

# *PRESENT AND PAST*

**CONTEMPORARY AND HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES  
IN THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL STUDY OF RELIGIOUS LIFE**

**A conference on the anthropology of religion  
5<sup>th</sup>–7<sup>th</sup> May 2017, Friday–Sunday**

**Hungarian Academy of Sciences  
Research Centre for the Humanities, Institute of Ethnology  
1097 Budapest, Tóth Kálmán u. 4.**

Organized by:

„East–West” Research Group, *Vernacular religion on the boundary of Eastern and Western  
Christianity: continuity, changes and interactions*  
(ERC project № 324214)



MTA

Bölcsészettudományi  
Kutatóközpont  
**Néprajztudományi  
Intézet**

**FRIDAY, 5<sup>th</sup> MAY**

**9:00–10:00 Registration**

**10:00** Opening of the Conference: **Gábor Vargyas** (HAS RCH Institute of Ethnology, Budapest)

**10:30–13:00 Session 1. CONTINUITY AND CHANGE. Chair: María Tausiet**

**Fiadotava, Anastasiya** (Tartu): An atheist people? Re-examining the Soviet interpretation of Belarusian folk jokes about religion

**Peti, Lehel** (Cluj/Kolozsvár): Religious transformation and migration in a Roma community in Moldova

*Coffee*

**Saikia, Baburam** (Tartu): Continuity and change of Vaishnava religion: A study on an institutionalized religious community of Assam

**Farkas, Judit** (Pécs): Tradition and innovation in Gaudiya Vaishnavism

*Lunch*

**14:00–18:30 Session 2. COMPARING PRESENT AND PAST. Chair: James Kapaló**

**Håland, Evy Johanne**: The value of comparing modern and ancient Greek culture within historical research

**Nagy, Iлона** (Budapest): The creation of man. Antique literacy – modern folklore

**Klaniczay, Gábor** (Budapest): Padre Pio and Saint Francis of Assisi – the emulation of models in the lives and cults of a contemporary and a medieval stigmatic saint

**Christian, William A.** (Gran Canaria): Toing and froing between more distant to closer past in Spanish religious history

*Coffee*

**Jiga Iliescu, Laura** (Bucharest): A *hidden* ritual of the former Carpathian shepherd and its contemporary still *hidden* remembrances: the fir tree confession

**Mencej, Mirjam** (Ljubljana): Ancient graves and recent deaths on Bosnian highways

**Gyórfy, Eszter** (Budapest): Historical and contemporary discourses on the religious and ethnic relations of a village community

**Czégényi, Dóra** (Cluj/Kolozsvár): The exorcist priest and his activity in the Romanian online media

## SATURDAY, 6<sup>th</sup> MAY

9:00–13:00 Session 3. SURVIVALS, CONTINUITY. Chair: William A. Christian

**Csepregi, Ildikó** (Budapest): The challenges of studying the continuity and change in miraculous healing

**Tóth, Anna Judit** (Budapest): The ancient Rosalia in modern Balkan folklore

**Balatonyi, Judit** (Budapest): *Rusalii* and *Rosalia*: The role of the Romanian *Rusalii Festival* in the framing of cultural remembrance in Gyimes

**Minniyakhmetova, Tatiana** (Innsbruck) – **Suleymanova, Margarita** (Bashkortostan): Revival and survival of traditional ways of treatment among Bashkirs and Udmurts

*Coffee*

**Smid, Bernadett** (Budapest): The magic of Saint Cyprian: Individual crisis and historicity in recent on-line prayer texts

**Csáji, László Koppány** (Pécs): Contemporary and historical vernacular prophets and holy men/women

**Vidacs, Bea** (Budapest): Natália and Mária: Two seers, two contexts, continuity?

*Lunch*

14:00–17:30 Session 4. CONSTRUCTION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF THE PAST. Chair: Mirjam Mencej

**Caciola, Nancy** (San Diego): A New Age of the Divine Feminine: The Guglielmites and contemporary California Goddess-worship

**Povedák, István** (Szeged): Jesus, E.Ts and Hungarians. Hungarian paleoastronautic myths

**Petrović, Sonja** (Belgrade): Invention and reconstruction of the past and the present in legends and narratives of Despot Stefan Lazarević

*Coffee*

**Tausiet, María** (Madrid): Past made magic. Religion, folklore and myth in *Mary Poppins*

**Kis-Halas, Judit** (Budapest): From folk healer to priest in a reinvented religion. The case of the *javas*

**Pócs, Éva** (Budapest): The sieve and the drum in the labyrinth of mythological reconstructions

18:00–22:00 Dinner at the Krúdy-hall of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences  
1051 Budapest, Széchenyi István tér 9.

**SUNDAY, 7<sup>th</sup> MAY**

**9:00–12:30 Session 5. Panel presentations: VERNACULAR RELIGION ON THE MOVE: ROUTES AND ROOTS OF CONTEMPORARY RELIGIOUS LIFE IN NORWAY. Chair: Marion Bowman**

**Lunde, Hannah-Kristine** (Oslo): A journey of degradation and redefinition – Agnus Dei and Brudedalere as a part of custom and belief in Norwegian rural society

**Esborg, Line** (Oslo): “In most cases, the village with the strictest pietists adheres to the richest tradition”: Tourism and religion in early folkloristic fieldwork

**Johannsen, Dirk** (Oslo): The school of prophets – Crafting a saint for the periphery in 19<sup>th</sup> century Norway

*Coffee*

**Resløyken, Åmund Norum** (Oslo): Customs, folklore, and the roots of religion

**Bowman, Marion** (Milton Keynes/Oslo): Old saints and new pilgrims on the move: St Olav, St Cuthbert and contemporary currents in Anglo-Nordic pilgrimage

**Ohrvik, Ane** (Oslo): Reactivating St. Olav’s wells in Norway: From pilgrimage to Japanese *sake*

*Lunch*

**13:30–17:00 Session 7. ANTHROPOLOGY IN THE ARCHIVES. Chair: Nancy Caciola**

**Németh, Ildikó** (Sopron): Using archival records to discover hidden histories: Case study of a witchcraft trial in Sopron 1630

**Hesz, Ágnes** (Budapest): Different concepts or different perspectives? Comparison of contemporary and historical material on the vernacular discourses of bewitchment

**Ilyefalvi, Emese** (Budapest): Beyond the “sociology of accusation” – vernacular bewitchment discourses from early modern Transylvanian witchcraft trials

*Coffee*

**Komáromi, Tünde** (Budapest): Witchcraft in Torda county (comitatum) and the seat (sedes) of Aranyos in the 17–18<sup>th</sup> centuries and today

**Kapaló, James A.** (Cork): Materialising religion in the secret police archives: Some methodological challenges and opportunities

**Povedák, Kinga** (Cork): Doing ethnography in secret police archives?

**MONDAY, 8<sup>th</sup> MAY**

**8:00–20:00 EXCURSION:**  
Hollókő, Tarnaszentmária, Feldebrő, Eger

Supported by: