

Venue

Tübingen Forum for Science and Humanities
Doblerstr. 33
D-72074 Tübingen

Symposium Organizers

Prof. Dr. Klaus Antoni
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Symposium Description

Since their creation, the *Kojiki* and *Nihon shoki* have been subject to processes of sacralization and desacralization that affect their status in Japanese society even today. The aim of this symposium is to gain a deeper understanding of these processes by discussing and comparing a variety of case studies. We will take a closer look at the strategies that have been employed over the centuries to imbue Japanese (imperial) mythology or related texts with inviolable authority. Three areas will serve as the basis for this discussion: Exegesis through textual discourse, political legitimation of rule, and reception in folklore and contemporary culture.

This symposium will be held in a hybrid format with limited on-site attendance. If you wish to participate virtually, please contact us via the following e-mail address:

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DFG Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft



FOR 2828 De/Sacralization of Texts
Project 1: Sacred Narrative: The Political
Dimension of Japanese Mythology

EBERHARD KARLS
UNIVERSITÄT
TÜBINGEN



Japan's Imperial Mythology

De/Sacralization in the Context of Exegesis, Politics and Folklore

November 23 - 25, 2023

Tübingen Forum for Science and Humanities

Picture credits

Utagawa Hiroshige, 1847-52. Shoshin sōgaku kōki o sasou
(A Musical Performance by the Deities Entices the Divine
Radiance). Woodblock print held at the British Museum.



Thursday, November 23, 2023

Introduction and Keynote

11:00 **Klaus Antoni, Julia Dolkovski and Louise Neubronner**
(University of Tübingen)
Welcome and introductory remarks

11:45 **Kikuko Hirafuji**
(Kokugakuin University)
Kojiki Myth and the Jōmon Period

12:30 **Lunch break**

Panel 1

14:00 **Kazuo Matsumura**
(Wako University)
Reconsidering the Mythology of Goddesses: With Special Reference to the Sun Goddess/Kingship-protecting Goddess

14:45 **Raji Steineck**
(University of Zurich)
Zeami's *Kintōshō*: 'Work on Myth' in Medieval Japan

15:30 **Coffee break**

Panel 2

16:00 **Judit Árokay**
(Heidelberg University)
The Search for the Original Language of the Myths: The Question of the Spoken and the Written Word

16:45 **Matthieu Felt**
(University of Florida)
Rethinking Motoori Norinaga and *Nihon shoki*

Friday, November 24, 2023

Panel 3

09:30 **Jun'ichi Isomae**
(Nichibunken Institute)
Return from the Dead's Land: Post-colonial Mythology of the Fukushima Nuclear Disaster

10:15 **Daniel F. Schley**
(Nichibunken Institute)
Nature in Miki Kiyoshi's and Maruyama Masao's Theories on Myth

11:00 **Coffee break**

Panel 4

11:30 **David Weiss**
(Kyushu University)
Myth and Ethnicity: The Role of Mythology in Oka Masao's Theory of Japanese Ethnogenesis

12:15 **Lunch break**

Panel 5

13:45 **Maral Andassova**
(Waseda University)
The Emperors in the *Kojiki*: In the Context of their Relationships with the Local Deities

14:30 **Sarah Schmid**
(University of Zurich)
The Removed Empress: Jingū kōgō in Meiji Period Print Media

15:15 **Coffee break**

Panel 6

15:45 **Michael Wachutka**
(TCJS)
Propagating Japan's Spiritual Culture: Editorial Compilation and Exegetical Dissemination of Shinto's "Sacred Scriptures"

16:30 **Marcin Lisiecki**
(Nicolaus Copernicus University)
Sacralization of Political Power in Japan: Mythological Threads in *Kokutai no hongī*

Saturday, November 25, 2023

Panel 7

09:30 **Louise Neubronner**
(University of Tübingen)
Forged Sacredness: *Jindai moji* in the Eye of the West

10:15 **Klaus Antoni**
(University of Tübingen)
Sacred Calendar, Linear Chronology, and the Jinmu Tennō Myth

11:00 **Coffee break**

Panel 8

11:15 **Julia Dolkovski**
(University of Tübingen)
Japan's Two *shinwa no furusato*: Regional Identity and Tourism Based on Mythology in Shimane and Miyazaki

12:00 **Closing discussion**