LECTURE> Buddhism in the Sea of Islands webinar series

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Type: Seminar
Date: June 17, 2021 to October 21, 2021
Subject Fields: Anthropology, Cultural History / Studies, Immigration & Migration History / Studies, Religious Studies and Theology, Social History / Studies

The Asia-Pacific region is home to by far the largest number of Buddhists in the world. While Buddhism in Asian societies has been extensively studied, Buddhism in the Pacific region remains under-explored, despite the fact that Buddhists comprise a significant proportion of the populations in these countries. This project aims to bring together an international, multidisciplinary group of researchers to examine Buddhism in Pacific contexts, with a particular focus on transnational flow and counterflow of Buddhism and interactions between immigrants and the indigenous people, both in historical and contemporary societies in the region.

Register at:

Format: Online Zoom meeting, 45-min presentation + 45-min Q&A

Webinar series (third Thursday of the month June - October 2021)

17 June 2021 (4.00pm-5.30pm AEST)
Buddhism in the Far North of Australia pre-WWII: (In)visibility, colonialism and lived religion
Anna Halafoff, Kim Lam, Enqi Weng (Deakin University) Sue Smith (Charles Darwin University)

15 July 2021 (4.00pm-5.30pm AEST)
Flows of Innovation in Fo Guang Shan Oceania: transregional dynamics behind the Buddha’s Birthday Festival
Juewei Shi, Sioh Yang Tan (Nan Tien Institute of Higher Education)
19 August 2021 (4.00pm-5.30pm AEST)

Buddhism in Hawai‘i: Stories of Spiritual and Cultural Resilience

Karma Lekshe Tsomo (University of San Diego)

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16 September 2021 (4.00pm-5.30pm AEST)

Casting Indra’s Net across the Pacific: Robert Aitken and the Growth of the Diamond Sangha as a Trans-Pacific Zen Movement

Helen Baroni (University of Hawaii)

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21 October 2021 (4.00pm-5.30pm AEDT)

Social and Cultural Forms of Buddhism in Aotearoa

Sally McAra, Mark Mullins (University of Auckland)

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