

Call for Proposals

This Consultation seeks papers exploring representations, broadly understood, of religions in Southeast Asia that shape and may even help resolve perceived problems. Some examples of such “representations” include:

- Literatures that express social ideals, such as the religious family, religious reform, or outreach
- Cosmologies, narratives, and/or rituals that impact processes of peacemaking and community-building, especially in times and places that have been impacted by violence or dislocation
- Emerging technologies and the flows of new media that form postcolonial identities and re-form shared postmodern imaginaries
- Transnational religious systems that are used to resist state projects of co-optation
- The representation of regional and global problems such as environmental crisis with respect to religious-based solutions

We will also consider papers concerning other topics related to Southeast Asian religion.

Mission

Situated at the nexus of several civilizational influences — including Indian, Chinese and Middle Eastern — Southeast Asia, as a region, remains understudied in terms of its relevance to the theoretical and methodological study of religion. This neglect is in part due to the tendency to reduce Southeast Asian religious systems to the named “world religions,” often identified with other regions. As a result, indigenous practices are not viewed in terms of their conceptual and other linkages, and in some cases the dynamic interactions between those practices and the religious practices brought over by different classes of immigrants are frequently overlooked. However, and especially in the last fifteen years, exciting materials addressing different religious cultures in Southeast Asia have emerged. Hitherto, there has been little scholarly conversation at the AAR on Southeast Asia. And, perhaps even less commonly, are Southeast Asian religious cultures (e.g., Buddhist, Islamic, Christian, Hindu, “animist,” Chinese, and Pacific) put into conversation with one another. In light of this need in the field, we strive to provide a context for this conversation as well as to foster critical thinking about Southeast Asia as a region.

Anonymity of Review Process

Proposals are anonymous to Chairs and Steering Committee Members until after final acceptance or rejection.

Questions?

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Method of Submission

[Submit to OP3](#)