

# **Illuminating the Sacred Word**

## **A Multidisciplinary Conference in Memory of Stefano Zacchetti (1968-2020)**



This conference on translation, commentary, and exegesis in the Buddhist world and beyond, with a focus on Indian and Chinese Buddhism, is held to recognise the late Stefano Zacchetti's contribution to and beyond Buddhist studies and Sinology.

For in-person attendance at the China Centre, Oxford and Balliol College, Oxford, for which places are strictly limited, please email [Kate.Crosby@ames.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Kate.Crosby@ames.ox.ac.uk)

With the generous support of the Glorisun Global Network for Buddhist Studies, Balliol College and the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Oxford.

# **Friday 21 Saturday 22 June 2024**

Lecture Theatre, Dickson Poon Building  
University of Oxford China Centre,  
Canterbury Road, Oxford, OX2 6LU



Online attendance via Teams Meeting  
Meeting ID: 351 419 796 400  
Passcode: Sdpvcp

## Conference description

The University of Oxford and the [Glorisun Global Network for Buddhist Studies](#) are pleased to invite all interested parties to a conference on 'Illuminating the Sacred Word – translation, commentary, and exegesis in the Buddhist world and beyond: A Multidisciplinary Conference in Memory of Stefano Zacchetti (1968–2020)' to be held on 21 and 22 June 2024 at [the University of Oxford China Centre](#), Oxford. The topic of the conference is translation, commentary and exegesis, whether in the domain of Buddhist Studies or otherwise, chosen in recognition of Stefano Zacchetti's extensive work in this field and his life-long fascination with philology, literature and the wider humanities.

## Schedule

All times in BST

Additional Event *before* main conference  
2-4pm Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2024  
Manuscript viewing, Weston Library

For early arrivals, 2:00–4:00pm Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>  
Manuscript viewing in the Weston Library led by Camillo Formigatti ([camilloformigatti@outlook.it](mailto:camilloformigatti@outlook.it)).  
Please contact Dr Formigatti if you would like to join this event.

## **Friday 21 June 2024**

Lecture Theatre, The Dickson Poon University of Oxford China Centre Building

8:15–9:00am Registration

### **Panel 1**

**Welcome:** Kate Crosby

**Chair:** Elena Lombardi

9:00–10:30am **Balliol Welcoming Panel**

Elena Lombardi, John-Paul Ghobrial, Nicola Trott, Diego Zancani,  
Christine Borgman (pre-recorded), Joanna Weinberg.

10:30–11:00am **Refreshments, Elizabeth Wordsworth Tea Room.**

### **Panel 2**

**Chair:** Cathy Cantwell

11:00–11:30am Denis Noble

*Conditioned Arising in Buddhism and Biology: Lessons from the Commentaries of Won Hyō, and Stefano Zacchetti's work on the Da Zhidu Lun.*

- 11:30–12:00pm Lu Lu  
*Translating Medicine Across Cultures: The Divergent Strategies of An Shigao and Dharmarakṣa in Introducing Indian Medical Concepts to China.*
- 12:00–12:30pm Christopher V. Jones  
*A Commentarial Fork in the Road: A Parting of Ways in the Indian and Chinese Versions of the Ratnagotravibhāga.*
- 12:30–1:30pm **Buffet lunch, Elizabeth Wordsworth Tea Room.**

### Panel 3: Current doctoral students

**Chair:** Robert Mayer

- 1:30–1:50pm Qingniao Li  
*“Best of Sages” or “Seventh of Sages”: Isi–sattama in Pāli Atthakathā.*
- 1:50–2:10pm Ven. Wanyu Zhang  
*A commentary as buddhavacana: The composition of the Vinayavibhaṅga and its interplay with the Sūtra Piṭaka.*
- 2:10–2:30pm Yunyao Zhai  
*In Praise of the Eminent Monk: Remarks on the Life and Works of Dharmarakṣa 竺法護 through the Study of Colophons.*
- 2:30–3:00pm Ven. Tuan Huynh  
*Traces and Fragments of Early Prajñāpāramitā Exegesis in Anonymous Quotations in the Da zhidu lun (\*Mahāprajñāpāramitopadeśa).*
- 3:00–3:30pm **Refreshments, Elizabeth Wordsworth Tea Room.**

### Panel 4

**Chair:** Camillo Formigatti

- 3:30–4:00pm Ulrike Roesler  
*Inviting the Perfection of Wisdom to Tibet: Translation, Circulation, and the Role of Inventories.*
- 4:00–4:30pm Marek Mejor  
*Atiśa’s Commentary on the “Perfection of Wisdom in One Hundred Thousand Lines”.*
- 4:30–5:00pm Paul Harrison  
*Not so adamant after all: the influence of commentary on the textual development of the Vajracchedikā.*

## Evening Programme

### Balliol College

5:45–6:15pm      Drinks and light canapés in Balliol Old Common Room.

## Stefano Zacchetti's Writings: Talks and Book Launch

### Gillis Lecture Theatre, Balliol College

**Chair:** Christopher V. Jones

- 6:15–7:15pm      Michael Radich  
*Stefano Zacchetti's Last (Posthumous) Monograph, its Significance, and Its Place in his Scholarship.*
- Jonathan Silk  
*The Unpublished Scholarly Legacy of Stefano Zacchetti: a Few Remarks.*
- Questions
- 7:15–7:45pm      Jinhua Chen (online)  
*The translators of Stefano's Da zhidu lun Monograph into Chinese.*
- You Zhao  
*The translation of Stefano's Da zhidu lun Monograph into Chinese.*
- 8:00–9:30pm      Dinner for contributors, **Sichuan Grand** (toast by Ulrike Roesler).

## Saturday 22 June 2024

Lecture Theatre, The Dickson Poon University of Oxford China Centre Building

### Panel 1

**Chair:** Matthew Orsborn

- 9:00–9:30am      Ming Chen  
<金光明經·大辯才天女品>諸語種文本及其注疏初探  
*Preliminary Exploration of Texts and Annotations in Various Languages of the Sarasvatīdevī-parivarta from the Suvarṇaprabhāsa-sūtram* (online).
- 9:30–10:00am      Jidong Chen  
赫舍里如山與“兜率宗”：一個被遺忘的中國佛教宗派的主張  
*Hešeri Rushan and the Tuṣita (Doushuai 兜率) Heaven School: A Forgotten Invention in Classifying Chinese Buddhist Schools* (in person).
- 10:00–10:30am      Yichen Meng  
早期漢譯佛經“一切”的特殊用法、性質及其來源  
*The Specific Usages, Characteristics, and Sources of "All" in Early Chinese Translations of Buddhist Scriptures* (online).
- 10:30–11:00am      **Refreshments, Elizabeth Wordsworth Tea Room.**

### Panel 2

**Chair:** Marta Sernesi

- 11:00–11:30am      Janine Nichol  
*Death and Rebirth in the Third-Century State of Wu* 吳: transmigration described in the *Liudu ji jing* 六度集經 (T152).
- 11:30–12:00pm      Paolo Visigalli  
*The Influence of Indic Linguistics on the Formation and Interpretation of the Chinese Buddhist Lexicon.*
- 12:00–12:30pm      Eric Greene  
*Translation and Commentary at the Dawn of Chinese Buddhism: New Light from An Shigao's Yin chi ru jing and its Commentary.*
- 12:30–1:30pm      **Lunch, Elizabeth Wordsworth Tea Room.**

### Panel 3

**Chair:** Francesca Tarocco

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| 1:30–2:00pm | Nelson Landry<br><i>A Five Dynasties Manuscript in relation to Tang Buddhist culture: A Study of S.3728 from the British Library.</i> |
| 2:00–2:30pm | Qijun Zheng<br><i>Daoist Gods Explaining Buddhist Texts: Buddhist Exegesis through Spirit-Writing in Qing China.</i>                  |
| 2:30–3:00pm | You Zhao<br><i>Jifa 吉法: Variations of Maṅgala in Chinese Buddhist Writing.</i>  |
| 3:00–3:30pm | <b>Refreshments, Elizabeth Wordsworth Tea Room</b>  |

### Panel 4

**Chair:** Norihisa Baba

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| 3:30–4:00pm | Francesco Barchi<br><i>A Gāndhārī exegetical text corresponding to part of the *Āryavasumitrabodhisattvasaṃgītiśāstra.</i>                   |
| 4:00–4:30pm | Péter–Dániel Szántó<br><i>Buddhist Homiletics as Social Commentary.</i>  |
| 4:30–5:00pm | Vincent Tournier<br><i>The special dead and the living virtuosi: religious ideals in the Deccan in the Middle Period of Indian Buddhism.</i> |

### Evening Programme

**Keynote Lecture, SCR dining room, Balliol College**

**Chair:** Paul Harrison

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| 5:45–7:00pm | Jan Nattier<br><i>The Scripture in Forty-two Sections (Sishier zhang jing 四十二章經, T784): Reconsidering an Enigmatic Text.</i><br>(space limited – contributors and specified guests only) |
| 7:00–7:45pm | Drinks (SCR)   |
| 7:45–9:15pm | Dinner (SCR dining room, space limited – contributors and specified guests)<br>some words from other personal friends of Stefano and Yang Kan.<br>Closing thanks                         |



## Research Posters

Edward Voet

*Two New Romanisation Systems for Chanting in Middle Korean.*

Enbo Hu, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München

*Correcting the “uncorrectable” mistakes: How can translingual comparison contribute to canonical editorial work.*

Jacob Daniel Fisher

*Who is Right About Being Wrong? Reliable Cognition, Memory, and the Warranting of Mistakes According to Dharmakīrti and Candrakīrti.*

Huaye Ji

中古譯經“色像”相關形式及其流傳.

*Related Forms and Transmission of “se xiang 色像” in Medieval Sūtra Translations.*

Tianran Wang

*Dao'an: Guardian of Buddhist Scripture Authenticity in Early Chinese Translation.*

Yuwei Zhang

以“從.....出”為例看漢譯佛經中具格的特殊譯法.

*‘Examining “從.....出” as an example of the special methods used for translating Buddhist texts into Chinese.*

For updates, please visit <https://talks.ox.ac.uk/talks/series/id/3e57535b-5b52-4c58-b855-76702c28a743>.