

Animals and Human Society in the Sinitic World

Research Group Conference

20-24 March 2022

Organizers:

Nir Avieli (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)
Gideon Shelach Lavi (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Meir Shahrar (Tel Aviv University)

The Israel Institute for Advanced Studies
Edmond J. Safra Campus, Givat Ram,
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Sunday, 20 March

15:00-16:50 Screening of **The Story of the Weeping Camel**,
presented by Charlotte Marchina (National Institute for Oriental
Languages and Civilizations)

16:50-17:00 Coffee break

17:00-18:30 **A Roundtable Discussion on Animals, Animal Gods and Animal
Taboos**

Chair: Gideon Shelach-Lavi (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Participants: Nir Avieli (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev), David
Bellow (Washington and Lee University), Meir Shahar (Tel Aviv
University)

18:30 Reception

Monday, 21 March

09:00-09:05 Greetings by Yitzhak Hen, IIAS Director

09:05-10:30 **Session 1**

Chair and discussant: Keith Knapp, The Citadel

The Sacred Indian Cow and the Divine Chinese Ox

Meir Shahar, Tel Aviv University

**A Fair Shake? Humans, Sacrificial Sheep and Divine Presence in
the Western Himalaya**

Udi Halperin, Tel Aviv University

10:30-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-12:30 **Session 2**

Chair and Discussant: Nir Avieli, Ben Gurion University of the Negev

Racing for Luck: Human-animal relations in Mongolian horse races

Charlotte Marchina, National Institute for Oriental Languages and Civilizations

**Hunting among Spirits and Herding Family Members:
Human-animal relations among the reindeer herder Dukha of Northern Mongolia**

Selcen Küçüküstel, University of Barcelona

12:30-14:00 Lunch break

14:00-15:30 **Session 3**

Chair and Discussant: Meir Shahar, Tel Aviv University

He-Goats and Song-Birds: Animals and Gender in contemporary Vietnam

Nir Avieli, Ben Gurion University of the Negev

Buffalo Eating Festival of the Minority Ethnic in Truong Son Range, Vietnam

Ngo Minh Hien, The University of Danang - University of Science and Education

15:30 Field trip and dinner

Tuesday, 22 March - Tel Aviv University, Gilman Building, Room 496

10:30-12:00 Session 1

Chair and discussant: David Bello, Washington & Lee University

The Beginning of Horse Riding and Cavalry Warfare and the Building of 'Great-Walls' in China

Gideon Shelach-Lavi, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Hunter-Gatherer and Aurochs Coexistence in the Mongolian Neolithic

Lisa Janz, University of Toronto

12:00-13:30 Lunch break

13:30-15:30 Session 2

Chair and discussant: Benjamin Arbel, Tel Aviv University

People are Special, Animals are Not: An Early Medieval Confucian's Views on the Difference between Humans and Beasts

Keith Knapp, The Citadel

An Empire Raised by Humans & Animals: Towards an Environmental History of China's Last Dynasty

David Bello, Washington & Lee University

Show me the Numbers: A Battle over Horses, Power and Money in the Early Ming Court

Noa Grass, Tel Aviv University