

Prof. Dr. Hugh van Skyhawk
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National and Inter-National Representation of the Taxila Institute of Asian Civilizations (2007-2013)

National and international representation of the Taxila Institute of Asian Civilizations at academic conferences and seminars in Pakistan, Europe, and Nepal:

1. “Oral Traditions in Domaaki”, International Conference on Partnership/Networking for Promotion of Research and Knowledge in the Northern Areas of Pakistan, Karakorum International University, Gilgit, 7-9 April 2008;
2. “Three Voices of Peace Remembered in the Melody Market in July 2008”, conference and award ceremony of the Peace Prize 2008 of the Pakistan-Belgium NGO Institute of Peace and Development (INSPAD), Islamabad, Holiday Inn Hotel, 1 August 2008;
3. “Some Salient Features of Muslim Culture in the Deccan”, at the Annemarie Schimmel Haus (German Cultural Centre) Lahore, 19 September 2008;
4. “The Dialogue of Islam and the West”, German Parliament House, Berlin, on 15 October 2008;
5. “The Dialogue of Islam and the West”, State Museum of Ethnology, Munich, 30 October 2008;
6. “Annemarie Schimmel on Sufi Poetry and World Reconciliation”, International Inter-Faith Dialogue Conference of the Tehrik Akhuwat Islami and Inter-Faith Dialogue Committee, Islamabad Club, Islamabad, 13 November 2008;
7. “Annemarie Schimmel and the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade 1995”, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Islamabad, 3 December 2008;
8. “The Dialogue of Islam and the West”, German-American Institute, Heidelberg, 17 December 2008;
9. “Image and Symbol in Gandhara Art”, Symposium on the Buddhist Legacy of Pakistan, Art

- and Exhibition Hall of the Federal Republic of Germany, Bonn, 14 January 2009;
10. "Confrontation and Appropriation: Aspects of the Dialog of Islam and the West. Revisited March 2009", German Parliament House, Berlin, 9 March 2009;
 11. "The Wine Cup of Love and the Message of Peace: Sufi Poetry and Civil Courage", International Inter-Faith Dialogue Consultation, Lahore, 21-22 April 2009;
 12. "The Lama and the Yeti, a Sherpa Legend of Nepal", Asian Study Group, TVO-House, Islamabad, 13 October 2009;
 13. "Voices of Peace in the Folk Literature of South Asia", Conference on Inter-Faith Peace Dialogue, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal, 15 October 2009;
 14. "Cleansing and Renewing the Field for Another Year: Processions between Holy Places as Networks of Reflexivity", guest lecture, Department of Anthropology, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal, 20 October 2009;
 15. „Barelvis, Wahhabi-Deobandis, Shias und die ‘Mad Mullahs of Waziristan’: Der Feind meines Feinds ist mein Freund”, Parliament House of the Federal Republic of Germany, Berlin, 11 December 2009;
 16. „Barelvis, Wahhabi-Deobandis, Shias und die ‘Mad Mullahs of Waziristan’: Der Feind meines Feinds ist mein Freund”, German-American Institute, Heidelberg, Germany, 12 January 2010;
 17. „Barelvis, Wahhabi-Deobandis, Shias und die ‘Mad Mullahs of Waziristan’: Der Feind meines Feinds ist mein Freund”, Faculty of Lutheran Theology, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, 20 January 2010;
 18. „Barelvis, Wahhabi-Deobandis, Shias und die ‘Mad Mullahs of Waziristan’: Der Feind meines Feinds ist mein Freund”, Museum of Ethnology, Munich, 21 January 2010;
 19. "Special Guest" at the Conference on "Islam and Inter-Faith Harmony" organised by the Tehrik-e-Akhuwat-e-Islami & Interfaith Dialogue Committee on the birthday anniversary of the Prophet Muhammad [Eid un Milad un-Nabi] at the Islamabad Club on Tuesday, 9th March 2010;
 20. German Delegate Member of the international conference on "Sufism and Peace"; Pakistan Academy of Letters (PAL), Islamabad, 14-16.3.2010;
 21. Rotary Club of Metropolitan Islamabad; Thema: "The World-View of the Indo-Greek and

Gandhara Periods", 25.3.2010;

22. Keynote address to the international conference on "Pakistan and India: Shifting Identities in Culture, History and Justice: an Interdisciplinary Conference" at the Lahore University of Management Sciences [LUMS], on 2.4.2010;

23. "Finding Sudarshana Sinha"; contribution to the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Alumni Conference, 29.-31.10.2010 in Islamabad;

23. Keynote address at the International Seminar on "Peace, Wisdom, and Personal Transformation", Department of Peace and Conflict Resolution, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal, 18.11.2010;

24. On 28.11.2010 I began in collaboration with Prof. Dr. Hafeez ur Rehman (Head, Department of Anthropology, Quaid-i-Azam University) a series of open-mike type discussions on the study of comparative religions in the NBS live service of Radio Pakistan, Islamabad;

25. „The Development of the Buddha Image in Gandhara Art“, contribution to the International Conference on Gandhara Art, Islamabad, 3.12.2010;

26. "Maertyrer der Menschlichkeit: Die Verteidiger von Jinnahs Pakistan", guest lecture for the Society of Asian Art and the State Museum of Ethnology, Munich, Germany, 9.2.2011;

27. "Maertyrer der Menschlichkeit: Die Verteidiger von Jinnahs Pakistan", guest lecture for the Deutsch-Amerikanische Institut [DAI], Heidelberg, 11.2.2011;

28. „Maertyrer der Menschlichkeit: Die Verteidiger von Jinnahs Pakistan“, guest lecture in the parliament house of the Federal Republic of Germany (Deutschen Bundestag), Berlin, 14.2.2011; In the audience were members of the Bundestag, representatives of the Ministry for Economic Cooperation (BMZ), representatives of the Federal Foreign Office, representatives of the European Union, representatives of the embassies of Pakistan and Usbekistan, of the Friedrich Naumann Stiftung, der Berliner Tageszeitung, the Institute for Foreign Affairs, and many others;

29. "Maertyrer der Menschlichkeit: Die Verteidiger von Jinnahs Pakistan", guest lecture in the Fakultät fuer Evangelische Theologie, Universitaet Mainz, on 16.2.2011;

30. "Sir Olaf Caroe on Governance in the North West Frontier Province", guest lecture for the British-German Society, Heidelberg, 6.5.2011;

31. "A Garden amidst the Flames: The Categorical Imperative of Sufi Wisdom", guest lecture for the Trilateral Summer School, Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Islamabad on 15.6.2011;

32. "Greco-Roman Influences in the Art of Gandhara", contribution to the conference on "Buddhism and the West", at the The Catholic Academy in Bavaria, Munich, 20.-22.10.2011; convener: Prof. Dr. Katharina Ceming;
33. "Some Sacred and Secular Meanings of Water in South Asia", contribution to the international conference on "Climate Change and Sustainable Water Management in the Asia-Pacific Region", Comsats Institute of Information Technology; Islamabad, 22.-24.11.2011;
34. „First and Last Glimpses of Rock-Art on the Karakoram Highway“, guest lecture at the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Islamabad, 8.2.2012;
35. "The Ethical Foundations of Pakistan", guest lecture for the Rotary Club Islamabad Metropolitan, Marriott Hotel, Islamabad, 13.2.2012; award of the Gold Medal of the Rotary Club International for "Service to Humanity";
36. „Introduction to the Study of Religion in South Asia“, six guest lectures for the Collegium Civitas, Warsaw, Poland, from 15 to 23.4.2012;
37. „A Garden still amidst the Flames: Reflections on the Ethical Foundations of Pakistan“, for the Oxford-Cambridge Society Islamabad in the Serena Hotel Islamabad, 2.6.2012. This lecture obtained the highest number of participants of any Oxford-Cambridge lecture in Islamabad (123) and was reviewed by the conveners of the lecture series as „the best lecture ever“ and „on an international level: 10 of 10“; concerning this lecture the Charges d’Affaires of the German Embassy in Islamabad, The Honourable Mr. Stephen Roeken, wrote on 3.6.2012: „Lieber Herr van Skyhawk, ich darf mich noch einmal für Ihren Vortrag am vergangenen Samstag bedanken. Mich hat insbes. auch die Souveränität beeindruckt, mit der Sie die nicht immer ganz einfachen Fragen beantwortet haben (bei einigen Fragestellern habe ich allerdings gar nicht erst verstanden, worauf diese hinauswollten). Natürlich hat mich auch Ihr expliziter Dank an das Auswärtige Amt sehr gefreut, aber auch ohne diesen Hinweis wäre ich zu dem gleichen Schluss gekommen: Sie haben nicht nur sich selbst sondern auch Deutschland sehr gut vertreten.“;
38. On Tuesday, 18th December 2012, Prof. van Skyhawk lectured to the corps commanders and officers of the Pakistan Army at the National Defense University (NDU), Islamabad, on Religion in Inter-Cultural Communications. Prof. van Skyhawk was awarded a gold medallion by the National Defense University for his contribution to the security of Pakistan;
39. On Wednesday, 19th December 2012, Prof. van Skyhawk took part in the conference "A

Peaceful and Prosperous Pakistan" sponsored by the Rotary Club International at the Shahid Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Institute for Science and Technology (SZABIST) in Islamabad with a contribution entitled "A Christmas Story for a Muslim Angel". For his work in Pakistan Prof. van Skyhawk was awarded the "Special Recognition Award" of the Rotary Club International;

40. On 1st March 2013 Prof. van Skyhawk made a presentation on "Sufi Poetry and the Translation of World Reconciliation" at the 2nd International Conference of the Istanbul Network of Liberty at the Marriott Hotel in Islamabad.