

Special Issue

Buddhist Art Along the Silk Road and Its Cross-Cultural Interaction

Message from the Guest Editors

The Silk Roads, as vital conduits of intercultural exchange, witnessed the transmission of Buddhist art from India through Gandhara to Central Asia, China, and beyond. Current scholarship on Silk Road Buddhist art faces dual opportunities: the influx of new archaeological materials and a paradigm shift from single-civilization perspectives to cross-cultural interaction studies.

This Special Issue focuses on the genealogical development and intercultural evolution of Buddhist art along the Silk Roads between the 1st and 13th centuries CE. We seek to investigate how visual languages underwent translation and transformation across diverse regions and cultural contexts while transmitting associated belief systems and philosophical concepts.

Research areas may include:

- New archaeological discoveries of Buddhism along the Silk Road
- Cultural exchange and mutual influence between Chinese and Kushan Buddhist art
- Transmission routes and cultural origins of Buddhist art in China
- Studies on Buddhist cave temples
- Studies on Sino-Tibetan Buddhist art
- Artistic interactions of Buddhism in East Asia
- Foreign civilizational elements in Chinese Buddhist art

Deadline for abstract: 30 September 2025

Guest Editors

Dr. Liming Zhang

School of Art and Archaeology, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou 310028, China

Prof. Dr. Yinggang Sun

School of History, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou 310028, China

Deadline for manuscript submissions

31 January 2026



Religions

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 0.6
CiteScore 1.3



mdpi.com/si/245317

Religions
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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).