

# BEYOND CANON\_

Interdisciplinary Conference, Regensburg, 2–5 July 2019

## EXTRACANONICAL TRADITIONS AND THE HOLY LAND

### Texts, Rituals, and Material Culture in Late Antique Palestine

Centre for Advanced Studies "Beyond Canon"

DFG-Kollegforschungsgruppe „Jenseits des Kanons“ (FOR 2770)

INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE

## EXTRACANONICAL TRADITIONS AND THE HOLY LAND

### Texts, Rituals, and Material Culture in Late Antique Palestine

Venue:

Andreasstadel, Andreasstraße 28, 93059 Regensburg

The Holy Land owes its unique importance for late antique Christianity to the biblical traditions connected with its places. Nevertheless, also extra-canonical texts contributed significantly to shaping the sacred landscape. Although the creation of the Christian Holy Land can be described as the mapping of the biblical territory, not only do some of the early local traditions appear to be connected with apocryphal sources; it is particularly noteworthy that throughout and well beyond late antiquity, the differentiation and development of the revered geography is heavily influenced by extra-canonical documents that complement or occasionally even contradict biblical indications. Along with the identification of local traditions, their translation, accumulation, conscious conflation or unconscious confusion occurs. Since the use of the holy sites consists in bodily performance and communicative symbolical representation of authoritative tradition, a complex interaction between texts, rituals, and material culture is to be observed. Places and realia can be real, historical, imagined or invented; competing religious traditions within Christianity and in the wider interreligious framework of post-biblical Judaism and early Islam contribute to the complexity.

Unlike the rabbinic concept of graded sanctity centred around the Temple and the city of Jerusalem, a Christian understanding of the Holy Land seems to be connected primarily with figures from biblical and apocryphal narratives. The programme of the envisaged conference will therefore be organised along biblical and parabiblical figures: patriarchs, kings, prophets and other individuals from the Hebrew Bible, Jesus and his family, and not least apostles and other early followers.

The conference is organised by the DFG-supported Centre for Advanced Studies "Beyond the Canon: Heterotopias of Religious Authority in Late Antique Christianity" in cooperation with the Centre for the Study of Christianity of the Hebrew University Jerusalem.

## PROGRAMME

### TUESDAY, 2 JULY

- 14.00 Opening of the "Centre Beyond Canon":  
Prof. Dr. Udo Hebel, President of the Universität  
Regensburg
- 14.30 Tobias Nicklas: Opening Speech
- 15.00 *Coffee*
- 15.30 Günter Stemberger: "David in Rabbinic Tradition"
- 16.30 Christoph Marksches: "Das Heilige Land in den  
Prologen, Hypothesen und sonstigen Beigaben zu  
den antiken Ausgaben der kanonisch gewordenen  
Evangelien"
- Reception*

### WEDNESDAY, 3 JULY

- 9.00 Andreas Merkt: "Fool on the Hill? Peter on Mount  
Tabor and the Paradoxes of Material Religion"
- 9.45 Tobias Nicklas: "Traditions about John the Baptist"
- 10.30 *Coffee*
- 11.00 Tony Burke: "Apocryphal Nazareth: The Childhood  
Home of Jesus in the Infancy Gospel of Thomas"
- 11.45 Thomas Karmann: "Die Geburtshöhle zu Betlehem,  
das Elternhaus Mariens und Panthera als Vorfahr Jesu.  
Außerkanonisches zur Herkunft Christi bei antiken  
Autoren aus Palästina"
- 12.30 *Lunch*
- 14.30 *Coffee*
- 15.00 Ora Limor: "Extra-Canonical Holy Places and their Fate"
- 15.45 Harald Buchinger: "Extracanonical Traditions in the  
Stational Liturgy of Jerusalem"
- 16.30 *Coffee*
- 17.00 Stephen Shoemaker: "Mary between Bible and Qur'an:  
Apocrypha, Archaeology, and the Memory of Mary in  
Late Ancient Palestine"
- 17.45 Ute Versteegen: "Marienorte in ihrer materiellen  
Ausprägung"

## THURSDAY, 4 JULY

- 9.00 Jan Dochhorn: "Adams Grab auf Golgatha: Eine altkirchliche Haggada"
- 9.45 Jean-Daniel Dubois: "The Coptic version of the Acta Pilati"
- 10.30 *Coffee*
- 11.00 Jörg Frey: "James, the Hero of Judaeo-Christianity"
- 11.45 Tamar Pataridze: "Vita Zosimi / History of the Rechabites"
- 12.30 *Lunch*
- 14.30 *Coffee*
- 15.00 Oded Irshai: "Eusebius of Caesarea's Sermon on the Occasion of the Consecration of the New Basilica in Tyre (315 CE): Sources and Non-Canonical Inspiration"
- 15.45 Osnat Emily Rance: "Holy Cartography Engraved with Blood: A New Appraisal of Eusebius of Caesarea's 'Martyrs of Palestine'"
- 16.30 Mari Mamyán: "Jews in the Armenian (Versions of) Apocryphal Gospels (the Gospel of Nicodemus and Infancy Gospel)"
- 17.30 *Guided City Tour*

## FRIDAY, 5 JULY

- 9.00 Eyal Ben Eliyahu: "Beyond the Texts: The Spatial Perspective"
- 9.45 Hillel Newman: "The Sea of Galilee and Its Environs in Jewish and Christian Eschatology"
- 10.30 *Coffee*
- 11.00 Sergey Minov: "Story of Paul the Priest"
- 11.45 Lorne Zelyck: "Jericho Traditions in Early Christian Literature"
- 12.30 *Lunch*
- 14.30 Jan Bremmer: Concluding Perspectives

## IMPRESSUM

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Prof. Dr. Harald Buchinger, Director  
Prof. Dr. Andreas Merkt, Director  
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## ANFAHRT

