

# *SACRIFICE, ORDEAL, DIVINATION*

International conference

at the Pécs Committee of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Pécs, Hungary  
(Magyar Tudományos Akadémia PAB Székház, 7624 Pécs, Jurisics u. 44.)

Friday 12<sup>th</sup>–Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2014



Organisers:

Pécs University, Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology

Pécs Committee of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

With support of „East-West”. *Vernacular religion on the boundary of Eastern and Western Christianity: continuity, changes and interactions* (ERC project № 324214)

In co-operation with the *Belief Narrative Network of ISFNR*

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11**

**19:00–21:00 Registration**

**19:00–21:00 Dinner**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12**

**9:00–10:00 Registration, coffee**

**10:00–10:30** Opening of the conference

**10:30–13:00 Session 1.** (Chair: Vilmos Voigt, Budapest)

Tóth, Anna Judit (Budapest): *The low-prestige forms of divination in ancient Greece*

Csepregi, Ildikó (Budapest): *What people brought to the sanctuary?*

Tuczay, Christa (Vienna): *Scrying: From antique hydromancy to crystal-gazing*

Klaniczay, Gábor (Budapest): *Sacrifice in medieval Christendom*

**13:00–14:00 Lunch**

**14:00–18:30 Session 2.** (Chair: Mirjam Mencej, Ljubljana)

Spät, Eszter (Budapest): *Inter-faith practices of beseeching the supernatural in Northern Iraq*

Minniyakhmetova, Tatiana (Innsbruck, Austria): *Sacrifices and sacrificing: Functions and their motives.*

Dyekiss, Virág (Budapest): *“This child is not my part – says Mother Water.” Human sacrifice in the folklore of the Siberian Nganasans*

**Coffee break**

Neagota, Bogdan (Cluj-Napoca, Romania): *The Healing Gurban at the Rudars from Vâlcea region (Romania). Anthropological and historical-religious aspects*

A film to be presented:

Bogdan Neagota (Cluj-Napoca), Ileana Benga (Cluj-Napoca), Adela Ambrușan and Vasile Mathe (Cluj-Napoca): *The Healing Gurban / Gurbanul de vindecare at the Rudars from Vâlcea (România).*

**19:00 Dinner**

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

### 9:00–12:30 Session 4. (Chair: Gábor Vargyas, Pécs)

Bever, Edward (Old Westbury, NY, USA): *Scrying and the “sieve and shears”*: Sociocultural roles and neurophysiological bases of traditional divinatory techniques

Sawden, Kari (Newfoundland, Canada): *Reading the body: Intersections of divination, body and gender*

Rivière, Janine (Toronto): *Dream divination in early modern England*

#### Coffee break

Tausiet, María (Madrid): *Love renounced & clairvoyance. From religious motif to popular culture and cinema*

Gyimesi, Julia (Budapest): *Divination in Hungarian spiritualism*

### 12:30–13:30 Lunch

### 13:30–18:30 Session 5 (Chair: Gábor Klaniczay, Budapest)

Wiśniewski, Robert (Warsaw): *Pagans, Jews, Christians and the sacred book divination in late antiquity*

Voigt, Vilmos (Budapest): *A book of ordeal (between 1208 and 1235) in Hungary*

Peti, Lehel (Cluj-Napoca, Romania): *Leadership authority, divination and the messages of the Holy Spirit in a Moldavian Pentecostal network*

#### Coffee break

Gyöngyössi, Orsolya (Szeged, Hungary): *From sacrificial practice to practical solutions. Parish priests in times of dangers threatening the community*

Györfy, Eszter (Pécs, Hungary): *Soul sacrifice. The devil as familiar spirit in the Ghimeş region (Romania)*

Stojanovič, Lidija (Skopje): *Interpretation of ritual feast in the Balkan folk songs*

Hnaraki, Maria (Philadelphia, USA): *To sacrifice or not to sacrifice? Super heroes and walled-up women performed*

### 19:00 Dinner

### 20:30: Film program

María Tausiet will present one or two films she will be talking about in her paper: *I married a witch* (1942), *Bell, book and candle* (1958).

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

### 9:30–13:30 Session 6. (Chair: Mara Tausiet, Madrid)

Benga, Ileana (Cluj-Napoca, Romania): *Divinatory practices within Romanian ethnographic areas: availability, trustworthiness and great expectations*

Kis-Halas, Judit (Pecs, Hungary): *“It has been written into your piece of wax”. A divinatory healing ritual in South West Hungary and Northern Croatia*

#### Coffee break

Warner, Elizabeth (Durham, UK): *The role of food offerings in communicating with and propitiating the dead in contemporary rural North Russia*

Komaromi, Tunde (Pecs, Hungary): *Fasting as a sacrifice in different ethnic and religious contexts (Nicula, Transylvania)*

Petrovic, Sonja (Belgrade): *Sin and sacrifice in the contemporary folklore in Serbia*

### 9:00–13:30 Session 7. (Elnok: Keszeg Vilmos, Kolozsvar)

Czegenyi Dora (Kolozsvar): *„Meger egy miset?” Egyhazi ritusok es magikus szoksgyakorlatok a romaniai magyarsag koreben*

Fabian Gabriella (Szeged): *Az engesztelo aldozat megnyilvanulasi formai a szekelyfoldi romai katolikus kozsesegekben*

Iancu Laura (Budapest): *Az isteni itelet es a bunhodes formai*

#### Coffee break

Olah Janos (Budapest): *Egy “Szefer lekah tov” induktiv divinacioibol*

Tomcsanyi Laszlo (Budapest): *A divinacio 21. szazadi paradigmai*

Keszeg Vilmos (Kolozsvar) *Istenitelet a mindennapi eletben*

## 13:30–14:30 Lunch

### 14:30–16:30 Session 8. (Chair: Edward Bever, Old Westbury, USA)

Mencej, Mirjam (Ljubljana): *Fortune-tellers as counter-witches in Eastern Slovenia*

Pocs, Eva (Pecs, Hungary): *Divination and ordeal within witchcraft – forms and functions*

Seo, Luka (Zagreb): *For lust, wealth and immortality. Divination in 19<sup>th</sup> century Istria*

Galic-Kakkonen, Gordana – Vrbat, Maja (Split, Croatia): *The Witch from Grich – witchcraft, witch trials and popular literature*

### 16:30 Closing of the conference

#### Coffee break

Walk in the city and/or visiting a museum

#### 19:30 Dinner

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

7:30–14:00 Excursion in County Baranya; lunch in a village restaurant