



IDENTITY ISSUES AND WORLD RELIGIONS



Selected Proceedings of the Fifteenth Congress
of the International Association
for the History of Religions

EDITED BY VICTOR C. HAYES

The Australian Association



for the Study of Religions

The International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR) is a federation of national societies meeting at five-yearly intervals.

It was founded in 1950 in Amsterdam but traces its ancestry back to *Le Premier Congrès International d'Histoire des Religions* held in Paris in 1900. Participants at that Congress took the view that scholars pursuing scientific work in the area of religions should be able to proceed without deferring to Confessional interests.

Subsequent Congresses were held at Basel (1904), Oxford (1908), Leiden (1912), Lund (1929), Brussels (1935), Amsterdam (1950), Rome (1955), Tokyo (1958), Marburg (1960), Claremont (1965), Stockholm (1970), Lancaster (1975), Winnipeg (1980) – and now Sydney (1985). This Fifteenth Congress is the first to be held in the Southern Hemisphere.

Sydney University, through its Department of Religious Studies – and in conjunction with the Australian Association for the Study of Religions – hosted 439 participants from 29 countries.

Of the 281 papers delivered at the Fifteenth Congress, perhaps one-quarter were related to the Congress Theme: *Religion and Identity*. The final selection of 27 papers for this volume represents the diversity of concerns, academic disciplines, religious traditions, and even world geographic areas, involved in the many Congress theme-related discussions.

The resultant volume has the appeal of any good anthology in which scholarly conversation flows around a topic that is, by deliberate choice, comprehensive and many-sided. It will be of interest to everyone who is caught up in, or concerned with, issues of identity and religion in a pluralistic, changing world.

The selected papers are followed by a "Contextualizing Essay", a Record of Formal Events, Details of the Sectional Program, a List of Participants (with addresses), and Information on IAHR and AASR.

Carole
Cusack
1999



IDENTITY
ISSUES
AND
WORLD
RELIGIONS

©1986 by the Australian Association for the Study of Religions at the South Australian College of Advanced Education: Sturt Campus, Bedford Park, South Australia 5042, Australia.

Design and Cover Design by Rosemary Aliukonis

Printed by the University Relations Unit, Flinders University.
Distributed by Wakefield Press, 282 Richmond Rd., Netley S.A., Australia 5037.

First Published July 1986

National Library of Australia card number and ISBN

ISBN 0 908083 14 9

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction — Victor Hayes, Australia	VII
--	-----

PART A THE SELECTED PAPERS

*Twenty-seven Select Papers Related to the Congress Theme:
Religion and Identity*

I **What Gives Identity to a Religion or a Morality**

What Constitutes The Identity of a Religion? <i>Hubert Seiwert, West Germany</i>	1
Do Different Religions Share Moral Common Ground? <i>Peter Donovan, New Zealand</i>	8
Prophet, Guru, Sage: Three Paradigms of the Hierophant <i>David G Bradley, U.S.A.</i>	17

II **Personal Identity Issues in Various Religions**

Personal Identity in the Upaniṣads and Buddhism <i>Karel Werner, England</i>	24
Identity and Self-Knowledge in the Syrian Thomas Tradition <i>Luther H Martin, U.S.A.</i>	34
Egeria, Fa Hsien and Ibn Battuta: Search for Identity Through Pilgrimage? <i>Noel Q. King, U.S.A.</i>	42
Identity and the Rural Minister <i>Kenneth Dempsey, Australia</i>	47
Destiny, Morality and Identity in the Thought of John Henry Newman <i>James R Horne, Canada</i>	56

III **The Keynote Address, A Brief Response, and the Major Issue of Lost Identity in the History of Religions**

Religion and Identity: A Dialectical Interpretation of Religious Phenomena (Opening Address) <i>Hans Mol, Canada</i>	64
A Response to Professor Mol's Keynote Address <i>Ninian Smart, England and U.S.A.</i>	80
Female Identity and the History of Religions <i>Ursula King, England</i>	83

IV **Problems of Definition and Identity-Maintenance in Various Religious Traditions**

The Real Zoroastrianism Dilemma <i>Alan Williams, England</i>	93
The Khalsa Rahit: The Sikh Identity Defined <i>WH McLeod, New Zealand</i>	104
Vaishnavism, Brahmanism and Hindu Identity in Medieval Bengal <i>MH Klaiman, Australia</i>	110
The Ismaili Muslim Identity and Changing Contexts <i>Professor Azim Nanji, U.S.A.</i>	119
Descriptions of the Immortals and the Taoist Identity <i>Bartholomew PM Tsui, Hong Kong</i>	125
Neo-Confucianism: Theism, Atheism or Neither? <i>Paul Rule, Australia</i>	135

V **Problems of Identity in New Situations of Religious Pluralism**

Religion and Identity: New Religious Movements in Quebec <i>Roland Chagnon, Canada</i>	145
Religious Encounters of the Third Kind: Spiritual Technology in Modern Nigeria <i>Rosalind I J Hackett, U.S.A.</i>	155
Religion and Identity, and the Study of Ethnic Minority Religions in Britain <i>Kim Knott, England</i>	167
Millet or Minority: Muslims in Britain <i>Penelope C Johnstone, England</i>	176

VI **Religion and Cultural Identity**

The Arts of MA: Religio-aesthetic Values and Cultural Identity in Japan <i>Richard B Pilgrim, U.S.A.</i>	182
Mipela Simbu! The Pig Festival and Simbu Identity <i>Ennio Mantovani, Papua New Guinea</i>	194
Australian Literature, Religion and Culture: The Question of Identity <i>James Tulip, Australia</i>	206

VII **Generational, Ecumenical and World Identity
— The Role of Religion**

Generational Identity and Religious Change in America since World War II <i>Dale R Bengtson, U.S.A.</i>	215
Catholicity: A Threat or Help to Identity? <i>Walter H Principe, Canada</i>	224
National and International Identity in a Japanese Religion (Byakkō Shinkōkai) <i>Michael Pye, (Germany)</i>	234

**PART B
THE CONGRESS PROCEEDINGS**

1. The Context

“From Paris 1900 to Sydney 1985” (An Essay in Retrospect and Prospect) <i>Eric J Sharpe, University of Sydney</i>	245
---	-----

2. Record of Formal Events

<i>Opening Addresses:</i>	253
The Chancellor of the University of Sydney	
The President of the IAHR	
<i>The Congress Program</i>	256
Plenary Sessions and Special Events —	
Events of General Interest — Business Meetings —	
Social Program	

3. The Sectional Program

Index of 18 Sections, 2 Symposia, 1 Panel	257
The Sectional Papers	
Titles and Authors of 278 Presentations	258
(by Sections, with names of Co-ordinators)	

4. List of Participants

Names and Addresses (August 1985) of 440 Registered Congress Members	277
---	-----

5. IAHR (and AASR) Information

<i>Boards and Committees</i>	289
IAHR Executive Boards: Incoming and Outgoing	
AASR Executive Committees: Incoming and Outgoing	
IAHR Congress Australian Planning Committee	
<i>The Constitution of the IAHR</i>	290
List of Previous Congresses and their Proceedings (1900-1980)	
AASR Books in Print	