

October 2017 AAR Member News



## Time to Renew Your Membership for 2018!

[Renew](#) today so that your member benefits continue without interruption. As a member of AAR you have access to many member benefits including:

- Employment Services
- Field Resources & Publications
- Networking & Professional Development
- Grants
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Discounts

For questions about your membership, please contact us at [membership@aarweb.org](mailto:membership@aarweb.org) or (404) 727-3049.

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## 2017 AAR Officer Elections

The [AAR Officer Elections](#) are now open, and the technical glitch has been corrected.



The technical problem we alerted you to yesterday has been solved, and you can now view the properly formatted candidate statements and vote from your mobile device, as well as your laptop, or desktop.

**Cast your ballot to elect the future leaders of the AAR!** All members should have received an e-mail message from SurveyMonkey with a link to access the electronic ballot for the 2017 AAR Officer Elections. If you are a current member and did not receive the message with a link to the elections ballot, please check [here](#) for

instructions. If you are still unable to locate the e-mail from SurveyMonkey, please notify us via e-mail at [nominations@aarweb.org](mailto:nominations@aarweb.org).

Voting Open October 25, 2017, through November 13, 2017 (12:00 PM Eastern Time)

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## AAR Award Winners

### 2017 Book Awards

The AAR is proud to announce the winners of the 2017 book awards! Congratulations to:

#### **Ruben van Luijk**

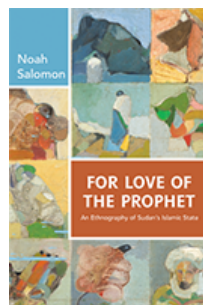
Winner of the Best First Book in the History of Religion



*Children of Lucifer: The Origins of Modern Religious Satanism*  
Oxford University Press, 2016

#### **Noah Salomon**

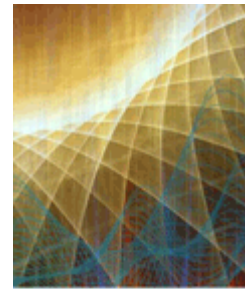
Winner of the Award for Excellence in the Study of Religion, Analytical-Descriptive Studies



*For Love of the Prophet: An Ethnography of Sudan's Islamic State*  
Princeton University Press, 2017

#### **Noreen Khawaja**

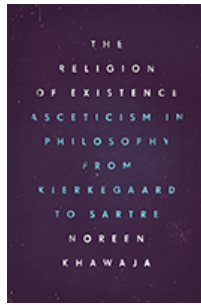
Winner of the Award for Excellence in the Study of Religion, Constructive-Reflective Studies



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*The Religion of Existence: Asceticism in  
Philosophy from Kierkegaard to Sartre*  
University of Chicago Press, 2016

**Mona Hassan**

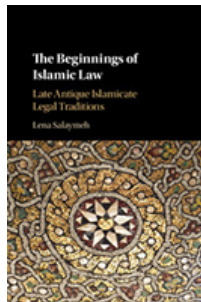
Winner of the Award for Excellence in the Study  
of Religion, Historical Studies



*Longing for the Lost Caliphate: A Transregional  
History*  
Princeton University Press, 2017

**Lena Salaymeh**

Winner of the Award for Excellence in the Study  
of Religion, Textual Studies



*The Beginnings of Islamic Law: Late Antique  
Islamicate Legal Traditions*  
Cambridge University Press, 2016

**Martin Scorsese Named 2017**

**Religion and the Arts Award Winner**

The American Academy of Religion is thrilled to  
announce the winner of the 2017 AAR Religion  
and the Arts Award: acclaimed filmmaker Martin  
Scorsese.

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With a career spanning more than fifty years, Scorsese is widely regarded as one of the most important directors in American cinema. For scholars of religion, Scorsese's filmography holds particular significance in its frequent meditations on faith, apostasy, and morality—from allegorical references in

works like *Cape Fear* (1991) to the more overt engagement of religion in *The Last Temptation of Christ* (1988) and *Kundun* (1997).

Critics have hailed Scorsese's most recent release, *Silence* (2016), as a culmination of themes that have influenced his work from the very beginning. Like so many of his films, *Silence* brings religion into public consciousness and conversation, serving as only the latest example in a long and storied career meriting this recognition by the Religion and the Arts Award Jury. Both *Kundun* and *Silence* will be screened at the Annual Meeting in Boston.

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## AAR Academy Fund Contributors

The AAR gratefully [acknowledges our members](#) who contributed to the Academy Fund from July 1, 2016, through June 30, 2017. Thank you for

your donations! Contributions to this fund support Annual Meeting Travel Grants; international initiatives, including the International Dissertation Research Fellowships; new programs; and the general operations of the Academy. [Learn more](#) about supporting the work of the Academy and make a secure online donation.



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## AAR Publications

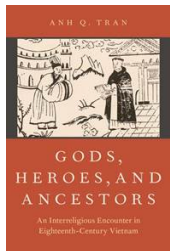
***Spotlight on Teaching: Teaching the Paranormal and the Occult***



There are smart ways to teach about spooky topics in the religious studies classroom, and the contributors to this special [Halloween-themed issue](#) of *Spotlight on Teaching* use various tactics to engage accounts of the paranormal in an academic setting.

With articles from Jack Hunter, Richard Callahan Jr., Madeleine Castro, Joseph Laycock, Charles F. Emmons, Darryl Catherine, and edited by Fred Glennon.

## New from AAR and Oxford University Press



### [\*Gods, Heroes, and Ancestors: An Interreligious Encounter in Eighteenth-Century Vietnam\*](#)

Anh Q. Tran, Editor and Translator  
AAR Religion in Translation Series

Anh Q. Tran offers the first translation and study of a never-published manuscript describing local religious beliefs and practices in 18th-century Vietnam. *Gods, Heroes, and Ancestors* provides a new look at the struggles of early Vietnamese converts to Christianity. ISBN: 9780190677602.

AAR members receive a [30% discount](#) on all AAR/OUP series titles.

## Newsletter Subscriptions and Alerts

Sign up for free newsletters from [Reading Religion](#) and free e-alerts from the [Journal of the American Academy of Religion](#). Keep up with the latest scholarship in the field of religious studies through your e-mail inbox!

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## New NEH Site Shows National Reach of Grant-supported Projects

National Humanities Alliance has launched [NEHforAll.org](http://NEHforAll.org), a user-friendly repository showcasing grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and their impact on organizations, communities, and individuals across the United States. AAR members are encouraged to explore the site's projects and share it as a resource for raising awareness of the crucial support NEH provides.



## Luce Foundation: Advancing Public Scholarship on Religion and Theology



The Luce Foundation's Theology Program has issued a [request for proposals](#) for projects that seek to advance public scholarship on religion and theology. Grant amounts of \$250,000 to \$750,000 will be considered, and approved grants will typically fund projects that can be completed in under five years. Deadline: December 15, 2017.

## Imagine PhD



Developed by experts from 50+ universities, ImaginePhD is a free, confidential career planning and exploration tool for PhD students, postdoctoral scholars, and established professionals in the humanities and social sciences. You can engage in career assessments, explore paths relevant to your field

of study, and map out plans with timeline and benchmarking tools.

AAR is proud to be a Bronze Sponsor for ImaginePhD. This project was initiated and implemented by the Graduate Career Consortium, which provides national leadership and serves as a national voice for graduate-level career and professional development.

[Sign up](#) to be part of this exciting project and explore all that ImaginePhD has to offer! Also, plan to attend the Annual Meeting [session](#) featuring Sarah Peterson, content manager of ImaginePhD.

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## AAR Regional Meetings

The following calls for papers are open for 2018 AAR Regional Meetings! Share your research by submitting a paper or panel proposal!



[Rocky Mountain-Great Plains Region](#) – Deadline: October 27

[Mid-Atlantic Region](#) – Deadline: December 15

[Upper Midwest Region](#) – Deadline: January 6

[Pacific Northwest Region](#) – Deadline: January 19

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## Member Notes

### Books and Major Publications

[Ilsup Ahn](#), North Park University  
*Just Debt: Theology, Ethics, and Neoliberalism*,  
Baylor University Press, 2017.

Sarwar Alam, University of Arkansas  
*Sufism, Pluralism and Democracy*, with Clinton  
Bennet, eds., Equinox, 2017.

[Kristin Bloomer](#), Carleton College  
*Possessed by the Virgin: Hinduism, Roman Catholicism, and Marian Possession in South India*, Oxford University Press, 2017.

Sunder John Boopalan, Episcopal Divinity School  
*Memory, Grief, and Agency: A Political Theological Account of Wrongs and Rites*, Palgrave, 2017.

Shannon Craigo-Snell, Louisville Seminary  
*No Innocent Bystanders: Becoming an Ally in the Struggle for Justice*, with Christopher J. Doucot, Westminster John Knox Press, 2017.

[Dyron Daugherty](#), Pepperdine University  
*Martin Luther: A Biography for the People*, Abilene Christian University Press, 2017.

James Calvin Davis, Middlebury College  
*Forbearance: A Theological Ethic for a Disagreeable Church*, Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2017.

Sarah Eltantawi, Evergreen State College  
*Shari'ah on Trial: Northern Nigeria's Islamic Revolution*, University of California Press, 2017.

[Pauline Lee](#), Saint Louis University  
*A Book to Burn and A Book to Keep (Hidden): Selected Writings*, with Rivi Handler-Spitz and Haun Saussy, eds. and trans., Columbia University Press, 2016.

[Vincent Lloyd](#), Villanova University  
*Religion of the Field Negro: On Black Secularism and Black Theology*, Fordham University Press, October 2017.

Robert N. McCauley, Emory University  
*Philosophical Foundations of the Cognitive Science of Religion: A Head Start*, with E. Thomas Lawson, Bloomsbury, 2017.

[Ilyse Morgenstein Fuerst](#), University of Vermont  
*Indian Muslim Minorities and the 1857 Rebellion: Religion, Rebels, and Jihad*, I. B. Tauris Press, 2017.

[Sarah M. Pike](#), California State University, Chico  
*For the Wild: Ritual and Commitment in Radical Eco-Activism*, University of California Press, 2017.



Justin R. Ritzinger, University of Miami  
*Anarchy in the Pure Land: Reinventing the Cult of Maitreya in Modern Chinese Buddhism*, Oxford University Press, 2017.

[Hussam S. Timani](#), Christopher Newport University  
*Takfir in Islamic Thought*, Lexington Books, 2017.

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## Dates and Deadlines

Oct 27	<a href="#">Rocky Mountain-Great Plains CFP Deadline</a>
Oct 28	<a href="#">Employment Center Advance Registration Deadline</a>
Nov 16	<a href="#">Annual Meeting Regular Rates Expire</a>
Nov 18–21	<a href="#">Annual Meeting in Boston, MA</a>
Dec 1	<a href="#">IDRG Submissions Deadline</a>
Dec 15	<a href="#">Mid-Atlantic Region CFP Deadline</a>

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