



The 14th International Conference Cultures of Asia and Africa: Old Subjects, New Approaches?

November 17-18, 2025, University of Warsaw

Old Library Building, hall 308, Main Campus, Krakowskie Przedmieście 26/28

DAY I

OPENING

09.00-09.30 Registration

09.30-10.00 **OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE**

Assoc. Prof. Agata Bareja-Starzyńska, Dean of the Faculty of Asian and African Cultures, University of Warsaw

KEYNOTE LECTURES

10.00-10.45 **Monika Zin**, Leipzig University

A New Perspective on Tocharian Culture of Kucha

10.45-11.30 **Dragomir Dimitrov**, Philipps-Universität Marburg

On Some Early Devanagari Types and the New Incarnation of the Schlegel Font

11.30-11.50 Discussion

COFFEE BREAK

SESSION I

12.10-12.30 **Raffaele Torella**, Sapienza University of Rome

Of the Beginnings, the Ends, the Intermediate Spaces

12.30-12.50 **Jacek Woźniak**, University of Warsaw

Nammālvār as the Recipient of Viṣṇu's Grace according to the Ācāryahirutayam by Aḷakiya Maṇavāḷapperumāl Nāyaṇār

12.50-13.10 **Krzysztof Stroński**, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań

Atypical Compound Verbs in IA – Diachronic and Typological Insights

13.10-13.30 **Riddhi Nirkhe**, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań

A Crosslinguistic Study of Modal Expressions in Hindi, Marathi, Kannada, and Tamil

13.30-13.50 **Krešimir Krnic**, University of Zagreb

Beyond Aesthetics: Can Rāma be Wrong? A Re-evaluation of Ethical Role Modeling in the Vālmiki Rāmāyaṇa

13.50-14.10 Discussion

LUNCH BREAK

SESSION II

Buddhist studies

- 14.50–15.10 **Darui Long**, University of the West, Los Angeles
The Chinese Buddhist Literature in Jagiellonian University Library
- 15.10–15.30 **Marek Mejor**, University of Warsaw
'The Method of Reading Texts': a Vajrayāna Buddhist Meditation Ritual
- 15.30–15.50 **Thupten Kunga Chashab**, University of Warsaw
A Study on the Twelfth-Century Birchbark Tibetan Manuscript Kept at the Municipal Museum, Żory, Silesia
- 15.50–16.10 **Katarzyna Marciniak**, University of Warsaw
Some Observations on the Narrative Stories in the *Mahāvastu*
- 16.10–16.30 **Stanisław Jan Kania**, University of Warsaw
'Some Wise People'—meaning us. On the *Tattva-saṅgraha* and the *Mādhyamikas*
- 16.30–16.50 Discussion

COFFEE BREAK

SESSION III

- 17.10–17.30 **Marcin Michalski, Filip A. Jakubowski**, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań
Kitāb, sharī'a and Other Translation Pitfalls. Translating *The Meadows of Gold* by al-Mas'ūdī (d. 956) into Polish
- 17.30–17.50 **Lidia Tuwalska-Napiórkowska**, University of Warsaw
Bridging the Gap between 'Old Grammar' and 'New Language' through Linguistics: The Case of Teaching the Shwa in Modern Hebrew
- 17.50–18.10 **Jevgenija Driuk**, Vilnius University
The Burden of Traditions and the Search for Individual Self in Han Kang's *The Vegetarian*
- 18.10–18.30 **Azra Abadžić Navaey, Ivan Andrijanić**, University of Zagreb
Between Sanskrit and Persian: The *Bṛhadāraṇyaka-Upaniṣad* in Dārā Šukūh's *Sirr-i Akbar*
- 18.30–18.50 **Joanna Tuczyńska**, University of Warsaw
Tagore's Bengali Transcreation of the *Ṛgveda* 7.89.2-4: *Rasa-Dhvani* in a Cognitive Framework
- 18.50–19.10 Discussion

DINNER

DAY II**SESSION IV**

- 09.00-09.20 **Pramod Jaiswal**, Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement, Kathmandu
The Rise of Gen Z and the Reshaping of Nepal's Political Landscape
- 09.20-09.40 **Natalia Hapek**, Płock Science Society
Circassians in Syria: Between War and the Unknown
- 09.40-10.00 **Maria Skryśkiewicz**, University of Warsaw
Palestinian Houses 'Unhomed'. Searching for Common Ground between Home Studies, Settler Colonialism and Thirdspace
- 10.00-10.20 **Zofia Sawicka**, University of Rzeszów
Culture in the Service of Building a New Nation – The Case of Saudi Arabia
- 10.20-10.40 **Magdalena Pinker**, University of Warsaw
Transcultural Trajectories and Artistic Resistance: Inji Efflatoun's Painting and Its Unexpected Warsaw Connections
- 10.40-11.00 **Michał Miłówka**, University of Warsaw
Language Policies of Mongolia in Relation to the Native Language of the Kazakh Ethnic Minority in the Period from 1992 to 2025
- 11.00-11.20 Discussion

COFFEE BREAK**SESSION V**

- 11.40-12.00 **Akira Ide**, University of Warsaw
Current Research on Dark Tourism: A Comparative Perspective of Japan and Europe
- 12.00-12.20 **Małgorzata Sobczyk**, Nicolaus Copernicus University, Toruń
The Historical and Literary Image of the Ban on Women's Entry to Mount Shosha
- 12.20-12.40 **Atsumi Ide**, Nagoya University
Correspondence Education for Aspiring Manga Artists and Illustrators: A Case Study of Kodansha Famous Schools
- 12.40-13.00 **Kasparas Svitojus**, Vilnius University
Ainu Representation in Japanese Cinematography
- 13.00-13.20 **Magdalena Urbańska**, University of Warsaw
Kanji Recognition in Stylised Graphies: Graphemic Competence of Japanese University Students as Illustrated by Yamanote Line *Eki Sutanpu* Case Study
- 13.20-13.40 Discussion

LUNCH BREAK

SESSION VI

- 14.20-14.40 **Ayvaz Zafer**, The Institute of Science and Wisdom, Frankfurt
The Institute of Science and Wisdom and International Qur'anic Exegesis Studies
- 14.40-15.00 **Łukasz Piątak**, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań
The Medicinal Bowl. Item of Practical Magic from the Perspective of Iconography, Philology and Islamic Studies
- 15.00-15.20 **Kirti Gahlawat**, University of Warsaw
Western Bias in Spiritual Care Assessment. Evaluating Compatibility with Asian Non-Theist Religions
- 15.20-15.40 **Anita András**, Uppsala University
Revisiting Karaim Derivational Morphology a Century after Zajączkowski (1932)
- 15.40-16.00 **Anna Sulimowicz-Keruth**, University of Warsaw
A Karaim Translation of Shlomo ibn Gabirol's Poem *Shokhnei batei homer*
- 16.00-16.20 **Marcin Grodzki**, University of Warsaw
In the Quest of the Proto-Islamic Doctrine – can Abraham help us?
- 16.20-16.40 Discussion

COFFEE BREAK

SESSION VII

Postcolonial Perspectives on Power Relations in the Arab World and Beyond

- 17.00-17.20 **Sumaiya Al-Wahaibi**, University of Copenhagen
From Precarity to Power: Arab Asylum-Seeking Women's Storytelling as Feminist Resistance in Denmark
- 17.20-17.40 **Nidhal Chemengui**, Université de Tunis
The Arts and Culture between the Media and the State: The Case of Tunisia
- 17.40-18.00 **Hanna Rubinkowska-Anioł**, University of Warsaw
Postcolonial Reaction Reflected through the Costumes of African Leaders
- 18.00-18.20 **Marta Widy-Behiesse**, University of Warsaw
Challenging the Harem Paradigm: Counter-visuality and the Reclaiming of Arab Women's Narrative Agency
- 18.20-18.40 Discussion

CLOSING

- 18.40-19.00 **CLOSING OF THE CONFERENCE**