

Special Issue

Thresholds of Reality: Exploring the In-Between in Religious Traditions Across the World

Message from the Guest Editors

The aim of this Special Issue is to compile studies exploring the liminal spaces and states depicted in the texts of Vedas, Epics, Purāṇas, and Buddhist literature. These spaces serve as bridges or barriers between different entities, times, processes, and worlds. The focus is also on those experiences often labeled as "in-between" but which, in their clarity, intensity, and reality, transcend the boundaries of ordinary existence. These ineffable experiences defy categorization, blurring the lines between sleep, death and rebirth, the past, the afterlife and the future, and the primordial and the timeless.

We are interested in exploring states and processes in liminal spaces—those that are neither here nor there, neither now nor in the past or in the future, but beyond time, as well as in the “junctions” of time between light and dark, or between various stages of life.

The articles can explore the ultimate goals of such transformations—immortality, enlightenment, mokṣa, nibbāna, and also intense, transformative mental and emotional states. Additionally, they will examine the paths leading to and beyond these liminal spaces.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Gergana Ruseva

Department of Classical East Studies, Faculty of Classical and Modern Philology, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", 1504 Sofia, Bulgaria

Prof. Dr. Milena Bratoeva

Department of Classical East Studies, Faculty of Classical and Modern Philology, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", 1504 Sofia, Bulgaria

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Religions
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
religions@mdpi.com

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About the Journal

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.

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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

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