

**18<sup>th</sup> International Conference  
for Ancient East-Mediterranean Studies in Tartu  
(ICAEM 2017)**

# **Crises in Early Religions**

**University of Tartu, 8–11 June 2017**

**Location: Hall of the Senate, University Main Building, Ülikooli 18**

Organisers:

Mait Kõiv, Märt Läänemets, Urmas Nõmmik, Ivo Volt, Vladimir Sazonov, Peeter Espak  
(Tartu), Thomas Kämmerer (Tartu / Münster), Sebastian Fink (Kassel),  
Kerstin Droß-Krüpe (Kassel)

Participants are advised to limit the length of their paper to 20 minutes,  
in order to leave time for questions and discussion.

## **Thursday, 8 June**

<b>13.30</b>	<b>Registration of the participants</b>
<b>14.00</b>	<b>Opening</b>
<b>South and East Asia; chair Ülo Valk (Tartu)</b>	
<b>14.15–14.45</b>	<b>Archana Upadhyay</b> (Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi), The Rise and Decline of Heterodox Religious Movements in Ancient India
<b>14.45–15.15</b>	<b>Siddharth Singh</b> (Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi), The crisis of authentic <i>Buddhavacana</i> in <i>Tipiṭaka</i> : Is Early Buddhist Sangha's Politics Responsible?
<b>15.15–15.45</b>	<b>Sergei Yu. Lepekhov</b> (Institute for Mongolian, Buddhist and Tibetan studies of the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Ulan-Ude), <i>Prajñāpāramitā</i> as a crisis-marker in Buddhism
<b>15.45–16.15</b>	<b>Märt Läänemets</b> (Tartu), Reflections of crises in the <i>Gaṇḍavyūhasūtra</i>
<b>16.15–16.30</b>	Coffee pause
<b>16.30–17.30</b>	<b>First Keynote</b> <b>Allan Janik</b> (Innsbruck): Religion: the Father and King of All
<b>19.00–20.00</b>	Concert in the St John's Church
<b>20.00</b>	Conference club

## Friday, 9 June

### East Asia; chair Märt Läänemets (Tartu)

- 9.00**                    **Opening**
- 9.10–9.40            **Elena Lepekhova** (Institute of Oriental Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow), The involvement of Buddhist monks in the court intrigues in China and Japan during the VI and VIII centuries: social or religious crisis?
- 9.40–10.10**        **Mart Tšernjuk** (Tartu), Crisis within the Hundred Schools of Thought: Huì-Zǐ and Zhuāng-Zǐ
- 10.10–10.30        Coffee pause

### Ancient Near East; chairs Sebastian Fink (Kassel), Amar Annus (Tartu)

- 10.30–11.00**        **Martin Lang** (Innsbruck), A piece of cuneiform “epical” literature as a document of a religious crisis: The case of the Song of Erra and its possible theopolitical implications
- 11.00–11.30**        **Vladimir Sazonov** (Tartu), The Role of Sun-Goddess and Storm-God in Royal Ideology of Hittite Kingdom from King Anitta until the End of Hittite Empire and Possible Reflections of (political) Crises in Hittite Official Religion
- 11.30–12.00**        **Saana Svärd** (Helsinki), Neo-Assyrian Women in Cult
- 12.00–12.30**        **Sean Manning** (Innsbruck), Darius III and the Crisis of Achaemenid Ideology
- 12.30–14.00        Lunch
- 14.00–14.30**        **Joanna Töyräänvuori** (Helsinki / Tübingen), The Ugaritic Combat Myth and Egypto-Hittite Relations in Late Bronze Age
- 14.30–15.00**        **Pascal Vernus** (Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes), The crisis of the religious institution during the Ramesside Period in Egypt and the emergence of the dialectic between sin and forgiveness
- 15.00–15.15        Coffee pause

### Greece; chair Ivo Volt (Tartu)

- 15.15–15.45**        **Olga A. Zolotnikova** (Hellenic Open University, Greece), Zeus of Hesiod’s poems: a response to the need of the supreme, all-mighty, and just god
- 15.45–16.15**        **Mait Kõiv** (Tartu), Immoral gods and unjust people: signs of religious crisis in the Archaic Greece?
- 16.15–16.45**        **Elizabeth Irwin** (Columbia University), The Athenian ‘Plague’ – ‘Rationality’, Religion and Ethics
- 16.45–17.00        Coffee pause
- 17.00–18.00**        **Second Keynote**  
**Tim Whitmarsh** (Cambridge): When oracles don’t come true
- 19.00                    Reception of Ugarit Verlag

## Saturday, 10 June

### Old Testament and Judaism; chair Anu Põldsam (Tartu)

- 9.00**                    **Opening**
- 9.10–9.40**            **Urmas Nõmmik** (Tartu), The Crisis of Monotheism in the Book of Job
- 9.40–10.10**        **Ingo Kottsieper** (Münster), Living in the last days (Maccabean revolt)
- 10.10–10.40**      **Patrick Reinard** (Trier), „*Once there was a famous synagogue ...* “  
Unsuccessful uprisings against Rome and the consequence for Jewish religious life in the Roman Empire
- 10.40–11.00        Coffee pause

### Roman empire; chair Kerstin Droß-Krüpe (Kassel)

- 11.00–11.30**      **Christian Mileta** (Halle / Innsbruck), Religion as a tool for dealing with a crisis: the introduction of the early Imperial Cult in response to the crisis of the Roman Republic and the emergence of the Principate
- 11.30–12.00**      **Bartłomiej Bednarek** (Kraków / Warsaw) Old answers to old questions: Re-construction of the religious past as a response to identity crisis
- 12.00–12.30**      **Alexandra Eppinger** (Mainz), A crisis of ‘nonreligion’ in ancient Rome?
- 12.30–14.00        Lunch
- 14.00–14.30**      **Anna Mech** (Warsaw), Foreign means more powerful? Female worship of Isis in Roman provinces
- 14.30–15.00**      **Tomasz Dziurdzik** (Warsaw), Oriental Gods and Roman Army: a Crisis of Traditional Military Religion or an Interpretative Crisis?
- 15.00–15.20        Coffee pause

### Late Antiquity; chair Kadri Novikov (Tartu)

- 15.20–15.50**      **Daniel Syrbe** (Hagen), Theological difference and Social Crisis in Late Antique Christianity (4<sup>th</sup>–6<sup>th</sup> century)
- 15.50–16.20**      **Przemysław Piwowarczyk** (University of Silesia in Katowice), Crisis and transformation of the Gnostic Christianity in late Roman and early Byzantine Egypt
- 16.20–16.50**      **Faruk Abu-Chacra** (Helsinki), The death of the Prophet Mohammed and the subsequent split in Islam
- 16.50–17.15        Coffee pause
- 17.15–17.45**      **Closing**

## Sunday, 11 June

Whole day trip into North-Eastern Estonia