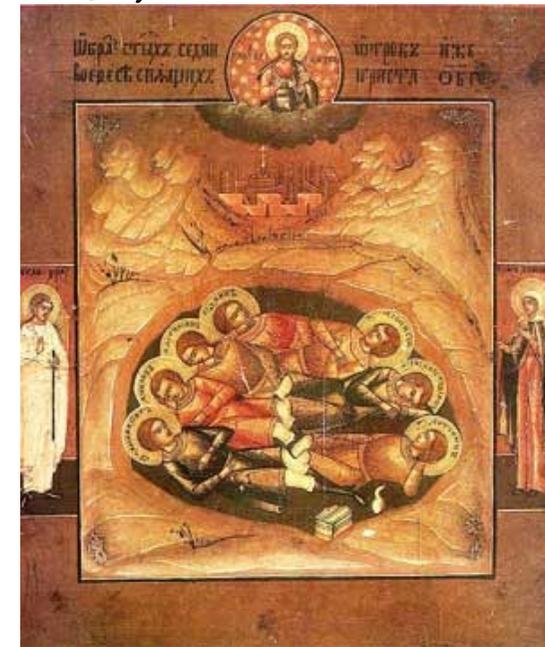


Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Sawyer Seminar, 2009-2010
Conversion in Late Antiquity: Christianity, Islam, and Beyond
Ashmolean Museum, Headley Lecture Theatre, 2-3 July 2010

2 JULY: CONVERTING IDENTITIES

- 9:00 **Coffee and Pastries**
- 9:30 **Session 1: East Asia**
Chair and discussant: Catherine Holmes
Charles Ramble, "What lies beneath: the need for a half-done job in Tibetan Buddhist narratives of conversion"
- 10:30 **Coffee**
- 11:00 **Session 2: The Stakes of Resistance**
Chair and discussant: Conrad Leyser
Samuel Lieu, "The diffusion, persecution and transformation of Manichaeism in Late Antiquity and pre-modern China"
André Binggeli, "Neo-martyrs and the attitude of the Church to martyrdom in early Islamic Syria"
- 12:30 **Lunch**
- 1:30 **Session 3: Languages**
Chair and discussant: Simon Swain
Philip Rousseau, "Articulating the convert's goal in the sixth-century west: psychological and social vocabulary"
- 3:00 **Coffee**
- 3:30 **Session 4: Personae**
Chair and discussant: Tim Whitmarsh
Polymnia Athanassiadi, "Christians and others: the conversion ethos" of Late Antiquity
Julia Bray, "Arabic literature and the human personality"
- 5:00 **Conclusions and Discussion:** Guy Stroumsa
- 6:00 **Reception**



3 JULY: CONVERTING PRACTICE

- 9:00 **Coffee and Pastries**
- 9:30 **Session 1**
Chair and discussant: Yannis Papadogiannakis
Konstantin Klein, "When religion became serious": The Arabs on their way to monotheism"
David Frankfurter, "Shrine gestures and syncretism in Late Antique Christianity"
- 11:00 **Coffee**
- 11:30 **Session 2**
Chair and discussant: Jessica Ehinger
Moshe Lavee, "A matter of court: The Babylonian Talmud and the establishment of Jewish conversion procedure"
Nancy Khalek, "Conversion to Islam during the lifetime of Muhammad"

Please register with Konstantin Klein (konstantin.klein@classics.ox.ac.uk). There is no charge to attend the colloquium. Further details for this event and the other colloquia of the Mellon Sawyer Seminar can be accessed at <http://www.ox.ac.uk/conversion/index.html>.