

ESF Exploratory Workshop on  
**THE RITES CONTROVERSY IN THE  
EARLY MODERN WORLD**

Paris (France), 26-27 May 2011

Convened by:  
**Ines G. Zupanov<sup>①</sup> and Pierre Antoine Fabre<sup>②</sup>**

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## **Main Objectives of the Workshop:**

The principal intellectual objective of our exploratory workshop is to understand how the concept of “rite”, with its religious connotation of *ritus* or liturgy, developed during the early modern period into a secular concept of ritual and how it opened the debate on religious pluralism. The change in the meaning of the word is symptomatic of a larger sociocultural transformation in which religion and ethics, piety and morality came to be defined as two separate spheres. Then as today, this transformation was negotiated through a series of “quarrels”. These will be in the center of our inquiry.

An additional objective is to gather together at the same table historians working on rites and rituals from different perspectives and from different area studies in order to chisel out appropriate methodologies for approaching our object in the long and the short “durée”. We will have Sinologists, Indologists, Americanists and Europeanists working from different historical subfields (ethno-history, religious history, social history, cultural history, history of a book, etc.).

Our final objective is to see in which way to expand and enrich our topic of research in order to connect with researchers in other fields such as anthropology, sociology, political sciences, etc. This will be the next stage in our project.

## **Workshop Agenda**

The ESF workshop will be the first in a series of intellectual events we are planning for the next two years regarding the study of rites and rituals in the early modern world. All participants will write papers that will be pre-circulated at least two weeks in advance of the workshop date. These papers will be discussed by the specially designated discussants and by the participants in order to be improved for publication in the first of the volumes we are planning on the topic.

## **Report publication and dissemination**

Within a year of the ESF workshop we plan to have the paper ready to be published by university or commercial press.

## PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Papers presented in English or French.

### Thursday 26 May 2011

- 09.00-09.20      **Inaugural Address / Discours d'ouverture**  
**Pierre Antoine Fabre** (EHESS, Paris, France) **and Ines Zupanov** (CNRS, Paris, France)
- 09.20-09.50      **Presentation of the European Science Foundation (ESF)**  
**François-Joseph Ruggiu** (Standing Committee for Social Sciences)
- 09.50-11.00**      **Session I: Encounters with Historical Cultures; Missionary Practices, Intellectual Fronts. Chair: Antonella Romano, discussant: Pierre Antoine Fabre**
- 09.50-10.15      **"The Jesuits at the Astronomical Bureau in Beijing: science, rites and politics in early Qing China (1644-1669)"**  
**Catherine Jami** (CNRS, Université Paris 7, Paris, France)
- 10.15-10.40      **"Malabar Rites: An eighteenth-century Controversy on the Catholic Missions to South India"**  
**Paolo Aranha** (Warburg Institute, London, United Kingdom)
- 10.40-11.00      **Discussion**
- 11.00-11.10      *Coffee / Tea Break*
- 11.10-12.50**      **Session II: Chinese Rites and Jesuit Missions. Chair: Ines G. Zupanov, discussant: Allan Strathern**
- 11.10-11.35      **"Rites controversy. Chinese Converts' Reaction"**  
**Ronnie Po-Chia Hsia** (Pennsylvania State University, University Park, United States)
- 11.35-12.00      **"Les éclaircissements sur les cérémonies chinoises de Mgr de Basilée, Gregorio Lopez, premier évêque chinois (1684)"**  
**Isabelle Landry-Deron** (EHESS, Paris, France)
- 12.00-12.25      **"Rites and Jesuit Mission History. Pierre-François-Xavier de Charlevoix's works"**  
**Florence Hsia** (University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, United States)
- 12.25-12.50      **Discussion**
- 12.50-13.50      *Lunch: room 641*
- 13.50-15.25**      **Session III: Malabar Rites between Mission and History, and beyond. Chair: Istvan Perczel, discussant: Antje Leuchter**
- 13.50-14.15      **"The Malabar Rites Controversy (ca. 1600-1744): A Paradigm of Ritual Dynamics in the Early Modern Catholic Missions of South India"**  
**Gita Dharampal-Frick** (Heidelberg University, Heidelberg, Germany)
- 14.15-14.40      **"Translation and Accommodation in the 17<sup>th</sup> century South India"**  
**Margherita Trento** (EHESS, Paris, France)
- 14.40-15.05      **"Counter-factual rites controversies, or why Brazil isn't India"**

**Ananya Chakravarti** (Centro de História de Além-mar, Lisbon, Portugal)

- 15.05-15.25      **Discussion**
- 15.25-15.35      *Coffee / tea break*
- 15.35-18.00**      **Session IV: Mission and Inquisition. Chair: Guillermo Wilde, discussant: Annick Delfosse**
- 15.35-16.00      **"A less known question of the Chinese Rites Controversy. The role played by the Chinese Philosophy in the meeting with Christianity"**  
**Michela Catto** (Istituto per il Lessico Europeo e storia delle idee Consiglio Nazionale LIESI/CNR - Marie Curie Fellow, Roma, Italy)
- 16.00-16.25      **"Rites, Customs and Religions: the Portuguese Inquisition in India (16th-17th Century)"**  
**Giuseppe Marcocci** (Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa, Pisa, Italy)
- 16.25-16.50      **"Jesuits and Oriental rites in the documents of the Roman Inquisition"**  
**Sabina Pavone** (University of Macerata, Fermo, Italy)
- 16.50-17.20      **Discussion**
- 17.20-18.00      **General Discussion**
- 20.00              *Dinner*

## Friday 27 May 2011

- 09.25-11.00**      **Session V: Rites Controversies: Far and Near. Chair: Ronnie Po-Chia Hsia, discussant: Christian Grosse**
- 09.25-09.50      **"The Chinese Controversy of Science between the Ming and the Qing Dynasties"**  
**Antonella Romano** (European University Institute, Florence, Italy)
- 09.50-10.15      **"The secret Chaldean movement among the Catholic St. Thomas Christians (the Pazhayakur) in the 18<sup>th</sup> c in Kerala"**  
**Istvan Perczel** (Central European University, Budapest, Hungary)
- 10.15-10.40      **"Orthodoxie et politique. La patriarche Nikon de Moscou, le prince Valaque Radu III et la Grande Eglise de Constantinople"**  
**Ovidiu Olar** ("N. Iorga" Institute of History of the Romanian Academy, Bucharest, Romania)
- 10.40-11.00      **Discussion**
- 11.00-11.10      *Coffee / Tea Break*
- 11.10-12.50**      **Session VI: Idols, Idolatry and Catholic Mission (I). Chair: Ronnie Po-Chia Hsia, discussant: Joan-Pau Rubies**
- 11.10-11.35      **"Une querelle américaine des rites guaranis? Hypothèses de recherche"**  
**Guillermo Wilde** (University or Organisation: Universidad Nacional de San Martín - CONICET, Buenos Aires, Argentina)
- 11.35-12.00      **"The Extirpation of idolatry"**  
**Juan Carlos Estenssoro** (Université de Lille 3, Villeneuve d'Ascq, France)
- 12.00-12.25      **"Intercultural Arguments in the Chinese Rites Controversy: the Case of Chinese Collective Letters dating from 1702"**

	<b>Nicolas Standaert</b> (University of Organisation K.U. Leuven, Leuven, Belgium)
12.25-12.50	<b>Discussion</b>
12.50-13.50	<i>Lunch: room 641</i>
<b>13.50-17.00</b>	<b>Session VII: Idols, Idolatry and Catholic Mission (II). Chair: Florence Hsia, discussant: Joan-Pau Rubies</b>
15.00-15.20	<b>"Fearing the Power of Symbols: the Antagonism between Andean, Creole, and Afro-American Rites in Colonial Peru."</b> <b>Claudia Brosseder</b> (University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany)
15.20-15.45	<b>"Creation and shaping of idolatry in the doctrinal works of Jesuits José de Acosta and Matteo Ricci in the respective missions of Peru and China in the late 16th century"</b> <b>Ana Hosne</b> (Universidad Nacional de San Martin, Buenos Aires, Argentina)
15.45-16.10	<b>Discussion</b>
16.10-16.20	<i>Coffe / Tea Break</i>
16.20-18.00	<b>General discussion and conclusion</b>
20.00	<i>End of Workshop and dinner</i>

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- to bring 'added value' to nationally funded research through European collaboration between ESF Member Organisations;
- to help support innovative research ideas and approaches emanating from the scientific community, and
- to play an institutional role in strengthening European social science research infrastructure.

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