



KHYENTSE
FOUNDATION

Khyentse Lecture Series

Az ELTE BTK Buddhizmus-kutatás Központja szeretettel meghívja

Dr. Jakub Zamorski (Jagiellonian University)

angol nyelvű előadására, amelynek címe:

Reason and Belief in Chinese Pure Land Buddhism: A View from the Ming

Az előadás ideje: **2022. november 14. (hétfő) 17:30 óra**

Az előadás helye: **ELTE BTK, Távol-keleti Intézet, F épület fszt. Kodály terem**
(Bp. 1088. Múzeum krt. 4/F)

Abstract

Chinese Pure Land Buddhism has often been portrayed as a mostly practical, or devotional, Buddhist tradition that is relatively less concerned with doctrinal and philosophical issues. In my talk, I would like to point out a somewhat overlooked case in which Pure Land practice and devotion inspired fairly sophisticated ideas that may deserve more attention, perhaps not only from scholars of Buddhism. Namely, I will examine the ways in which late imperial Chinese Buddhists attempted to justify the idea of rebirth in Amitābha's Western Pure Land in the light of beliefs considered as more universal, and supposedly more rational. Needless to say, the standards of rationality which they assumed were not the same as those of the modern age. What exactly those standards were, however, is a problematic question that requires considering the larger intellectual background behind the Pure Land practices: the tradition of Pure Land apologetics, the complex intersections between Pure Land and Chan, the hegemony of Neo-Confucian thought, and the Chinese reception of Buddhist epistemology and logic.

Jakub Zamorski studied East Asian Languages and Literatures in Kraków, Poland (MA 2009) and Buddhist philosophy with prof. Chen-kuo Lin at National Chengchi University in Taipei (PhD 2016). Between 2014 and 2016 he was a recipient of Shinshū Ōtani-ha (Higashi Honganji) Fellowship for scholars of Pure Land Buddhism and a research associate at Ōtani University in Kyōto. Currently he is an assistant professor and a lecturer in East Asian Buddhism at the Centre for Comparative Studies of Civilisations of the Jagiellonian University in Kraków. He researches and publishes on the doctrinal and intellectual history of Pure Land Buddhism in early modern and modern China and Japan, on the reception of Buddhist logic and epistemology in East Asia, and occasionally on other topics related to Chinese and Japanese Buddhist thought. He has contributed articles to international journals (e.g. *Journal of Chinese Buddhist Studies*, *Wiener Zeitschrift für die Kunde Südasiens*), chapters in edited volumes (e.g. „A Distant Mirror”, ed. C.K. Lin and M. Radich, published by Hamburg University Press, 2014) and essays in encyclopedias (e.g. *Brill Encyclopedia of Buddhism*, forthcoming).