



Death in the New World: The Rise of Santa Muerte

Guest Editors:

Prof. Dr. R. Andrew Chesnut

Department of Religious Studies,
Virginia Commonwealth
University, Richmond, VA 23284,
USA

Mr. David Metcalfe

Independent Scholar, 109
Witcher Rd., Carlton, GA 30627,
USA

Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (15 February 2016)

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

The cult of Santa Muerte, or Saint Death, is becoming one of the fastest growing spiritual traditions in the world. In this Special Issue of *Religions*, scholars take a multi-disciplinary look at the tradition and explore the ways in which Santa Muerte's popularity challenges societal views of spirituality. Despite her long history as an occult, liminal figure in the Americas, and her explosive growth over the past decade, scholarly research on Santa Muerte has been marginal. With this Special Issue we hope to bring more light into the shadows of contemporary US and Latin American cultures where Saint Death holds sway.

Prof. Dr. R. Andrew Chesnut
David Metcalfe
Guest Editor





an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Editors-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Arndt Büssing

Professorship Quality of Life,
Spirituality and Coping, Faculty
of Health, Witten/Herdecke
University, Gerhard-Kienle-Weg 4,
58313 Herdecke, Germany

Prof. Dr. Klaus Baumann

Caritaswissenschaft und
Christliche Sozialarbeit,
Theologische Fakultät, Albert-
Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg,
Platz der Universität 3, D-79098
Freiburg, Germany

Message from the Editorial Board

Fresh developments in the disciplines that consistently make significant contributions to our understanding of religious personality, authority, devotion, and community - disciplines ranging from psychology, sociology, and anthropology to history, art history, philosophy, literary criticism, and political science – fuel general, as well as scholarly, interest in the world's religions.

Religions is inviting innovative and comparative contributions. Please consider Religions as an exceptional, exciting enterprise ready to reward your trust, attention, and participation.

Author Benefits

Open Access: free for readers, with [article processing charges \(APC\)](#) paid by authors or their institutions.

High Visibility: indexed within [Scopus](#), [AHCI \(Web of Science\)](#), [ATLA Religion Database](#), [Religious and Theological Abstracts](#), and [other databases](#).

Journal Rank: CiteScore - Q1 (*Religious Studies*)

Contact Us

Religions Editorial Office
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
www.mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/religions
religions@mdpi.com
[X@Religions_MDPI](#)