



PILNET (Pilgrimage Studies Network) of EASA

University of Zadar, Department of Ethnology and Anthropology

University of Roehampton, Department of Social Sciences

PILNET 2019 Workshop, Zadar 4th-6th September 2019

Approaching Pilgrimage: Methodological Issues Involved In Researching Routes, Sites and Practices

Pilgrimage sites and practices are highly complex, multivocal and multi-layered. This diversity has produced literature that covers almost every aspect of the social and cultural contexts within which pilgrimage sites and practices exist and are created and (re)created, i.e. politics, tourism, migration, place-making, heritage, etc. Nevertheless, at the beginning of the anthropology of pilgrimage scant attention was directed towards methodological issues involved in the study of contemporary pilgrimage. In their seminal work *Image and Pilgrimage in Christian Culture* (1978), Victor and Edith Turner mention personal experience as one of the important aspects of pilgrimage research, but they don't problematize their approach towards pilgrimage. During subsequent debate the focus was on questioning the *communitas* model (Eade and Sallnow 1991) and it was only from the mid-1990s that pilgrimage researchers started to discuss their different approaches and methodological issues related to experience and reflexivity (Dubisch 1995; Frey 1998). Recently, pilgrimage research has drawn on the more-than-representational approach through the exploration of the sensorial, emotional, affective experience of pilgrimage (Reader 2005; Maddrell et al. 2014).

Pilgrimage studies has always been influenced by developments within anthropology and related disciplines, but there has been little discussion about the potentiality of pilgrimage studies to offer new insights to other fields. Moreover, so far there has not been a gathering of pilgrimage studies researchers to discuss the methodological approaches and issues involved in studying pilgrimage. Forty years on from the publication of *Image and Pilgrimage in Christian Culture*, we want to rectify this lacuna through this Pilgrimage Studies Network workshop. We want to create a facilitative environment for the discussion of the different approaches towards pilgrimage but also, more importantly, we would like to set the stage for future pilgrimage research. That is why we are inviting pilgrimage scholars with diverse and innovative methodological approaches towards pilgrimage sites and practices to apply.

PROGRAM

Venue: Rectorate, Mihovila Pavlinovića 1

4th September

9:00 – 9:15 Opening of the workshop

9:15 – 10:00 **Invited Speaker:** Simon Coleman (University of Toronto), Studying Pilgrimage: A Manifesto

10:00 – 10:15 Discussion (moderator: John Eade)

10:15 – 10:30 Coffee break

10:30 – 12:00 **Panel 1** (moderator: Nurit Stadler)

Gabi Abramac (Moshe David Gaon Center for Ladino Culture, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev), The ethnography of Hasidic pilgrimage in the digital age

Mario Katić (University of Zadar), Multi-role contextual approach to pilgrimages

12:00 – 12:15 Coffee break

12:15 – 13:45 **Panel 2** (moderator: Gabi Abramac)

Nurit Stadler (Hebrew University of Jerusalem), Religion as borders inscriptions: the study of pilgrimage in fenced spaces

Evgenia Mesaritou (University of Toronto), Performing pilgrimage: constructions of the 'journey' in Greek Cypriot pilgrimages to the monastery of Apostolos Andreas in Cyprus

13:45 Lunch (Restaurant Barbakan, Ruđera Boškovića 5)

17:00 – 18:30 **Panel 3** (moderator: Evgenia Mesaritou)

Lior Chen (Hebrew University of Jerusalem), To research baptism sites along the Jordan River – multi-sited ethnography of adjacent places

Hsin-yi Li (EHESS, Paris), Multi-sited ethnography and place-making: a case study of Asian music students and their communitas and homecoming experience in their study journeys to Europe

5th September

9:00 – 9:45 **Invited Speaker:** Ian Reader (Manchester University), Home on the road: permanency, obsession and perpetual pilgrimage in Shikoku

9:45 – 10:00 Discussion (moderator: Simon Coleman)

10:00 – 10:15 Coffee break

10:15 – 11:45 **Panel 4** (moderator: Hsin-yi Li)

Yueh-po Huang (Institute of Ethnology, Academia Sinica), The copied pilgrimage on the move - the cases of the Saikoku junrei and the Shikoku henro in postcolonial Taiwan

Tatsuma Padoan (University College Cork), Walking the Sūtra: a semiotic theory of pilgrimage

11:45 – 12:00 Coffee break

12:00 – 13:30 **Panel 5** (moderator: Tatsuma Padoan)

Lina Leparskienė (Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore), Research of the restoration of the cult of Our Lady of Trakai and pilgrimage tradition to Trakai

Mirela Hrovatin (Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia, Catholic University of Croatia), Gathering and interpreting personal prayers: how far may we go?

13:30 Lunch (Restaurant Barbakan, Ruđera Boškovića 5)

17:00 – 17:45 **Invited speaker** John Eade (Roehampton University, Toronto University), The anthropology of pilgrimage and the 'problem of belief'

17:45 – 18:00 Discussion (moderator: Dionigi Albera)

6th September

9:00 – 9:45 **Invited speaker** Dionigi Albera (Aix-Marseille University), Pilgrims at shared shrines: an epistemological challenge for pilgrimage studies?

9:45 – 10:00 Discussion (moderator: Ian Reader)

10:00 – 10:15 Coffee break

10:15 – 11:45 **Panel 6** (moderator: Mirela Hrovatin)

Radim Chvaja (LEVYNA Laboratory for the Experimental Research of Religion, Masaryk University), Evolutionary approach to the study of pilgrimages

Morten Bech Kristensen (Aalborg University), Affective meaning-making in pilgrimage

11:45 – 12:00 Coffee break

12:00 – 12:45 **Panel 7** (moderator: Mario Katić)

Ana Ljubojević (Polish institute for Advanced Studies in Warsaw, Faculty of Political Science in Zagreb), To educate peace in times of post-memory: Perugia-Assisi Marcia per la pace

13:00 Lunch (Restaurant Barbakan, Ruđera Boškovića 5)

14:30 – 21:00 Field excursion: Nin and Pag