

S W E D I S H
C O L L E G I U M
for ADVANCED STUDY

Lecture

R. I. MOORE

Professor Emeritus of Medieval History, Newcastle University

*Treasure in Heaven:
Defining the Eurasian Old Regime*

Thursday, 19 May, 6:15 p.m.

In the Thunberg Lecture Hall
SCAS, Linneanum, Thunbergsvägen 2, Uppsala

This is an event of the Bernhard Karlgren programme.
The lecture will be followed by a reception. Prior registration is required.
Please contact rsvp@swedishcollegium.se no later than 16 May to sign up.



ABOUT R.I. MOORE

R.I. Moore is Professor Emeritus of Medieval History at Newcastle University. He is a specialist in the history of northwestern Europe in the eleventh and twelfth centuries, and especially of popular heresy and its repression. He also taught courses in world history since the end of antiquity at the universities of Sheffield (the first such course in the UK) and Newcastle, and is Series Editor of the Blackwell History of the World. His books include *The First European Revolution, c. 970-1215* (2000), *The Formation of a Persecuting Society* (2 ed. 2007) and *The War on Heresy* (2012).

ABSTRACT

The exemption of religious persons, places and institutions from the burdens and obligations of ordinary life was widespread in Eurasia until recent times and its abolition, more or less violent, was everywhere considered essential to modernisation. Nevertheless it has not featured prominently in comparative historical discussion. This lecture considers the main forms it took in the Common Era and the reasons for its prevalence, with particular reference to the questions whether it should be understood as inimical to or supportive of state formation, and what its ubiquity suggests about the nature of the distinction between the religious and the secular.