



Religion and Disease

ed. by Rüdiger Lohlker

The Interdisciplinary “Journal for Religion and Transformation in Contemporary Society” ([JRAT](#)) is an interdisciplinary, international, online open-access journal with a double-blind peer-review process. It was established in 2015, since 2019 it is published with BRILL. Every issue has a distinct thematic focus which is approached from different disciplines. The journal aims at investigating the contribution of religions to the cultural, political, juridical, and aesthetic

dynamics in present-day pluralistic societies. Vice versa, it examines the influence of the contemporary processes of social transformation on religions and religious expressions.

Call for Papers:

Religion and disease have always been intimately entwined. Deadly epidemics and pandemics deeply influenced the development of societies and cultures. Religious communities and individuals tried to respond to these diseases and to the need to tend for the sick even if that meant putting their own lives at risk.

In this issue, we bring together the historical and contemporary experience of religion (in a broad sense) with epidemic and pandemic diseases. The historical dimension includes cases like ancient plagues and other epidemic diseases, while the contemporary dimension includes the Spanish flu and HIV/AIDS. The traditions may comprise East Asian, South Asian, Islamic, Christian, African and American religions. A special focus should be on the current COVID-19 pandemic and the global reactions to it by different religious traditions.

This volume intends a first step towards an understanding of the interrelation of diseases and religions throughout history as part of a conversation on religion and health.

We welcome contributions on the contemporary and historical reactions of specific religious traditions as well as essays with a comparative approach and a more theoretical bias. Theological essays from different traditions are welcome as well.

Proposal: Anyone interested should send a proposal for a **title**, an **abstract** (not more than 300 words) and a **CV** (not more than 150 words) to Rüdiger Lohlker (ruediger.lohlker@univie.ac.at) not later than September 30th, 2020. Authors of proposals invited to submit an article will be notified in October 2020.

Submission: The article (in English) will be due on March 31st, 2021. It should be no longer than 40,000 characters, footnotes, bibliography and spaces included, or about 6,000 words. JRAT uses online submission only. Authors should submit their manuscript online via the Editorial Manager online submission system at: editorialmanager.com/jrat/. Please find the author’s instructions here:

https://brill.com/fileasset/downloads_products/Author_Instructions/JRAT.pdf

Queries regarding content may be directed to ruediger.lohlker@univie.ac.at. For any questions or problems relating to your manuscript, please contact the editorial team (jrat@univie.ac.at) or Stephan Kopsieker (kopsieker@brill.com). For questions about Editorial Manager, authors can contact the Brill EM Support Department: em@brill.com.