

COMMITTED TO COMMUNION

Celebration of the Communion between the Malankara Mar Thoma Syrian Church and the Old Catholic Churches of the Union of Utrecht

PROGRAMME

Academic Colloquium, 5 October 2024

University of Bern, Hallerstrasse 6, Room 205, 10.15 a.m. – 4.45 p.m

09.45 - 10.15	<i>Arrival and inscription</i>
10.15 - 10.20	Word of Welcome, Professor Dr. Angela Berlis, Director of the Institute of Old Catholic Theology

Part I: Being Christian today: Challenges

Moderation: Angela Berlis

10.20 - 11.00	Inaugural lecture: Christians Today in India: Challenges and Prospects, PD Dr Joseph Mar Ivanios Episcopa, Mumbai
11.00 - 11.15	Exchange: Challenges for being Christian today – living in Europe and India today

Part II: Inculturation

Moderation: Georgiana Huian

11.15 - 11.25	The Living Word: Scripture as a Common Ground for Ecumenical Unity at Maramon, Johnson M. John MA, Bern
11.25 - 11.35	St James Liturgy in the Mar Thoma Church: A Symbol of Christian unity, Sijo George MA, Vienna/AUT
11.35 - 12.00	Indian and/or Syrian? Ecclesiastical Tradition and the Quest for Inculturation among the Thomas Christians, Karl Pinggéra, Marburg/DE
12.00 - 12.20	Discussion
12.30 - 13.30	<i>Lunch</i>

Part III: Connections

Moderation: Edda Wolff

- 13.30 - 14.00 The End of European Dominance: From European to Polycentric Catholicity, Franz Segbers, Konstanz/DE
- 14.00 - 14.15 St Thomas – an Apostle’s journey through time and beyond continents, Angela Berlis, Bern
- 14.15 - 14.30 Discussion
- 14.30 - 14.50 *Long Break*

Part IV: Being in Communion – theological perspectives

Moderation: Johnson M. John

- 14.50 - 15.15 Towards Visible Unity: Trajectory of Ecclesial Synchrony and Receptive Ecumenism, Dr Mathews George Chunakara, General Secretary of the Christian Conference of Asia, Geneva
- 15.15 - 15.30 Rooted in the Early Church: Reflecting on Communion from an Orthodox Perspective, Georgiana Huian, Bern
- 15.30 - 15.50 Discussion
- 15.50 - 16.00 *Short break*

Part V: Being in Communion – expectations contextualized

Moderation: Angela Berlis

- 16.00 - 16.10 Challenges for (Old Catholic) Churches in Europe today, Rt. Revd. Dr Joris Vercammen, Groede/NL
- 16.10 - 16.30 “Ich und Du, Du und Ich – A Dialogue as a Journey of Discovering One’s own Tradition”, Peter-Ben Smit, Utrecht/NL
- Communion across the continents: future perspectives for living and deepening the newly established relationship, Adrian Suter, Luzern
- 16.30 - 16.45 What do we expect? Short statements by participants
- What do the two churches expect from this relationship? A perspective from leadership
- Rt Rev. Dr. Mar Philoxenos, Trivandrum &
- Most Rev. Bernd Wallet, Utrecht
- Conclusion