



Exploring religious  
and environmental  
changes in drylands

# Symposium

Pastoralism in transition: Exploring  
intersections of religious and environmental  
changes



**6, 7 & 8 November  
2024**

**Iscte- Instituto Universitário de Lisboa**

Venues **Sociedade de Geografia de Lisboa (SGL)**

**Museu de Lisboa - Palácio Pimenta**

**cei**\_iscte  
Center for  
International Studies

**fct** Fundação  
para a Ciência  
e a Tecnologia  
Ref. PTDC/SOC ANT/2990/2020

# 6 Nov



Venue at



Exploring religious  
and environmental  
changes in drylands

**Iscte, Room C2.05 Building 2**

09:30

## Doors open

Room C2.05, Building 2

10:00

## Welcome & introductions

**Ana Mónica Fonseca**, CEI-Iscte Director  
**Joana Roque de Pinho**, CEI-Iscte  
**Troy Sternberg**, CEI-Iscte & U. Oxford

11:00

## Coffee break

11:15

## Keynote Talk: The Present and the Future in the Present: Religion, Values and Climate Change

**Joel Robbins** (online)  
Department of Social Anthropology, University of Cambridge

12:30

## Lunch

INDEG rooftop restaurant, Iscte

13:30

## 1. Pastoralism and religion around the world

**Chair:** Troy Sternberg, Iscte & U. Oxford

**Ilse Köhler-Roleffson**, The League for Pastoral Peoples & the Camel Conservation Centre, *Raika Religion, the Environment and Planetary Boundaries*

**Takahiro Ozaki**, University of Kagoshima & **Yuki Morinaga**, University of Meiji, *Buddhism, socialism, and capitalism - A comparison of airag production in modern Mongolian and Inner Mongolian pastoral societies*

**Sarah Lunaček**, University of Ljubljana, *Impact of different Islamic practices and Islamist groups on Tuareg mobile pastoralists in Niger*

**Ioana Baskerville**, Department of Ethnology, Romanian Academy *"Weather is in God's hands!": How religious beliefs and practices shape landscape management in Romanian mountain pastoralism*

**Annemiek Pas**, Wageningen University, *Reforming land at the resource frontier in the face of green economy expansion: Changing property regimes in Kenya's drylands*

# 6 Nov



Venue at

**Iscte, Room C2.05 Building 2**



Exploring religious  
and environmental  
changes in drylands

14:45

## Coffee break

15:00

## Introduction to Open Space

**Megan Wainwright**, University of Durham

15:15

## 2. *Oreteti: Connecting Humans to God*

Documentary by Lorenzo d'Angelo (2019), followed by a conversation with Lenaai ole Mowuo, Stanley ole Neboo and Richard ole Supeet (Kenya)

16:30

## 3. Key themes: Changing lands, changing religions

**Joana Roque de Pinho**, CEI-Iscte, *Overview of Mystical Natures project*

**Kathleen Galvin**, Colorado State University, *Pastoral Transformations in African Drylands*

**Batbuyan Batjav**, Center for Nomadic Pastoralism Studies, Mongolia & **Troy Sternberg**, CEI-Iscte, *Changes in Mongolian pastoralism*

**Megan Wainwright**, U. Durham & **Joana Roque de Pinho**, CEI-Iscte, *Relationships between religious changes and environmental changes in drylands: A systematic review of qualitative research*

17:30

## Wrap up

17:45

## Coffee break

18:00

## Dinner

INDEG rooftop restaurant, Iscte

# 7 Nov



Venue at



Exploring religious  
and environmental  
changes in drylands

**Sociedade de Geografia de Lisboa (SGL)**  
Rua das Portas de Santo Antão, 100  
**Sala (room) Algarve**

09:30

## Doors open

Sociedade de Geografia de Lisboa (SGL), Sala (room) Algarve

10:00

## Welcome

**Professor António Piedade**, President of the Anthropology Section, SGL  
Open space, **Megan Wainwright**, University of Durham

10:15

## 4. Mongolian pastoralism and religion

**Chair:** Sarah Lunaček, University of Ljubljana

**Joseph Bristley & Gerelsuren Ganbold**, University of Cambridge,  
*On aridity: perspectives on dryness from central Mongolia*

**Aurore Dumont**, Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales,  
*Experiencing Environmental Changes in Inner Mongolia (China):  
Pastoral Knowledge and Ritual Adaptation among the Pastoralists  
of Hulun Buir*

**Nina Lang**, Austrian Academy of Sciences, *Digging into Enchanted  
Landscapes*

**Laghvademchig Jadamba**, National University of Mongolia,  
*Buddhist Ritual of Removing the Seal of Land-Spirits: Benevolent or  
Malevolent for the Environment?*

11:15

## Coffee break

11:30

## 5. Mystical Natures Project - Findings

**Chair:** Kathleen Galvin, Colorado State University

**Troy Sternberg**, CEI-Iscte & U. Oxford, *Encountering spirituality  
through a Gobi dryland transect*

**Joana Roque de Pinho**, CEI-Iscte, *Pastoralism and Pentecostalism:  
Religious dimensions of land tenure/use dynamics in southern  
Kenya*

**Batbuyan Batjav**, Center for Nomadic Pastoralism Studies, *From  
Sacred Sites to Strategic Assets: Rethinking Owoo Worship as a  
form of Claim on Pasture resources in Modern Mongolia*

**Angela Kronenburg García**, UC Louvain, *Land, culture and religion  
among the Loita Maasai of Kenya*

# 7 Nov



Venue at



Exploring religious  
and environmental  
changes in drylands

**Sociedade de Geografia de Lisboa (SGL)**

Rua das Portas de Santo Antão, 100

**Sala (room) Algarve**

12:30

## **Pastoralists and religion – Real Life**

**Chairs:** Angela Kronenburg García & Joana Roque de Pinho  
With Batbuyan Batjav, Laghvademchig Jadamba, Lenaai ole Mowuo, Richard ole Supeet and Stanley ole Neboo

13:15

## **Lunch at Sociedade de Geografia de Lisboa**

14:15

## **Kenya – Mongolia roundtable**

**Chair:** Allison Hahn, City University of New York  
**Kathleen Galvin**, Colorado State University  
**Laghvademchig Jadamba**, National University of Mongolia  
**Júlio Reis**, A Rocha  
**Joana Roque de Pinho**, CEI-Iscte

15:00

## **Tea break**

15:15

## **6. Conservation & religion**

**Chair:** Annemiek Pas, Wageningen University  
**Alexandro Solorzano**, PUC-Rio, *Worshiping the mountain, changing the forest: sacred hills of Pentecostal Christians in the Atlantic Forest*  
**Peter Rowe**, University of Edinburgh, *The power of increase is in you' Farming God's Way and agrospiritual transformation in Kenya's Rift Valley*  
**Shinya Konaka**, University of Shizuoka, *Conservationism of Nomadic Pastoralists Seen from Relational Ontologies: The Case of Pastoralists and Nomads in Northcentral Kenya*  
**Allison Hahn**, City University of New York, *Moral Imperative(s) of Conservation*

16:15

## **Open roundtable**

**Chair:** Saverio Krätli, Commission for Nomadic Peoples (CNP)

16:50

## **Open space**

**Megan Wainwright**, U. Durham

17:00

## **Doors close, drinks and dinner**

# 8 Nov



Venue at



Exploring religious  
and environmental  
changes in drylands

**Museu de Lisboa – Palácio Pimenta  
(morning) – Campo Grande, 245  
& Iscte, Room C2.05 (afternoon)**

10:00

## **Museu de Lisboa – Palácio Pimenta, Campo Grande, 245**

Open Space in the Museum garden (free entrance)

13:00

## **Lunch**

INDEG rooftop restaurant

14:00

## **7. From steppes to savannas**

**Chair:** Eugenia Roussou, CRIA-Iscte

**Yuki Morinaga**, Meiji University, *Mongolia's polytheistic view of nature encounters rapid scientific and social change*

**Han van Dijk**, Wageningen University, *Jihadism in the Sahel: Conflict, Ecology and the Rise of Muslim Orthodoxy among Fulani Pastoralists*

**Nurit Hashimshony-Yaffe**, The Academic College of Tel Aviv-Yaffo, *Pastoralist advantage over COVID-19: Kalacha case study, Kenya*

**Júlio Reis, A Rocha**, *Conservation, land, and agropastoralism: A Rocha's approach*

15:00

## **Coffee break**

15:15

## **8. Portugal**

**Chair:** Takahiro Ozaki, Kagoshima University

**Joana Martins**, CRIA-Iscte, *Echoes of the Ancestors: Contemporary Pagans' engagement with environmental change*

**Joana Mello**, IELT-NOVA, *Social and ecological aspects of the Portuguese medieval myth of the Goat-Footed Lady*

16:00

## **Mystical Natures team roundtable**

16:30

## **Wrap up, drinks and dinner**