Food and religious pluralisms
Comparing China and the Mediterranean world

Friday 21 - Saturday 22
September 2018
9:30 - 17:30

An international conference at the Confucius Institute
266 rte de Lausanne - 1292 Chambésy
under the scientific direction of Prof. Vincent Goossaert (EPHE, PSL)

Entrée libre, places limitées
Inscription et renseignements : ic@unige.ch / 022 379 07 30
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Friday Sept. 21

Panel 1: Eating together

De la Pâque juive aux Pâques chrétiennes
Claudine Vassas (CNRS)

Eating vegetables and serving the demon: identity politics of late imperial China
Cao Xinyu (Renmin U.)

Chair-discussant: Dominique Jaillard (Geneva U.)

Panel 2: Talking of food

The language of food in Chinese Buddhism
James Robson (Harvard U.)

The Symbolism of raw and cooked in Turko-Persian Sufism
Thierry Zarcone (CNRS, GSRL)

Dog-meat and garlic: narratives about carnal and non-carnal hun (forbidden) food in late imperial Chinese literature
Vincent Durand-Dastès (INALCO)

Chair-discussant: Vincent Goossaert (EPHE, PSL)

Saturday Sept. 22

Panel 3: Meat taboos

Food avoidance and the construction of Jewish identity in antiquity: between discourse and practice
Anna Angelini (Lausanne U.)

Revisiting the Chinese beef taboo
Vincent Goossaert (EPHE, PSL)

Between Particularism and Universalism: The Avoidance of Pork from Antiquity to Hypermodernity
Misgav Har-Peled (Centre Edgar Morin, Paris, EHESS/CNRS)

Chair-discussant: Pascale Bugnon (Geneva U.)

Panel 4: Spiritual and material foods

Some general observations about food taboos (from an ancient Egyptian point of view)
Youri Volokhine (Geneva U.)

The Chinese notion of vitality coming from blood food (xueshi shengqi 血食生气)
Zhang Xuesong (Renmin U.)

The materiality of food in Chinese religious discourse
Thomas Jansen (Lampeter)

Chair-discussant: James Robson (Harvard U.)

General discussion