



The Old Man Star (老人星, Canopus) in Astronomical, Cosmological and Daoist Sources

Public Lecture

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Thursday, March 19, 2026, 16:15–17:45, Room RAA E-08, Rämistrasse 59, 8001 Zurich

In the framework of wider research conducted on the symbolic function of Canopus in ancient China in comparison with ancient Indian and Mediterranean sources, the talk will focus on the references to Canopus (Shouxing 壽星 or Laorenxing 老人星) in astronomical, cosmological and Daoist sources. Particular attention will be paid to a legendary narrative in the *Taishang dongxuan lingbao chishu yujue miaojing* 太上洞玄靈

寶赤書玉訣妙經, a 5th century text belonging to the *Lingbao* 靈寶 tradition, to establish some references to the Indian world and to the function played there by Canopus (Agastya).

Further Information

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