



WORLD ANTHROPOLOGY CONGRESS

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CTD: 04CS- CULTURAL-SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS, SOCIAL STRUCTURE AND SOCIAL DYNAMICS

SUB-DOMAIN: RELIGION AND SACRED COMPLEX

PANEL TITLE: ANTHROPOLOGY OF RELIGION AND SYMBOLISM

CONVENOR: DR. VIKRAMENDRA KUMAR

ABSTRACT

In common parlance, a symbol may be an object or an idea that is used to represent something else. Homo sapiens has the unique capacity for symbolism, best expressed in the realm of religion, which has been meaningfully explored by Turner (1967), Douglas (1970), Geertz (1973), and other anthropologists as part of a symbolic and interpretive approach. Anthropologists all over the world are increasingly employing concepts such as liminality and *comunitas*, structure and anti-structure, purity and pollution, thick and thin descriptions. SRF 2.4 aims to unravel the myriad dimensions of the intricate relationship between religion and symbolism from a cross-cultural perspective.

Keywords: religion, rituals, symbols, anthropology

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