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# WORKSHOP

## CEREAL CULTURES IN SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA

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ORGANIZERS: PETER BERGER, RENÉ CAPPERS,  
ROLAND HARDENBERG



30/09/22  
01/10/22



FACULTY OF THEOLOGY  
AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES,  
GRONINGEN



P.BERGER@RUG.NL





# DESCRIPTION

Cereal Cultures is an international and interdisciplinary collaborative research project studying human engagements with rice, millets and wheat in South Asia (Odisha) and Kazakhstan. It combines three projects that are separately funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) and the Dutch Research Council (NWO). Two of these projects explicitly focus on the changing roles of millets in local communities of Odisha, combining anthropological and archaeobotanical perspectives. One of these projects is *Salvage Crops, “Savage” People: A comparative anthropological and archaeobotanical investigation of Millet Assemblages in India* (NWO) and is led by Peter Berger and René Cappers. Roland Hardenberg is the project leader of the second, complementary, project, which bears the title *From “poor man’s food” to “nutri-cereals”. On the Emergence of a New Millet Assemblage in Odisha, India* (DFG). The third project — *ResourceCultures of Rice and Wheat in South and Central Asia. Religious and (agro-) economic dimensions of cereals* — is also led by Roland Hardenberg and part of the larger Collaborative Research Center on Resource Cultures (SFB 1070). It has been devised by Roland Hardenberg, Peter Berger and Jeanine Dagyeli. All three projects have been jointly designed and therefore have a strong conceptual and methodological consistency.

This workshop aims at discussing preliminary results of the research done so far and will address various other topics that are crucial for the further execution of the project (collaboration, International Year of Millets 2023, publications, knowledge dissemination, societal impact, among other things).



# PROGRAM

FRIDAY 30 SEPTEMBER

09.00-09.15	Introduction - Academy Building, Zernike Room
<b>09.15-11.15</b>	<b>Session I: Jeanine Dageyeli (chair) - Zernike Room</b>
09.15-10.00	Sonja Filatova & René Cappers - Modeling crop assemblages and collecting relevant material during fieldwork
10.00-10.45	Togzhan Utetileuova - Not far from the Soviet Union: the pursuit of perfect (hybrid)seeds and reindustrialization in North Kazakhstan's wheat fields
10.45-11.15	Coffee break
<b>11.15-14.00</b>	<b>Session II: Sonja Filatova (chair) - Zernike Room</b>
11.15-12.00	Suneet Kumar - Usage of rice in rituals and meaning-making of the 'socio-cosmic' world of Jodia-Poraja
12.00-12.45	Indhubala Kesavan - A preliminary account on the socio-historic aspects in the making of the 'rice bowl' of Odisha
12.45-14.00	Lunch
<b>14.00-15.30</b>	<b>Session III: Roland Hardenberg (chair) - Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, room 123</b>
14.00-14.30	Discussion
14.30-15.15	Tom Spits
15.15-15.30	Coffee break
<b>15.30-17.30</b>	<b>Session IV: Peter Berger (chair) - room 123</b>
15.30-17.00	Business meeting - see agenda
17.00-17.15	Roland Hardenberg - Recent work in the Cora DuBois Archives
17.15-17.30	Sabita Acharya - Social science research at Utkal University
18.30	Dinner

# PROGRAM

## SATURDAY 1 OCTOBER

09.00-11.00	Session I: Sabita Acharya (chair) - Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, court room
09.00-09.45	Shilanjani Bhattacharyya - Musing the mundane: Mediations of millet-'making' among Kondhs of Highland Odisha
09.45-10.30	Ashutosh Kumar - An Overview of Didayi Shifting Cultivators and their Lifeworld
10.30-11.00	Coffee break
11.00-13.30	Session II: René Cappers (chair) - court room
11.00-11.45	Bijayini Mohanty - The Socio-Cultural bonding of Millets with the Sauras of Gajapati District
11.45-12.30	Nidhi Trivedi - Locating the Parenga in their Everyday
12.30-13.30	Lunch
13.30-16.00	Session III: Peter Berger (chair) - court room
13.30-14.30	Discussion preliminary results
14.30-15.30	Business meeting - continued
15.30-16.00	Break
16.00-18.00	Session IV: Roland Hardenberg (chair) - court room
16.00-17.30	Ethnographic film by Tara Purnima: <i>The Wancho Animation Workshop and the Story of the Gourd</i> - discussion on film and future plans for the project documentary
17.30-18.00	Conclusion of workshop/looking ahead
19.00	Dinner

# PARTICIPANTS

Prof. Sabita Acharya	Vice Chancellor, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar
Dr. Peter Berger	Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies / Institute of Indian Studies, University of Groningen
Shilanjani Bhattacharyya	Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies / Institute of Indian Studies, University of Groningen & Frobenius- Institute/ Goethe University, Frankfurt
Prof. René Cappers	Groningen Institute of Archaeology
Prof. Jeanine Dagyeli	Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of Vienna
PD Dr. Susanne Fehlings	Frobenius-Institute / Goethe University, Frankfurt
Dr. Sonja Filatova	Groningen Institute of Archaeology
Prof. Roland Hardenberg	Frobenius-Institute / Goethe University, Frankfurt
Indhubala Kesavan	Frobenius-Institute / Goethe University, Frankfurt
Ashutosh Kumar	Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies / Institute of Indian Studies, University of Groningen
Suneet Kumar	Frobenius-Institute / Goethe University, Frankfurt
Bijayini Mohanty	Department of Anthropology, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar
Alisa Napitupulu	Frobenius-Institute / Goethe University, Frankfurt
Dr. Tara Purnima	Adivasi Arts Trust
Nidhi Trivedi	Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies / Institute of Indian Studies, University of Groningen
Togzhan Utetileuova	Frobenius-Institute / Goethe University, Frankfurt
Guest: Tom Spits	MOOC Coordinator, Online learning design specialist, University of Groningen





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**DFG**



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