

From Gandhāra to Gupta (London, 12–13 May 2017)

London, The Courtauld Institute of Art, May 12–13, 2017

The Courtauld Institute of Art

From Gandhāra to Gupta

Friday 12 May 2017

6:00 pm - 8:45 pm

Saturday 13 May 2017

10:30 am - 5:45 pm

Kenneth Clark Lecture Theatre, The Courtauld Institute of Art, Somerset House, Strand, London, WC2R 0RN

Organised by

Dr Nathan Hill: SOAS

Dr Christian Luczanits: SOAS

Prof. David Park: The Courtauld Institute of Art

Ticket / entry details:

£16 General admission

£11 Students and concessions

Limited complimentary places for current Courtauld and SOAS staff and students - booking required

Book Now via Eventbrite: <https://fromgandharatogupta.eventbrite.co.uk/>

Gandhāran art is well known for the Hellenistic legacy in its art and architecture, and its emergence and flourishing under the Kushan rulers has been the subject of numerous studies. Less attention has been paid to its gradual demise in the area covered by modern Pakistan and neighbouring regions, and to the transitional period from Kushan rule to the Gupta period. However, it is at this time that some of its art fully reflects early Mahāyāna ideas, that Kharosthi script is replaced by Brahmi, and that figural art proliferates and stucco appears to become the most prominent sculptural material. For this period, different academic disciplines base their theories on diverging sets of assumptions and rarely speak to each other. This conference aims to facilitate a dialogue across these disciplines and to bring the academic discourse on this period up to date.

Organised by SOAS and The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Centre for Buddhist Art and Conservation at The Courtauld, and supported by the ERC Synergy Grant 'Beyond Boundaries: Reli-

gion, Region, Language and the State', this conference will be held at The Courtauld Institute of Art, and will comprise an opening lecture and reception on the evening of Friday 12 May, followed by a day of 8 lectures on Saturday 13 May.

Programme

Friday 12 May Kenneth Clark Lecture Theatre, The Courtauld Institute of Art

17:30–18:00 Registration

18:00 Welcome: Nathan Hill (SOAS) and David Park (The Courtauld Institute of Art)

18:10–19:10 Keynote lecture: Juhung Rhi (Seoul National University, South Korea)

Later Gandhāra, Post-Gandhāra: the Fate of a Civilisation at the Frontier

19:10–20:45 Reception

Saturday 13 May Kenneth Clark Lecture Theatre, The Courtauld Institute of Art

10:00–10:30 Registration

Session 1 Chair: Nathan Hill (SOAS)

10:30–11:10 Keynote lecture: Stefan Baums (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich)

Writing Culture from Gandhāra to Gupta: Manuscripts, Inscriptions and Art

11:10–11:40 Ingo Strauch (University of Lausanne)

The Buddha Akṣobhya and his Buddha Field Abhirati in a Mahāyāna Sūtra from Bajaur

11:40–11:50 Discussion

11:50–12:20 Tea/Coffee Break (provided for all, in Seminar Room 1)

Session 2 Chair: Christian Luczanits (SOAS)

12:20–12:50 Jason Neelis (Wilfrid Laurier University, Canada)

Transformational Emplacements: Shifting Patterns in the Localisation of Buddhist Narratives in Gandhāra

12:50–13:20 Jessie Pons (Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany)

Localising the Buddha's Legend: the Case of Apalala's Conversion

13:20–13:30 Discussion

13:30–14:45 Lunch Break (provided for speakers only)

Session 3 Chair: Peter Stewart (University of Oxford)

14:45–15:15 Abdul Samad (Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Peshawar, Pakistan)

Bhamala Archaeological Excavations: New Dates for Gandhāran Chronology

15:15–15:45 Luca M. Olivieri (ACT Project, Italian Archaeological Mission in Pakistan)

Decline or Transformations: Patterns of Change in Swat at and after the end of the Kushan Era (3rd – 6th Century CE)

15:45–15:50 Discussion

15:50–16:30 Tea/Coffee Break (provided for all, in Seminar Room 1)

Session 4 Chair: David Park (The Courtauld Institute of Art)

16:30–17:00 Pierre Cambon (Musée national des arts asiatiques – Guimet [MNAAG], Paris)

Sculptures from Hadda in the Musée Guimet, and Problems of Chronology in Late Gandhāran Art

17:00–17:30 Giovanni Verri (Courtauld Institute of Art), Christian Luczanits (SOAS),

Nick Barnard (V&A), John Clarke (V&A) and Victor Borges (V&A)

The 'Hadda Head': Scientific Investigations of a Gandhāran Stucco Head of the Buddha at the Victoria and Albert Museum (IM.3-1931)

17:30–17:45 Discussion and Concluding Remarks

17:45 End

Reference:

CONF: From Gandhāra to Gupta (London, 12-13 May 2017). In: ArtHist.net, Apr 12, 2017 (accessed Jul 14, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/15236>>.