17:30 Nikolay Tsyrempilov (Astana)
From “Paganism” to “Buddhism”: How Christian Orthodox Missionaries Influenced the Self-Identification of the Buddhists in Imperial Russia
- 17:30–18:30 Marius-Adrian Călin (Heidelberg)
The Cult of the Virgin Mary in the Tamil Context as an Interreligious Meeting Place: A Historical Perspective
- 19:00 Dinner

Saturday, June 24, 2023

Session 5

- 09:00–10:00 Sebastian Elsässer (Kiel)
The 1938 Personal Status Code of the Orthodox Copts: An Illegitimate
Appropriation from Muslim Family Law?
- 10:00–11:00 Lukas Pieper (Göttingen)
Paulos Mar Gregorios, Indian Religions, and the Re-Imagination of Saint Thomas
Christianity in Post-Colonial India
- 11:00–11:15 Coffee Break
- 11:15–11:40 Responses
Hartmut Leppin (Frankfurt) and Manfred Sing (Freiburg / Mainz)
- 11:40–12:30 Concluding Discussion
- 12:30 Light Lunch and Departure