

India in the Making of the Global Esoteric, 1200-2000

Slot Oud Poelgeest (Leiden): 15-16 June 2023

Leiden University

Programme

14 June:

16.00 *Visit to the Universal Murad Hassil Katwijk under the guidance of Mahmood Khan Youskine*

15 June:

09.00 – 09.30: **Welcome** by convenors: Marieke Bloembergen, Jos Gommans, Carolien Stolte

09.30 – 11.00: **Panel 1:** Longue Durée (Chair: Fenneke Sysling)

Richard Davis: Journey to the Golden Land: Merchant Tales of Danger, Wealth, and Wonder

Julian Strube: Aryanism and Esotericism between Europe, Persia, and India

11.00 – 11.15: *Break: Coffee/Tea*

11.15 – 12.45: **Panel 2:** Strange Parallels: (Chair: Liana Saif)

Shankar Nair: The World within a Verse: The Yogavāsiṣṭha in Global Perspective

Stefano Pellò: The Four Elements: Macrocosm, Microcosm and Matter between Naples and Delhi in the Long Seventeenth Century

12.30 – 14.00: *Break: Lunch*

14.00 – 15.30: **Panel 3:** Persianate Esotericism (Chair: Jos Gommans)

Blake Pye: Ibn 'Arabi's *Tahqiq*: An Esoteric Epistemology for Mughal India

Eva Orthmann: The Subjugation of Spirits: *Taskhīr* at the Mughal Court

15.30 – 16.00: *Break: Coffee/Tea*

16.00 – 17.30: Supriya Gandhi: Ocean of Gnosis: Divination and Self-Knowledge in Eighteenth-Century Delhi

Matthew Melvin-Koushki: India Is Magic: Orientalism and Occidentalism in Safavid and Mughal Imperial Occultism

18.00: *Evening Dinner Koetshuis Oud Poelgeest*

16 June:

09.00 – 10.30: **Panel 4:** Questioning Indianisation 1: (Chair: Bambang Purwanto)

Ben Arps: A Devil and an Apostate Give Balance to Islam: The Indian Epics as Necessary Knowledge in a Javanese Theory

Julia Byl: Upstream of India: Sumatran Indigeneity and Local Hindu-Buddhism

10.30 – 10.45: *Break: Coffee/Tea*

10.45 – 12.15: **Panel 5:** Questioning Indianisation 2 (Chair: Marieke Bloembergen)

Yulianti: Theosophy and the *Kebatinan* among the Peranakan Chinese Society in Late Colonial Indonesia.

Teren Sevea: Indic Divinities with Islamic Lineages: A Compendium of Malay-Islamic Esoteric Science

12.15 – 14.00: *Break: Lunch*

14.00 – 15.30: **Panel 6:** Western/Modern Esotericism 1 (Chair: Berthe Jansen):

Joel Bordeaux: The Witch-Cult in Southern Asia: A Study in Backcrossed Hybridization

Patton Burchett: The Figure of the Indian Yogi between Science and Magic: On Rationality, Authenticity, and the Value of Yoga in Modernity

15.30 – 15.45 *Break: Coffee/Tea*

15.45 – 17.15: **Panel 7:** Western/Modern Esotericism 2 (Chair: Carolien Stolte)

Roland Lardinois: Prophets, Mystics and Scholars in Indian Studies in France (19th-20th Century)

Jessica Namakkal: The Hippie Trail Goes West : Settler Utopianism and the project of Rajneeshpuram

17.15 – 18.00: **Final reflections: Peter van der Veer**

19.00: *Conference Dinner Leiden*