

Sanctified Violence in Ancient Mediterranean Religions: Discourse, Ritual, Community

University of Minnesota, October 6–8, 2007

Continuing Education and Conference Center, Saint Paul Campus

NOTE: SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR PRESENTERS ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN YELLOW

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6

(Presenters who arrive Friday or early Saturday morning take free connector shuttle from Radisson University Hotel on main campus to St. Paul Conference Center at around 11am. Presenters arriving at other times should make suitable arrangements to arrive at the Conference Center as early as possible.)

Lunch for all participants (Presenters gather in special room off main dining hall) **11:30–1:00**

OPENING Remarks: Calvin Roetzel, University of Minnesota **1:00–1:15**

I. Imitation and Mimesis **1:15–2:45**

Chair: Michael Lower, University of Minnesota

Steve Weitzman, Indiana University
“‘Double Trouble’ in the Writing of Josephus”

Chris Frilingos, Michigan State University
“Random Acts of Violence: Ironic Brutality in Jewish, Christian, and Pagan Narrative”

Coffee Break **2:45–3:15**

II. Destructive Imaginings **3:15–5:30**

Chair: Philip Sellew, University of Minnesota

Jennifer Glancy, LeMoyne College
“Jesus in Jerusalem: Person, Place, Violence”

Kimberly Stratton, Carleton University
“The Eschatological Arena: Re-inscribing Roman Violence in Fantasies of the End Times”

Ra‘anan S. Boustan, University of California, Los Angeles
“Immolating Emperors: Jewish Revenge Fantasies in Late Antiquity”

SPECIAL DINNER IN HONOR OF KEY NOTE SPEAKER **6:00–7:30**
FOR PRESENTERS & INVITED GUESTS ONLY (at the Conference Center)

KEY NOTE ADDRESS (at the Conference Center) **7:30–9:30**

Welcome: Interim Dean James Parente, College of Liberal Arts, University of Minnesota

Introduction: Ra‘anan S. Boustan, University of California, Los Angeles

Bruce Lincoln, University of Chicago Divinity School
“Sanctified Violence in Ancient Mediterranean Religions: A Typological Overview”

PUBLIC RECEPTION **9:30–**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7

(Presenters take shuttle from Radisson to St. Paul Conference Center)

Breakfast **8:00–9:00**

III. The Rhetoric of War and Peace **9:00–11:15**

Chair: William Beeman, University of Minnesota

Tom Sizgorich, University of New Mexico

“Sanctified Violence and Kindred Blood: Monotheistic Militancy as the Tie that Bound Rome and Islam”

Calvin Roetzel, University of Minnesota

“Paul and the Language of War in 2 Cor 10:1–11:31”

Shelly Matthews, Furman University

“Clemency as Cruelty”

Lunch for all participants **(Presenters eat together with other participants)** **11:15–12:45**

IV. The Precarious Sanctity of the Martyr **12:45–3:00**

Chair: s

Andrew Gallia, University of Minnesota

“Thrasea the Martyr: Sanctity and Political Persecution under the Early Principate”

Hermann Lichtenberger, Everhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen

“Violence in the Apocryphal Acts of the Apostles of the Second and Third Centuries”

Margaret M. Mitchell, University of Chicago Divinity School

“Christian Martyrdom and the ‘Dialect of the Holy Scriptures’: The Literal, the Allegorical, and the Martyrological”

Coffee Break **3:00–3:30**

V. Textual Practices and Violence **3:30–5:45**

Chair: Lauren Monroe, Cornell University

Alex Jassen, University of Minnesota

“Scripture, Tradition, and the Hermeneutics of Violence in the Dead Sea Scrolls”

Beth Berkowitz, The Jewish Theological Seminary

“Hermeneutics and the Arts of Resistance: Violent Readings by the Rabbis”

Laura S. Nasrallah, Harvard Divinity School

“A Crisis of Representation: Justin, Roman Violence, and the Semiotics of Empire”

RETURN TO HOTEL, REGROUP, AND GO TO DINNER **5:30–6:45**

(meet in the lobby of the hotel at 6:25 to walk over to McNamara Alumni Center together)

SPECIAL DINNER FOR PRESENTERS & INVITED GUESTS ONLY **7:15**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 8

(Presenters take shuttle from Hotel on Main Campus to St. Paul Conference Center)

Breakfast **8:00–9:00**

VI. Violence and Order **9:00–11:15**

Chair: George Sheets, University of Minnesota

Clifford Ando, University of Chicago

“Religion and the Laws of War: An Archaeology”

Natalie Dohrmann, University of Pennsylvania

“The Rabbis and the Question of Law: Aspects of Coercion”

Brent D. Shaw, Princeton University

“State Intervention and Holy Violence: Timgad / Paleostrovskii / Waco”

Lunch for all participants **(Presenters eat together with other participants)** **11:15–12:30**

VII. (Mis)understanding the Violence of Others **12:30–2:00**

Chair: Andrew Gallia, University of Minnesota

Celia E. Schultz, Yale University

“The Romans and Ritual Murder”

David Cook, Rice University

“The Ismaili Assassins as Proto-Suicide Attackers: Examining the Narratives of Medieval Assassination in the Muslim World”

Wrap-up Discussion **2:00-2:30**

DEPARTURE FOR AIRPORT **3:00–**