
TRANSCULTURAL PERSPECTIVES

The emergence and development of Jewish apocalypticism cannot be explained solely from the Hebrew Bible or Israelite traditions but reflects wider transcultural processes in antiquity. These relate to common epistemologies as well as a shared mythological, ritual, and scientific heritage. In addition to cultural contacts, there are similarities in the independent development of literary motifs. Moreover, some motifs common to Jewish apocalyptic texts and other literatures of the period are developed in different directions, so that also processes of cultural disentanglement can be noticed. The proposed workshop intends to address conditions and examples of such transcultural processes relative to Jewish apocalypticism.



CLUSTER OF EXCELLENCE 'RELIGION AND POLITICS'

The Cluster of Excellence has been investigating the complex relationship between religion and politics across eras and cultures since 2007. The 140 researchers from 20 disciplines in the humanities and social sciences are focusing in the current funding phase (2019 to 2025) on the 'dynamics of tradition and innovation'. In transepochal studies ranging from antiquity to the present day, they are analyzing the conditions and factors that make religion an engine of political and social change, with their focus being above all on the paradox that religions often develop their innovative potential precisely by drawing on their traditions. The research network is the largest of its kind in Germany; and, of the Clusters of Excellence, one of the oldest and the only one to deal with the issue of religion. It will receive funding of 31 million euros from 2019 to 2025.

ORGANIZATION

Cluster of Excellence 'Religion and Politics'

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LOCATION AND REGISTRATION

Cluster of Excellence

Room JO 101

Johannisstraße 1, 48143 Münster

Registration at florian.neitmann@uni-muenster.de

by 13 September 2024

Conference of the Cluster of Excellence in
cooperation with Tel Aviv University

JEWISH APOCALYPTICISM IN THE ANCIENT WORLD

Transcultural Perspectives

23 – 25 September 2024



Image: Dura Europos synagogue wall painting, Panel no. 1, Ezekiel's vision of resurrection, with winged breath and souls. Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons; Capricorn Tile, Dura Europos, Public Domain via Yale University Art Gallery

PROGRAMME

Monday, 23 September 2024

- 14.15 – 14.30
Welcome and Introduction
- 14.30 – 15.30
Shared Cosmology between the Book of Watchers and the Milesian Philosophers: Knowledge Migration
Eshbal Ratzon and Mourtaza Chopra (Tel Aviv University, IL)
- 15.30 – 16.30
Between Mesopotamia and Greece: Interpreting the Myth of the Rebellious Angels (1 Enoch 6–16) in a Cross-cultural Context
Beate Ego (Ruhr Universität Bochum, D)
- 16.30 – 17.00 Break
- 17.00 – 18.00
Cain, Ham, & Monsters: The Racialization of “Cursed” Peoples in Ancient Ethnography
Emily Olsen (Florida South University, USA)
- 18.00 – 18.30
Project Presentation: A Digital Edition of 4 Ezra in its Versions
Lutz Doering and Florian Neitmann (University of Münster, D)
- 19.00 Dinner
- 10.00 – 11.00
Elements Deriving from Foreign Traditions in the Book of Daniel: Mapping, Dating, and Interpretation
Sylvie Honigman (Tel Aviv University, IL)
- 11.00 – 11.15 Break
- 11.15 – 12.15
“And righteousness shall perish”: An Aramaic Prophecy from Saqqara and Egyptian Prophetic Literature
Bernd U. Schipper (Humboldt University Berlin, D)
- 12.15 – 13.30 Lunch (on-site)
- 13.30 – 14.30
Conceptions of History in Ancient Jewish Apocalypses
Michael Segal (Hebrew University of Jerusalem, IL)
- 14.30 – 15.30
Economy Relations in Musar La-Mevin and Greco-Roman Patron-Client Relations
Jonathan Ben-Dov (Tel Aviv University, IL)
- 15.30 – 15.45 Break
- 15.45 – 16.45
Crossed Perspectives on Jewish and Roman Apocalyptic Discourses: The Case of Virgil and the Sibylline Oracles
Katell Berthelot (CNRS, Aix-en-Provence, F)
- 16.45 – 17.45
The Messiah from the Sea: Some Reflections on Tradition History of 4 Ezra 13
Peter Juhás (University of Münster, D)
- 18.00
Visit to the Bible Museum’s Jubilee Exhibition
- 19.00 Dinner

Wednesday, 25 September 2024

- 08.30 – 09.30
History, Time, and Law in Ancient Judaism: Philo of Alexandria and 4 Ezra
Hindy Najman (University of Oxford, UK)
- 09.30 – 10.30
Natural Law in 4 Ezra? Revision of a Thesis
Florian Neitmann (University of Münster, D)
- 10.30 – 10.45 Break
- 10.45 – 11.45
Corruptible and Incorruptible in 4 Ezra and 2 Baruch in Transcultural Perspective
Lutz Doering (University of Münster, D)
- 11.45 – 12.45
Creating Divine Presence through Heavenly Cult: Jewish and Christian Apocalypses in Graeco-Roman Contexts
John Dik (University of Münster, D)
- 12.45 Lunch (on-site), arrangements, publication, and farewell

Tuesday, 24 September 2024

- 09.00 – 10.00
**“That the interpretation may be known to the king”:
Competition between Ritual Specialists in the Persian Court as a Background for Danielic Court-tales and the Development of Eschatological Thinking**
Jason M. Silverman (University of Helsinki, FIN)