

CONCEPT

Pentecostalism, one of the many faces of contemporary Christianity, is frequently referred to as a “global phenomenon.” Shaped by globalization processes, but also a major contributor to and integral part of broader global transformations, Pentecostal forms of Christianity have shown a remarkable ability to transgress boundaries and to adapt to new cultural contexts. As such, Pentecostalism acts both, as a homogenizing force that transcends locality and as a transformative power of indigenous appropriation and differentiation. The fundamental heterogeneity of the transnational Pentecostal network is conducive for its flexibility to react on and accommodate to the enormous upheavals and changes in a globalized world.

Pentecostalism's adaptability, the resulting transcultural entanglements and inner diversity pose a serious challenge to the study of Pentecostalism. It does not only prompt scholars to question the boundaries and use of the term itself, but also raises issues on how to approach and study such an ever-changing, multisited and contested phenomenon in a meaningful way.

Taking up the notion of “transculturality” as an entry point into this discussion, this interdisciplinary workshop will explore these issues in a twofold way: on the one hand addressing theoretical and methodological concerns and on the other hand discussing those concerns with reference to specific case studies. It is our intention to create a really hands-on workshop with enough room for dialogue and discussion thereby hoping that everyone will go home with something she or he can actually use in their further studies and research.

CONTACT

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Organisers:

Junior Research Group B21: “Transcultural Dynamics of Global Pentecostalism”



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Workshop

STUDYING PENTECOSTALISM IN A TRANSCULTURAL PERSPECTIVE



April 3 - 5, 2014

Karl Jaspers Centre
Voßstraße 2, Building 4400, Room 212
69115 Heidelberg

Workshop

STUDYING PENTECOSTALISM IN A TRANSCULTURAL PERSPECTIVE

PROGRAMME

Thursday, April 3

14.00

Arrival of Participants & Registration

16.00 – 16.15

Welcome Address

16.15 – 17.45

Keynote Lecture

Cristina Rocha

(University of Western Sydney, Australia)

“Researching Pentecostal Transnational Fields: The Case of Australia-Brazil Connections”

18.00

Reception

Friday, April 4

9.00 – 10.00

Introduction: Transculturality

10.00 – 11.30

Morning Session I

Reading Assignments

(Monica Juneja 2013; Linda van de Kamp 2013; Roy Blanes 2006)

11.30 – 12.00

Coffee Break

12.00 – 13.00

Morning Session II: Contextualization

Case Study 1

Esther Berg: “From House Church to Cell Group: Transformation of Christian Small Group Practices”

13.00 – 14.00

Lunch Break

14.00 – 16.00

Afternoon Session I: Marginalization & Repression

Case Study 2

Tatiana Khritova: “Russian Pentecostals in Finland: Between Church and Diaspora”

Case Study 3

Salvatore Esposito: “The Assemblies of God in Italy and the Issue of Religious Freedom: From Buffarani Guido Guidi Ministerial Memorandum, to the Entente Law with the Government”

16.00 – 16.30

Coffee Break

16.30 – 18.00

Keynote Lecture

Michael Wilkinson

(Trinity Western University, Canada)

“Global Spirit: Globalization Theory and the Study of Pentecostal Christianity”

Saturday, April 5

9.00 – 10.30

Morning Session I

Reading Assignments

(Michael Wilkinson 2007, 2008; Peter Beyer 2013)

10.30 – 11.00

Coffee Break

11.00 – 13.00

Morning Session II: Charismatization

Case Study 4

Matthias Deininger: “Conceptualizing ‘Global Pentecostalism’: Perspectives from Singapore”

Case Study 5

Detlef Hiller: “The ‘Charismatization’ of the Comprehension and the Practice of Faith of Pakistani Christians”

13.00 – 14.00

Lunch Break

14.00 – 16.00

Afternoon Session I: Media

Case Study 6

Adrian Hermann: “Documenting the ‘Father of Lights’: The Aesthetics and Audience Reception of a Contemporary US Charismatic-Christian Documentary Film”

Case Study 7

Katja Rakow: “Bringing the Gospel Revolution from Singapore to the US: Joseph Prince’s ‘The Power of Right Believing’ US Tour”

16.00 – 16.30

Coffee Break

16.30 – 18.00

Afternoon Session II

Final Discussion and Concluding Remarks