## **Special Issue**

## Religion, Ritual, and Healing— 2nd Edition

## Message from the Guest Editors

This Issue will examine religion and healing as distinct yet interconnected cultural systems. Religious systems across diverse cultural contexts often share a common underlying structure with following core elements: (1) beliefs in spiritual or transcendent realities, encompassing spirits, deities, or philosophical and ethical principles; (2) rituals aimed at interacting with, influencing, or harmonizing these realities; (3) specialist religious leaders or practitioners who guide community members in understanding and engaging with these realities through rituals; and (4) critical reflection within religious traditions themselves, facilitating dialogues with medical systems.

We invite contributions exploring how rituals mediate interactions between religious beliefs and healing practices across different cultural contexts. Detailed ethnographic descriptions, historical analyses documenting systemic evolutions, and comparative studies of religious healing practices are especially welcomed. Additionally, we encourage examinations of religious rituals as holistic healing mechanisms, addressing physical health, spiritual conditions, and social integration and solidarity.

#### **Guest Editors**

Prof. Dr. Haiyan Xing

College of Philosophy, Law and Political Science, Shanghai Normal University, Shanghai 200134, China

Prof. Dr. Gerald Murray

Department of Anthropology, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611, USA

#### Deadline for manuscript submissions

31 May 2026



# Religions

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 0.6 CiteScore 1.3



mdpi.com/si/249776

Religions
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
religions@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/religions





# Religions

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 0.6 CiteScore 1.3



## 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).

