

Oxford Symposium for Religious Studies
at
The Queen's College

TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2019

The Queen's College, Lecture Room A

- 9:00 – 9:10 A.M. Welcome and Introduction:
Canon Brian Mountford
- 9:10 – 9:40 A.M. Topic: *Globalization and Religious
Changes in China – Global or Chinese
Christianity*
Presenter: **Katsuhiko Sasuga**, Professor,
Tokai University, Japan
- 9:40 – 10:10 A.M. Topic: *Religiosity, Spirituality, Faith and
the Sacred in an International Setting*
Presenter: **Chun-Han Chen**, Visiting
Scholar, Jilin Normal University, China
- 10:10 – 10:40 A.M. Topic: *Just Pot Luck? Why Humans are
Special*
Presenter: **Stephen Milford**,
Extraordinary Researcher, North-West
University, South Africa
- 10:40 – 11:00 A.M. Tea/Coffee
- 11:00– 11:30 A.M. Topic: *Between Religion and Race: The
Regeneration of Judaism*
Presenter: **Doron Avraham**, Senior
Lecturer, Bar Ilan University, Israel

Oxford Symposium for Religious Studies
at
The Queen's College

- 11:30 – 12:00 P.M. Topic: *The Fingerprint of God*
Presenter: **Jeffrey Johnson**, Adjunct
Professor, Arlington Baptist University,
US
- 12:10 – 1:00 P.M. Buffet Lunch
- 1:00 – 1:30 P.M. Topic: *Binationalism as Political
Theology: Judah Leib Magnes & Martin
Buber*
Presenter: **David Barak-Gorodetsky**,
Postdoctoral Fellow, Ben Gurion
University of the Negev, Israel
- 1:30 – 2:00 P.M. Topic: *Advaita Vedanta and Counselling
for Women Who Have Experienced
Intimate Partner Violence: Impact on
Women's Health*
Presenter: **Buddhatmananda Saraswati**,
Managing Head, Arsha Vidya
Gurukulam, India
- 2:00 – 2:30 P.M. Topic: *Vedic Medical Astrology and
Relevance to Essential Hypertension
Management*
Presenter: **Prashanna Chockalingam**,
Student, Warwick Research Services, UK
- 2:30 – 2:45 P.M. Tea/Coffee

Oxford Symposium for Religious Studies
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- 2:45 – 3:15 P.M. Topic: *Tantra in the early
Vishishtadvaita Tradition (Based on
"Agamapramanya" of Yamunamuni)*
Presenter: **Ruzana Pskhu**, Associate
Professor, Russian Peoples' Friendship
University, Russia
- 3:15 – 3:30 P.M. Adjourn

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2019

The Queen's College, Lecture Room A

- 9:00 – 9:10 A.M. Welcome and Introduction
Canon Brian Mountford
- 9:10 – 9:40 A.M. Topic: *Moral Law, Virtue & Moral Decency*
Presenter: **Chris Durante**, Assistant Professor, Saint Peter's University, US
- 9:40 – 10:10 A.M. Topic: *A Case for Character Ethics in Job*
Presenter: **Patricia Vesely**, Assistant Adjunct Professor, Union Presbyterian Seminary, US
- 10:10 – 10:40 A.M. Topic: *Religious Conflict and Change in Appalachia as Microcosm of the Modernist Controversy, or How Arminius Killed America*
Presenter: **Barry Whittemore**, Lecturer, University of North Georgia, US
- 10:40 – 11:00 A.M. Tea/Coffee
- 11:00 – 11:30 A.M. Topic: *Saints and Selfies: Reclaiming Social Media for Interreligious Encounter & Combatting Hate Crimes in the United States*
Presenter: **R Skyler Oberst**, Voices of Renewal Fellow, State of Formation, Hebrew College & Boston University, US

Oxford Symposium for Religious Studies
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The Queen's College

- 11:30 – 12:00 P.M. Topic: *Jonathan Edwards and the Dogs of War: A Pastoral Presentation of Just War Theory during King George's War (1744-48)*
Presenter: **Christian Cuthbert**, Graduate, Union Presbyterian Seminary, US
- 12:10 – 1:00 P.M. Buffet Lunch
- 1:00 – 1:30 P.M. Topic: *Tragedy and Disenchantment under the Shadows of God*
Presenter: **Maximo Castelli**, Graduate, National University of Córdoba, Argentina
- 1:30 – 2:00 P.M. Topic: *Whether 'Tis Nobler: The Relationship Between the Sanctity of Life and Suicide*
Presenter: **John-David Holloway**, Law Student, Pepperdine School of Law, US
- 2:00 – 2:30 P.M. Topic: *Catholic Education in Solidarity with the Poor*
Presenter: **William Horan**, Former student, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, US
- 2:30 – 2:45 P.M. Tea/Coffee and Adjourn

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THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2019

The Queen's College, Lecture Room A

- 9:00 – 9:10 A.M. Welcome and Introduction
Canon Brian Mountford
- 9:10 – 9:40 A.M. Topic: *Buddhist Interpretation of Human/Animal Relations*
Presenter: **Pia Anderson**, Assistant Professor, American University of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates
- 9:40 – 10:10 A.M. Topic: *Birth and Rebirth in Terms of Continuation and Innovation of the Buddha's Teaching*
Presenter: **Mei-Hsia Dai**, Associate Professor, Chihlee University of Technology, Taiwan
- 10:10 – 10:40 A.M. Topic: *Does Buddhism Violate Sexual Freedom of Man? An Investigative Study with Reference to Theravada Buddhist Disciplinary Rules*
Presenter: **Dapane Chandaratana**, Lecturer, Bhiksu University of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka
- 10:40 – 11:00 A.M. Tea/Coffee

Oxford Symposium for Religious Studies
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The Queen's College

- 11:00 – 11:30 A.M. Topic: *Cosmopolitanism and the Goddess Tradition in Bengal: Situating Mukundaram's Candimangalkavya in the Context of Nineteenth Century Bengal*
Presenter: **Sudarshana Bhaumik**, Research Assistant, The Asiatic Society, India
- 11:30 – 12:00 P.M. Topic: *Paganism and Anti-Pagan Literature: Identity, Ethics, Memory*
Presenter: **Alexander Lushnikov**, Doctoral Associate, Penza State University, Russia
- 12:10 – 1:00 P.M. Buffet Lunch
- 1:00 – 1:30 P.M. Topic: *Worship (Ibadat) in Nasir Khusraw's Doctrine*
Presenter: **Tatyana Korneeva**, Researcher, Institute of Philosophy, RAS, Russia
- 1:30 – 2:00 P.M. Topic: *Effects of the Blasphemy Movements on Pakistan and its Community*
Presenter: **Naseem Akhter**, Assistant Professor, Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University, Pakistan

Oxford Symposium for Religious Studies
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2:00 – 2:30 P.M.

Topic: *Evoking Religious Submission to God, Fragmenting of Moral Discourse: Sermon of Luqman to his Son Mentioned in Holy Quran*

Presenter: **Syed Abdul Ghaffar Bukhari**, Associate Professor, National University of Modern Language, Pakistan

2:30 – 3:00 P.M.

Topic: *Islamic Studies*

Presenter: **Sardar Tahir Sadiq**, Ph.D. Scholar, National University of Modern Language, Pakistan

3:00 – 3:15 P.M.

Conclusion of Symposium

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About the Director

Canon Brian Mountford, MBE, is currently acting Chaplain of Corpus Christi College. He is former Vicar of the University Church, Oxford, and Fellow St Hilda's College. He is also an Honorary Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford. Interested in public theology, he has helped to make the University Church a centre for interdisciplinary debate. His bestselling book, *Christian Atheist* (2011), explores the phenomenon of those who find Christianity compelling but struggle with the metaphysical beliefs. His latest book is *Friday's Child: Poems of Suffering and Redemption*. His main interests are in the philosophy of religion, particularly questions of faith and doctrine, but he has diversified into other areas giving seminars on leadership and ethics in corporate life for the Said Business School and the Academy for Leadership in the Netherlands. During the '70s, he was Fellow and Chaplain of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, before becoming Vicar of Southgate in North London for seven years in the '80s.

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