



UNIVERSITÀ DI NAPOLI  
**L'ORIENTALE**

**DAAM**  
DIPARTIMENTO ASIA,  
AFRICA E MEDITERRANEO



CENTRO DI STUDI  
SUL BUDDHISMO  
UNIVERSITÀ DI NAPOLI  
**L'ORIENTALE**

International Seminar

# Beyond Borders

## *Tracing the Historical Dynamics and Transmission Models of Buddhism in Asian Contexts*

Department of Asian, African,  
and Mediterranean Studies (UNIOR)  
**Sala delle Conferenze - Palazzo Corigliano**  
*Piazza San Domenico Maggiore 12, Napoli*

The seminar will be held in a hybrid format

Zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84102764457?pwd=TE5YSVZGTmppZ3pZWXFaNINZU2dmdz09>

Meeting ID: 841 0276 4457

Passcode: HF5emC

Registration: [centrostudisulbuddhismo@gmail.com](mailto:centrostudisulbuddhismo@gmail.com)



## 14 October

10:00–10:30

Welcome Address by **Roberta Giunta** (Head of Department, DAAM)  
Introduction by **Giacomella Orofino** (UNIOR)

### Session 1: Buddhist Historical Dynamics and Transmission Models (1)

Chair: **Ronit Yoeli-Tlalim** (University of Pennsylvania)

**10:30–11:10 - Serena Saccone** (UNIOR)

*Madhyamaka and Tantric Authors:  
Of Missing Links in the History of Buddhist Thought*

**11:10–11:50 - Péter Dániel Szántó** (Eötvös Loránd University)

*The End of Buddhism in India*

**11:50–12:10 - Coffee Break**

**12:10–12:50 - Giacomella Orofino** (UNIOR)

*Tantric Crossroads: The Evolution of the Amrtasiddhi  
in Tibet and the Origins of Vajrayāna Physical Yoga Traditions*

**13:00–14:30 - Lunch Break**

### Session 2: Buddhist Historical Dynamics and Transmission Models (2)

Chair: **Christoph Emmrich** (University of Toronto)

**14:30–15:10 - Sonam Nyenda** (Nyo Foundation, Bhutan)

*The Dawn of Buddhism in Bhutan: Exploring the Legacy  
of Nyo Gyalwa Lhanangpa and Nyoton Trulzhig Chöje*

**15:10–15:50 - Ann Heirman** (Ghent University)

*Ants in Buddhist Monasteries: Moving from India to China*

**15:50–16:10 - Coffee Break**

### Session 3: Buddhist Travel Narratives and Translations

Chair: **Péter Dániel Szántó** (Eötvös Loránd University)

**16:10–16:50 - Christoph Emmrich** (University of Toronto)

*Leaving Home and Coming Back in Five Languages:  
Travels and Translations of the Buddhist Girl Child  
Across Southern Asia*

**16:50–17:30 - Luigi Rogora** (UNIOR)

*Nepal Through the Looking Glass:  
Impressions of Bal yul in Tibetan Literature*

## 15 October

### Session 4: Healing Traditions and Buddhist Medicine Across Asia

Chair: **Ann Heirman** (Ghent University)

**10:00–10:40 - Ronit Yoeli-Tlalim** (University of Pennsylvania)

*The Transmission of Medical Knowledge on the Silk Roads*

**10:40–11:20 - Carmen Simioli** (UNIOR)

*The Transmission History of Rakṣā Practices  
to Counteract Poisons in the Brang ti's Gser bre chen mo*

**11:20–11:40 - Coffee Break**

Chair: **Pia Brancaccio** (UNIOR)

**11:40–12:20 - Tawni Tidwell** (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

*Transforming Toxins into Restorative Healing:  
Blister Beetles, Channel-Cleansing (rtsa-sbyong),  
and the Degenerate Age*

**12:20–13:00 - Barbara Gerke** (University of Vienna) (Online)

*Synergies of Potency: The Production and Consecration  
of Protective Pills during the COVID-19 Pandemic in Bhutan*

**13:00–14:30 - Lunch Break**

### Session 5: Cross-Cultural Dynamics in Buddhist Art and Rituals

Chair: **Erica Baffelli** (University of Manchester)

**14:30–15:10 - Ciro Lo Muzio** (Sapienza University of Rome)

*Artistic Interaction in the Tarim Basin (Xinjiang):  
On a Painted Wooden Panel from the Kucha Oasis*

**15:10–15:50 - Pia Brancaccio** (UNIOR)

*The Cave Monastery at Kanheri/Kṛṣṇagiri  
Beyond Borders: From Konkan to the Himalayas*

**15:50–16:10 - Coffee Break**

**16:10–17:00 - Anna Filigenzi** (UNIOR) and **Chiara Visconti** (UNIOR)

*Buddhism in Birthdays, Weddings, Funerals,  
and Other Occasions between South and East Asia*

## 16 October

### Session 6: Buddhism in the Contemporary World

Chair: **Tawni Tidwell** (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

**10:00–10:40 - Erica Baffelli** (University of Manchester)

*Beyond 'New Religions': Buddhisms in Modern  
and Contemporary Japan*

**10:40–11:20 - Chiara Ghidini** (UNIOR)

*Endlessly kind and wise towards humanity:  
Buddhism and women in 20th-Century Japan*

**11:20–12:00 - Round Table and Conclusions**

**14–16  
October  
2024**