

# **Urbanity: History, Concept, Uses**

# Conveners: Susanne Rau & Sara Keller, Organiser: Klara-Maeve O'Reilly

Looking at the urban within a large geographical and historical framework, members of the research group "Religion and Urbanity" have observed a great diversity of urban life, both on a material level and on the level of the subjective experience. They have also noted the amplitude of factors contributing to the shaping of the urban, its changes and its varying perceptions: ecological factors and atmospheres are essential, as are monumental and changing sceneries, variable and multi-layered spaces, ideas, aspirations and attitudes, as well as narratives and city images. Moreover, the subjective character of urbanity invites to name audiences and to differentiate actors: urban experiences are shaped by the identity of individuals and groups, their ethnic, social and religious background, their dreams, agendas and values. Our main interest lies in grasping and analysing the essential contribution of religion to this complex and intertwined formation of urbanity (and vice versa). In other words, our perspective on urbanity and the urban is structured by the prism of the religious.

# Wednesday, 16 November 2022 | Retrospectives

14.00 | Opening & Welcome

**14.05—14.30** | **Susanne Rau & Jörg Rüpke** "Mutual Formations-Looking back at the first four years of UrbRel"

**14.30—14.45** | **Martin Fuchs** "Living Together: Metamorphoses of religious co-existence in Indian urban contexts"

**14.45**—**14.55** | **Elisa Iori** "Co-spatiality"

14.55—15.05 | Simone Wagner "Heterarchy"

**15.05—15.15 | Sara Keller** "Spatial Fix"

15.15—15.25 | Martin Christ "Spatialisation"

15.25—16.00 | Break

16.00—17.45 | Discussion & comments

#### Thursday, 17 November 2022

# Authors' Workshop/ World Café

09.00—10.45 | Round 1

Martin Christ & Sara Keller: "Court Cities as an Urban

Typology in Europe and South Asia, c. 1400-1700"

Mara Albrecht, Judit Majorossy & Susanne Rau:

"Typologising Cities: Historical and Systematic Reflections"

10.45-11.00 | Break

11.00—12.45 | Round 2

**Epsita Halder & Anne Murphy:** "The mutual emergence of religious community formation and cultural production associated with urban development in early modern Bengal and Punjab"

**Gil Klein & Annette Haug:** "Building, Dwelling, and Ritual Interactions: Urban Domestic Architecture and the Roman City"

#### 13.00 | Lunch

Case Studies, session I

**15.00—15.10** | **Nora Lafi**: "Participation, Deliberation and the Nature of Urbanity in North African Cities of the Ottoman Era"

**15.10—15.20** | Carmen González Gutiérrez: "The Western Suburbs of an Islamic city: Urban and Human Landscape in Madinat Qurtuba (Córdoba)"

**15.20—15.30** | **Zoe Opacic**: "Staging Urbanity in the Late medieval City: the examples of Prague and Nuremberg"

**15.30—15.40** | **Katalin Szende**: "Medieval Buda and its agglomeration: urban pluralism and religious entanglements"

**15.40—15.50** | Laura Verdelli: "Building Chennai's Waterfronts: Global Models, Dreamed Projects, Ongoing Changes and Their Narratives"

**15.50—16.00** | **Austin Collins**: "Angoulême: Constructing a Royal Connection in the Forgotten Periphery"

16.00—16.15 | Coffee Break

**16.15**— **18.15** | Discussion

19.00 | Dinner

# Friday, 18 November 2022

Case Studies, session 2

09.00—09.20 | Jörg Oberste and Babett Edelmann –

**Singer:** "Ruler's Seat and Sacral Topography- Foundations of Pre-Modern Metropolises"

**09.00—09.10** | **Babett Edelmann-Singer**: "Imperial Funerals and Concepts of Urbanities in Rome and Constantinople"

**09.10—09.20** | **Jörg Oberste**: "Royal funerals and saints' topography in Merovingian Paris"

**09.20—09.30** | **Nimrod Luz**: "Contemporary Urbanity and Religious Sites: A View from Tel Aviv Urban Religion, Decolonization and Gray Spacing"

**09.30—09.40** | **Naveen Kanalu**: "Mapping Imperial Privileges and Property Claims: Practicing Hanafi Law in Mughal Delhi's Suburban Agglomerations (c. 1680s)"

**09.40—09.50** | **Supriya Chaudhuri**: "History and Memory in Urban Space: A Case Study from Varanasi"

**09.50—10.00** | **Christina Williamson**: "Sanctuaries as Urban Timescapes in Hellenistic Asia Minor: Pergamon and the Asklepieion"

**10.00—10.10** | **Marlis Arnhold**: "Urbes non magnae: Macedonian Cities and the Question of Urbanity" **10.10—10.25** | **Break** 

10.25—12.45 | Discussion & Closing

13.00 | Lunch & Goodbye