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Academic Training

- D.Phil., Oriental Studies. University of Oxford, 2003-2006.
- Ph.D. Research. Department for the Study of Religions, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, 2002-2003.
- M.A., Film and Television Studies. Department of Film Studies, Universiteit van Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 1995-1996.
- Postgraduate Studies, Department of Philosophy, University of Hawai'i, USA, 1990-1992.
- M.A., Comparative Philosophy. Department of Philosophy, University of Hawai'i, 1989-1990.
- B.A., Philosophy. Department of Philosophy, University of Hawai'i, 1986-1988.

Research Interests

Up to date, I have researched the following subjects with a methodological interest in philological/textual studies that compliment political, philosophical and cultural approaches to the transnational history of Buddhist traditions in the Tibetan plateau, Central Asia and the Himalayas.

- Pure Land Buddhist traditions in India, Tibet & Central Asia
- Buddhism in imperial Tibet
- Vajrayāna texts, rituals and practices
- Religious and cultural history of the Western Himalayas
- Buddhism in Hellenistic Central Asia
- Topics in Eurasian religions in contact

Publications

I. Monograph

1. Halkias, G. *Luminous Bliss: a Religious History of Pure Land Literature in Tibet. With an Annotated Translation and Critical Analysis of the Orgyen-ling golden short Sukhāvātīyūha-sūtra*. University of Hawai'i Press, 335 pages, 2013. [paperback edition 2017]

Reviews: *The International Journal of Asian Studies* 12(1): 2015; H-Buddhism, H-Net Reviews. February, 2014; *Religions of South Asia* 8(2): 2014.

II. Edited Volumes

1. Halkias, G. and Payne, R. (Co-Editors-in-Chief). *Oxford Encyclopedia of Buddhism*. Oxford University Press, 2015-present. URL: <http://religion.oxfordre.com/page/buddhism/>
2. Halkias, G. and Payne R. *Pure Lands in Asian Texts and Contexts: An Anthology*. University of Hawaii Press, 2014-2017 (expected publication 2018).

3. Halkias, G. et al. *Body Trouble: Religious Boundaries for Sex, Gender, and Corporeality*. Routledge Religion Series, 2014-2017 (expected publication 2018).
4. Halkias, G. *Tibetan and Central Asian bibliographies on Buddhism for Index Buddhicus* (online). Brill Publishers, 2011-2014.
5. Halkias, G., et al. *Contemporary Visions in Tibetan Studies: Proceedings of the First International Seminar of Young Tibetologists* SOAS, London 2007. Chicago: Serindia Publications, 416 pages, 2009.

III. Editor (Journal)

Entangled Religions Journal, Bochum, Germany, 01/12-present.

IV. Book Chapters

1. Halkias, G. "The Mirror and the Palimpsest: The Myth of Buddhist Kingship in Imperial Tibet." In *Locating Religions: Contact, Diversity and Translocality*, Leiden: Brill, 2017: 123-150.
2. Halkias, G. "Fire Rituals in the Tibetan Tengyur: The *Aparimitāyur-homa-vidhi-nāma* by the Queen of Siddhas." In *Homa Variations: The Study of Ritual Change across the Longue Durée*, ed. Richard Payne and Michael Witzel. Oxford University Press, 2015: 225-245.
3. Halkias, G. "Invoking Protection from the Buddha of Infinite Light and Wisdom." In *Tibetan and Himalayan Healing: An Anthology of Anthony Aris*, eds. Charles Ramble and Ulrike Roesler. Kathmandu: Vajra Books, 2015: 299-320.
4. Halkias, G. "When the Greeks Converted the Buddha: Asymmetrical Transfers of Knowledge in Indo-Greek Cultures." In *Religions and Trade: Religious Formation, Transformation and Cross-Cultural Exchange between East and West*, ed. Volker Rabens. Leiden: Brill, 2013: 65-115.
5. Halkias, G. [Reprint 2013]. "Until the Feathers of the Winged Black Raven Turn White: Sources for the Tibet-Bashahr Treaty of 1679-1684" (2009). In *Critical Readings on the History of Tibetan Foreign Relations*, vol. 2, ed. Saul Mullard. Leiden: Brill, 2013: 573-604.
6. Halkias, G. "Early Himalayan Kingdoms: Political and Cultural History up to 1700." In *Himalaya: The Exploration and Conquest of the Greatest Mountains on Earth*, ed. Philip Parker. London: Anova Publishers, 2013: 25-35.
7. Halkias, G. "The Enlightened Sovereign: Kingship and Buddhism in Indo-Tibetan Traditions." In *A Companion to Buddhist Philosophy*, ed. Steven Emmanuel. Wiley-Blackwell Publishers, 2013: 491-511.
8. Halkias, G. "The Muslim Queens of the Himalayas: Princess Exchange in Ladakh and Baltistan." In *Islam-Tibet: Interactions along the Musk Routes*, eds. Anna Akasoy et al. Ashgate Publications, 2010: 231-252.
9. Halkias, G. "Compassionate Aspirations and their fulfilment: Dol-po-pa's A Prayer for Birth in Sukhāvātī." In *As Long As Space Endures: Essays on the Kālachakra Tantra in Honour of His Holiness the Dalai Lama*, ed. Edward Arnold. Snow Lion Publications, 2009: 259-275.
[Chinese translation]. Translator Wei Jiandong in *Ta kong jian yu ru lai zang: jue nang pai ren wu, jiao fa, yi shu he li shi yan jiu* [Other-emptiness and the Buddha-Matrix: contributions to the study of Jo-nang-pa figures, doctrine, iconography and history]. Beijing: Beijing da xue chu ban she, 2014: 287-308.
10. Halkias, G. "Buddhist Meditation Traditions in Tibet: The Union of the Three Vehicles." In *Buddhist Meditation: An Introduction*, Chapter Eight, ed. Sarah Shaw. Routledge Press, 2008: 159-186.
11. Halkias, G. "Pure-Lands and other Visions in Seventeenth-Century Tibet: a *Gnam-chos sādhana* for the pure-land Sukhāvātī revealed in 1658 by Gnam-chos Mi-'gyur-rdo-rje (1645-1667)." In *Power, Politics and the Reinvention of Tradition: Tibet in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Century*, eds. Brian Cuevas et al. Brill Publishers, 2006: 121-151.

V. Journals

1. Halkias, G. "A History Worth Remembering: An Expedition to the Fortress of Basgo." *Orientations*, Vol. 48, No. 2, 2017: 150-155.
2. Halkias, G. et al. "Repetitive Religious Chanting Modulates the Late-Stage Brain Response to Fear – and Stress-Provoking Pictures." *Frontiers in Psychology*, Vol. 7, 2017: 1-12.
3. Halkias, G. "With and without Titles in Sanskrit: Indo-Tibetan Pure Land Texts in the Kangyur." *JCBSSL* Vol. XI, 2014: 195-206.
4. Halkias, G. "The Self-immolation of Kalanos and other Luminous Encounters among Greeks and Indian Buddhists in the Hellenistic world." *Journal of the Oxford Centre for Buddhist Studies*, Vol. VIII, 2015: 163-186.

5. Halkias, G. "Aspiring for Sukhāvātī in Indo-Tibetan Buddhism: Entering the *dhāraṇī* and *buddhakṣetra* of Buddha Aparimitāyus." *Journal of Buddhist Studies*, JCBSSL Vol. XI, 2013: 77-110.
6. Halkias, G. "The Earliest Scriptural Transmissions of Pure Land Buddhism in Tibet." *The Middle Way Journal*, Vol. 87. No 1, 2012: 27-30.
7. Halkias, G. "Until the Feathers of the Winged Black Raven Turn White: Sources for the Tibet-Bashahr Treaty of 1679-1684." In *Mountains, Monasteries and Mosques: Recent Research on Ladakh and the Western Himalaya*, eds. John Bray et al. Supplement to *Rivista Degli Studi Orientali*, Nuova Serie, Volume LXXX, 2009: 61-86.
8. Halkias, G. "Tibetan Buddhism Registered: Imperial Archives from the Palace-Temple of 'Phang-thang." *The Eastern Buddhist*, Kyoto. Vol. XXXVI, Nos. 1 and 2, 2004: 46-105.

VI. Conference Proceedings

1. Halkias, G. "Translating the Foreign into the Local: The Cultural Production and Canonization of Buddhist Texts in Imperial Tibet." In *Translation and Global Asia: Relocating Cultural Production Network*, eds. Lawrence Wang-chi Wong and Uganda Sze-pui Kwan. Hong Kong: The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Research Centre for Translation, 2014: 143-168.
2. Halkias, G. "Buddhist Models of Self: Politics when People Matter." In *Buddhism without Borders*, Proceedings of the International Conference on Globalized Buddhism, Bumthang, Bhutan, May 21-23, 2012, ed. Dasho Karma Ura and Dendup Chopel. Bhutan: The Center for Bhutan Studies, 2012: 15-35.
3. Halkias, G. "Loss of Memory and Continuity of Praxis in Rampur-Bashahr: an Itinerant Study of Seventeenth-Century Tibetan Murals." In *Contemporary Visions in Tibetan Studies*, eds. Brandon Dotson et al. Serindia Publications, 2009:139-155.
4. Halkias, G. "Between Breaths." In *Going Aerial: Air, Art, Architecture*, ed. Monika Bakke. Jan van Eyck Academy. Maastricht, the Netherlands, 2007: 48-61.

VII. Reference Works

1. Halkias, G. "Padmasambhava." *Encyclopaedia of Indian Religions*, Chapter No. 295. Springer Major Reference Works, 2000 words, 2016.

VIII. Articles in Modern Greek

1. Halkias, G. "Από τον Μέγα Αλέξανδρο στο Βούδα: Ασύμμετρες Επιδράσεις Βουδισμού και Ελληνικού Πολιτισμού στην Κεντρική Ασία" [From Alexander the Great to the Buddha: Asymmetrical influences between Buddhism and Hellenism in Central Asia]. Conference Proceedings, *Alexander, The Greek Cosmos-System and Contemporary Global Society*, Academy of Institutions and Cultures, Athens, 2012: 215-228.
2. Halkias, G. "Μια επιθεώρηση της Ιατρικής φροντίδας με τη Θιβετανική Παράδοση" [An Overview of Health Care According to the Tibetan Medical Tradition]. *Paionia, Journal of the Academy of Ancient Greek and Traditional Chinese Medicine*. Athens. Issue 2, 2008: 11-18.
3. Halkias, G. "Μεταξύ Αναπνοών" [Between Breaths]. Translation, Halkias (2007). *Paionia, Journal of the Academy of Ancient Greek and Traditional Chinese Medicine*, Athens. Issue 7, 2007: 12-20.

IX. Book Reviews

1. Halkias, G. *Introducing Tibetan Buddhism*, by Geoffrey Samuel. New York: Routledge (2012). *European Bulletin of Himalayan Research*, no. 41, 2012: 126-129.
2. Halkias, G. *Opening the Hidden Land: State Formation and Construction of Sikkimese History*, by Saul Mulard. Leiden: Brill (2011). *Religions of South Asia*, 2012: 140-142.
3. Halkias, G. *The Practice of Dzogchen: Longchen Rabjam*, annotated and translated by Tulku Thondup. Snow Lion (2002). *Tibet Journal*, Vol. XXXI, (summer) No. 1, 2006: 181-183.
4. Halkias, G. *You are the Eyes of the World, Longchenpa*, translated by Kennard Lipmann and Merrill Peterson. Snow Lion (2000). *Tibet Journal*, Vol. XXIX, (summer) No. 1, 2004:117-119.

X. Public Interest

1. Halkias, G. "Buddhist Ritual Dances in Ladakh." *Heritage Himalaya*, Issue 2, 2011, Leh, Ladakh.
2. Halkias, G. "'Gleanings in Buddha-Fields": Pure Land Buddhism in Tibet," *Features*, Buddhistdoor Int., 2015, Hong Kong [<http://newlotus.buddhistdoor.com/en/news/d/46225>].

Conferences & Workshops

1. Speaker. "The Distinctiveness of Guru-Yoga Meditation in the Tibetan Buddhist Traditions." *International Conference on Buddhist meditation across traditions and disciplines: Theories and Practices*, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, May 2017.
2. Plenary Speaker and Panel Chair. "Historical and Cultural Notes on the Buddhist Canonical Heritage of Ladakh: Current Research and Future Prospects." *18th Colloquium of the International Association for Ladakh Studies Current Western Himalayan Research*, Humboldt University Berlin, and the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun Poland, Bedlewo, May 2017.
3. Speaker. "Reading Pure Land Texts in Tibetan Literature, Gnosis with and beyond the Senses." *14th International Association of Tibetan Studies*, The University of Bergen, Norway, June 2016.
4. Invited speaker. "Travelling Spells: scriptures, incarnations and other visibilities of the *dhāraṇī* of Aparimitāyurjñāna in Tibetan contexts." *Moving Objects: Authorship, Ownership and Experience in Buddhist Material Culture*, NYU Shanghai, April 2016.
5. Invited speaker. "Tibetan Pure Land Buddhism Hermeneutic Perspectives and Humanitarian Ideals." *The International Conference on Humanistic Pure Land and Amitabha Pure Land*. The Chinese University of Hong Kong, January 2016.
6. Invited speaker. "The 'Art of Dying' in Tibetan Buddhism: Concepts and Practices." *10th International Conference on Grief and Bereavement in Contemporary Society* (ICGB), The University of Hong Kong, June 2014.
7. Co-organizer and round-table respondent. *Body Trouble: The Ambivalence of Sex, Gender and Desire in Religious Discourse*. San Millán de la Cogolla, Spain, March 2014.
8. Keynote address. "Three Paths to Amitabha's Pure Land: 'Sutra,' 'Tantra' and 'Great Perfection' Interpretations of Sukhavati in Tibet." Keynote Address, *The Pure Land in Buddhist Cultures: History, Image, Praxis, Thought*, University of British Columbia, June 2013.
9. Co-organizer and speaker. "A Hidden Soteriology of Tibetan Texts: Duplicating the Words and Engendering their Sound." *The Saved and the Damned: Soteriology and Religious Encounter*, John Cabot University, Rome, April 2013.
10. Keynote address. "Politics and Buddhism: A Historical Perspective with Reference to Vipassana." *Importance of Vipassana in Politics and Administration*, Amravati's Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Mahavidyalaya College and Indian Institute of Buddhist Studies, Pune, February 2013.
11. Invited speaker. "Buddhism and Islam in the Himalayas: Diplomacy, Challenges and Continuity." *Buddhism and the Dynamics of Transculturality*, Universität Heidelberg, June 2012.
12. Invited speaker. "Buddhist Models of Self: Politics when People Matter." *Buddhism without Borders*, Bhutan Center of Buddhist Studies, Bhutan, May 2012.
13. Co-organizer and speaker. "The Monotheistic Tradition of Buddhism: Pure Land and Central Eurasia" *The Influence of Central Asian Beliefs on the Cultures of the Periphery*, KHK, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, April 2012.
14. Invited speaker. "A Tibetan Fasting Ritual." *Feasting and Fasting: Religious Food Practices in Interaction*, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, February 2012.
15. Speaker. "Ancestral Myths, Hidden Lands, and Deified Cults: Soteriology and Kingship in 17th Century Tibet." *Locating Religions: Contact, Plurality and Translocality*, KHK, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, February 2012.
16. Speaker. "The Greek Buddhists of Asia: a Revision of Sources based on Kroeber's theory of "Stimulus Diffusion." *Annual Conference of the American Academy of Religion*, USA, November 2011.
17. Invited speaker. "Wrathful Enlightenment: the cult of Mahākāla in the Himalayas." *Modes and Models of Religious Attraction, Knowledge and Action*, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, July 2011.
18. Speaker. "Other Worlds in this World: Pure Land Orientations in Tibetan History." *XVth Congress of the International Association of Buddhist Studies*, Dharma Drum Buddhist College, Taiwan, June 2011.
19. Invited speaker. "Translating the Foreign into the Local: Production and Reproduction of Buddhist Texts from Imperial Tibet." *The Fourth Asian Translation Traditions Conference: Appropriation and Transformation in Asian Translation Traditions*, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, December 2010.
20. Speaker. "The Rites of Pacifying, Enriching, Attracting, and Subjugating in the Aparimitāyur-homa-vidhi-nāma by the Queen of Siddhas." *Variations of Homa: from Vedic to Hindu and Buddhist*, Harvard University, October 2010.
21. Speaker. "The Hellenistic Buddhism of Asia: Survey of Themes and Sources." *Contact Zones of Empires in Asia and Europe: Complexity, Contingency, Causality*, European Science Foundation, Kyushu University, Japan, February 2010.

22. Speaker. "The Greek Buddhists of Asia: A Case Study in Reciprocal Assimilation." *Trading Religions: Religious Formation, Transformation and Cross-Cultural Exchange between East and West*, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, January 2010.
23. Co-organizer and speaker. "Doctrine and Indoctrination in the World's Major Religious Traditions." *Soteriological Geographies in the Formation of Religious Traditions*, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, October 2009.
24. Invited speaker. "Muslim-Buddhist Matrimonial Alliances in the Himalayas." *Buddhism and Islam: Encounters, Histories, Dialogue and Representation*, McGill University, Canada, May 2009.
25. Invited speaker. "The State and its Language of Conversion: Translation and Classification of Buddhist Texts in Ninth-Century Tibet." *East-Asia and the West*, Academia Sinica, Taiwan, December 2007.
26. Invited speaker. "Modern Pasts: Tracing the 1679 Tibet-Bashahr Treaty." *XIIIth International Association of Ladakhi Studies*, Università di Roma, Italy, August 2007.
27. Speaker. "Pure Land Practices in Tibet." *National Conference of the UK Association for Buddhist Studies*, Lancaster University, July 2006.
28. Chairman and speaker. "The Prophecy of pan-Tibetan Consolidation: A Seventeenth-Century Church-State Fusion in Tibet." *XIXth World Congress, International Association for the History of Religions*, Japan, March 2005.
29. Speaker. "The Violence of Ego: Buddhist Healing Paradigms from Traditional Tibetan Medicine." *South and Southeast Asian Association for the Study of Religion*, India, January 2005.
30. Speaker. "Pure Lands and Other Visions in Seventeenth Century Tibet." *Xth International Conference for the Association of Tibetan Studies*, University of Oxford, August 2003.

Lectures

1. "Reflections on the *dhāraṇī* of Aparimitāyurjñāna in Tibetan Buddhist Literature." Department of Indian and Tibetan Studies, Universität Hamburg, Germany, June 2016.
2. "The Buddhist Response on Climate Change." Li Hall, St. Johns Cathedral, Central, Hong Kong, November 2014.
3. "The Buddha of Infinite Light and his Legacy in Tibet." Rangjung Yeshe Institute, Nepal, January 2013.
4. "Luminous Bliss: A Religious History of Pure Land Buddhism." Tung Lin Kok Yuen Buddhist Lecture Series, Centre of Buddhist Studies, The University of Hong Kong, December 2012.
5. "When the Greeks Met the Buddha: Cross-cultural Exchanges between East and West." Tung Lin Kok Yuen Buddhist Lecture Series, Centre of Buddhist Studies, The University of Hong Kong, November 2012.
6. "Self and Other Sovereignty in Buddhism: Drawing some Implications from the Buddha's Philosophy." Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, December 2012.
7. "The Greek Origins of the Buddhist Art in Gandhāra: A Case Study in Religious Conversion." History Department, University of Macau, October 2012.
8. "The Fierce Black Deity in Ladakh: Political, Religious and Performative Appropriations." Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Oxford, February 2012.
9. "Muslim Princesses in Buddhist Courts," KHK, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, January 2012.
10. "The Greek Assimilation of Buddhism in Central Asia," Department of Inner Asian and Altaic Studies, Harvard University, November 2011.
11. "Enlightenment in Paradise: Pure Land Buddhism in Tibet," Department of Religious Studies, University of Santa Barbara, November 2011.
12. "From Pella to Kandahar: Aśoka and the formation of Greco-Buddhism," KHK, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, October 2011.
13. "Buddhist Monastic Festivals in Ladakh," Himalayan Cultural Heritage Foundation, Leh, India, August 2010.
14. "Tibetan Pure Land Buddhism: Texts, Images and Practices," Oxford Centre of Buddhist Studies, Balliol College, May 2010.
15. "The Greek Buddhist Interface: Evidence and Speculations," Oxford Centre of Buddhist Studies, Balliol College, April 2010.
16. "The Earliest Tibetan Buddhist Canons: A History of their Origins, Divisions and Contents," Department of Indology, Universität Freiburg, January 2010.
17. "The importance of proto-canonical collections for Kanjur research: Observations on the Taxonomy of the Dkar-chag 'Phang-thang-ma," Cultural History of the Western Himalaya, Universität Wien, January 2010.
18. "Buddhism in Imperial Tibet: Catalogues of Texts as Historical Documents," East-Asian Languages and Literature Department, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, November 2009.
19. "The Greek Buddhists of Asia: Studies in Cultural Hybridization and Reciprocal Proselytism," IKGf, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, July 2009.

20. "Institutions and Cultures of Secrecy in Tibetan Buddhism," IKGf, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, June 2009.
21. "Notes on Travels through Kinnaur," Department of Tibetan and Buddhist Studies, Universität Wien, April 2008.
22. "Modern Pasts: Tracing the 1679 Tibet-Bashahr Treaty," Warburg Institute, University of London, February 2008.
23. "Inhalation, Exhalation and Realization: The Buddhist Path to Conscious Breathing," Tate Modern Museum, London, October 2007.
24. "Breathing to Enlightenment: Buddhist Theories and Representations," Jan van Eyck Academy, the Netherlands, June 2005.
25. "Fieldwork Research in Tibetan Studies," School of International Training, India, September 2004.
26. "Introduction to Tibetan Buddhism," Birkbeck College, London, February 2003.

PhD Supervision

1. Mr. Antonio Ka Meng Chui. PhD thesis. "The tantric management of "life-wind illness" (*srog rlung nad*) in the Tibetan tradition: an interplay of Vajrayāna ideation and healing." Centre of Buddhist Studies, University of Hong Kong.
2. Mr. Ven. Puntsok Wangchuk, PhD thesis. "A Comparative Study on extant manuscripts of the Ladakh section of the *La dwags gyal rabs*."
3. Mr. Luk Ban. PhD thesis. "The Historical and Doctrinal Analysis of the Debate at Bsam.yas based on Chinese and Tibetan Sources."
4. Mr. Chi Hin NG. PhD thesis. "The Buddhist Perspectives on Wealth: A Model for Adapting Buddhist Teachings within a Market Economy." Centre of Buddhist Studies, University of Hong Kong.
5. Mr. Ven. Hin Tak Sik. PhD thesis. "Ancient Indian Medicine in Early Buddhist Literature: A Study Based on the *Bhesajjakkhandhaka* and the Parallels in Other *Vinaya* Canons." Centre of Buddhist Studies, University of Hong Kong.