

Contributor Biographies

Tim H. BARRETT is Emeritus Professor of East Asian History at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. He studied Chinese at Cambridge and Buddhist Studies at Yale, and spent much of his career publishing on the history of the religious traditions of East Asia, primarily with regard to China. His books include *Li Ao: Buddhist, Taoist, or Neo-Confucian?* (1992), *Taoism Under the Tang* (1996), *The Woman Who Discovered Printing* (2008), and *From Religious Ideology to Political Expediency in Early Printing* (2012).

Richard ELLGUTH is a postdoc at the Free University of Berlin. He has received a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in Chinese studies at Leipzig University. He is interested in religions in China from a perspective of global intellectual history with a particular focus on Chinese Buddhism. His recently defended doctoral dissertation is called 'The Buddha in Plain Words: Chinese Buddhist Engagements with Western Religious Thought and the Transformation of Buddhist Language, 1912-1949'. In his new project, he investigates Chinese religious diasporas in Germany and their impact on both Chinese and German foreign policy.

Elizabeth J. HARRIS is an honorary senior research fellow within the Edward Cadbury Centre for the Public Understanding of Religion at the University of Birmingham, UK. Before retirement she was an Associate Professor in Religious Studies, specialising in Buddhist Studies, at Liverpool Hope University. She is currently President of the UK Association for Buddhist Studies and an International Adviser to the Society for Buddhist-Christian Studies.

Her publications include: *Theravada Buddhism and the British Encounter: Religious, missionary and colonial encounter in nineteenth century Sri Lanka* (Routledge 2006) and *Religion, Space and Conflict in Sri Lanka: colonial and postcolonial contexts* (Routledge 2018). With John L. Crow she has co-written a biography of Allan Bennett/Ananda Metteyya, one of the first British people to be ordained as a Buddhist monk (Equinox 2025).

Berthe JANSEN is Assistant Professor of Tibetan Studies at Leiden University, with a Ph.D. in Buddhist Studies. Jansen is the PI of the ERC-funded project: Himalayan Lives and Lived Religion: The Van Manen Collection (2023–2028). Her monograph *The Monastery Rules: Tibetan Monastic Organization in Pre-modern Tibet* came out in 2018 with University of California Press.

Alexandra KALOYANIDES is an associate professor in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte where her teaching focuses on Buddhism. She researches Burmese religions and American religious history. Her first book is *Baptizing Burma: Religious Change in the Last Buddhist Kingdom* (Columbia University Press 2023). It examines the religious history and material culture of the nineteenth-century American Baptist mission to Burma. Her new book project, *Resourcing Religion: Burmese Religions and the Environment*, explores the ways that Burmese kingdoms extracted resources like rubies, jade, and teak to develop a distinct form of Buddhism.

Kyong-Kon KIM is Associate Professor of History of Religions at Strasbourg University. His research interests include the Lotus Sūtra, biographical texts of the Buddha Śākyamuni, Sōn Buddhism and the religious landscape of East Asia. His publications include *Der Mensch und seine Erlösung nach Sōn-Buddhismus und Christentum. Bojo Chinul und Karl Rahner im Vergleich* (Bonn, 2007), *La*

méditation bouddhique et son acculturation en Asie (ed. du numéro thématique, *Revue de l'histoire des religions*, Collège de France, 2022), « Laozi. De la figure du maître mythique à la divinité taoïque » (*ARCHIMÈDE*, UMR 7044, 2019), « La pratique ascétique (dutahaeng) dans l'ordre bouddhique coréen Jogye » (*RHR*, CdF, 2019), « La cultivation de l'esprit-cœur d'après Chinul (1158-1210) » (*RHR*, CdF, 2022), « Le roi indo-grec Ménandre d'après les documents chinois *Naxian biqiu jing* » (ed. G. Duceur et C. Muckensturm, *Mondes grec et indien, d'Alexandre le Grand à Kaniška*, Presse universitaire de Franche-Comté, 2023).

Agnieszka KOZYRA, the Chair of Japanese Studies, University of Warsaw. She specializes in Japanese philosophy and religion, especially Buddhism and the Kyoto School philosophy. She got her M.A. in Humanities at Osaka Ichiritsu Daigaku (Osaka City University). She received the Soros Scholarship at Pembroke College in Oxford (1992) and was a visiting professor at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies, Kyoto (2004/2005). Among her books published in Polish are: *Filozofia zen* (Zen Philosophy, 2004), *Filozofia Nicości Nishidy Kitarō* (Nishida Kitarō's Philosophy of Nothingness, 2007), *Estetyka zen* (Zen Aesthetics, 2010), *Neo zen? Zen a racjonalizm, libertynizm i hedonizm* (Neo-zen? Zen and Rationalism, Libertinism and Hedonism, 2019). She translated into Polish many of Nishida's philosophical essays on science such as *Keiken kagaku* (Experimental Science) and published the article 'Nishida Kitarō's Philosophy of Absolute Nothingness (*Zettaimu no tetsugaku*) and Modern Theoretical Physics' (*Philosophy East and West* 68.2, 2018). She is also the authoress of the book in Japanese titled *Nihon to seiyō ni okeru Uchimura Kanzō* (in Japanese) (Between East and West – Christian Thought of Uchimura Kanzō, Kyōbunkan, Tōkyō 2001), based on her Ph.D dissertation.

LI Xuetao 李雪濤 is currently Dean of the School of History and Director of the Institute for Global History at Beijing Foreign

Studies University. He is a member of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina (ML) and he has received a Master of Arts and Ph.D. from the University of Bonn (Rhenish Friedrich Wilhelm University of Bonn). He is mainly engaged in the research of global history, the history of Sino-foreign relations, the history of German philosophy, and the history of Chinese Buddhism. He was the president of the Society for Cultural Interaction in East Asia (Osaka, 2017–2018) and vice president of the Chinese Society for the History of Sino-Foreign Relations (Beijing, 2017–2022, 2022–). Publications include: *A Multilingual Dictionary of Chinese Buddhism* (Together with Ch. Kleine & M. Pye, 1999), *Die Übertragung buddhistischer Sūtras ins Chinesische. Theorie und Praxis am Beispiel von Zanning (919–1001)* (2019), *Deguo hanxue yanjiu shigao* 德國漢學研究史稿 [The History of Sinological Studies in Germany, 2021], *Yasibe'ersi yu Zhongguo: Lun zhexue de shijieshi jiangou* 雅斯貝爾斯與中國：論哲學的世界史建構 [Jaspers and China: on the Construction of the World History of Philosophy, 2021], *Dialog des Missverständnisses. Die hermeneutische Relevanz der deutschen Sinologie für die chinesische Wissenschaft* (2023), etc. And translations include: *Lun lishi de qi yuan yu mu biao* 論歷史的起源與目標 [The Origin and Goal of History. By Karl Jaspers, 2018] and *Fotuo yu Longshu* 佛陀與龍樹 [Buddha and Nāgārjuna. By Karl Jaspers, 2023]. He is also Editor-in-chief of several journals, including: *Journal of Cultural Interaction in East Asia*, *Quanqiushi* 全球史 [Chinese Journal of Global History], *Xunzhao* 尋找 [Seeking], and *Yazhou yu Shijie* 亞洲與世界 [Asia and the World].

Chia-Wei LIN is a graduate assistant (assistante diplômée) and Ph.D. student at the Section de langues et civilisations slaves et de l'Asie du Sud, Université de Lausanne. Her research interests include historical linguistics, language contact, indigenous grammatical traditions, Christian and Buddhist translations on the Silk Road. Her dissertation project examines the Arabic, Georgian, and Greek translations of *Barlaam and Josaphat*.

Przemysław SKRZYŃSKI, Ph.D., is a Research Assistant at the Institute for the Study of Religions, Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland. His teaching comprises both religious and cultural studies, including contemporary Buddhism, presence of religious themes in art, research into religious archives, and Religious Studies methodology. His main research interests include the ritual and symbolic acculturation of oriental religions in Western cultural communities, the sociology of communities, and Buddhist-Christian interreligious dialogue. He is currently completing work on his book about the first Buddhist communities in Poland. He also works as a staff member at the Kyoto-Kraków Foundation, which houses legacy of the Polish film director Andrzej Wajda.

Rafał K. STEPIEN is a Principal Researcher at the Institute for the Cultural and Intellectual History of Asia within the Austrian Academy of Sciences in Vienna, where he leads a research project in Chinese Buddhist philosophy (ChinBuddhPhil) funded by the European Research Council. He is concurrently Editor-in-Chief at the *Journal of Buddhist Philosophy*. Previously, Rafał was the inaugural Berggruen Research Fellow in Indian Philosophy at the University of Oxford, the inaugural Cihui Foundation Faculty Fellow in Chinese Buddhism at Columbia University, a Humboldt Research Fellow in Buddhist Studies at Heidelberg University, the Sou-davar Memorial Research Scholar in Persian Studies at the University of Cambridge, Assistant Professor of Asian Religions at Hampshire College, and Assistant Professor in Comparative Religion at Nanyang Technological University. His latest book is *Buddhism Between Religion and Philosophy: Nāgārjuna and the Ethics of Emptiness* (Oxford University Press, 2024).

ZHANG Xiaogui 張小貴 earned an art degree at Beijing Normal University, specializing in History, in 2000. He received his Ph.D. degree at Sun Yat-sen University, in 2006. His supervisor was Prof. Lin Wushu. The focus of his study was especially concerned with the ancient Persian Religion. His Ph.D. dissertation is titled the ‘Sini-

cized Form of Zoroastrianism during the Tang and Song Periods'. From 2006, he has been teaching at Department of History, Jinan University in Guangzhou City. In 2015, he received a professor position. From September 2010–August 2011, he was a visiting Scholar at SOAS, University of London. From August 2018–August 2019, he was a guest professor the Department of Sinology, Tuebingen University, Germany. He has published the followings books: *Chinese Translation of Mary Boyce's A Persian Stronghold of Zoroastrianism*, Beijing: Zhonghua shuju, 2005; *Zhongguo huahua xianjiao kaoshu* 中古華化祆教考述 [A Study of Sinicized Zoroastrianism in Medieval China], Beijing: Cultural Relics Publishing House, 2010; *Studies and Reviews on the history of Zoroastrianism*, Lanzhou University Press, 2013; *Studies on the Spread of Zoroastrianism in Medieval China*, Shanghai guji Press, 2022; *Kingship, Law, and Divinity. Sasanian Persia and Ancient China* 王權、法律與神祇：薩珊波斯與古代中國, Zhongguo shehui kexue Press, 2024; and (ed.) *Studies on Three Persian Religions: Festschrift for Pro. LIN WUSHU at his Seventieth Birthday*, Lanzhou University Press, 2014. He has published some articles on ancient Zoroastrian History and Culture on the Silk Road and is now focused on ancient Persian Law and Society, Arabs in the Song Dynasty and Parsis History from India to China.