

# **Junior Research Group “Premodern Objects. An Archaeology of Experience“**

International Junior Research Group within the framework of the Elite Network of Bavaria

Our concept of the object is surprisingly recent. It was not until “Modernity” that it came to be understood as material, spatially confined and clearly defined. These modern notions are also closely connected to the scientific paradigm of “objectivity,” which has been a crucial factor in the formation process of academic disciplines and its institutions during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. But if all pre-modern objects in our museums have thus been transformed, what were they before?

The Junior Research Group aims to reconstruct “pre-modern” conceptions of objecthood and experiences with objects. Of central importance to this are the interplays both between objects and images (pictorial ornamentation/ representation) as well as objects and words or texts (description, narration). Countless object groups and systems emerge in their specificity and with their own history by means of a comparative analysis of these different media.