Protecting the Sacred: Recognition of Sacred Sites of Indigenous Peoples for Sustaining Nature and Culture in Northern and Arctic Regions

International Conference 11–13.9.2013,
Arktikum building, Pohjoisranta 4, 96200 Rovaniemi, Finland
www.arcticcentre.org/sacredsites2013

PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY - 11 September 2013 Venue: Arktikum building, Pohjoisranta 4, 96200 Rovaniemi, Finland

8.00 Registration (Arktikum - Main Hall behind the glass door - ticket sales area)

9.00-9.15 Opening Prayer by the Innu First Nation

9.15-9.25 Welcoming Words (Venue: Polarium, Arktikum) Professor Thora Herrmann, Université de Montréal, Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas Consortium Leena Heinämäki, Research Fellow NIEM, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland and Vice-leader of the University of Arctic Thematic Network on Arctic Law

9.25-10.00 Opening Words (Venue: Polarium, Arktikum) Rector Mauri Ylä-Kotola, Rector of the University of Lapland Professor Paula Kankaanpää, Director of the Arctic Centre, University of Lapland Pekka Kauppala, Saami Parliament "Sacred Sites of the Saami Linking Past, Present and Future." Liisa Holmberg, Rector of Sámi Educational Institute, Inari

10.00 –10.15 Tea/Coffee

Plenary Keynotes (Venue: Polarium) 10.15-11.10 Keynote : “Nomadic and sedentary understandings of sacred space” Piers Vitebsky, Vice-Director of research, Scott Polar Institute, University of Cambridge

11.10-12.00 “Recognition of indigenous customary laws and systems: realities, prospects and challenges." Alexandra Xanthaki, Brunel Law School

12.00.-13.00 Lunch
A. Recognition of Sacred Natural Sites in Policy, Law and Protocols I (Chair: Dr. Leena Heinämäki, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland; Co-Chair: Bas Verschuuren, Sacred Natural Sites Initiative) (Venue: Polarium)

1. A Brief Introduction to the Recognition of Sacred Natural Sites. 
   *Bas Verschuuren*

   *Antje Neumann*

   *Dwight Newman*

   *Stefan Kirchner*

5. Legal protection of sacred sites: an assessment of the international law toolbox.
   *Elisa Ruozzi*

B. Intangible Cultural Heritage Connected to Sacred Sites I: Mythology, and the Role of Sacred Sites for Indigenous Cosmologies (Chair: Dr. Florian Stammler, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland) (Venue: Auditorium)

1. “The Word of God calls these places the abomination of desolation”: Evangelical missionaries’ view on the Nenets sacred sites in Arctic Russia.
   *Laur Vallikivi*

2. Ecosophy as Perception of Cosmophysical Origin of Sacred Places of the Arctic People.
   *Uliana Aleseevna Vinokurova*

3. Sharing the same place: people and spirits, who is the owner?
   *Roza Laptander*

4. Indigenous Sacred Sites in the Nenets Autonomous Region in Russia: their present day condition and state of protection.
   *Yulia Ledkova*

5. "But they all died prematurely" – The death of scientists and the death of sacred sites in Yugra.
   *Stephan Dudeck*

C. Multiple Meanings of Sacred Sites I: Identity, Ethnicity, and Transmission of Culture (Chair Dr. Anna Stammler-Gossmann, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland) (Venue: Classroom)

1. Russian Indigenousness: Rethinking anthropological views on sacred landscapes in relation to the concept of ‘indigenous’.
   *Veronika Simonova*

2. Gosa bássi várit leat jávkan? Where have all the sacred mountains gone?
   *Marit Myrvoll*

3. Dialogue between traditional culture and national identity: sacred natural sites in Estonia
   *Ott Heinapuu*

4. Multiple meanings of Sámi sacred places.
   *Tiina Äikäs*

Julie Raymond-Yakoubian

15.00-15.30 Tea/Coffee

15.15-16.00 Meeting of the Declaration Drafting Committee

16.00 Departure to Pyhätunturi, a sacred natural site, 120 km from Rovaniemi. See at: http://www.pyha.fi

17.30 Arrival at Pyhä Conference site, distribution of rooms, time to walk in the nature.

19.30 Reception hosted by the municipality of Pelkosenniemi at the Pyhätunturi Hotel

THURSDAY 12 September 2013 Venue: Hotel Pyhätunturi, 98530 Pyhätunturi, Finland

8.45-9.00 Opening Prayer / Purification Ceremony by the Innu First Nation

9.00-9.15 Welcome note by the municipality of Pelkosenniemi

Plenary Keynote (Venue: Isokuru)

9.15-10.00

Keynote: “Sacred places on exhibition and the right to cultural heritage?”

Birgitta Fossum, Head of South Sami Museum and Cultural Centre Snåsa, Norway

10.00-10.15 Tea/Coffee

PANEL SESSIONS

10.15-12.00

D. Recognition of Sacred Natural Sites in Policy, Law and Protocols II (Chair: Dr. Leena Heinämäki, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland; Co-Chair: Bas Verschuuren, Sacred Natural Sites Initiative) (Venue: Isokuru)

   Robert Rode

2. Sacred Sámi sites of Finland – The Challenges of protection.
   Eija Ojanlatva

3. Right of Indigenous People to Own Law.
   Dawid Bunikowski

4. The Sacred Lake Imlor: The experience of protecting an ethno-cultural object in Yugra (West Siberia, Russia).
   V.N.Tyurin;  G.P.Vedmid

E. Intangible Cultural Heritage Connected to Sacred Sites II: Ritual and Other Spiritual Relevant Practices, Taboos, and Oral History (Chair: Francis Joy, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland) (Venue: PikkuKuru)
1. Sacred places and nowaday ritual activities by indigenous residents of the Middle Ob region.
   Alexey Rud; Nicholas Shatunov
2. Sacred Natural Sites: “Affordance” and religious practice.
   Elin Rose Myrvoll
3. Tenacity of sacrality in Nenets narration.
   Karina Lukin
4. Votive crosses as transcultural phenomena.
   Dmitry Petrov; Andrey Tutorsky
5. The kyuryue (fence) as a boundary of a sacred space of the Sakha.
   Liliya Dambaeva
   Anna Stammler-Gossmann

12.00 – 13.00 Lunch

**PANEL SESSIONS**

13.00 – 15.00

F. The Role of Sacred Natural Sites for Nature-Culture Interlinkages, Ecosystem Conservation and Socio-Ecological Resilience (Chair: Prof. Thora Herrmann, Université de Montréal, Canada) (Venue: Pikkukuru)

1. The religious, social and ecological significance of the sacred places of the Forest Nenets.
   Rudolf Havelka
2. Mapping the sacred: a global map of sacred natural sites.
   Shonil Bhagwat
3. Cultural Heritage and Forestry in Metsähallitus
   Taisto Karjalainen, Metsähallitus; Finland
4. The circular life of the Innu, and the situation of the caribou in northern Quebec, Canada.
   Anne-Marie André; Evelyne St-Onge; Jean St-Onge; Lucien St-Onge; Réal McKenzie; Caroline Vollant St-Onge; Jacques McKenzie; Dolores Andre; Kathleen André; Martial Fontaine; Georges Guanish; Noat Einish; Marc-Shennan Shecanapesh; Eddy Malenfant; Thora Herrmann

G. Protecting Sacred Natural Sites in the Context of Socio-Environmental Change (Chair: Dr. Anna Stammler-Gossmann, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland) (Venue: Isokuru)

1. The diversity of Estonian sacred natural sites in the context of contemporary governing.
   Auli Kütt
   Lena Sidorova
3. Protection of Rock Paintings in Finland
   Francis Joy
   Florian Stammler
5. Sacred Shamanic Lakes of Siberia  
   Anatoli Alexeev, Sardaana Alexeeva

15.00 – 15.30 Tea/Coffee

15.30- 16.30 Meeting of the Declaration Drafting Committee

15.30 -18.30 Guided tour to Sacred Sites by Pirjo Rautiainen from Metsähallitus

18.30.-20.00 Participants have the option to take part in a Sweat lodge guided by spiritual guides of the Innu First Nation

20.00 Reception hosted by the city of Kemijärvi at the Pyhätunturi Hotel

FRIDAY 13 September 2013

Plenary Keynote (Venue: Isokuru)

9.00-10.00
Keynote: “The protection of sacred natural sites of indigenous peoples - an issue at the intersection of religious freedom law, cultural rights and environmental law.” René Kuppe, Professor of Law, University of Vienna

Plenary - WAY FORWARD

10.00 – 11.00 Declaration on Recognition of Sacred Sites of Indigenous Peoples for Sustaining Nature and Culture in Northern and Arctic Regions

11.00 – 11.15 Tea/Coffee

11:15 Closing words
John Scott, Programme Officer, Traditional Knowledge, Secretariat of the Convention of Biological Diversity
Professor Thora Herrmann, Département de géographie, Université de Montréal, ICCA Consortium
Leena Heinämäki, Research Fellow NIEM, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland and Vice-leader of the University of Arctic Thematic Network on Arctic Law
Florian Stammler, Senior Researcher Social Anthropology, Coordinator of Anthropology Research Team

12.00 – 13.30 Lunch

14.30 Departure for Rovaniemi,  
16.00 Arrival in Rovaniemi, Arktikum Possibility for participants: Visit Arktikum exhibitions (Arctic Centre exhibition and the Provincial Museum of Lapland).

For details, practical information and updates, visit our website: www.arcticcentre.org/sacredsites2013
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