



## RELIGIOUS STUDIES WORKSHOP SERIES @ VDTR Open Research Day

# II. WHAT IS ANIMISM?

Alisha Saikia

The objective of this workshop is to provide an overview of the basic concepts of animism, to critique its colonial construct, to examine the various theories of neo-animism and to understand the significance of animism in the contemporary world.

Alisha Saikia is a Doctoral Assistant (2022–2025) in Religious Studies, funded through a scholarship of the Vienna Doctoral School of Theology and Research on Religion (VDTR). She holds a B.A. in Sociology (2010), an M.A. in East Asian Studies (2012), and an M.Phil. in Japanese Studies (2014), all from the University of Delhi, India. She also holds an M.A. in Religious Studies (2018) from the University of Tsukuba, Japan. Her current research project is on studying dolls from a Religious Studies perspective where she explores the field of doll collecting and doll making from the lenses of neo animism, healing, and subjective myth.

06 November 2023

14:00-14:55

Dean's Meeting Room | Faculty of Catholic Theology

Main Building

Registration is kindly requested until 02 November at [religionswissenschaft@univie.ac.at](mailto:religionswissenschaft@univie.ac.at).