Research Seminar Series on Religion 2022/2024

Tuesdays 5-6.30 p.m. (on TEAMS)

4 October 2022	Meet the Team: Introducing the team of lecturers in Theology and Religious Studies and their current research
1 November 2022	Dr Emily Leah Silverman, President American Academy of Religion Western Region Feminist Spiritual Resistance and Resilience of Jewish Women of the Nazi Holocaust

Abstract

Her talk will be on her recent research on Feminist Spiritual Resistance and Resilience of Jewish Women of the Nazi Holocaust . Dr. Silverman investigates what does it mean and how do we define spiritual resistance and resilience. What can we learn about Spiritual Resistance and Spiritual Resilience from the stories of Jewish women survivors and those who died. She will discuss the qualities she has found of spiritual resilience and resistance and give examples from four or five women's lives. The first women Rabbi Regina Jonas (Born Berlin1902-1944 Died Auschwitz) Etty Hillesum (Born Middleburg 1914 -1943 Died Auschwitz) Ester Berger Born Survivor , Born Alma Tannenbaum Survivor There a few survivors of the Nazi holocaust alive and she wonders what can we learn from these women who both survived died in the Nazi Holocaust We can apply their resistance and resilience to our present day crisis of climate change, war, nuclear war and possible economic collapse. Silverman questions what is the positive we can learn from these women's experiences. Dr. Silverman grew up surrounded by Jewish survivors and in her early research found little testimony and no feminist theology from Jewish women . Since Dr Silverman was a child she has listened to relatives and friends' parents share their story of survival. Her research has inspired her to become a Hebrew Priestess instead of a Rabbi. She personally see part of her own spiritual resilience as reclaiming her subjugated tradition of the Hebrew Priestess

Bio statement:

Kohenet, Dr. Emily Leah Silverman is a visiting scholar at Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California. She is Past President of American Academy of Religion of the Western

Region. She wrote her PhD with Feminist Theologian Rosemary R. Ruether and was the organizer and co-editor of her Festschrift, *Voices of Feminist Theology: Writing in Celebration of Rosemary Radford Ruether*. She also has published *Edith Stein and Regina Jonas: Religious Visionaries in the Time of the Death Camps*. Her forthcoming book, which was came out of conference she organized as Program Director and Vice President of AAR/WR is called *Subjugated Voices and Religion,* co edited with Sudanese Feminist, is due out Fall 2023. She has been a lecturer at San Jose State University and taught at the GTU. She is on the steering committee of National Women Caucus AAR and serves as a wiki editor for 1000 women in Religion. She has lectured widely on the Feminist Theology of Spiritual Resistant. She has an M.Div from Harvard Divinity School, PhD from GTU and CAL. She is an ordained Kohenet (Hebrew Priestess) and received ordination from the Hebrew Priestess Institute.

7th February 2023	Dr Sadek Hamid, UWTSD, the Research Fellow on the Digital British Islam project
28th March 2023	Dr Sneha Roy, post-doc research fellow at the University of Edinburgh
23rd May 2023	Professor Paul Middleton, University of Chester

Link to the Teams Tile:

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/team/19%3ad4875f5b516b42da94013e25519d98d5%40thread.tacv2/conversations?groupId=3c9ff430-9453-44ba-a802-8a21fe4d358c&tenantId=4e0f11f9-046e-4505-9cb8-db2152311e21

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