

Special Issue

Materiality and Private Rituals in Tibetan and Himalayan Cultures

Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue addresses the recent shift in the study of Tibetan and Himalayan Cultures that seeks to enhance the status of tangible materials in the conceptualization of ritual agency, especially in the private domain of Buddhist practice. One of the salient features of Buddhist practice is ‘entanglement’ (Barad 2017) with various objects that may include home-shrines, sutra boxes, postcards, clothes, effigies, protective strings worn on wrists or arms, tattoos, rings, prayer flags, printed texts, rocks or murals. These objects communicate a “more or less consistent systems of meanings” that contributes to establishing a self-programmed apparatus of ritual behaviour (Rambelli 2007: 2).

This Special Issue will focus on private rituals performed by individuals or small communities, independent of the state. Submissions are welcome from any methodological approach, including textual studies, anthropology, ethnography, and religious studies. Papers focusing on lay communities or marginalized ethnic groups are especially welcome.

Guest Editors

Prof. Aleksandra Wenta

Department of Forlilpsi, University of Florence, via Laura 48, 50121 Florence, Italy

Amanda Brown

Department of Religion, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306, USA

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (20 February 2025)



Religions

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 0.6
CiteScore 1.3



mdpi.com/si/189870

Religions

Editorial Office

MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5

4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34

religions@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/

[religions](https://mdpi.com/journal/religions)





Religions

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 0.6
CiteScore 1.3



[mdpi.com/journal/
religions](https://mdpi.com/journal/religions)



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.

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

Author Benefits

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)

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 25.4 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 4.5 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).