



THE LOCH LECTURES



SPIRITUALITY AND THE LIFE CYCLE

An international symposium in Ouranoupolis, Halkidiki, Greece
marking the thirtieth anniversary of the death of Joice Nankivell Loch

25-26 May 2012

An international symposium organized jointly by the societies of Friends of Mount Athos in the UK and Finland, with the generous support of the Society of Sciences and Letters in Finland and the Friends of Mount Athos in the UK.

Organizing Committee: Raili Gothóni, René Gothóni, Filareti Kotsi, Graham Speake, Antonios Vasiliadis.

The symposium will have as its focus spirituality in relation to the life cycle. As humans we tend to become increasingly aware over the years of the spiritual dimension in life. Our interest in and understanding of spirituality changes according to whether we are young, or middle-aged, or old. The papers in this conference will consider aspects of spirituality as they impinge on our lives and on our perception of ageing.

Venue: Taverna Apostoli, Ouranoupolis.

Conference fee: € 25.00 to be paid at registration in Ouranoupolis (includes coffee; meals and accommodation not included).

In order to reserve a place at the conference, please complete the attached form and return it online to Professor René Gothóni (rgothoni@mappi.helsinki.fi) no later than 15 May 2012.

Delegates should make their own arrangements both for accommodation in Ouranoupolis (see the town's website for a list of hotels) and for visiting Mount Athos and local convents.

The Loch Lectures: Spirituality and the Life Cycle

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PROGRAMME

FRIDAY 25 MAY 2012 AT THE TAVERNA APOSTOLI

- 18.00 Arrival and registration by the Byzantine Tower in Ouranoupolis
- 18.30 **Prologue:** Opening welcome by Professor René Gothóni
- 18.30-19.00 René Gothóni: *Spirituality in Hermeneutic Perspectives*
- 19.15 Commemorating the lives of Joice and Sydney Loch at the cemetery
- 20.00 Supper at the Taverna Apostoli
- 21.30 The Pyrgos Rugs (DVD presentation)

SATURDAY 26 MAY 2012 AT THE TAVERNA APOSTOLI

First session chaired by René Gothóni

- 9.15-9.45 Metropolitan Kallistos: *Death in the Life Cycle*
- 9.45-10.15 Veronica della Dora: *Mapping Spiritual Landscapes*
- 10.15-10.45 Fr Chrysostomos: *Individuation and Deification*

10.45-11.15 Coffee break

Second session chaired by Graham Speake

- 11.15-11.45 Filareti Kotsi: *The Spirituality of Different Age Groups*
- 11.45-12.15 Amos S. Ron: *Revisiting the Holy Land and Spiritual Maintenance*
- 12.15-12.45 Fr Seraphim: *The Patristic Teaching on the Spirituality of Children*

12.45- 14.30 Lunch

Third session chaired by Filareti Kotsi

- 16.15-16.45 Jill Dubish: *The Search for Old/New Spiritualities*
- 16.45-17.15 Pauli Annala: *'A Wheel within a Wheel' (Ezek 1:16) and the Life Cycle*

17.15-17.45 Coffee break

Fourth session chaired by Pauli Annala

- 17.45-18.15 Raili Gothóni: *Spirituality in Crises*
- 18.15-19.00 **Epilogue:** Summarizing discussion chaired by René Gothóni

20.00 Supper at the Taverna Apostoli

SUNDAY 27 MAY 2012

Optional excursions to Mount Athos and convents

NOTES ON SPEAKERS AND CHAIRS

PAULI ANNALA, Doctor of Theology, is University Lecturer in Systematic Theology in the Department of Systematic Theology, University of Helsinki. He specializes in patristics, Eastern and Western monastic traditions: Evagrius to St Bernard, the history and spirituality of the early Franciscan movement, and the Christian mystical tradition in general. His recent works (in Finnish) include: *The Handbook of Spirituality* (2003) and *A Book of Spiritual Direction* (2006). He has written several articles on St Francis and Early Franciscan spirituality. His main work in Patristics is *The Theological Heritage of Antiquity* (2nd edn., 2001).

FR CHRYSOSTOMOS TYMPAS, PhD, is a priest of the Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain, serving in the parish of St Anargyre, Highgate, London, and a medical doctor. He lived as a monk for many years in the monastery of Dionysiou on Mount Athos, where he published books on issues referring to the Philokalic tradition. He has recently received his doctorate from the Centre for Psychoanalytic Studies, University of Essex. His thesis compares individuation and deification, namely the psychological and spiritual development in Carl G. Jung and Maximus the Confessor. His pastoral and academic interests revolve around the relationship of the 'psychological' and the 'spiritual' within a framework of ontological and phenomenological parameters determining human life.

VERONICA DELLA DORA, PhD, is Senior Lecturer in Geographies of Knowledge in the School of Geographical Sciences, University of Bristol. In 2011 she was Visiting Fellow at Dumbarton Oaks where she worked on a project on Byzantine sacred landscapes. She is a specialist on cultural and historical geography, history of cartography and science studies, with a specific focus on sacred geographies and the eastern Mediterranean. Her recent works include: *Imagining Mount Athos: Visions of a Holy Place from Homer to World War II* (2011) and *High Places: Cultural Geographies of Mountains, Ice, and Science* (co-ed. 2008) and *Visual and Historical Geographies* (2010).

JILL DUBISH is Regent's Emerita Professor of Anthropology, Northern Arizona University. She is a specialist on gender, identity, healing, ritual, and especially pilgrimage. She is currently doing research on New Age spirituality. Her recent works include: *Gender and Power in Rural Greece* (1986), *In a Different Place: Pilgrimage, Gender, and Politics at a Greek Island Shrine* (1995), *Run for the Wall: Remembering Vietnam on a Motorcycle Pilgrimage* (with M. Michalowski 2001), and *Pilgrimage and Healing* (with M. Winkelman 2005)

RAILI GOTHÓNI is Professor of Practical Theology, University of Helsinki. She is a specialist on pastoral care and counselling, and diaconal work. She has also been working with retreats and spirituality in the context of personal crises. Her recent works include: *Points of View of the Elderly Searching Spirituality and Values* (2005), *Pastoral Care – a dialog Coram Deo* (2007), *Spirituality in Care* (2009), *Glimpses of Hope from the Lives of HIV-affected and Over-indebted People* (2010)

RENÉ GOTHÓNI is Professor of Comparative Religion in the Department of World Cultures, University of Helsinki. He is a specialist on monasticism and pilgrimage, in Buddhism and Christianity in particular, and also on methodological and epistemological questions in the study of religions. He is the founder and President of the Finnish society of Friends of Mount Athos. His recent works include: *Attitudes and Interpretations in Comparative Religion* (2000), *How to do Comparative Religion? Three Ways, Many Goals* (ed. 2005), *The Monastic Magnet: Roads to and from Mount Athos* (ed. with G. Speake 2008), *Pilgrims and Travellers in Search of the Holy* (ed. 2010) and *Words Matter: Hermeneutics in the Study of Religions* (2011).

FILARETI KOTSI, PhD, works as a teacher in the Department of Tourism Management, Hellenic Open University. She is also Visiting Lecturer at Cyprus University of Technology in the Department of Hotel and Tourism Management. She is a specialist in tourism, pilgrimage, and religious tourism. Her recent works include: *The Enchanted Communication. A Reflexive Anthropology of Religious Tourism in Mount Athos, Greece* (2003).

AMOS S. RON is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Tourism and Hospitality Studies, Kinneret College on the Sea of Galilee, and the founder and head of the Department of Tourism Management at the Ashkelon College (under construction), Israel. A cultural geographer by training, he is a specialist on geography of monotheistic religions, and especially on contemporary Christian travel and biblical-themed environments. His recent works include: *Religious Needs in the Tourism Industry* (ed. with A. Widenfeld 2008), *Managing Spiritual and Religious Tourism* (ed. with T. Selwyn and N. Garaburn 2009), *Towards a Typological Model of Contemporary Christian Travel* (2009), 'Holy Land Protestant Themed Environments and the Spiritual Experience' (in Schlehe et al., eds, *Staging the Past: Themed Environments in Transcultural Perspectives*, 2010).

FR SERAPHIM SEPPÄLÄ is Professor in Systematic and Patristic Theology, University of Joensuu, Finland. He has written more than twenty books on Patristics and Orthodoxy.

GRAHAM SPEAKE, DPhil, is a senior member of Christ Church, Oxford, and a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London. He is the founder (1990) and Hon. Secretary of the Friends of Mount Athos. His recent publications include: *Mount Athos: Renewal in Paradise* (2002), for which he was awarded the Criticos Prize, (ed. with D. Conomos 2005) *Mount Athos the Sacred Bridge: The Spirituality of the Holy Mountain*, (ed. with R. Gothóni 2008) *The Monastic Magnet: Roads to and from Mount Athos*, and (ed. with K. Ware 2012) *Mount Athos: Microcosm of the Christian East*.

KALLISTOS WARE holds a doctorate in theology from the University of Oxford where from 1966 to 2001 he was Fellow of Pembroke College and Spalding Lecturer in Eastern Orthodox Studies. He is a monk of the monastery of St John the Theologian, Patmos, and was ordained to the priesthood in 1966. In 1982 he became titular bishop of Diokleia and assistant bishop in the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain and in 2007 he was raised to the rank of metropolitan. His publications include: *The Orthodox Church* (2nd edn., 1993), *The Orthodox Way* (2nd edn., 1995), *The Inner Kingdom* (2001), and he is co-translator of the five-volume *Philokalia*.

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Please reserve a place for me at the conference on 25-26 May 2012.

Full name and title

Full postal address

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Telephone number

E-mail address

Please return this form online to Professor René Gothóni (rgothoni@mappi.helsinki.fi) by 15 May 2012.