

# Bridging the Sacred and the Rational: The Inaugural Vision of Studies on Religion and Philosophy

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## Abstract

The intersection and interaction between religion and philosophy have long been a central concern in intellectual discourse, and today, as globalization and multiculturalism continue to shape social realities, these two pillars of human thought are experiencing a unique convergence. As editor-in-chief of Research on Religion and Philosophy, I am privileged to participate in this academic initiative that seeks to bridge the sacred and the rational. Drawing on my own academic background in religious philosophy and ethics, this journal aims to facilitate in-depth dialogue and reflection on the relationship between religious thought, philosophical logic, and social practice. The historical intersection of religion and philosophy, from ancient thinkers like Plato and Augustine to modern philosophers, reveals the profound ways in which these two disciplines have shaped humanity's understanding of the world and the pursuit of meaning. This intersection is not only an area of scholarly inquiry but also one with significant implications for contemporary society and culture, prompting new discussions on existence, morality, and the role of religion in the modern world.

## 1 Introduction

With the intertwining and collision of globalization and multiculturalism, religion and philosophy, as two pillars of human thought, are experiencing an unprecedented intersection and interaction. This trend not only reflects profound transformations in social development but also sparks new thoughts and discussions in the academic field. In this historical moment, I am honored to serve as the editor-in-chief of Research on Religion and Philosophy, witnessing and participating in this academic mission aimed at connecting the sacred and the rational.

As a scholar, I have long engaged in the study of religious philosophy and ethics, focusing on the interaction between religious thought, philosophical logic, and social practice. This academic background has given me a deep understanding that the relationship between religion and philosophy is not only a key issue in academic research but also a topic of broad influence in contemporary society and culture. It is based on this academic awareness and sense of responsibility that I hope to promote in-depth dialogue and reflection on this issue within the global academic community through Research on Religion and Philosophy.

## **2 The Historical Intersection of Religion and Philosophy**

From ancient times to the modern era, the intersection of religion and philosophy has always been a source of intellectual exploration. From Plato to Kant, from the Christian Church Father Augustine to modern moral philosophers, religion and philosophy have intertwined, influencing humanity's understanding of the world and the pursuit of the meaning of life. At this intersection, we witness intellectual collisions and the evolution of human culture and civilization.

As a researcher, I have a profound understanding of the relationship between religion and philosophy. Throughout my academic career, I have explored the subtle relationship between religious philosophy and ethics, particularly how to combine the rational thinking of philosophy with the sacred narratives of religion, thus addressing core issues such as existence, meaning, and morality. Religion and philosophy, as two different ways of knowing, although differing in methodology and focus, often reveal the most profound and enlightening truths at their intersection.

One of the core features of religion is conveying truths that transcend everyday experience through sacred narratives and rituals. Philosophy, especially modern philosophy, often focuses more on logical reasoning and critical thinking. While the forms of expression and research methods of the two differ, they complement and illuminate each other when discussing human existence, meaning, ethics, and morality. Therefore, in today's globalized world, understanding the relationship between religion and philosophy is not only a necessary task in academic research but also an important way to help us understand the complex issues of the contemporary world.

## **3 The Multidisciplinary Perspective of the Journal**

When establishing Research on Religion and Philosophy, I was keenly aware that the journal's responsibility is not only to showcase academic achievements in religion and philosophy but also to serve as an important platform for promoting interdisciplinary integration and fostering intellectual collisions. Therefore, one of the journal's goals is to advocate for a multidisciplinary perspective. This is not only because the research fields of religion and philosophy are inherently interdisciplinary but also because the challenges of today's society require us to approach issues from multiple disciplinary perspectives to conduct a more comprehensive analysis and offer solutions.

Research on Religion and Philosophy welcomes contributions from scholars in various disciplines, especially research results from fields such as religious studies, philosophy, religious philosophy, ethics, comparative religious studies, and theology. Through this interdisciplinary integration, we hope to better understand how religion and philosophy influence each other in the context of globalization and multiculturalism and promote innovative development in these fields.

In my own academic work, I have long studied the intersection of religion and philosophy, particularly focusing on building bridges between religious thought and philosophical speculation. For example, I have delved into Buddhist ethical thought, analyzing how it addresses ethical dilemmas in modern society. By comparing Buddhist ethics with modern philosophical thought, I discovered that although they differ in core beliefs, they share profound similarities in how they achieve moral perfection and the pursuit of the highest good. This discovery not only deepened my understanding of the relationship between religion and philosophy but also reinforced my belief that cross-cultural, interdisciplinary dialogue is an important avenue for advancing academic and intellectual progress.

## **4 Promoting Global Academic Dialogue and Research Cooperation**

Research on Religion and Philosophy is committed to providing a broad platform for global scholars to engage in cross-cultural and cross-regional academic dialogue. Whether in the East or the West, whether exploring ancient philosophical ideas or addressing emerging issues in

contemporary religious practices, the journal strives to provide a comprehensive space for scholars to present and discuss their work. I firmly believe that the prosperity of academic research depends on the convergence of diverse ideas, and this exchange of diverse thoughts is urgently needed in the global academic community.

In my past research, I have always emphasized the global perspective in the study of religion and philosophy. Whether it is Eastern Buddhist philosophy or Western theological thought, both have had a profound impact on history and continue to play an important role worldwide. As the editor-in-chief of the journal, I hope to gather scholars from around the world to share their research findings and discuss the practical application and social significance of religion and philosophy in different cultures and contexts.

The journal's goal is not only academic discussion but also to provide scholars with opportunities to foster cooperation. We plan to regularly publish thematic studies, inviting scholars from different countries and regions to engage in in-depth discussions on specific topics. Furthermore, we plan to organize both online and offline academic events, inviting leading scholars from around the world to exchange ideas and collaborate on key contemporary issues in religion and philosophy. Through these initiatives, we hope that *Research on Religion and Philosophy* will become an academic bridge, connecting the academic worlds of the East and West, and contribute to global academic development.

## **5 The Academic Mission in Facing Contemporary Issues**

In addition to theoretical discussions, *Research on Religion and Philosophy* will also focus on the most urgent issues of the contemporary world. In the current context of globalization, religion and philosophy are not merely abstract academic issues; they are closely related to global politics, ethics, technology, and other fields. In this regard, I believe that the journal's responsibility is not only to promote theoretical innovation in academia but also to respond to the real-world needs of contemporary society.

At present, we are facing a series of significant ethical dilemmas, such as environmental issues, human rights, and global conflicts. Religion and philosophy, as important tools for exploring the fundamental issues of human society, have much to offer in terms of insight and solutions to these challenges. Our journal will focus on how religion and philosophy can respond to these complex challenges in the modern world, especially how religious and philosophical thinking can address the ethical dilemmas brought about by technological advancements, artificial intelligence, and globalization.

In my academic research, I have explored the impact of technological progress on ethical thought, particularly the philosophical challenges posed by artificial intelligence and neuroscience. With the continuous advancement of technology, the ethical framework of human society is facing unprecedented challenges. In this context, the ethical frameworks provided by philosophy and religion are particularly important. Through *Research on Religion and Philosophy*, I hope to lead the academic community in thinking deeply about how we can use the wisdom of religion and philosophy to better understand and respond to these modern issues.

## **6 Future Development of the Journal**

I am confident about the future of *Research on Religion and Philosophy*. As the journal continues to develop, we will focus on advancing in-depth research on the intersection of religion and philosophy in the global academic community. We will continue to invite scholars from around the world to contribute their research findings, promoting interdisciplinary intellectual collisions and innovation. At the same time, we will work to expand the journal's influence into broader fields, not only in academia but also among thought leaders, policymakers, and practitioners in society.

Furthermore, we plan to undertake a series of international collaborative research projects focused on the most pressing religious and philosophical issues globally, encouraging scholars from around the world to work together to address the major challenges of contemporary society. Through these collaborative projects, we believe that Research on Religion and Philosophy will become an important voice in the global academic community, driving academic innovation in religion and philosophy, and contributing wisdom to the development of global society.

## 7 Conclusions

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to all the scholars and friends who have supported and participated in the founding of Research on Religion and Philosophy. It is thanks to your support and contributions that the journal has been successfully launched. As the editor-in-chief of the journal, I will continue to lead the team with academic rigor and innovative spirit, promoting the development and progress of the journal. I look forward to working with scholars around the world to sow the seeds of thought in this fertile academic ground and reap the fruits of wisdom.

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