Wittgenstein-Prize Project
„Mobility, Microstructures and Personal Agency in Byzantium"

Forum Moving Byzantium IV

The Wittgenstein Project Team invites you to our fourth group discussion meeting.
"Forum Moving Byzantium IV" will take place on Monday 9.1.2017, from 18:15 to 19:45, at the Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies (Postgasse 7, 1010 Vienna, 1. Stiege, 3. Stock, Seminarraum).

We will discuss the topic "**Mobility and Networks**" on the basis of the following publications (to be read in sequence):

1) Lemercier, Cl., "Formale Methoden der Netzwerkanalyse in den Geschichtswissenschaften: Warum und Wie?", in: A. Müller – W. Neurath (eds.), *Historische Netzwerkanalysen* (Österreichische Zeitschrift für Geschichtswissenschaften 23/1). Innsbruck/Vienna/Bozen 2012, 16–41 (also available in a version in English language).

2) Mische, A., "Relational Sociology, Culture, and Agency", in: J. Scott – P. J. Carrington, (eds.), *The Sage Handbook of Social Network Analysis*. Los Angeles 2011, 80-97.

3) Czachesz, I., "Women, Charity and Mobility in Early Christianity. Weak Links and the Historical Transformation of Religions", in: I. Czachesz – T. Biró, *Changing Minds: Religion and Cognition through the Ages*. Leuven 2010, 129-154.

4) Seland, E. H., "Networks and social cohesion in ancient Indian Ocean trade: geography, ethnicity, religion". *Journal of Global History* 8, Issue 03, November 2013, 373-390.

5) Flood, F. B., *Objects of Translation. Material Culture and Medieval "Hindu-Muslim" Encounter*. Princeton – Oxford 2009 [Introduction, pp. 1-14].

6) Preiser-Kapeller, J., "Harbours and maritime Mobility: Networks and Entanglements", in: J. Preiser-Kapeller – F. Daim (eds.), *Harbours and Maritime Networks as Complex Adaptive Systems* (Interdisziplinäre Forschungen zu den Häfen von der Römischen Kaiserzeit bis zum Mittelalter in Europa 2). Mainz 2015, 119-140.

Presenter and moderator will be Dr. Johannes Preiser-Kapeller Member of the Wittgenstein Project Team.

After a brief introduction in English, a group discussion will follow both in English and in German.

Focusing on aspects of "mobility and networks", the selection of texts includes two papers (no. 1 and 2) which provide a general overview on concepts of network theory, their application to historical and cultural phenomena and their potentials and pitfalls. Papers 3 and 4 present case studies of these applications for the analysis of mobility (across various scales), religious change and the cohesion of social groups in Late Antiquity. Text 5 highlights the significance of objects and material culture for questions of cultural mobility and exchange across frontiers, while text 6 provides more elaborate network models for the analysis of the mobility of both humans and objects on the basis of historical and archaeological evidence.

On the basis of these texts, it shall be discussed if and how these concepts and tools can be made useful for the topics of the "Moving Byzantium"-project that were addressed at previous meetings of the Forum, such as personal agency, the emergence and cohesion of social groups or social change. In particular, the role of mobility (in its spatial as well as social and cultural sense) for the dynamics of Byzantine society within the larger Afro-Eurasian world of Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages will be addressed.

If you are interested in attending the event, please contact Ms. Paraskevi Sykopetritou (Project Coordinator) in order to receive further information and the relevant reading material:
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For further information and updates on events you can also consult our website: http://rapp.univie.ac.at/

We hope that you can join our Forum for fruitful discussions!