

Einladung
zu einem Gastvortrag
von

Herrn
Prof. Dr. Vincent Eltschinger
(École Pratique des Hautes Études)

über das Thema

Towards a Typology of Buddhist and Non-Buddhist Arguments for Rebirth

Buddhists and Jains were likely the first to attempt to refute “proto-materialist” positions denying the reality of the “other world” (*paraloka*), i.e., rebirth and karmic retribution in the afterlife. However, the *āstika* arguments in favor of rebirth received several decisive impulses from Brahmanic circles during the first centuries of the common era. The *Carakasamhitā* and the *Nyāyasūtra* seek less to exhibit the plausibility of the afterlife than to demonstrate it positively by resorting to the empirical observation of otherwise inexplicable phenomena. At first, these demonstrations of the *paraloka* differ little depending on whether or not one admits the existence of a transmigrating entity such as the *ātman*. But in the line defined by Āryasūra (4th century), and based on a more specifically Buddhist psychology of cognition, the Buddhists’ arguments take a partly new direction with Dharmakīrti (around 600 CE) and his successors Śāntarakṣita, Kamalaśīla and Dharmottara (8th century). This paper will attempt to identify a number of argumentative types and order them over time according to milieu, polemical target and rhetoric, logical and epistemological resources.

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20.12.2023
um
16:00 Uhr

ESA-Ost, Raum 120

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