Letter from the Secretary-General

Dear Fellow-members of the IAHR,

The emphasis in this bulletin is on the subject-matter of our discipline, rather than organisational questions. The detailed programme of the IAHR regional conference about to take place in Groningen indicates a continuing strong interest in reflection on theory and method in historical perspective. At the same time the launch of another new journal, this time in Denmark, illustrates the vitality of both the philological and the observational method in the study of religion. The international spread of editors and subject-matter is particularly instructive.

Page 2 carries a statement about a small meeting which will be taking place in Warsaw. Suggestions for particularly suitable participants should be made as quickly as possible, to the undersigned.

Michael Pye

IAHR BULLETIN 11
APRIL 1989

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Warsaw conference September 5-9, 1989

A small conference is being planned to facilitate the development of relations between East European specialists in the study of religion and office-holders in the International Association for the Study of Religions and its member organisations. The meeting will be held in Warsaw, and local arrangements will be made by Prof. Witold Tylocz (Polish Society for the Science of Religions). Numbers attending are strictly limited to a maximum of 30. The Polish Academy of Sciences will invite participants from the following countries: Bulgaria (1) China (1) Czechoslovakia (2) German Democratic Republic (1) Hungary (1) Poland (3) USSR (3). From elsewhere the main participation is expected to be provided by members of the Executive Committee of the IAHR (so far seven members have indicated that they are likely to attend) and a few other specialists with special competence in some aspect of the conference theme. The theme of the conference is:

Studies of religion in the context of the social sciences; methodological and theoretical relations

The conference will be held in Jabionna, a pleasant Warsaw suburb within easy reach of the city centre. The costs of travel, board and lodging must be borne by individual participants. It is hoped that further information on the costs of board and lodging will be available soon; however it is expected that these will be in the average range.

For the IAHR this meeting will provide an opportunity for several members of the Executive Committee to meet, either informally or formally, just twelve months before the forthcoming Rome Congress is held. The meeting may also help to bring into being an ad hoc working group for developing relations between the IAHR and appropriate specialists in Eastern Europe, with a view to strengthening or forming affiliated associations there. It may be recalled that there was no working party for this region at the conference in Marburg in June 1988. With this in mind the officers of affiliated associations are invited to give their personal suggestions as to colleagues who have a clear expertise in this area. Since participation is strictly limited and by invitation only such suggestions should be communicated to the Secretary-General as soon as possible.
The History of Religions and Critique of Culture in the Days of Gerardus van der Leeuw (1890-1950)

"SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF RELIGIONS AND EUROPEAN INTELLECTUAL TRADITIONS"

Prof. Dr. H.G. Kippenberg (Groningen)
"Gedanken zur romantischen Tradition in der Religionswissenschaft"

Prof. Dr. Dr. K. Rudolph (Marburg)
"Die religionskritische Tradition in der Religionswissenschaft"

Dr. R. Plantinga (Hamilton, Ontario)
"Dutch Historians of Religion before G. van der Leeuw and Critique of Culture"

Prof. Dr. K.-H. Kohl (Mainz)
"G. van der Leeuw und die Religionsethnologie seiner Zeit"

Prof. Dr. M. Pye (Marburg)
"Reflections on the Treatment of Tradition in comparative perspective with special reference to Ernst Troeltsch and G. van der Leeuw"

Prof. Dr. D. Wiebe (Toronto)
"Phenomenology of Religion as Religio-Cultural Quest: Gerardus van der Leeuw and the subversion of the Scientific Study of Religion"

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"Europäische Bilder von Fremdreligionen und das Programm einer Religionsphänomenologie"

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"Der Irrationalismus der Zeit zwischen den Weltkriegen und das
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"Metaphysik des Heidentums. Archaische Kulturkritik als anti-
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"Between Positivism and Historicism: the Position of R. Pettazzoni"

Prof. Dr. L. Leertouwer (Leiden)
"G. van der Leeuw als Kulturkritiker. Beziehungen zwischen seiner
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Prof. Dr. Z. Werblowski (Jerusalem)
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RELIGIONS WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE UNIVERSITIES"

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Theologe der Weimarer Republik"

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"Primitivismus und 'entartete Kunst'"

Prof. Dr. H.H. Holz (Groningen)
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"Mundane Gnosis in der Literatur des 20. Jh."

Prof. Dr. H. Zinser (Berlin)
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Announcement of a new journal

Studies in Central and East Asian Religions

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( Corrections to the list distributed in IAHR BULLETIN 10 )

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Ivan Strenski, President of NAASR, Editor of RELIGION, and author of FOUR THEORIES OF MYTH IN TWENTIETH CENTURY HISTORY: Cassirer, Eliade, Levi-Strauss and Malinowski, (University of Iowa Press, 1987) has received the American Academy of Religion's Award for excellence for publication.
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