

Information & Registration:



www.buddhist-christian-studies.org

Call for Papers

Please send proposals to the Open Sessions of the conference till the 29th of Feb. 2017 to Dr Elizabeth Harris at: ejharris170@btinternet.com

Fees

Standard (Registration+Full Accommodation Single room).....	450.00€
Standard (Registration+Full Accommodation in Double Room).....	370.00€
Students (Registration+Full Accommodation in Single Room).....	390.00€
Students (Registration+Full Accommodation in Double Room).....	310.00€
Daily rate (per day/without refreshments and meals).....	55.00€
Daily rate (per day/ with refreshments and meals).....	115.00€



INFORMATION FOR YOUR TRAVEL

If you need an invitation letter to support your visa application, please contact: montserrat.2017@upf.edu



The theme of the 12th ENBCS conference is the role of meditation in Buddhist-Christian Encounter. An impressive line-up of invited speakers will address five themes from Buddhist and Christian perspectives: the place of meditation in Buddhism and Christianity from a critical historical perspective; Buddhist-Christian

encounter and the Zen tradition; the hesychastic tradition and Buddhist meditation; Mindfulness and Buddhist-Christian encounter; meditation and action in Buddhist-Christian encounter.

ENBCS conferences are an opportunity to meet and to greet others. Conversation is important – during coffee breaks and meals (lunch has been extended to include a siesta – we're in Spain after all), and in the evenings after formal sessions. So also is spiritual practice - we have an optional guided meditation session each morning before breakfast. Then, the culture of the place is also significant. Montserrat is mountain, sanctuary and monastery. 'Montserrat' means 'sawn mountain' in Catalan and the mountain looks, from a distance, almost as though it has been carved. Beloved of rock climbers and walkers, it is full of interest. There were probably hermits on the mountain as early as the 8th Century but it was in the middle ages that Montserrat became a famous place of pilgrimage because of the miracles that happened there, attributed to Mary.

Academics involved in Buddhist-Christian studies, independent researchers and all who are committed to building understanding between Buddhists and Christians are welcome to attend the conference. The focus is academic but we do not limit attendance to those in academia. We also hope to offer some bursaries for research students to help with the cost of the conference. Whether you are new to ENBCS or have long been involved with the Network, I can assure you it will be an enjoyable and thought-provoking conference.

Dr Elizabeth Harris
President of the ENBCS, Honorary Senior Research Fellow, Birmingham University

Speakers

Elizabeth Harris (Birmingham University). Her academic writings have focussed on Buddhism, and Buddhist-Christian relations in Sri Lanka in the colonial and postcolonial periods. In addition, she writes more generally on Theravāda Buddhism, inter-faith relations and the theology of religions.

Karl Baier (University of Vienna). His interest is in the history of yoga's reception in the West, meditation and modernity. His present research are new forms of religiosity, mesmerism, occultism, modern Yoga research and psychedelics.

Andreas Nehring (University of Erlangen). His research is in the field of orientalism and postcolonial studies as well as in modern forms of Buddhism and Hinduism, their development under colonial conditions and their transformation.

Nicholas Alan Worssam (Glasshampton Monastery). In 1995 he joined the Anglican religious community The Society of Saint Francis. He is co-leader of Buddhist-Christian retreats in Amaravati Buddhist Monastery.

John Makransky (Boston College). His academic focus is on enlightenment in Indian and Tibetan Buddhism, on applying Buddhist practices to meet current needs in conversation with psychology and neuroscience, and on theoretical issues in interfaith learning.

Robert Sharf (University of California, Berkeley). He works primarily in the area of medieval Chinese Buddhism, but has also published on Japanese Buddhism, Buddhist art, Buddhist modernism, ritual studies, and methodological issues in the study of religion.

Elizabete Taivane (University of Latvia, Riga). The field of her research is Comparative Hagiography, Comparative Mysticism, and Comparative Analysis of Christianity and Buddhism and in modified Latvian animistic cults.

Elise DeVido (Duke University, Duke Kunshan University) published works on women and gender in Chinese and in Vietnamese Buddhism; on the transnational Buddhist revivals; and on Engaged Buddhism.

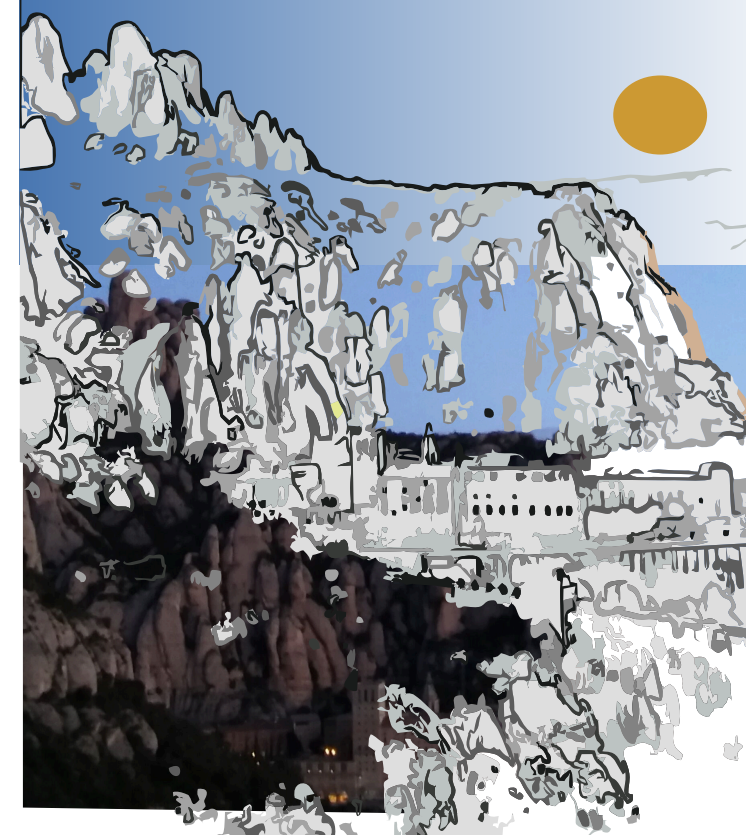
Sarah Shaw (University of Oxford) has her doctorate in English Literature. After studying Pali and Sanskrit at Oxford, she now writes and lectures on Buddhist subjects.

Aasulv Lande (Lund University) has particularly worked with religious dimensions of East West encounter. In that capacity he has served at Eastern and Western Universities (Japan, China, Scandinavia and England). He served for a period as President of the ENBCS.

Ursula Baatz (Vienna, Religious Studies Scholar) has been involved in the practice and theory of Christian - Zen-Buddhist-Dialogue for many years.

Meditation

in Buddhist-Christian Encounter:
A Critical Analysis



29 June - 3 July 2017
in Montserrat / Barcelona, Spain

The European Network of Buddhist-Christian Studies

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Meditation

**in Buddhist-Christian Encounter:
A Critical Analysis**

29 June 2017

Opening of the Conference

18.30-18.45	Welcome, Announcements
18.45-19.00	Welcome Note by Father Ramon Oranias of Montserrat
19.00-20.00	Keynote Paper (Elizabeth Harris, Birmingham University)
20.00-20.15	Introduction to the Conference Program, further Technicalities
20.30-22.00	Dinner

30 June 2017

07.30 - 08.00	Meditation
08.00 - 09.00	Breakfast

Session I: Meditation/Contemplation in Traditional Buddhism and Christianity

09.15-10.00	Meditation/Contemplation in the Christian Tradition (Karl Baier, University of Vienna)
10.00-10.45	Meditation/Contemplation in the Buddhist Tradition (Sarah Shaw, Oxford University)
10.45-11.15	Coffee
11.15-12.15	Plenary Discussion
12.30-13.30	Lunch
13.30-15.30	Siesta

Session II: Christian-Buddhist Encounter through Zen-Practice

15.30-16.15	Why Christians Studied Zen-Meditation (Ursula Baatz, Vienna, Religious Studies Scholar)
16.15-17.00	Why Buddhists Taught Zen-Meditation to Christians (Robert Sharf, University of California)
17.00-17.30	Coffee
17.30-18.30	Discussion
19.30-20.15	Organ Concert Basilica

1 July 2017

07.30-08.00	Meditation
08.00-09.00	Breakfast

Session III: Christian-Buddhist Encounter through Mindfulness

09.15-10.00	The Western Interest in Mindfulness Meditation (Andreas Nehring, University of Erlangen)
10.00-10.45	Thich Nhat Hanh's Propagation of Mindfulness in the West (Elise DeVido, Duke University, Duke Kunshan University)
10.45-11.15	Coffee

11.15-12.15	Plenary Discussion
12.30-13.30	Lunch
13.30-17.30	Time to explore Montserrat (including a guided tour of the church and library: optional)

Session IV: The Hesychast Tradition and its Affinities to (Tibetan) Buddhism

17.30-18.15	Hesychasm and Buddhism (Nicholas Alan Worssam, Glasshampton Monastery)
18.15-19.00	Hesychasm and Tantric Buddhism (Elizabete Taivane, University of Latvia)
19.00-19.30	Refreshments
19.30-20.30	Plenary Discussion
20.30-22.00	Dinner

2 July 2017

07.30-08.00	Meditation
08.00-09.00	Breakfast
09.00-10.30	Open Presentations I (3-4 parallel groups with 3 papers in each group)
11.00-12.00	Mass (optional)
12.30-13.30	Lunch
13.30-15.30	Siesta

Session V: Meditation and Action in Buddhism and Christianity

15.30-16.15	Meditation and Action: A Buddhist View (John Makransky, Boston College)
16.15-17.00	Meditation and Action: A Christian View (Aasulv Lande, Lund University)
17.00-17.30	Coffee
17.30-18.30	Plenary Discussion
18.45-20.15	Open Presentations II (3-4 parallel groups with papers in each group)
20.15-20.45	Conclusion of the Conference (Farewell, Announcements, Words of Gratitude, etc.)
21.00-22.30	Dinner

3 July 2017

08.00-09.00	Breakfast, Departures
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The Open Sessions are for the papers given by postgraduate research students and experienced researchers. Themes are related to Buddhist - Christian Studies!