

LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

PETER GLASNER is lecturer in Sociology in the School of Social Studies at the Australian National University. His publications include *Sociology of Secularisation: A Critique of a Concept* (London: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1976.) Forthcoming from Allen and Unwin is Dr. Glasner's *Religionless Christianity: Towards a Sociology of Religion* (the first Australian Sociology of Religion text) and his *Studies in the Sociology of Australian Religions* (for the AASR).

HAROLD W. TURNER, a New Zealander, has taught in universities in New Zealand, West Africa, the U.S.A., England and in Aberdeen where he directs the Project for the Study of New Religious Movements in Primal Societies. His writings include the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* article, 'Tribal religious movements - new', *African Independent Church*, and a guide to Rudolf Otto on the Holy.

PAUL RULE, author and historian, was Chairman of Religious Studies at La Trobe University until the end of 1975, and is now Chairman of the Interdisciplinary Studies Committee. Dr. Rule continues his teaching and research in the fields of history and religion especially in the Chinese Tradition.

ROMA O'NEILL is currently completing an M.A. at Melbourne University, studying Social Anthropology at Monash University and teaching Physiotherapy at Lincoln Institute. She has worked as a Physiotherapist in Melbourne since 1956, apart from several periods spent overseas: 1957-59 in West Pakistan, 1959-61 in West Germany, 1968 in Central Java, and between 1975 and 1977 in Bali for a total of six months of field work.

ARVIND SHARMA won his B.A. in 1958 (Allahabad University, India), his M.A. in 1970 (Syracuse University, U.S.A.) and a Master's degree in Theological Studies in 1974 (Harvard Divinity School). Mr. Sharma is currently a doctoral candidate in Sanskrit and Indian religions at Harvard University, and Lecturer in Indian Religions at the University of Queensland, Brisbane.

PETER FENNER is a post-graduate student at La Trobe University. His research is in Buddhism generally with particular work in Madhyamika philosophy. His theoretical interests are supported through practice.

WAYNE HUDSON is a Lecturer at Griffith University where he teaches Comparative Literature and History. He completed his doctorate in Politics at Oxford under John Plamenatz and Leszek Kolakowski and has specialist interests in the history of ideas and the history of philosophy. He is currently writing a book on the German Marxist philosopher, Ernst Bloch.

JOHN MAY is an Australian who for the past eight years has worked in Europe. His doctorate involved an analysis of the theological and ethical language with which the Christian ecumenical movement tries to talk about the unity of mankind. Dr. May is currently Assistant to the Director at the Katholisch-Okumenischer Institut der Westfälischen Wilhelms-Universität in Münster and has turned his scholarly attention to the question of the constitution of meaning in Christianity and Buddhism.

ALBERT C. MOORE is Associate Professor of Religious Studies at the University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand, where he has been teaching since 1967 in the field of History and Phenomenology of Religion. His interest in the relation of religion to the arts has resulted in a book on visual images and symbols in the world's religions, *Iconography of Religions: An Introduction*, 1977, S.C.M. Press (U.K.), Fortress Press (U.S.A.)

The Editor, VICTOR C. HAYES, is an Australian who spent the years 1954-1972 in the United States, studying and teaching in Philosophy and Religion. His doctoral dissertation (for Columbia University) dealt with Schelling's *Philosophie der Mythologie und Offenbarung*. Dr. Hayes is now Senior Lecturer and Head of the Department of Religion Studies at Sturt College of Advanced Education.

**THE PROGRAMME OF THE INAUGURAL CONFERENCE
OF THE AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION
FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGIONS**

August 19-21, 1976

**Adelaide College of Advanced Education
Adelaide, South Australia**

Plenary Sessions

- Dr. Peter Glasner**, Australian National University
The Study of Australian Folk Religion: Some Theoretical and
Practical Problems.
- Professor C. Manning Clark**, Australian National University
Religion in the Early History of Australia.¹
- Professor W.E.H. Stanner**, Australian National University
The Structure of Australian Aboriginal Religion.²
- Harold W. Turner**, University of Aberdeen
Primal Religions and their Study
and
New Religious Movements in Primal Societies.
- Dr. A. Lahiri**, Salisbury College of Advanced Education
The Myth-Ritual Process in the Soma Sacrificial Rituals of
Ancient India.

Joint Panel:

On Teaching Religion in the Australian/New Zealand Context:
Focussing the Issues.

For this Panel Discussion the A.A.S.R. joined with The
Australian and New Zealand Association for Theological Schools.
The speakers were:—

Colin Brown, Senior Lecturer in Religious Studies, University of
Canterbury, New Zealand.

Rev. Dr. Gordon Dicker, Lecturer in Historical Theology, United
Theological College, Enfield, N.S.W.

Fr. Tony Campbell, Lecturer in Old Testament Theology, United
Theological Faculty, Melbourne, Vic.

Rev. Eric Pyle, Reader in Studies in Religion, University of
Queensland.

SECTIONS

SECTION 1: Sociology of Religion

Robert Crotty (Religious Studies, Salisbury C.A.E.)

The Relation of Myth to the Social Structures of Reality³

Paul Rule (La Trobe University)

Sacred and Secular in China

A.B. Van Fossen (Western Australian Institute of Technology)

The Success of the Millenium: The Case of the Vailala Madness.

Wendy Poussard (Melbourne)

Gods and Spirits in a Korean Village. **not given*

Roma O'Neill (Melbourne University)

Hindu-Balinese Religion – Institutionalised Spirit Possession

SECTION 2: Philosophy of Religion

Peter Fenner (La Trobe University)

Samsara is Nirvana: a Key to Understanding Buddhist Thought.

Purushuttama Bilimoria (La Trobe University)

Sabda in Hindu Philosophy.

Victor Hayes (Sturt C.A.E.)

Must 'Mystery' in Religion Remain Mysterious?

Wayne Hudson (Griffith University)

Toward a Positive Marxist Critique of Religion.

Allan Loy (United Theological College, Enfield)

Transcendence as a Criterion for Method in History of Religions⁴

SECTION 3: Christianity and Judaism

Alan Black (University of New England)

An Analysis of Theories of Ecumenism.

J. Nyman (Newcastle C.A.E.)

The Influence of Arianism on Religious Movements and Historical Events.

E.C.B. Maclaurin (Sydney University)

Canaanite Elements in the Old and New Testaments.

SECTION 4: Hinduism

Ian Kesarcodi-Watson (La Trobe University)

Devas: Hindu Polytheism.⁵

Arvind Sharma (University of Queensland)

Early Medieval Anticipations of some Modern Interpretations of the Bhagavad-gita

Vijay Mishra (Murdoch University)

From Men to Gods: Tulsidasa Ramayana.

Gregory Bailey (Melbourne University; and Murray Park C.A.E. as of 1977)

The Role of the Great Father in Hindu Cosmogonic Myths.

(Also in this area belongs the Plenary Session paper by **Dr.A.Lahiri**:
The Myth-Ritual Process in the Soma Sacrificial Rituals of Ancient India.)

SECTION 5: Religion Education

A.C. Moore (University of Otago, New Zealand)

The Place of the Visual in the Teaching of Religion.

Basil Moore and Collin Collins (Adelaide C.A.E.)

Religious and/or Moral Education: the latest issue in R.E. for South Australia.

Br. B. Connole, (Xavier Teachers College)

Religion: The Missing Dimension in Secondary Schools.

SECTION 6: Islam

S.A. Risvi (Australian National University)

The Relevance of Islam in the Study of Religions.

Notes

- ¹We are unable to include Professor Manning Clark's address, but refer readers to his 1976 Boyer Lectures titled: *A Discovery of Australia* (Sydney: The Australian Broadcasting Commission) for a current example of incisive comment from this great writer on Australian history.
- ²Professor Stanner's address constituted the Charles Strong Memorial Lecture for 1976. The AASR joined with the Australian and New Zealand Society for Theological Studies for the occasion (240 persons attending). The lecture was published in *Colloquium* (9:1) and reprints sent to all AASR members.
- ³Not given. Mr. Crotty read his paper at the first 1977 meeting of the South Australian Chapter of the AARS.
- ⁴The substance of Dr. Loy's paper appears as 'Doing Christian Theology in a Multi-Religious World', in a volume published by the Board of Studies in Divinity, U. of Sydney, 1977.
- ⁵The substance of Ian Kesarcodi-Watson's paper appears as a chapter ('Hinduism and Polytheism') in his *Eastern Spirituality* (Delhi: Agam Prasad, 1976). For copies of this volume contact the author at La Trobe University.

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