



The Mutual Influence of Religion and Science in the Human Understanding and Exploration of Outer Space

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Message from the Guest Editors

The articles in this Special Issue of *Religions* will contribute to this project by examining how religious and scientific notions held about outer space work together in human societies and in the minds of individual human beings. Some of the questions considered in this endeavour include:

- What does the practice of religion in space look like, and how will it change if and when humans permanently reside in space?
- How do we use religion to help us understand space, and in what contexts do we do so?
- How might religious ideas help us conceptualize and plan for the human exploration and settlement of space?
- In what ways is the human effort to explore space religious in nature?
- Will the activity of space tourism ever transform into (or be accompanied by) space pilgrimage?
- To what extent do ideas about outer space, the stars, and space travel exist within contemporary and past religious communities?
- What is the relationship between symbolic and factual representations of outer space?
- How do religious and scientific notions about space inter-relate in non-Western societies?





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Message from the Editorial Board

Fresh developments in the disciplines that consistently make significant contributions to our understanding of religious personality, authority, devotion, and community - disciplines ranging from psychology, sociology, and anthropology to history, art history, philosophy, literary criticism, and political science – fuel general, as well as scholarly, interest in the world's religions.

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