

**Olivier Givre**, Assistant Professor in Social Anthropology at University Lumière-Lyon 2 and researcher at EVS (Environnement, Ville, Société, CNRS 5600), works mainly in south-eastern Europe (BG/GR/TK) on ritual and interreligious dynamics, heritage and memory processes, border/crossborder issues, environmental issues and especially humans/animals relationships. He did his PhD on *kurban* (sacrifice) in the Balkans (2006) and is presently working on globalised religious moral economies, including the transformations of Muslim sacrifice, and humans/animals relationships, especially the thanatopolitics of animals. He also used to work in France as an anthropologist outside the academic, notably in a natural park, on cultural projects in the field of industrial heritage.

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## **Summary**

This double session aims at present a part of my scientific itinerary, from a PhD thesis focused on a ritual sacrificial practice (*kurban*) in the Balkans to the issue of humans/animals relationships. I explain how the religious and political anthropology of sacrifice led me progressively to question the status of animal death in contemporary societies. I'll make a focus on Muslim sacrifice and slaughtering, with fieldwork insights from France, Turkey and Sudan. I'll present some of the contemporary stakes of the ritual, in terms of food consumption but also virtualization, globalization and transnationalization of the ritual. As one of the main issues surrounding sacrifice, I then develop the sensitive issue of animal death in contemporary societies, with a focus on moral and political debates, and the impact of images in these debates as well as in the research process.

## **Objectives**

Students will gain insights into some basic concepts and approaches in religious anthropology, especially the concept of sacrifice, issues of interreligious relationships. We will deal with sacrificial rituality in the context of contemporary societies, including political, economical, juridical, sanitary and media issues. Through the question of animal death, we will explore animal-human relationships and their sensitive/sensory aspects, and address the methodological and theoretical issues of doing ethnography of animal death and sacrifice, especially the impact of images.

## **Content of the teaching program:**

### **Session 1 :**

- *From rituals to animals: rethinking sacrifice in contemporary societies. Case study: Sacrifice and social change: practicing kurban in the Balkans (Bulgaria, Greece).*
- *Exploring the new senses and norms of the Muslim sacrifice (Istanbul, Turkey). Ritual marketing, urban governance and humanitarian practice.*

### **Session 2 :**

- *Interactive presentation of the special issue of the Quebecoise review *Frontières* on *Perspectives on Animal Death*.*
- *Debate and discussion on biopolitics and thanatopolitics of animals; Seeing and showing animal death: from methodology to ethics.*

## **Required readings:**

To be found on:

<https://bul.univ-lyon2.fr/index.php/s/SdpaEOkYkB9mD41>

Bowen, John (2012a [1992]). « On scriptural essentialism and ritual variation. Muslim sacrifice in Sumatra and Morocco », in Kreinath Jens (ed.), *The anthropology of Islam Reader*, London and New-York: Routledge, pp. 215-229.

Franck, Alice; Gardin, Jean; Givre, Olivier (2016). « Blood and the City. Animal Representations and Urban (Dis)orders during the “Feast of the Sacrifice” in Istanbul and Khartoum », in Mashkour M., Grisoni A. (ed.), *Man and Animal Relationships in the Middle East, Anthropology of the Middle East*, 11, pp. 87-111.

Langer, Robert (2008). « The Alevi Animal Sacrifice (Kurban) Between Professionalisation and Substitution: Recent Developments in the Context of Migration and Urbanization », in *Transformations in Sacrificial Practices: From Antiquity to Modern Times: Proceedings of an International Colloquium, Heidelberg, 12-14, July 2006*, Münster: LIT Verlag.

Reed, Annette Y. (2013). 'From Sacrifice to the Slaughterhouse: Ancient and Modern Approaches to Meat, Animals, and Civilization', in *Method and Theory in the Study of Religion*, [brill.com/mtsr](http://brill.com/mtsr).

## Further readings:

### Session 1

Bergeaud-Blackler, Florence; Fischer, Johan; Lever, John (ed.) (2015). *Halal Matters. Islam, Politics and Markets in Global Perspective*, London and New-York: Routledge.

Bonte, Pierre; Brisebarre, Anne-Marie; Gokalp, Altan (dir.) (1999). *Sacrifices en islam. Espaces et temps d'un rituel*, Paris: CNRS Éditions.

Bowen, John (2012b). *A New Anthropology of Islam*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Brisebarre, Anne-Marie (dir.) (1998). *La Fête du mouton. Un sacrifice musulman dans l'espace urbain*, Paris: CNRS Éditions.

Fitzgerald A. J., 2010, « A Social History of the Slaughterhouse: From Inception to Contemporary Implications », in *Human Ecology Review*, 17(1) pp. 58-69.

Givre, Olivier (2016a). « L'humanitarisation du sacrifice musulman. ONG confessionnelles et recompositions rituelles », in Benveniste Annie, Khouri Nicole, Selim Monique (dir.), *Craquelures globalisées du religieux*, *Journal des anthropologues*, 146-147, pp. 29-55.

Givre, Olivier (2016c). « Les nouveaux sens du sacrifice musulman. Une ethnographie du changement rituel à Istanbul (Turquie) », in Gobin Emma, Vanhoenacker Maxime, Adell Nicolas, Wendling Thierry (dir.), *Retours aux rituels*, *Ethnographiques.org*, 33. <http://www.ethnographiques.org/2016/Givre>

Givre Olivier (2017). « Entre marketing rituel, concurrence médiatique et gouvernance urbaine : les économies morales en transformation de la fête du Sacrifice (*Kurban Bayramı*) à Istanbul », in *European Journal of Turkish Studies*, 2017, <http://journals.openedition.org/ejts/5560>.

Pink, Johanna (ed.) (2009). *Muslim Societies in the Age of Mass Consumption. Politics, Culture and Identity between the Local and the Global*, Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

Sikimic B. et Hristov P. (dir.) (2007), *Kurban in the Balkans*, Belgrade, Institute for Balkan Studies.

Silverstein, Brian (2011). *Islam and Modernity in Turkey*. New York: Palgrave MacMillan.

Werbner Pnina (2012 [1988]). « 'Sealing' the Koran. Offering and Sacrifice among Pakistani Labour Migrants », in Kreinath Jens (ed.), *The Anthropology of Islam Reader*, London and New-York: Routledge, pp. 230-242.

### Session 2

Andersson Cederholm, E., Björck, A., Jennbert, K., & Lönngrén, A-S. (Eds.), 2014. *Exploring the Animal Turn: Human-animal relations in Science, Society and Culture*. The Pufendorf Institute of Advanced Studies, Lund University.

Bulliet W. R., 2005, *Hunters, Herders, and Hamburgers, The Past and Future of Human-Animal Relationships*. Columbia University Press.

De Mello M. (ed.), 2016. *Mourning Animals: Rituals and Practices Surrounding Animal Death*, Michigan State University Press, East Lansing.

Donaldson Sue and Kymlicka Will, 2011, *Zoopolis. A political theory of animals rights*, Oxford University Press.

Doré, Antoine and Michalon Jérôme, 2016, "What makes human-animal relations "organizational"? *The Description of anthrozootechnical agencements.*" Organization. 1350508416670249, first published on October 2, 2016.

Haraway D., 2007, *When species meet*, Minneapolis, University of Minnesota Press.

Watts, S., 2006. *Meat Matters. Butchers, Politics, and Market Culture in Eighteenth-Century Paris* (University of Rochester Press).

Yahaya, N., 2015, 'The Question Of Animal Slaughter In The British Straits Settlements During The Early Twentieth Century', In *Indonesia and the Malay World*, vol.43, issue 216, 1-18.

### **Evaluation**

Essay (max 4.000 words) focusing on one of the selected themes (ritual and sacrifice; animal/human relationships; animal death; religious globalization, etc.), and including the use and discussion of at least 3 of the required or further readings.