Society of Asian Biblical Studies

SABS 2024

**Theme**: Biblical Hermeneutics in Indigenous Perspectives

**Call for papers**

SABS 2024 affirms that *Indigenous matters in biblical studies* and invites reflections on, and engagements around, two critical questions: What does the Bible have to do with Indigenous matters, in Asia and beyond? What could the Indigenous—peoples, cultures, civilizations, wisdoms, arts, concerns, struggles, prides, and other matters—in Asia and beyond, contribute to biblical studies? Proposals/papers that reflect on one or both of those questions are invited. Proposals/papers in other areas of biblical studies are also welcomed, with special attention to Asia and the Asian diaspora.

**Streams**

(1) *Indigenous matters*. Papers in one of the following sub-themes are welcomed.

(a) Indigenous subjects in biblical texts

Papers that reflect on the “indigenous subjects” (peoples, concerns, agendas, etc.) in biblical texts—both the obvious ones and the hidden, disguised, or erased ones—are invited. How are indigenous subjects (mis/re)presented, (mis)treated, and related to in biblical texts? In whose interests? Do their class, gender, and race matter?

(b) Indigenous reading of biblical texts

Papers that offer an “indigenous reading” of a biblical text(s) are invited. What does an indigenous reading look like? What are the questions asked in, and the characteristics of, so-called indigenous reading? How does indigenous reading work with a biblical text(s)?

(c) Indigenous criticisms and biblical studies

Papers that introduce and engage with indigenous studies *outside of religious, theological, and biblical studies* are invited. What are benefits or burdens of locating those innovations in the shadows of postcolonial or decolonial studies? How might biblical studies benefit from engaging those innovations? What might engaging those innovations look like, in application to biblical texts?

(d) Indigenous sacred texts and civilizations

Papers that present indigenous sacred texts and civilizations from Asia, and beyond, are invited. Have those indigenous texts and civilizations been adopted by established religions, and what are the benefits and burdens? How might those indigenous sacred texts and civilizations intersect and/or unravel biblical texts and traditions?

(e) other Indigenous matters

Papers that reflect on other Indigenous matters (outside of the four above) are also invited.

(2) *General call*

You may also propose papers in any of the areas of biblical studies but with attention to the Asian and Asian diaspora contexts (see table below).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Hebrew Bible/Old Testament** | **Textual Criticism** |
| Pentateuch | **Translation Theories/Practices** |
| Deuteronomistic History | **Historical Criticism** |
| Prophets | **Literary/Narrative/Rhetorical Criticism** |
| Wisdom literature | **Social Scientific Criticism** |
| Apocalyptic Literature | **Contextual/Vernacular Hermeneutics** |
| **New Testament** | **Liberation Hermeneutics** |
| Gospels | **Feminist Criticism** |
| Acts | **Marxist Criticism** |
| Pauline/Deutero Pauline Epistles | **Postcolonial Criticism** |
| General Epistles | **Queer Criticism** |
| Revelation | **Ecological Criticism** |
| **Intertestamental literature** | **Disability Studies and the Bible** |
| **Receptions of the Bible** | **Biblical Theologies** |
| **Pedagogical issues within biblical studies** | **Others:** |

**Membership**

Please note that you need to be a member to present a paper. Membership Fee will be collected on site:

**Full member** (from Asia/Africa/Latin America/Pacific except Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Singapore, and Taiwan): **US$ 30.00** for two years

**Full member**: (from Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Singapore, and Taiwan): **US$50.00** for two years

**Full member** (from Europe, North America): **US$50.00** for two years

**Student Member**: **US$20.00** for two years.

**Lifetime member: (**with one-time payment): **US$500.00**

**Registration**

Registration Fee for the conference will generally be **US$110.00** and will also be collected on site.

 The fee will be reduced to **US$60.00** if you are from an under-resourced country\*; it will be further reduced to **US$40.00** if you are a student.

 \*Under-resourced countries include Cambodia, China, Indonesia, India, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Pacific Islands, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam.

**Proposals**

**To propose a presentation, fill in the requested information in the following table and send it in word/doc format to** **styofabs@gmail.com** **and to** **bliew@holycross.edu**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Full names |  |
| Title of paper |  |
| Keywords | (5–7 terms) |
| Biblical text(s) |  |
| Abstract(150–250 words) |  |
| Preferred stream / sub-theme |  |
| Biographical information | *affiliations*: *locations*: *related projects & publications*:  |
| e-mail contact |  |

**Timeline**

**Oct 31, 2023**: Deadline for receiving proposal

**Dec 01, 2023**: Notification of decision on proposal

**Jan 05, 2024**: First draft of program

**Jan 16, 2024:** Registration opens

**April 30, 2024:** Registration closes

**July 3–8**: SABS conference at Yu-Shan Theological College and Seminary, Taiwan