



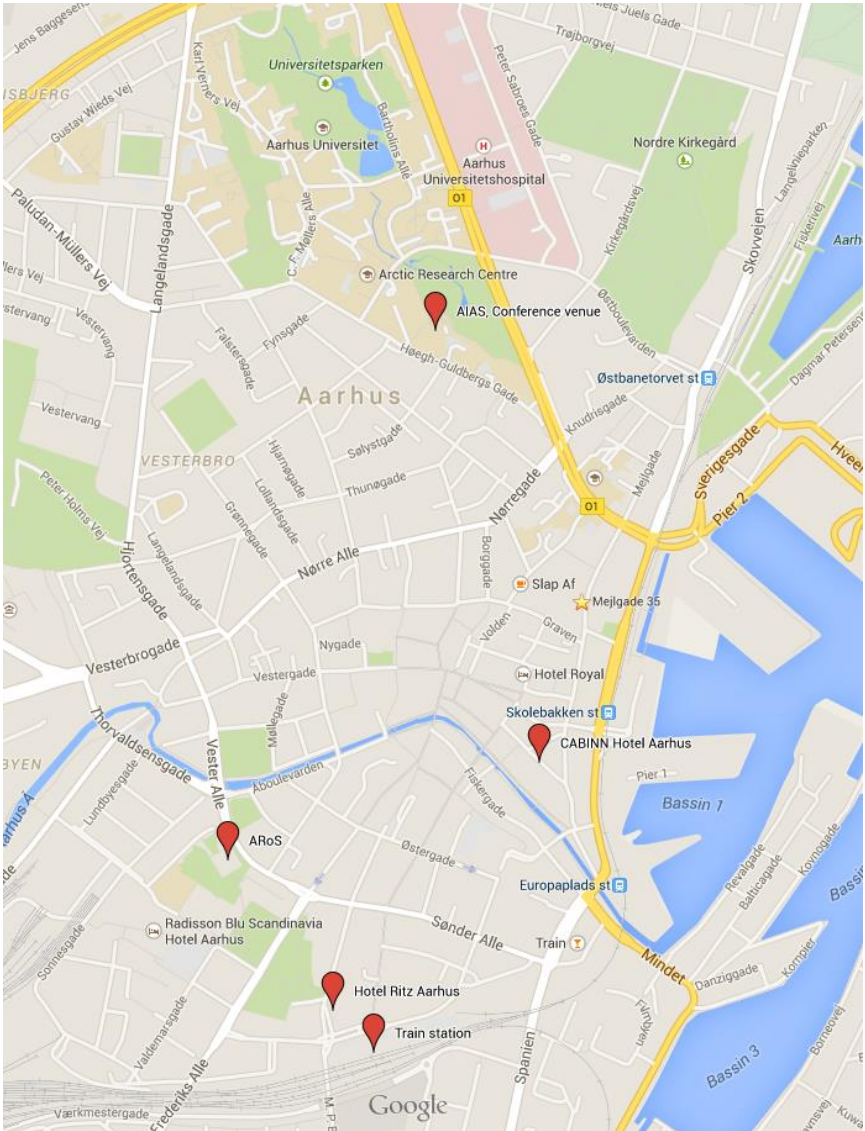
AIAS WORKSHOP

Ruler Personality Cults 1-2 June 2017



AARHUS
UNIVERSITY

AARHUS INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

This workshop aims to serve as a platform for a stimulating discussion of ruler personality cults from a range of multi- and inter-disciplinary perspectives across time and space. It invites scholarly contributions addressing any of the following questions:

- How can we define a personality cult? What are its origins, constituent elements and drivers?
- Can we quantify/measure a personality cult? If so, what is the threshold level?
- What is the relationship between personality cults and modernity? What continuities and discontinuities can we identify vis-a-vis earlier personality cults?
- Do personality cults differ between monarchic and republican, authoritarian and non-authoritarian regimes? If so, how -quantitatively or qualitatively?
- What common patterns do host societies/states exhibit and do they change over time?
- Do personality cults play out differently on the individual and the group levels?
- When and how do personality cults die? In what ways and to what degree do they sow the seeds of their own destruction?

The goal is to develop a more integrated approach leading to a better understanding of this pervasive phenomenon which has yielded tremendous influence over human societies and states across the globe for long stretches of time leading up to the present.

More at: <http://aias.au.dk/events/ruler-personality-cults/>

ORGANIZERS

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THURSDAY, 1 JUNE

08:30 – 09:00 **Registration**

09:00 – 09:15 **Introduction: Morten Kyndrup, Director of AIAS and Organizers**

09:15 – 09:55 **Paper 1:** Father of the People, Face of the Nation: Premodern Foundations of Modern Personality Cults in 19th and 20th centuries (Alexey Tikhomirov, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main, Germany)

09:55 – 10:35 **Paper 2:** Making the Cult of Personality from Bottom Up: The Case of 17th Century Mughal India (Ali Anooshahr, University of California, Davis, USA)

10:35 – 10:50 **Coffee Break**

10:50 – 11:30 **Paper 3:** A Personality Cult against One's Will? Traits and Trajectories of Popular Veneration of Emperor Alexander I (1801-1825) (Darin Stephanov, AIAS, Denmark)

11:30 – 12:10 **Paper 4:** Mother, Wife, Empress: Queen Victoria's Celebrity and the Cult of British and Colonial Loyalty 1837-1901 (John Plunkett, University of Exeter, UK)

12:10 – 13:00 **Lunch**

- 13:00 – 13:40 **Paper 5:** Nasir al-Din Shah's Photography and the Erotic of Power (Wendy DeSouza University of California, Davis, USA)
- 13:40 – 14:20 **Paper 6:** The Magic Mirror: The Role of False Equivalences in Securing Ruler Dominance (Eva Giloi, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Rutgers, USA)
- 14:20 – 14:35 **Coffee Break**
- 14:35 – 15:15 **Paper 7:** Cults as Propaganda vs Cults as Ritual: Two Conceptualizations of Personality Cults in Authoritarian Regimes (Xavier Marquez, Victoria University, New Zealand)
- 15:15 – 15:55 **Paper 8:** From followers to leaders: Canonization from 'below' (in response to random signaling from 'Above') in Soviet Union, Nazi Germany and 'New Deal'-USA (Kirill Postoutenko, AIAS, Denmark)
- 15:55 – 19:00 **Free Time**
- 19:00 – **Dinner**

FRIDAY, 2 JUNE

- 09:00 – 09:40 **Paper 9:** 'We Thank You, Our Beloved Leader!' The Origins and Evol of Nicolae Ceausescu's Cult of Personality (Manuela Marin, Universit Innsbruck, Austria)
- 09:40 – 10:20 **Paper 10:** Dual Cults of Personality in Yugoslavia: Tito, Aleksandar Ranković and the Yugoslav Police (Christian A. Nielsen, Aarhus University, Denmark)
- 10:20 – 10:35 **Coffee Break**
- 10:35 – 11:15 **Paper 11:** Personality Cults in Flux: The Image of Josip Broz Tito in post-Yugoslavia Between the National and Local (Tamara Pavasovic Trost, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia)
- 11:15 – 11:55 **Paper 12:** Embodied Practices of Leadership - the Example of Recep Tayyip Erdogan in Turkey (Charlotte Joppien, University of Hamburg, Germany)
- 11:55 – 12:35 **Paper 13:** The Emperor, the King and the Tsar - on the Mediation of Sacred Power and New Personality Cults in the 21th Century Politics (Dmitri Zakharine, University of Konstanz, Germany)
- 12:35 – 13:30 **Lunch**
- 13:30 - 14:00 **Concluding discussions**
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NOTES:



SUPPORT

Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies, AIAS
The History Research Programme, Aarhus University
Global Studies Research Programme, Aarhus University

VENUE

Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies, AIAS

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