

Prof. Bexte: Migrating Images and a mistaken Hippopotamus

In 1992 a postal stamp was issued in Taiwan depicting Adam Schall von Bell. It was meant to celebrate his 400<sup>th</sup> birthday. Adam Schall von Bell had been a Jesuit missionary, a mathematician and an astronomer. In Beijing he became an adviser to the Shunzhi Emperor of the Qing dynasty. His image on the 1992 stamp looks like a portrait, but it isn't. – In my presentation I will discuss some of the Jesuit sources, consisting of migrating images plus texts. Furthermore, I will argue that we should not underestimate the role of creative misunderstandings in these processes.