

VORTRAG IN CHINESISCHER SPRACHE

《西王母形象来源攷察》 ("A Study of the Source of the Queen Mother of the West")



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The Queen Mother of the West is a great mother goddess in the Chinese folk faith and a divine figure in the theological system of Taoism. Most people believe the image of the Queen Mother of the West originated in China. Some think it came from the Kunlun Mountain, the Great Mountain between Xinjiang and Tibet, or Mount Tianshan. However, I argue that the image originated from the Great Mother Goddess that was worshipped by the people in the city-states around the Mediterranean Sea, who was first called Kubaba and then Cybele. After the official opening of the Silk Road, this image of the Goddess came into the sight of the literati of the Han Dynasty and started being called the Queen Mother of the West.

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