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Cultural Memory of Sacred Spaces in Migrations and Diasporas

Item Type	Conference Paper
Download date	2026-03-08 11:10:28
Link to Item	https://hdl.handle.net/20.500.14394/911

Cultural Memory of Sacred Spaces in Migrations and Diasporas



**Proposals are invited for PAPERS at the 2008 Association for Cultural Studies International Crossroads Conference, "Of Sacred Crossroads," scheduled for July 3-7, 2008 in the Caribbean (University of the West Indies Kingston, Jamaica).
<http://www.crossroads2008.org>.**

Session Description: Sacred spaces are spaces set aside for their spiritual power, commemorative features, or representative significance. These spaces may be associated with specific sites or perceived as a practiced place independent of location. What happens to the shared memory of sacred spaces as individuals and social groups migrate or are dispersed from their homelands? How are these sacred spaces recreated and reinterpreted in their new contexts through narratives and performances, rituals and ceremonies, images and media, secular sites, natural landmarks, and everyday practices? What role does cultural memory play in the complex processes of remembering and forgetting, re-appropriating and producing sacred spaces?

This session seeks to explore and discuss notions of the sacred such as: (a) Diasporic and immigrant cultural identities and the encoding/decoding of sacred spaces (b) Globalization and consumption of indigenous sacred spaces by spiritual tourists, (c) Cyberspace as sacred space and (d) Landscapes as sacred spaces.

Please submit abstracts of no more than 150 words in length should be emailed with the heading ACS ABSTRACT. You will be required to include the following information: author(s), affiliation, email address, title of abstract, and body of abstract. Potential participants are invited to view send abstracts to the session organizer, Elonda Clay at eclay@lstc.edu or submit abstracts via the website at www.crossroads2008.org. The absolute deadline for submission of abstracts for consideration is January 15, 2008.