

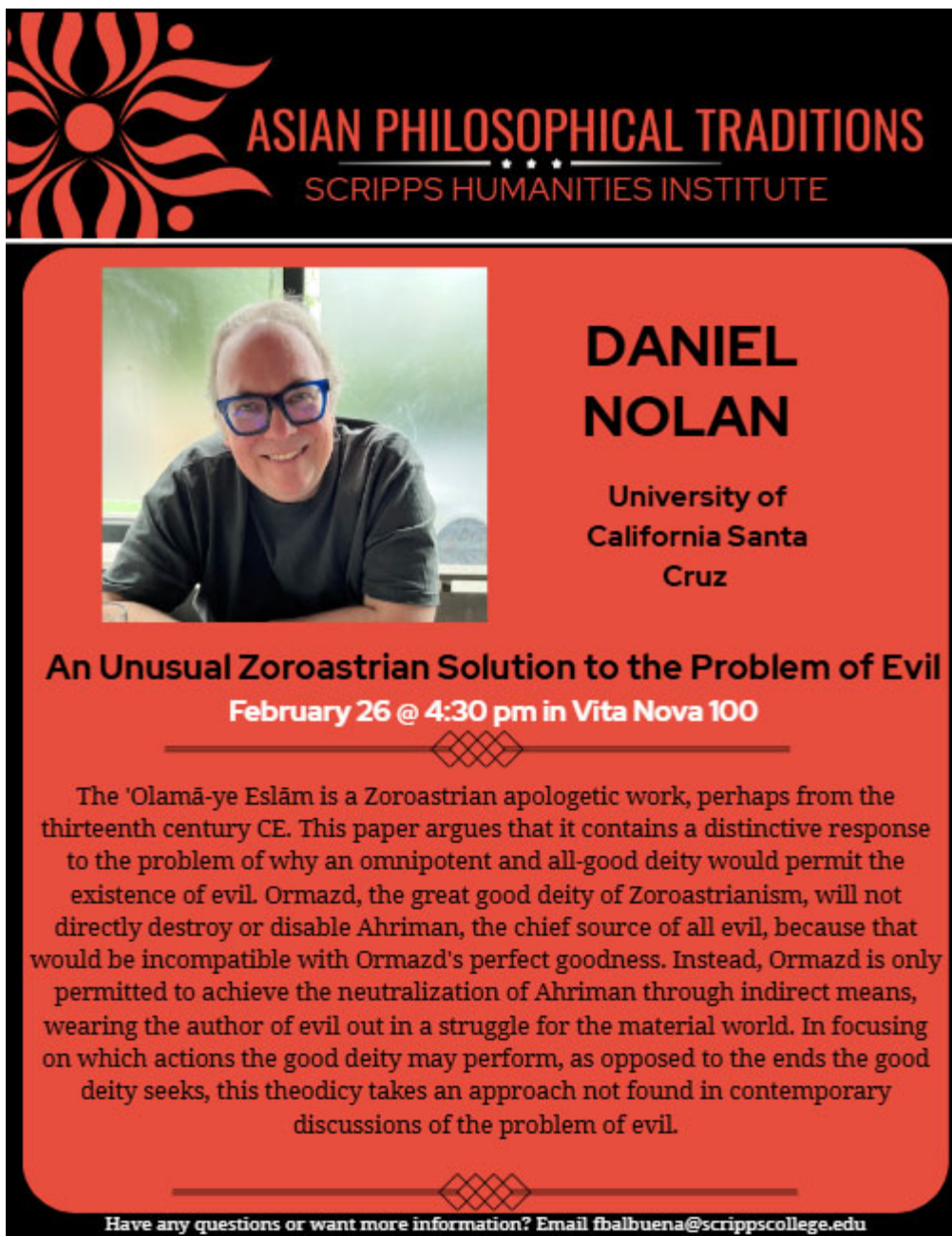
Tkach, Colleen

From: Inform
Subject: EM: Humanities Institute Presents: NEXT WEEK 2/26 Daniel Nolan on Zoroastrianism

From: Faith Balbuena


Scripps Humanities Institute invites you to hear Professor Daniel Nolan discuss how Zoroastrianism gives an unusual solution to the problem of evil.

For more information, see the flyer below.



The flyer features a black header with a red stylized floral logo on the left and the text "ASIAN PHILOSOPHICAL TRADITIONS" and "SCRIPPS HUMANITIES INSTITUTE" in red. Below this is a red rounded rectangle containing a photo of Daniel Nolan, his name in large black letters, and his affiliation with the University of California Santa Cruz. The title of the lecture is "An Unusual Zoroastrian Solution to the Problem of Evil" in black, with the date and time "February 26 @ 4:30 pm in Vita Nova 100" below it. A paragraph of text describes the lecture's focus on the 'Olamā-ye Eslām' and the problem of evil. The flyer is decorated with horizontal lines and diamond-shaped symbols.

ASIAN PHILOSOPHICAL TRADITIONS
SCRIPPS HUMANITIES INSTITUTE



DANIEL NOLAN

University of
California Santa
Cruz

An Unusual Zoroastrian Solution to the Problem of Evil
February 26 @ 4:30 pm in Vita Nova 100

The 'Olamā-ye Eslām is a Zoroastrian apologetic work, perhaps from the thirteenth century CE. This paper argues that it contains a distinctive response to the problem of why an omnipotent and all-good deity would permit the existence of evil. Ormazd, the great good deity of Zoroastrianism, will not directly destroy or disable Ahriman, the chief source of all evil, because that would be incompatible with Ormazd's perfect goodness. Instead, Ormazd is only permitted to achieve the neutralization of Ahriman through indirect means, wearing the author of evil out in a struggle for the material world. In focusing on which actions the good deity may perform, as opposed to the ends the good deity seeks, this theodicy takes an approach not found in contemporary discussions of the problem of evil.

Have any questions or want more information? Email fbalbuena@scrippscollege.edu