Geography and Religous Knowledge

In the premodern world, geographical knowledge was influenced by religious ideas and beliefs. The conference seeks to analyse, how the religious character of geographic knowledge in the period from ca. 1150 to 1550 lingered on in classical as well as new forms of presenting geography.

'Religious knowledge' can be defined as forms of knowledge that develop by referring to seemingly unchanging revelatory or canonical traditions and texts. Thus, religious knowledge is not static, but evolves through continued actualisation.

To open up a comparative perspective, case studies of Latin-Christian works are complemented by examples of the Arabic-Islamic geographic tradition. The focus lies on sources that combine texts with cartographic depictions, be it maps of the known world or of its parts or regions. This approach ties in with recent developments in the history of cartography, i.e. analysing maps not isolated from their manuscript context, but in close connection to it.

The contributions of the conference aim to show to what extent the religious framing and coining of geographical knowledge continued and changed since the twelfth century. Secondly, the comparative perspective is intended to capture traditional peculiarities as well as transcultural exchange processes between the Arab-Muslim and the Latin-Christian world. Thirdly, the uniformity/variety of forms of representation (text and image) and transmission (different variants) of a given case study is taken into account. On the basis of these premises, the conference is designed to bring together leading experts, to take up current perspectives of research, to deepen the understanding of the examples analysed and thus to provide strong impulses for further studies.



Contact

Christoph Mauntel

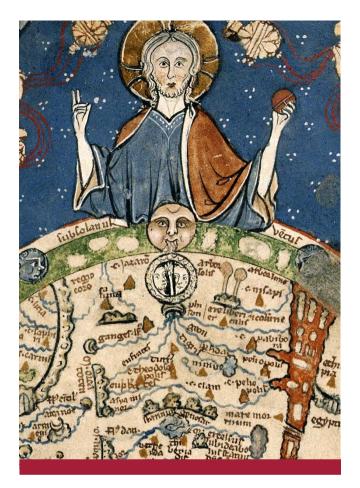
University of Tübingen Research Training Group 1662 "Religious Knowledge in Premodern Europe (800-1800)"

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Figures

Cover: Psalter-Map (c.1260), London, British Library, Add Ms 28681, fol. 9r. Backside: al-lstakhri's Kitāb al-masālik wa-al-mamālik (1193), Leiden, University Library, Cod. Or. 3101, fol. 4b–5a.



Geography and Religious Knowledge in the Premodern World (1150-1550)

International Conference | Tübingen, 11-12 April 2019 Schloss Hohentübingen, Fürstensaal





Conference Programme



Thursday | 11 April 2019

09.00 h Christoph Mauntel Introduction

Chair: Heidrun Eichner (Tübingen)

I: Geographic Concepts and Their Religous Content

- 09.15 h Karen Pinto (Boise) What is 'Islamic' About Islamic Maps?
- 10.00 h Christoph Mauntel (Tübingen) The T-O Map and its Religious Connotations – A Circumstantial Case
- 10.45 h Coffee Break

II: The Holy Land and its Place in Latin-Christian Geography

- 11.15 h Ingrid Baumgärtner (Kassel) The Geography of the Holy Land. Burchard of Mount Sions's Text and the Extant Maps
- 12.00 h Emmanuelle Vagnon (Paris) When Religious Topography Meets the Geography of the Humanists: the Tabula moderna Terrae Sanctae in the 15th Century
- 12.45 h Lunch Break



Chair: Ellen Widder (Tübingen)

III: Traditional Knowledge in New Forms?

- 14.00 h Stefan Schröder (Helsinki) Changing World Views and Religious Concepts of the Past – Meaning and Function of the Early 14th-Century 'Transitional Maps'
- 14.45 hFelicitas Schmieder (Hagen)The Globe as Mappa Mundi? Reflections on
Terrestrial Globes from Around 1500
- 15.30 h Coffee Break

IV: Representing the World in Arab-Islamic Geography

- 16.00 h Nadja Danilenko (Berlin) What's Lord Got to Do With It? Grasping the Islamicate World Through al-Işţakhrī's Book of Routes and Realms
- 16.45 h Mónica Herrera Casais (Berlin) Winds and Lunar Phases at the Service of Religion and the Nautical Image of the Mediterranean



Friday | 12 April 2019

Chair: Steffen Patzold (Tübingen) V: Representing the World in Latin-Christian Geography 09.00 h Nathalie Bouloux (Tours) Ordering and Reading the World: The Maps in

- Lambert of Saint-Omer's Liber Floridus
- 09.45 h Cornelia Dreer (Kassel) Knowledge, Faith and Pragmatism – The Maps in Ranulph Higden's *Polychronicon*
- 10.30 h Coffee Break

VI: Locating and Narrating Religion(s) and Sacrality

- **11.00 h**Jean-Charles Ducène (Paris)Al-Idrīsī, the Geography and the Religions
- **11.45 h**Kurt Franz (Tübingen)Divinity in Yāqūt's Lexicon of Peopled Places:
A Reduction
- 12.30 h Final Discussion