

RELIGIOUS ETHICS AND PLURAL SITES OF ENTANGLEMENT

MPI-MMG Workshop

April 22, 2021 | 16.00-18.00 CET • Zoom Meeting

Engaging with the “ethical turn” in the anthropology of religion, this workshop panel examines multiple sites of entanglements between politics and religious ethics. Drawing from case studies in Indonesia, Turkey, Vietnam, and Afghanistan, the panelists consider how the cultivation of ethical subjectivity engages with not only normative religious discourses, but also various other forms of local and global forces and structures, including the state, market, ethnicity, gender, and class. The papers demonstrate how politics and ethics become entangled: in the linkages between national and ethnic identity; in mulling possibilities for community continuity in a conflict zone; in interpersonal interactions undertaken in the shadows of perceived religious borders; and in the private spaces of a home within the context of moral emulation. In doing so, the workshop seeks to gain an understanding of the processes whereby ethical projects shape and re-inscribe religious and political realities.

PAPER GIVERS:

Inter-Religious “Exchange” among Indonesian University Students: A Pedagogical Project of Ethics Across Borders

ERICA M. LARSON is an incoming Postdoctoral Fellow in the Religion and Globalization Cluster at the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore. Her research interests include education, religion, ethics, and politics in Indonesia and Southeast Asia.

‘Unity in Diversity’: Moral and Political Platforms for Building Inter-Ethnic Affinity in Indonesia

EMILY HERTZMAN is a sociocultural anthropologist whose research focuses on Chinese Indonesian mobilities and identities. She is currently a Research Fellow at Asia Research Institute in the Religion and Globalization cluster at the National University of Singapore.

Shifting Adab - Sufi Survival Strategies in times of War and Insecurity in Afghanistan

ANNIKA SCHMEDING is a current Postdoctoral Junior Fellow at the Harvard Society of Fellows. Her research

explores religion, Sufism, social change, politics and conflict, statelessness and minority rights, identity and community formation in Afghanistan, Central and South Asia.

Class, Gender, and Religious Practice in Turkey: The Case of Rifai Sufi Shaykha Cemalnur Sargut

FEYZA BURAK-ADLI is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Anthropology at Northwestern University. Her research focuses on Sufism, ethics, social change, gender, class, and subjectivity in Turkey.

Geopoliticizing Buddhism: Nationalism and the (Re)construction of Vietnamese Buddhist Identity in Contemporary Vietnam

DAT M. NGUYEN is a Postdoctoral Researcher at the NIOD Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies. His research focuses on religion, ethics, care, psychology and war traumas in Vietnam and Southeast Asia.

DISCUSSANTS



IRFAN AHMAD is a Senior Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity. He is the author of *Islamism and Democracy in India* (Princeton University Press, 2009) and *Religion as critique: Islamic critical thinking from Mecca to the marketplace*. (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press 2017) as well as a great many edited volumes and articles. Most recently he published: *Anthropology and ethnography are not equivalent: reorienting anthropology for the future*. New York: Berghahn Books (2021) <https://irfanahmad.org/>



PETER VAN DER VEER is a Director at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity. He is the author of many monographs and edited volumes. Most recently, he published *The Value of Comparison*. Durham: Duke University Press (2016). With Birgit Meyer he edited *Refugees and Religion*. London: Bloomsbury (2021). www.vanderveer.mpg.de

In order to participate in this virtual workshop you can request the zoom link from vdvOffice@mmg.mpg.de



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