

Humanitarianisms

Part of the Mellon Sawyer Seminar Series 2020-2021

Amira Mittermaier & Sienna R. Craig

Webinar

Thursday, February 4, 2021, 3:30-4:30pm (Pacific Time)

registration required: <https://bit.ly/SawyerSem-Feb4>

Amira Mittermaier, “God, Humans, and an Islamic Ethics of Care”

Caring for those in need is a central pillar of Islam. But caring for is not necessarily the same as caring about. Drawing on fieldwork in informal spaces of giving in post-2011 Egypt, this talk lays out an Islamic ethics of care—one not driven by compassion or pity but centered on divinely prescribed rights and responsibilities.

Sienna R. Craig, “Himalayan Humanitarianisms: Crisis Response from Earthquakes to Pandemics”

How does “humanitarianism” surface in contexts that are primarily non-biomedical and that emerge from Tibetan Buddhist worldviews? What ideals, materials, and practices shape such encounters? Building on ethnographic research that focuses on Tibetan medical camps in India and Nepal, and incorporating recent events related to Tibetan medical responses to COVID-19 in North America and Asia, Craig considers how local logics of care intersect with a global politics of compassion.

This webinar is part of the Winter Quarter theme, “Comparative Humanitarianisms”

More information about the series at

humanitarianisms.org

Amira Mittermaier is Professor of Anthropology and the Study of Religion at the University of Toronto. She is the author of *Dreams that Matter: Egyptian Landscapes of the Imagination* (U. of California Press, 2011) and *Giving to God: Islamic Charity in Revolutionary Times* (U. of California Press, 2019).

Sienna R. Craig is Associate Professor of Anthropology at Dartmouth College. She is the author most recently of *The Ends of Kinship: Connecting Himalayan Lives Between Nepal and New York* (U. of Washington Press, 2020).

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