



# Progressivism for Souls?

## Literature and Spirituality in the (Post-)Communist Worlds

Eighth International Workshop of the ANR 'RedGold' Programme

Campus Condorcet, Bâtiment Recherche Sud, 2 cours des Humanités – F-93300 Aubervilliers – Salle 0.018

Monday, June 8, 2026

- 10.00: Sergei SHTYRKOV (*Yerevan Centre for International Education & GSRL*)  
**Undisciplined holiness: The lives of village holy fools in early Post-Soviet Orthodox hagiography**
- 10.30: Marie-Paule HILLE (*EHESS, Paris*)  
**The miracle as grammar and narrative of sainthood: The 'window miracle' in the hagiographic culture of the Xidaotang**
- 11.30: Gianfranco BRIA (*University of Rome La Sapienza*)  
**Narrating neo-Bektashism in post-Socialist Albania: Literature, esotericism and the making of national heritage in Moikom Zeqo's work**
- 12.00: Tommaso PREVIATO (*Friedrich-Alexander University of Erlangen-Nuremberg*)  
**'Battling the *nafs* by moonlight': The poetics of night vigils in Liu Zhi's *Wugeng Yue* ('Five lunar phases') and the *Yangzu Quanshu* (Collected works of Yang Baoyuan)**
- 14.00: Valeria GAZIZOVA (*University of Heidelberg & GSRL*)  
**Inscribed cliffs and textual layering: Competing narratives and afterlives of Oirat Buddhist landscapes in Central Asia**
- 14.30 Aleksandr LVOV (*independent researcher, Jerusalem*)  
**A sainthood with Soviet patina: The keepers of Jewish learning in the USSR, and their memory**
- 15.30: Jeanne KORMINA (*Yerevan Centre for International Education & GSRL*)  
**Unorthodox hagiography: Monarchism in Soviet poetry and adventure literature**
- 16.00: Stéphane A. DUDOIGNON (*CNRS/GSRL, Paris*)  
**A post-gulag literary spirituality: Sunni Muslim gnosticism in the Tajik SSR, from WWII to independence**



Deciphering of Arabic-language petroglyphs in Savatk, Upper Zarafshan Valley, Tajikistan (photo SAD, August 2006).

