Special Issue

Religion and Migration in the Middle Ages (c.1100-c.1500): From a Religious Perspective, Redefining the Boundaries of Community and Identity

Message from the Guest Editors

Given the general lack of attention to the interactions between migration and religion in studies of the medieval period, which has been mentioned, we will take our cue from scholarship on the modern period and apply some of the reflections that have taken place in the examination of modern societies to medieval societies. We will paticularly build on the recent reassessment of the role of religion in immigration to the US (and its forerunners in North America). To allow for evidence of (mostly de facto) pluralism in medieval societies (in both migrants' origin and destination societies), we will focus on the role of religion in immigrant communities between c.1100 and c. 1500. It will contribute a wide range of case studies exploring the main reasons for the role played by religion in migration along with the suggestions made by Hirschmann 2004 as follows: 1)Religion as a refuge, which we understand as being either physical safety, psychological comfort, or both; 2)Religion as a provider of respectability or opportunities for status recognition and social mobility; 3)Religion as purveyor of resources and services for newcomers and second-generation migrants.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

28 February 2026



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Impact Factor 0.6 CiteScore 1.3



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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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