

**[BRINFAITH Religion and Empire Lecture Series \(Sep 13\):  
Alireza Khoshrou - "Iran and BRI: A Cultural Perspective of  
Strategic Cooperation"](#)**

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**Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social  
Sciences**

**BRINFAITH Religion and Empire Lecture Series**  
**Iran and BRI: A Cultural Perspective of Strategic  
Cooperation**

**Dr. Alireza Khoshrou (Islamic Cultural and Relation  
Organization, Iran)**

**Date & Time: September 13, 2022, 1:00 pm (HKT)**

**Register now: [bit.ly/brinfaithSept13](https://bit.ly/brinfaithSept13)**

**Abstract**

Iran and China's relationship is following a long tradition of exchanges that can be traced back to ancient times. Certainly, when studying the long tradition of Iran and China, we can perceive that the Silk Road was not only linking cities like Xi'an and Isfahan for trade but also facilitated, the exchange of ideas, sciences, education, and intellectual exchanges. One of the most important aspects of Iran and China relations in ancient times is religion. Persian religions including Zoroastrianism and Manichaeism were spread to China by the Iranian elites who have also played an important role in non-Iranian religions in this regard. The relationship between China and Iran has intertwined in history as well as the old and new Silk Road projects and BRI. Indeed, cultural contacts and mutual influence via the Silk Road have been robust throughout the centuries. This lecture proposes a new understanding of the old relationship between the two nations in the present cultural and political climate.

**About the speaker**

Dr. Alireza Khoshrou is currently a senior research associate in China Studies in the Research Department, at the Islamic Cultural and Relation Organization, Iran. He had served as Head of East Asian Religions Studies at the International Center for Interfaith Dialogue (ICRO). Khoshrou is a member of the Faculty of World Studies, University of

Tehran and he has written extensively on cross-cultural issues in East Asia and China. Khoshrou graduated from Jilin University. He has been invited as a visiting scholar to several universities, including Chinese University of Hong Kong, Waseda University, Jilin University, Shandong University, University of Ljubljana, etc. Dr. Khoshrou's academic works and research focus on Modern Confucianism, Chinese Culture and Religious Studies and Public Diplomacy.

This is an event organized by the CRF Project "Infrastructures of Faith: Religious Mobilities on the Belt and Road [BRINFAITH]" (RGC CRF HKU C7052-18G).

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Enquiry: [asiar@hku.hk](mailto:asiar@hku.hk)