

## Dunhuang Research Seminar 2008

Dunhuang Art and Society: On-site Seminar (June 29-July 12, 2008)

With the strong support of the Dunhuang Research Academy, China, the Silkroad Foundation is organizing its fourth seminar on Dunhuang art and society, to be held at the Mogao Caves, Dunhuang, Gansu Province, China, from June 29-July 12, 2008. A trip to visit Buddhist art sites in east Xinjiang, including Balikun, Hami, Turfan, Jimsar, and Urumqi, will follow (July 13-20). The invited speakers include Roderick Whitfield, Mimi Yiengpruksawan, Neil Schmid and Ning Qiang from the US side and Wang Huimin, Liu Yongzheng, Zhao Shengliang and Zhang Yuanlin from the China side. Seminar participants will examine the paintings and sculptures in the Mogao and Yulin caves with the experts listed above and interact with local scholars formally and informally. In addition to visits to the Buddhist caves, this interdisciplinary seminar will provide on-site lectures/discussions examining a wide range of issues relating to Chinese art, religion, politics, and society.

The official language of the seminar is English.

**Seminar Fee:** The comprehensive seminar fee is \$1,160 for double, which covers cave visit fees at Mogao and Yulin, accommodations at the Mogao Guest House and weekend excursions in the Dunhuang region.

**Post-Seminar Trip - Xinjiang:** July 13-20

The post-seminar trip to Xinjiang costs \$625 for double and \$800 for single.

Day1, Dunhuang - Hami Balikun by bus (520km, 7-8hours) visit Dahetang Ancient ruins.

Day2, Bus to Hami, (110km) Baiyanggou ruins, Museum visit and Hami King's Tom.

Day3, Bus to Turpan (420km 5-6 hours) Bezeklik

Day4, Tuyugou caves, Gaochang Ancient city, Museum visit.

Day5, Jiaohe Ancient city. Bus to Jimsar. (340km 5h)

Day6, Beiting ruins and Uygur Tample. Bus to Urumqi (140km 2h)

Day7, Museum.

Day8, Fly back to US

List of Lectures

Roderick Whitfield (University of London):

1. The eight-armed wood image of a Bodhisattva from Dunhuang, in the Pelliot collection, Musée nationale des arts asiatiques Guimet, Paris.
2. Two gilt-bronze images of Mahakala and Hevajra from Wuwei, Gansu Province, and the painting of Hevajra in Mogao Cave 465.

Ning Qiang (Connecticut College):

1. The Issues of Patronage and Image-making in Early Dunhuang Caves
2. Paradise Images in Tang Dynasty China.

Mimi Yiengpruksawas (Yale University):

1. On the Hybrid Nature of the Amitâbha Hall at Byôdôin
2. Dunhuang and Japan: Visual Links in Buddhist Art

Neil Schmid (North Carolina State University):

1. The Cult of Sakyamuni at Dunhuang
2. The Ritual Manipulation of Time and Space: Eight Aspects of Buddha's Life (Baxiang bian) and Astamahapratiharya

Note: lecture information by Chinese scholars at the Dunhuang Research Academy will be available later.

Registration: Please visit the Silkroad Foundation website

<http://www.silkroadfoundation.org>

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for online registration. The application should be submitted to the Silkroad Foundation by 12/20. The full nonrefundable payment is due by 2/15/2008 once you are accepted to the program. Maximum of thirty participants will be accepted. For more information, please contact the Silkroad Foundation via email [dhseminar08@silkroadfoundation.org](mailto:dhseminar08@silkroadfoundation.org)

Neil Schmid

Reference:

ANN: Dunhuang Research Seminar 2008. In: ArthHist.net, Nov 10, 2007 (accessed May 12, 2025),

<<https://arthist.net/archive/29819>>.