

## Special Issue

# Religion, Liberalism and the Nation in East Asia

### Message from the Guest Editor

The discourse of religion has profoundly shaped East Asian modernity. Since the mid-nineteenth century, pre-modern East Asian pursuits of human emancipation and fulfillment assisted by supra-natural beings as well as various forms of the self, community, and power have been reconfigured to establish religion, the liberty-bearing citizen, and the nation. However, like anywhere else, this process of reconfiguration has been marked by inconsistencies, fractures, and tensions. This Special Issue explores these fractures and inconsistencies in modern East Asian experience and seeks to contribute new perspectives for the critical examination of the distinctions of public vs. private, religious vs. secular, and state vs. society. The Special Issue also asks whether, and if so, how, the concept of religion has operated to block alternative inspirations and imaginations of forming society and the self. As such, this Special Issue sets out to explore possibilities that are lost in East Asia's modernizing experience as well as new ones that may be yet to come.

---

### Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Yijiang Zhong

Department of Japanese, University of Macau, Macau, China

---

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 September 2024)



## Religions

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 0.6  
CiteScore 1.3



[mdpi.com/si/157099](https://mdpi.com/si/157099)

*Religions*  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[religions@mdpi.com](mailto: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).