Special Issue

Nonviolence and Religion

Message from the Guest Editors

Contemporary research addresses mainly religion and violence. This special issue looks first at human violence in order to investigate religious potentials to strengthen the case for nonviolence. Contributions that take human violence as its starting point may engage with it from a biological, anthropological, psychological or historical perspective. Regarding nonviolence and religion, a key example is M.K. Gandhi whose concept of satyagraha was influenced by his own Hindu tradition but drew also on Jainism, Christianity and Islam. Gandhi's thinking will be discussed in depth by investigating its historical development, its use of ancient authoritative texts, its contribution to interreligious dialogue, its relation to gender, its relevance for our world of today, and its limits. This special issue invites researchers to discuss similar religious thinkers and activists who engaged in nonviolence from their own religious backgrounds. Possible examples are Martin Luther King, Abraham Joshua Heschel, Abdul Ghaffar Khan, Jawdat Said and Leymah Gbowee. Contributions are also welcome that focus on how different religions or confessions have related to nonviolence historically.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Louise du Toit

Prof. emer. Ephraim Meir

Prof. emer. Ed Noort

Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Palaver

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 December 2021)



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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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