

Special Issue

Reviving Ancient Wisdom on the Northern Silk Road: Research on Old Uyghur Buddhism and Buddhist Scriptures

Message from the Guest Editor

Buddhism thrived among the Uyghurs from the 11th to the 14th centuries, particularly in the Qocho, Beshbaliq and Ganzhou regions. This period left behind a significant number of manuscripts and block prints with Buddhist content. During the early period of Old Uyghur Buddhism, translations were mainly sourced from Tocharian. However, later, Chinese became the primary source of translation, although some texts were also translated from Sanskrit and Tibetan.

This Special Issue welcomes contributions dedicating to the discussion of various aspects of Old Uyghur Buddhism, including a historical review, research on monastic life and religious practices in Old Uyghur Buddhist society, and the interaction and conflicts between Old Uyghur Buddhism and other religions such as Manichaeism, Christianity, Daoism and Islam. It gives a special place for the contributions that discusses various aspects of Old Uyghur Buddhist scriptures, including manuscript culture, editions or re-editions of Old Uyghur Buddhist texts, translation techniques and linguistic features.

Guest Editor

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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.

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