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WELCOME...

... to this fourth edition of the **SAI** | Newsletter. The past months have been full of activities, and more often than not we feel that what we report here is but the tip of the iceberg of all the research and teaching that is underway at the SAI.

To single out one event that results from our daily work, we wish to draw your attention to our report about the first ever graduation ceremony at our institute — a ritual that had for long been very marginal in the German academia but is now returning. On December 13, more than 70 attendees — among them many members of the institute and family members of our graduates — gathered in the reading room of the SAI library to celebrate the graduates who have attained academic degrees in one of the courses offered at the institute. The list of titles of their graduation theses testifies to the depth and width of the SAI's engagement with South Asia. It shows that even at the first levels of academic qualification, BA and MA degrees, the will to explore South Asia is serious and approaches the region from a wide variety of angles.

Another event that deserves highlighting is the prestigious grant received by Professor Axel Michaels from the German Academies of Sciences and Humanities, to conduct a 15-year project on "Religion and Law in Pre-modern Nepal". The project will bring a team of researchers to Nepal and entail close cooperation with Nepali scholars.

Furthermore, the reopening of the SAI's branch office in Colombo, Sri Lanka, is imminent (and will feature in greater detail in the next newsletter), and we hope it will help fostering more research in this part of South Asia as well.

We also look ahead to the events in summer 2014; we announce a total of three summer schools and look forward to welcoming (student) guests in August.

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Martin Gieselmann".

Dr. Martin Gieselmann
Executive Secretary

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Hans Harder".

Prof. Dr. Hans Harder
Executive Director

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NEW RESEARCH PROJECT BY PROF. DR. AXEL MICHAELS

Religion and law in pre-modern Nepal is the topic of a new research project by Prof. Dr. Axel Michaels. The Union of the German Academies of Sciences and Humanities (Union der deutschen Akademien der Wissenschaften) supports the project over the next 15 years with three new positions for scientific researchers.

The project will make a, only partly explored, corpus of documents and texts on religion and law in pre-modern Nepal accessible, both in print publications as well as in digital resources. The rare and unique historical material that originated in the field of tension between India and Tibet as well as Hinduism and Buddhism has been documented by the German Oriental Society (Deutsche Morgenländische Gesellschaft), but it has only partly been catalogued and processed. It includes documents from temples (edicts, land grants, contracts, foundation charters, letters etc.) and legal documents (court decisions on moral conduct, letters of indulgence, caste regulations) as well as to a much lesser extent narrative-eulogian texts regarding local sacred sites. These contiguous text groups form the essential basis for the still largely unexplored history of numerous temples and other holy places of Nepal, especially in the Kathmandu Valley, but also for the so far barely examined legal practice in South Asia. Moreover, the material provides information on the development of elite cultures, the legitimacy and presentation of the rulers as well as the importance of textualization and codification of law in the context of anthropologically approached jurisprudence.



The Union of the German Academies of Sciences and Humanities is the umbrella organisation of eight academies of sciences and humanities. It assembles more than 1900 scholars from a diverse range of academic fields, all of which are outstanding representatives of their disciplines, both nationally and internationally. Together, they are committed to promoting scientific exchange, excellent research, and the emergence of new talent in the liberal arts and sciences.

Prof. Dr. Axel Michaels is Co-Director of the Cluster of Excellence "Asia and Europe in a Global Context" and Head of the Department of Cultural and Religious History (Classical Indology) at Heidelberg University's South Asia Institute. His fields of research include Ethno-Indology, Ritual studies, Social and Legal History of Hinduism, Cultural History and Religion of South Asia.

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SAI-AWARD 2013

Three winners from various disciplines, which completed their studies at the SAI, were honored with the SAI-Award 2013 on 24th October, donated by the Association of Friends and Patrons of the SAI. The prize was awarded for the master's theses of Anna Lena Wolf (Anthropology) and Julia Poerting (Geography) as well as for the bachelor thesis of Almut Büchsel (History).

In her master's thesis „*Ethnologische Perspektiven auf geistige Behinderung am Beispiel einer empirischen Forschung zu Stigmatisierungen von Menschen mit Lernschwierigkeiten in Varanasi*“, Anna-Lena Wolf investigated



the processes of social stigma in Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh, India). The study is a major anthropological contribution to disability studies and an important step towards the recognition and enforcement of human rights for people with disabilities.

Almut Büchsel wrote a bachelor thesis on „*Verschränkte Geschichten, Imperialer Feminismus und universale Weiblichkeit. „Global Sisterhood“ und das Bild der „indischen Frau“ in den transnationalen Geschichten Margaret Cousins und Eleanor Rathbones Frauenwahlrecht-Engagement in Indien zwischen 1915 und 1935*“. In the thesis she explores possibilities, contradictions and hierarchies of a feminist „we“, which attempts to determine a „female“ identity across cultural boundaries. This innovative topic was developed independently by the candidate and supported with an intensive analysis of source material.



Julia Poerting examined in her master's thesis entitled „*Vulnerabilität und Konflikt im Paradies. Eine Analyse des rezenten Konfliktgeschehens in Swat, Kyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan*“ the causes of conflict and contexts of vulnerability in the Swat region of northern Pakistan, where a conflict between Islamic fundamentalists and the Pakistani state power massively escalated since 2007 and developed into an open war by 2009. The thesis offers very convincing arguments, which connect her own empirical work skillfully with a profound literature review.

The Association of Friends and Patrons of the South Asia Institute is a non-profit organization with the aim of supporting the Institute's work. Special attention is paid to promoting academic exchange with similar institutions at home and abroad. Funding is also provided for events, publications and projects that either further interdisciplinarity among the departments or other activities. The SAI-Award is a regular activity of the Association and will be continued in 2014.

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Ambassador, His Excellency



Prof. Subrata K. Mitra



Ashutosh Kumar

INDIAN AMBASSADOR VISITS SAI AND OPENS ROUNDTABLE

On December 5th 2013, the newly appointed Indian Ambassador, His Excellency Mr. Vijay Gokhale, visited the SAI. He was accompanied by Mr. Amitabh Ranjan and Counsil General Naik (Munich). The group was welcomed by the SAI-directorial board upon arrival. During this first meeting with the board His Excellency was briefed about the research and teaching agenda of the SAI as well as latest developments by executive director Prof. Hans Harder. His Excellency was deeply impressed by the substantial academic standing of the institute. He promised to visit the SAI soon again and expressed his desire to come back in summer 2014 on the occasion of the summer school in Sanskrit. After this first meeting the delegation participated in a roundtable on „Indo-German Collaboration: Creating Synergies for Education, Entrepreneurship and Employability“. At the SAI library some 50 attendees had gathered. Next to academic representatives from Heidelberg, Karlsruhe and Hof, numerous speakers from the corporate world including SAP, KPMG, PWC, Stuttgart-based Lapp Group, IHK Mannheim, Steinbeis, Air India, iMOVE, as well as the Tourism Corporation of India were present. The roundtable was opened by the welcoming adress of His Excellency who pointed out that India shall overcome its ignorance of what Germany can offer in the field of education. In the following outline Professor Subrata Mitra (Political Science) was supporting this view by stressing that Indo-German relations have long been dominated by the notion of development aid. In Mitra's view the role of education today is much more substantial and should thus become prime focus of Indo-German relations.

The stage for a lively discussion was set by Ashutosh Kumar (SAP), who had initiated the round-table together with the SAI. Kumar pointed to the catalytic potential of training and education for Indo-German collaboration and opted for a more strategic operation in this field. Numerous contributions in the discussion supported this view by focussing on more specific aspects such as student-exchange, dual education, networks and exchange platforms, raise of values through education and tapping into political sphere. After two hours Dr. Jivanta Schöttli summarized the discussion and expressed the hope shared by all attendees that this event will trigger off another meeting in summer 2014 at which the potentials of education for Indo-German cooperation should be worked out in greater detail.



All participants sitting on the roundtable

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"WELTWEITES ZELLWERK": NEW PROJECT FUNDED BY THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (BMBF)

by Jörg Gengnagel

The transfer of technologies, materials and ideas as exemplified by the medieval trade-networks linked to garnet and garnet-cloisonnés is at the center of this new project. Under the name "**Weltweites Zellwerk – Umbrüche in der kulturellen Bedeutung frühmittelalterlichen Edelsteinschmucks vor dem Hintergrund von Wirtschaftsgeschichte sowie Ideen- und Technologietransfer**" the project on worldwide networks of medieval gemstone jewelry is funded as a collaborative project (Verbundprojekt) by the BMBF, the partners being the Römisch-Germanische Zentralmuseum in Mainz with its archeological research institute (<http://web.rgzm.de/>) and the LandesMuseum in Bonn (<http://www.rlmb.lvr.de/>).



apl. Prof. Dr. Jörg Gengnagel



Borayin Larios
(M. Phil.)

With a primary focus on Rajasthan the subproject at the South Asia Institute will look at literary sources, archaeological finds as well as historical and current aspects of finishing technologies and the dynamic history of trade relations. The project is funded for three years.

It is directed by apl. Prof. Dr. Jörg Gengnagel, project members are Borayin Larios (M. Phil.) and Julie Pusch (B.A.) as research assistant, Kerstin Sobkowiak (M.Phil.) will join at a later stage.

KRISTINA CZURA RECEIVES AWARD FOR PRACTICE-RELEVANT DEVELOPMENTAL RESEARCH

Kristina Czura, former PhD student of Stefan Klonner, Professor of the Department Development Economics, was honored for her doctoral thesis with the award for "praxisrelevante Entwicklungsforschung" (practice-relevant developmental research). She received the price for her work "Empirical essays on microfinance in South Asia: Financial product design, borrower welfare, and risk coping".

The award is presented annually by the committee of developing countries of the Association for Social Policy in cooperation with the KfW Development Bank with the aim to foster the dialogue between science and practical developmental work. At the annual meeting of the committee of developing countries in late June 2013 in Munich the three winners were honored and received a cash prize of 3,000 euros.

Kristina Czura currently works as a postdoctoral fellow at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies of the European University Institute (EUI) in Florence. After completing her Master in Economics at the University of Muenster and Stockholm, she joined the Ph. D. program of the Goethe University Frankfurt.



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Taken at St.ART festival, a street art initiative, in the urban village of Sharpur Jat, South Delhi, in February 2014 (credit: Brosius)



Wallpainting in Sharpur Jat, South Delhi, by Ranjit Dahiya, see above.

FORUM 'URBAN SPACES' – NEW INITIATIVE TO CONNECT AND PROMOTE URBAN RESEARCH

by Marie Sander

The Forum 'Urban Spaces' aims to connect scholars across various disciplines interested in processes of urbanization and to establish a recognizable research field of urban studies at Heidelberg University. It was founded in September 2013 by Prof. Dr. Christiane Brosius (Chair of Visual and Media Anthropology) who is associated with the SAI. The Forum is coordinated by Marie Sander. Since then the initiative has set out to successively build up a network for the exchange on theoretical and methodological trends and concerns in urban research.

One aim of this network is to promote innovative ways to research city spaces and urban imaginaries – transdisciplinarily and transregionally, through invited talks, teaching and workshops at Heidelberg University, and partly with and at the SAI. The key interests lie in producing and linking knowledge on cities in the Global South as well as the Global North. Working transregionally, the network not only strives to engage in comparative work, but also to rethink conceptualizations 'beyond the west' (Edensor and Jayne 2012) as well as of 'global south' urbanism in general. Cities in South Asia play a major role in the forum, and it is hoped to engender research on inner-Asian urbanism. Furthermore, the initiative sets its focus not only on booming megacities, but also tries to stimulate research on smaller scale cities. It is particularly interested in the everyday practices of all kinds of social groups living in cities, their making, experience and notion of spaces in these settings. Likewise, the network aims to engage in questions of access and inequality concerning the experience and shaping of public and private spaces. The Forum 'Urban Spaces' is also greatly interested in experiences and representations of urbanity in art, film, architecture and literature. Prof. Dr. Hans Harder from the Department of Modern South Asian Languages and Literature and member of the network, for instance, is particularly interested in South Asian representations of the city beyond the English-speaking sphere. Linking such mediatized images of urban spaces to empirical works in the social sciences, but also to historical studies of cities, the network aims at fostering discussions on tangible and intangible urban heritage and its representations.

The Forum wants to organize lectures and film screenings, partly in partnership with the SAI. As a platform, 'Urban Spaces' seeks to visualize and connect scholarship and initiatives at Heidelberg University and beyond. Since its founding, the Forum 'Urban Spaces', jointly with Prof. Dr. Ulrike Gerhard (Human Geography) and Prof. Dr. Beatrix Busse (English Studies), has been successful in facilitating funding from the university's Field of Focus 3 "Cultural Dynamics in Globalised Worlds". The interdisciplinary project "Mobile Spaces: Urban everyday practices in transcultural perspective" will run for one year, starting in April 2014. The Forum also facilitates regular teaching of seminars on cities and urban practices, through individual disciplines and co-teaching. It closely collaborates with the Heidelberg Research Architecture (HRA) at the Heidelberg Centre for Transcultural Studies to promote Digital Humanities for scholarship and research-based teaching. Furthermore, it plans collaborations with Indian experts on urbanisms in particular, by inviting guest lecturers and organizing student excursions.

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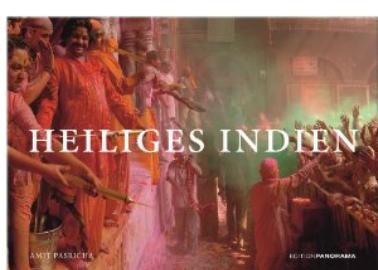
SOUTH ASIA AND EUROPA: MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM 5 COUNTRIES

From September 16th to 18th 2013, the SAI hosted a meeting on "South Asia and Europe: An Interaction on Regional Integration and Political Development". The event brought together senior experts and practitioners from South Asia, namely India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Bangladesh, with scholars on South Asia from Germany. Guests from South Asia came from various institutions and included Dr. Nishchal Nath Pandey (Director, Centre for South Asian Studies, Kathmandu), Prof. Delwar Hossain (University of Dhaka, Dhaka), Dr. D. Suba Chandran (Director, Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies, New Delhi), Dr. Mallika Joseph (Executive Director, Regional Centre for Strategic Studies, Colombo), Dr. Faramarz Tamanna (Director General, Centre for Strategic Studies, Kabul), Arshi Saleem Hashmi (Assistant Professor, National Defense University, Islamabad). Local participants included Prof. Subrata Mitra, Prof. Hans Harder, Dr. Siegfried O. Wolf, Dr. Jivanta Schöttli, Dr. Martin Gieselmann, Tomislav Delinic (KAS representative, Regional Programme SAARC), Kai Fürstenberg and Marian Gallenkamp. The meeting was jointly organized by the Konrad-Adenauer Foundation, Regional Programme SAARC and the SAI's department of political science.



PHOTO AWARD FOR AMIT PASRICHA AND AXEL MICHAELS

Amit Pasricha and Axel Michaels received the German Photo Book Silver Award 2014. Their publication "Heiliges Indien" documents and explains religious life in India. The German Photo Book Prize (Deutscher Fotobuchpreis) is awarded by the Association of German Book Publishers (Börsenverein des Deutschen Buchhandels) in the three categories Gold, Silver and Nominees. All awarded titles will be displayed at ten international conventions in Paris, Buenos Aires, Abu Dhabi, Warsaw, Sao Paulo, Bangkok, Istanbul, New Delhi, Beijing and Moscow. In their book "Heiliges Indien", Amit Pasricha and Axel Michaels document and explain the manifold religious life in India. The photographer took pictures not only at temples, mosques and monasteries, but also during prayers, sacrificial offerings and religious festivals. Axel Michaels provided background information about religions in India as well as explanatory texts to the images. The book "Heiliges Indien" was published by Edition Panorama in 2012.



Amit Pasricha is one of the leading panorama photographers in India, who became known for his documentations of the architecture and society of his country. His works were exhibited in India, New York and London. In 2008, he received the Indian Tourism Award for his book "Monumental India".

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EXHIBITION OF THE SAI-LIBRARY ON INDIAN MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES AND THEIR ENTREPRENEURS

by Eleonore Schmitt

Until the end of March, the library of the South Asia Institute shows a selection of monographs entitled „**Indische multinationale Konzerne und ihre Unternehmer**“ (Indian multinational companies and their entrepreneurs) in the foyer of Heidelberg University Library.

India as economic power in Asia is penetrating increasingly into the consciousness of the Western world. In 1991, the country started economic reforms, away from the socialist planned economy to a market economy. Now, it was possible for foreign companies to invest in India. At the same time old and new Indian companies experienced tremendous growth and developed into multinational companies.

Tata Group can be seen exemplary as one of the old family companies. More than 350,000 people work at Tata, which has offices in 85 countries. The company was one of the most important international enterprises even before 2008, when the Tata Group bought the renowned British car brands Land Rover and Jaguar. Tata Nano was introduced in 2009 as the world's cheapest small car.

The owners of Reliance Industries, founded in 1966, belong to the world's richest men. Originally a textile factory for polyester, it evolved into one of the largest petrochemical companies with more than 120 branch offices worldwide. Among the known brands are Diesel, basics and Timberland.

The Aditya Birla Group is the third largest Indian conglomerate after Tata and Reliance. The first business activities go back to 1857. Ghanshyam Das Birla (1894-1983) was founder of the company and an important supporter of Gandhi. Today, the Birla Group is represented in over 30 countries with approximately 140,000 employees.

NEW SAI-MUG AVAILABLE

From now on the South Asia Institute has its own mug. It is purchasable at the office of the South Asia Institute for 8 euros.

The mug has a printed logo of the South Asia Institute and one of the University of Heidelberg.

Further Details:

Height: 9,5 cm
 Diameter: 8,3 cm
 Color: glossy white
 Material: Porcelain-coated
 Dishwasher safe



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- ▶ Archival Workshop and Excursion to Berlin (Department of History)
- ▶ Summer School „Colloquial Tibetan“ 2014
- ▶ Saraswati Sanskrit Prize 2014
- ▶ Summer School in Spoken Sanskrit 2014
- ▶ Nepali Intensive Course 2014

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GRADUATION CEREMONY OF THE SOUTH ASIA INSTITUTE

The first graduation ceremony of the South Asia Institute took place on Friday, December 13th 2013 at 6 p.m. at the SAI library's Heinrich-Zimmer-Saal. All graduates who had completed their studies at SAI since 2012 were honoured.

Among the 70-80 guests were the graduates, their family members, the professors and the researchers of the South Asia Institute.

In the beginning of the ceremony the Executive Director Prof. Dr. Hans Harder welcomed all graduates and guests followed by a talk of Jella Friedrich (Heidelberg Alumni International) introducing the HAI-network. Then, Prof. Dr. Gita Dharampal-Frick delivered her ceremonial lecture "**Chanting the Nation**", providing for insights into the classical Indian music.

Afterwards, Apl. Prof. Dr. Jörg Gengnagel honored each graduate followed by the student's closing addresses by Stephan Rühle and Rani Francis reporting from their experiences of completing South Asian Studies. The musical interlude was provided by Dr. Ananda Samir Chopra, who played on the sitar.



Welcome by the executive director - Prof. Dr. Hans Harder



Tribute to the graduates - Apl. Prof. Dr. Jörg Gengnagel



Ceremonial lecture by Prof. Dr. Gita Dharampal-Frick



Musical interlude - Dr. Ananda Samir Chopra on the sitar

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SUMMER SCHOOLS 2013

The Summer School in Spoken Sanskrit and Nepali Intensive Course were held in Heidelberg from 5th to 30th August 2013. The Sanskrit course took place for the 14th time under the guidance of Dr. Sadananda Das, who is a speaker and experienced teacher of Spoken Sanskrit. The course taught the students how to converse in Sanskrit on the topics of daily life.



The Nepali course took place for the 7th time as usual with Laxmi Nath Shrestha. This course provided a great chance to learn and practice Nepali intensively, in a lively format. A special feature of this course is that students were encouraged from the very first day to speak only Nepali. The focus was on the application of the acquired competences in real-life contexts and involved practical exercises such as dialogue training, letter-writing, rehearsing Nepali songs, and more. The course thus deepened the skills that are necessary for a genuine engagement with Nepalese culture, required for example in the context of research-related fieldwork, work in NGOs, but is also of great use during personal vacations.

After 4 weeks of intensive learning, of speaking and playing the languages, the classes performed songs and a play in the closing ceremony on the last day of the Summer School on August 30, 2013 with their newly acquired language knowledges.



More information:

- ▣ <http://www.sai.uni-heidelberg.de/abt/IND/en/summerschool/summerschool2013.php>

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(DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY)**

by Rafael Klöber

For the second time since 2011 the Department of History organized an archival workshop, including a three day excursion to Berlin in August 2013. In cooperation with the historical expert, Frank Drauschke, from Facts & Files, Historisches Forschungsinstitut Berlin, Felix Eickelbeck and Rafael Klöber conducted an introductory workshop to archival research for 15 students from the South Asia Institute and the Department of European and Global History. The one-day workshop at the SAI on July 5th provided the students with a basic understanding of archives in general, their structure, purpose and use, as well as a knowledge of three Berlin-based archives, in particular, having a specific relevance for South Asian scholarship. This theoretical exercise was followed by a field trip to Berlin from 5th–7th August during which the group participated in guided tours to the Federal Archive (Bundesarchiv), the Political Archive of the Federal Foreign Office (Politisches Archiv des Auswärtigen Amtes) and the Evangelisches Landeskirchliches Archiv in Berlin which houses the records of the Gossener Mission that was very active in South Asia in the 19th and early 20th century. The students were given the opportunity to undertake a research investigation of their own. During the workshop the group had agreed to focus on a topic which could be researched in all three archives, namely, on World War I and its implications for Germans on the Indian subcontinent, and/or for South Asian soldiers or prisoners of war in Germany. The respective investigations had to be planned and prepared by the students independently which proved to be a fruitful exercise. After all, finding documents in an archive constitutes a complicated affair which starts with gaining admission to the archive in advance and requires proper knowledge of the archive's structure to be able to successfully order documents and have them delivered at one's desk. These logistic tasks are, of course, essential to conducting any historical research. On the last day in Berlin, the students presented their findings from the respective archives which provided valuable insights into the German-Indian entanglement during the WWI-period on several levels – diplomatic, political, economic, social, cultural and personal.



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SUMMER SCHOOL „COLLOQUIAL TIBETAN“ 2014

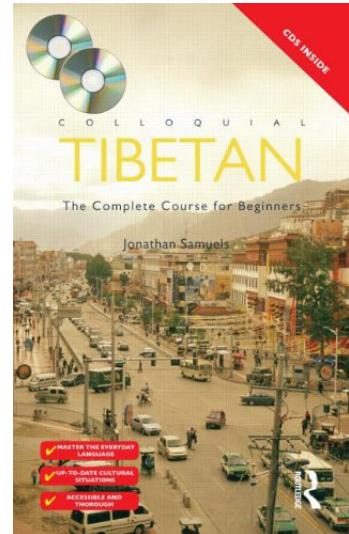
by Markus Viehbeck

The Chair of Buddhist Studies at the Cluster of Excellence "Asia & Europe" will organize a Summer School for Colloquial Tibetan to be held in August 2014.

The intensive course aims to introduce students to the basics of conversation and to develop the skills necessary for smooth communication. The focus will be upon the Central Tibetan dialect, knowledge of which will enable the participants to connect to a vast number of speakers in Tibet, as well as those in Tibetan communities in exile.

The principal teacher of the summer school is Jonathan Samuels (Geshe Sherab Gyatso), an instructor of Tibetan language of many years experience, including as the main teacher of the Lotsawa Rinchen Zangpo Translator Programme, Dharamsala, India, 1996–2004. He works at the Cluster as research associate and language teacher and is currently completing his PhD at Oxford University. His textbook on Colloquial Tibetan was just published within Routledge's Colloquial Series.

Lobsang Choedak , born in Rebkong, Tibet, will assist the course as a conversation partner. After his studies in Tibetan Buddhist doctrine at Ganden Monastery in South India he worked for Tibet Times and also acted as a tutor and conversation partner for various institutions.



SARASWATI SANSKRIT PRIZE 2014

Saraswati Sanskrit Prize is an award to recognize the contribution of bonafide students in promoting the understanding of Sanskrit and to foster deeper appreciation of the Indian heritage. The prize comprises a ten-day visit to India, including air travel and hospitality, a citation and a silver plaque to be presented during an award ceremony in India. Oral presentations or debates will be held on 29th August 2014 at the South Asia Institute, Heidelberg on the topic:

The Validity of Strīdharma in Contemporary India

Applications should reach us latest by 15th August 2014.

For more information please contact:

saraswati@uni-heidelberg.de

<http://www.sai.uni-heidelberg.de/abt/IND/sarasvati/>



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- ▶ Graduation Ceremony of the South Asia Institute
- ▶ Summer Schools 2013
- ▶ Archival Workshop and Excursion to Berlin (Department of History)
- ▶ Summer School „Colloquial Tibetan“ 2014
- ▶ Saraswati Sanskrit Prize 2014
- ▶ Summer School in Spoken Sanskrit 2014
- ▶ Nepali Intensive Course 2014

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SUMMER SCHOOL IN SPOKEN SANSKRIT 2014

The Department of Classical Indology will organize a Summer School in Spoken Sanskrit to be held in August 2014. This is the 15th consecutive year that this course is being organized in Heidelberg under the guidance of Dr. Sadananda Das, who is a speaker and experienced teacher of Spoken Sanskrit. Since its beginning it is attracting students and scholars of Indology and related fields from all over the world. The course teaches students how to converse in Sanskrit on the topics of daily life. The students' participation in the strong interactive element of the course is supported by the use of multimedia aids. This is a unique opportunity to learn and practice Spoken Sanskrit in a dynamic fashion.



Course instructor: Dr. Sadananda Das

Course fee: 480 €

Accommodation (on request): 250 €

Application deadline: 15th May 2014

Organizer: Prof. Dr. Axel Michaels

NEPALI INTENSIVE COURSE 2014

The Department of Classical Indology will organize a Nepali Intensive Course to be held in August 2014. This course provides a great chance to learn and practice Nepali intensively, in a lively format. A special feature of this course is that students are encouraged from the very first day to speak only Nepali. The focus will be on the application of the acquired competence in real-life contexts and will involve practical exercises such as dialogue training, letter-writing, rehearsing Nepali songs, and more.



The course thus deepens the skills that are necessary for a genuine engagement with Nepalese culture, required for example in the context of research-related fieldwork, work in NGOs, but also of great use during personal vacations.

Course instructor: Laxmi Nath Shrestha

Course fee: 480 €

Accommodation (on request): 250 €

Application deadline: 15th May 2014

Organizer: Prof. Dr. Axel Michaels

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PEOPLE**BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS****CONTACT****RESEARCH****INTRODUCTION TO THE EDITION OF THE CANON
CHATTHASĀNGITIPITAKAM**

by Andreas Roock, Sonja Stark-Wild

In May 1954, the sixth Buddhist council was inaugurated in Rangoon. According to tradition, which had been followed by all previous councils, the entire canon was recited in order to create the most authentic text corpus. 2500 Theravada monks from eight countries along with Buddhists from many other countries, such as Nyanatiloka and Nyanaponika from Germany, participated at this gathering to celebrate the 2500th anniversary of Buddha's Parinibbāna. In contrast to all previous councils this internationalization and inclusion of Mahayana schools in Rangoon aimed at the compilation of a canon authoritative not only for Burma, but for all Theravada countries. During this recitation, which took two years, all the differing Tipitaka versions of all participating countries were compared, occurring differences were documented, necessary corrections were made, and thus, a new text corpus was collated. The resulting Pali canon, consisting of Vinaya, Sutta, Abhidhamma and commentaries, was then printed in Rangoon in Burmese script.

On one of his research trips to Burma in the 1960s Professor Willem Bollée acquired an edition of this canon for the library of the South Asia Institute. With a total of 130 volumes this edition of the Chatthasaṅgītipitakam in the holdings of the South Asia Institute is the most extensive ever found in online catalogues. Especially the Burmese commentaries build a unique source for Buddhologists future research.

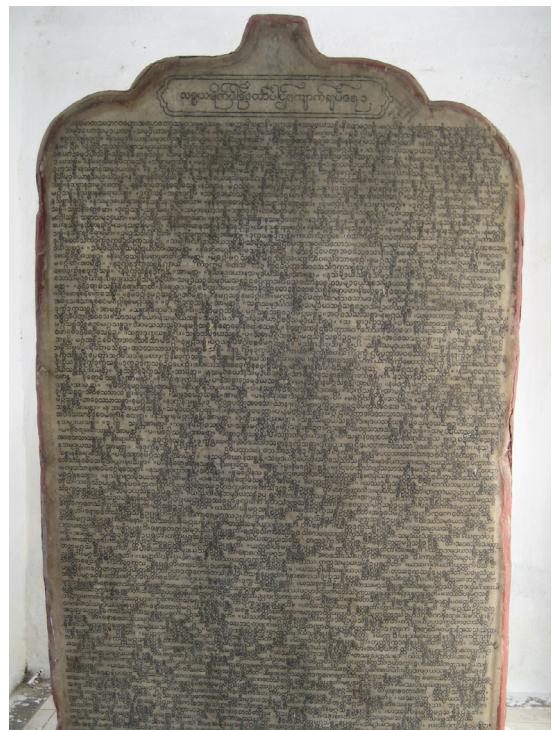
We are extremely grateful to Professor Birgit Kellner, Cluster of Excellence Asia and Europe, Head of the department of Buddhist Studies, who provided additional funding for catalogueing.

Further readings:

Tilmann Frasch (2013): Buddhist councils in a time of transition: globalism, modernity and the preservation of textual traditions, Contemporary Buddhism: An interdisciplinary Journal, 14:1, 38-51, DOI: 10.1080/14639947.2013.785245.

Heinz Bechert (1966): Buddhismus, Staat und Gesellschaft in den Ländern des Theravāda-Buddhismus. Band I: Grundlagen. Ceylon, 105-108.

The catalogue entry in HEIDI:  <http://katalog.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/titel/67454636>



Marble slab at the Kuthodaw Pagoda in Mandalay, 1857-1868. It is the world's largest book containing the Tipitaka of the 5th council. This text was recited during the 6th council.

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PEOPLE**BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS****CONTACT****ADVANCES IN RESEARCH ON GLOBALLY ACCESSIBLE MEDICINE**

by William Sax

AROGYAM (*Advances in Research on Globally Accessible Medicine*) is a three-year research network grant, funded by a consortium of European Research Organizations along with the Indian Council for Social Science Research, and held by University of Edinburgh (U.K), Heidelberg University (Germany), Jawaharlal Nehru University (India) and Achutha Menon Centre for Health Science Studies, Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (India). The network commenced with a Kickoff workshop held in and hosted by the University of Edinburgh from 3-5th of June. Participants from the four institutions met in Edinburgh over two and a half days. The first day was used for making introductions and thrashing out ideas. From these sessions some themes emerged. These were global mental health; governance; trans-cultural issues of mental health; social exclusion in access to health care; medical surrogacy; medical tourism; commercial sector and public health; infectious diseases; gender, sexual and reproductive health and rights; medical bio-technology; tuberculosis; reproductive technologies and bereavement; pharmaceutical markets in South Asia; non-communicable diseases.



Some of the participants at the AROGYAM kickoff conference

The participants formed working groups around these themes and there were planning meetings held for the entire day on the 4th of June. The meetings discussed interests of the members and plans for future publications, conferences etc. After a whole day of intensive meetings, the participants relaxed in the evening with a traditional Scottish dinner and dance (ceilidh). On the last day the group leaders presented their themes and proposals and a plan of action was drawn up. The working groups will now organise their proposals and submit them for approval to the steering committee. The inaugural workshop proved to be a good kickoff to the research network, providing enough scope for the participants to discuss and interact within and outside the workshop.

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HERA FUNDING FOR CHRISTIANE BROSIUS

by Laila Abu-Er-Rub

In 2013, Christiane Brosius, Professor of Visual and Media Anthropology at the Cluster of Excellence "Asia and Europe in a Global Context" and associated to the SAI received prestigious funding from the network Humanities in the European Research Area (HERA) in the context of their new Joint Research Programme 'Cultural Encounters'. The project entitled "Creating the 'New' Asian Woman: Entanglements of Urban Space, Cultural Encounters and Gendered Identities in Shanghai and Delhi" (SINGLE), is run in collaboration with two other European network partners: Dr. Melissa Butcher (Department of Geography/Open University, UK) und Prof. Jeroen de Kloet (Centre for Globalisation Studies/University of Amsterdam, Netherlands). It is one of eighteen projects receiving funding after having been selected from roughly six hundred applications. HERA is a partnership between 21 Humanities Research Councils across Europe and the European Science Foundation (ESF), with the objective of firmly establishing the humanities in the European Research Area and in the European Commission Framework Programs. SINGLE deals with the representation of single women in India (Delhi) and China (Shanghai). The project was launched in October 2013 and will run for three years. Senior and junior researchers, members of the Digital Humanities (Heidelberg Research Architecture) and Associated Partners such as the Goethe-Institutes in Shanghai and Delhi, the Fei Contemporary Art Center (Shanghai), and the Royal Tropical Institute (Amsterdam) will work closely together on the context of urban transformation in India and China to strengthen studies on the formation of new cultural geographies and biographies of single women. With 'single' the investigators mean working women who are economically independent, aspire to individual life-design and choice-making, and at the same time, may experience precarity, risk and insecurity. SINGLE uses ethnographic, mobile and visual methodologies to explore these concerns, documenting the experiences of single women in Delhi and Shanghai that are indicative of wider social and demographic transformations, and set within wider debates of cultural encounter, world cities and globalisation. The project aims to extend work in the Digital Humanities, using a state-of-the-art online platform for both analysis and the creation of an interactive public gallery. Visual methods are central to this work and collaboration with artists in Shanghai and Delhi will culminate in public events in Shanghai, Delhi and Amsterdam. Research in Delhi will be conducted by two senior researchers (Christiane Brosius and Melissa Butcher), two doctoral students (Maddalena Chiellini and Lucie Bernroider) and one Post-doc (Laila Abu-Er-Rub). Together they will answer questions related to the respectability and autonomy of women in urban India, i.e. on gendered access to and behavior in public spaces, the relation of public, private and domestic space, the increasing visibility of women in the city, Indian feminism in past and present, and the representation of single women in the media. More information: <http://www.herasingle.uni-hd.de>



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WORKSHOP IN NEPAL: HISTORY IN NEPALESE CHRONICLES

by Astrid Zotter

The workshop “*Geschichte in nepalischen Chroniken*” in Nepal (9–22 March 2013) was related to the research project on the so-called “*Wright-chronicle*” or Naipalika-bhupa-vamshavali currently being carried out at the SAI and was initiated and organized by the members of this project, Manik Bajracharya, Niels Gutschow, and Axel Michaels. The workshop was funded by the Excellence Cluster “Asia and Europe in a Global Context” and the Collaborative Research Centre “Ritual Dynamics” (both Heidelberg University) and supported by the SAI branch office Kathmandu with its resident representative Pratibha Khanal. In order to develop and discuss the possibilities of new approaches for the understanding of South Asian historiography, especially the Nepalese chronicles written in the 19th century, an interdisciplinary study group went to Nepal. In addition to the project staff the group consisted of the historians Madeleine Herren-Oesch, Bernd Schneidmüller, and Gerald Schwedler, and the indologists Jörg Gengnagel and Astrid Zotter. In eight working sessions, each with a special thematic focus, different places in the Kathmandu Valley were visited. Each of these visits went along with a close reading of related text passages from the Vamshavali. This field-work experience was judged especially fruitful by the participants for understanding the textual vision of the valley as a sacred landscape inhabited by gods and humans and for making sense of the many textual references to concrete spaces, places, and even buildings and inscriptions.

The final two-day session at Nagarkot served to reconsider the insights from the visits and to resume the ongoing discussions among the participants. The combination of the re-reading of the text, field research in Nepal, and methodological considerations led to identifying points that seemed most relevant for approaching the Vamshavali under consideration and other South Asian historiographical texts. Methodological thoughts pertaining to the process of editing and translating included the issue of how a new critical edition could enable a faithful access to the text, both for the Nepali and the English speaking readers? Regarding the content of the text it was asked what kind of narrativity do we face in the text and how can its alternative concepts of time and space be adequately understood and mediated in Western academic discourse beyond prejudices against non-Western forms of telling the past that still loom large? How does the text and its depiction of Nepalese history relate to earlier works produced in the Kathmandu Valley? Furthermore, the circumstances under which the text came into being were reflected. What roles did the different persons involved, such as Munshi Shiv Shankar Singh, Pandit Gunananda, and Daniel Wright have in producing the text, translating it into English and popularizing it in the West? What other actors were involved in this project, but remained unacknowledged? How did the so-called “*Wright-chronicle*” become the most often reprinted and thus one of the most influential texts on Nepalese history and how does a transcultural approach help in understanding this process? The results of the workshop will be published in a collaboratively written article.

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PEOPLE**BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS****CONTACT****JOINT REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON “GOVERNING YOUTH IN SOUTH ASIA”**

by Elvira Graner

The Social Science Baha (SSB), the Delhi Office of South Asia Institute (SAI) of Heidelberg University and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation New Delhi (KAS) have co-organised a Joint Regional Conference on “*Governing Youth in South Asia*” in Kathmandu. It was held on September, 22 - 24th 2013 at Hotel Shankar, Lazimpat with participants from across the region and Europe.



The Opening Ceremony took place on September 22, coinciding with the federal elections in Germany. In spite of other duties, His Excellency Frank Meyke, the German Ambassador to Nepal, had accepted the invitation as Chief Guest, along with the Hon. Minister for Education, Madhav Prasad Poudel, and the Secretary for Youth and Sports, Hari Prasad Nepal. The keynote speech was delivered by Prof. Andy Furlong, Glasgow University, on “Youth Policy and Youth Research. Future trends”.

The Conference aimed at bringing together scholars from South Asia and Europe with policy makers and development partners from the region. It was attended by more than 60 participants from South Asia (other than the Maldives), and scholars from Europe and Nepal, along with policy makers and representatives from Youth Organisations from Nepal. Over the two days of the conference, the participants critically addressed and discussed youth policies and studies on youth of South Asian countries.

Following our Call for Papers we had more than fifty submissions, and we invited 24 persons for presentations, from the fields of political science, sociology, economics, geography, and anthropology. The six thematic panels were chaired by colleagues from our partners (SSB) and partner universities, such as Tribhuvan University and Colombo University, as well as from the universities of Heidelberg and Oxford, making it a successful event of European and South Asian cooperation. Besides the panels, a Panel Discussion was held on “Youth and their Roles of Strengthening Civil Society”, with representatives from Nepalese Youth Organisations, and from Pakistan’s British Council, the UNFPA Bhutan Office, as well as from the Bhutan Youth Development Fund.

Panels included: Youth as Active Citizens for Inclusive Democracy, Youth in (Post-)Conflict Countries, Youth and their Right to Health and Education, Survey Methodologies, Youth and their Search for Decent Employment, Governing Youth in South Asia.

This event was a follow up of last year’s Joint Regional Conference, hosted by Colombo University, and the Institute of Governance Studies (IGS) of BRAC University, Dhaka. A follow-up event is planned for next year in August.

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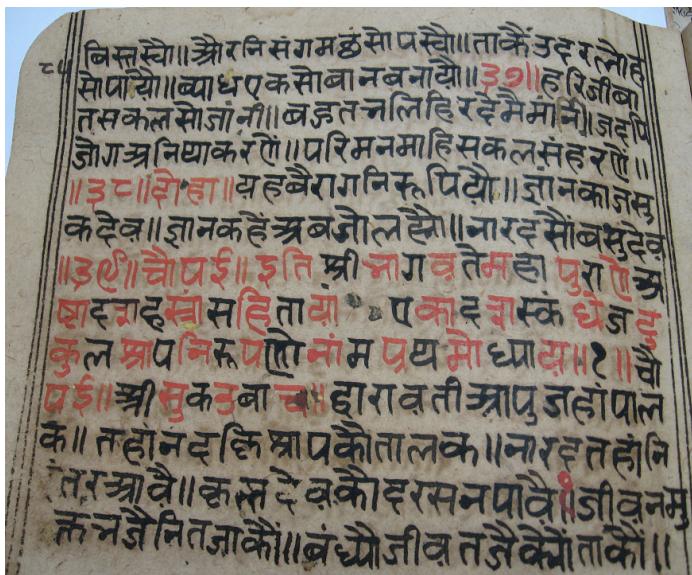
WORKSHOP “TRANSLATING THE BHĀGAVATAPURĀNA”

by Monika Boehm-Tettelbach

On 1 and 2 October 2013, a workshop was held at the SAI on the Bhāgavatapurāna (9th century.). A Sanskrit text, it has remained one of the most influential texts of Vaishnava Hinduism that has been in virtually boundless circulation in all walks of Indian society. Accordingly, it has been translated and recreated profusely. Representing a basic text of various Vaishnava sects, it has given rise to rich exegesis; numerous translations have been made into the Indian vernaculars and Persian, and it has been recreated in painting, sculpture, architecture, and in the performing arts.



The complex topic of the Bhāgavatapurāna has continuously and intensely stimulated international scholarship. The workshop inserted itself into this. Co-convened by Monika Boehm-Tettelbach (Heidelberg), Anand Mishra (Heidelberg) and Neeraja Poddar (New York), it pursued the aim to contribute to the scholarly debate as well as to constitute an international working group. At present, mainly based at the South Asia Institute, Heidelberg (Boehm-Tettelbach, Mishra, Hugh van Skyhawk), the University of Kyoto (Kiyokazu Okita), the Philadelphia Museum of Art (Neeraja Poddar, formerly Columbia University, New York), the University of Seattle (Heidi Pauwels) and the University



From a manuscript of 1682 CE of Caturdas's Eleventh Book of the Bhagavatapurana (Hindi). Private collection.

of Venice (Stefano Pellò), the group invites the collaboration of interested scholars.

In Heidelberg, interest in the topic has been ongoing (Boehm-Tettelbach, Mishra) and dovetails with research at the other centres mentioned. Among the current activities of the group is the publication of the proceedings of the workshop, while for the next year another workshop to take place either in India or in Japan is on the agenda.

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- 70th Birthday of Prof. Dr. Clive Bell
- Juliane Dame was Honored with Wilhelm Lauer Prize
- Asian Environment Journalism Award for Aditya Ghosh
- Prof. Dr. Christiane Brosius Received an Offer by the University of St. Gallen (Ch)
- DAAD Fellow Abu Dayen
- Keynote by Prof. Mitra at Rabindranath Tagore - Centenary Nobel Prize Award Celebration
- Congratulations to Anand Mishra, Boryain Larios and Silke Bechler
- Baden-Württemberg Fellowship-Holder Prof. Parul Dave Mukherji

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70TH BIRTHDAY OF PROF. DR. CLIVE BELL

The South Asia Institute congratulates Prof. Dr. Clive Bell to his 70th Birthday on 1st September 2013.



Prof. Dr. Bell headed the Department of Development Economics from 1995 to 2008 and was for 2 years the Executive Director of the South Asia Institute. He studied at St. John's College, Cambridge and at the University of Sussex, where he also completed his D. Phil.

During his 13-year period in office he has contributed to the quality, internationality and visibility of the South Asia Institute and can be called a pioneer of modern development economics, which is concerned with the interests of developing countries.

JULIANE DAME WAS HONORED WITH WILHELM LAUER PRIZE

by Juliane Dame

Juliane Dame was honored with the Wilhelm Lauer price for her doctoral thesis entitled "*Ernährungssicherung im Hochgebirge. Eine akteursorientierte Studie in Ladakh, Nordindien*" supervised by Prof. Dr. Marcus Nüsser (Department of Geography). The awarding took place on October 4th, 2013 at the central ceremony of the 58th Deutscher Geographentag in Passau.



The Wilhelm Lauer Foundation, which is based at the Mainz Academy of Sciences and Literature (Akademie der Wissenschaften und der Literatur Mainz), awards the prize for scientific research in the areas of geography, High Mountain Research and landscape ecology. Since February 2013, Dr. Juliane Dame is junior research group leader at the Heidelberg Center for the Environment (HCE).

ASIAN ENVIRONMENT JOURNALISM AWARD FOR ADITYA GHOSH

Aditya Ghosh, Research Associate at the Department of Geography at the South Asia Institute, won the Asian Environment Journalism Award for an article entitled "*Indian islanders seek jobs, husbands outside sinking Sundarbans*".



The article is based on a year-long ethnographic research that Aditya Ghosh carried out in the Indian Sundarbans prior to joining the South Asia Institute. His current research is also based in the same area.

The article was published in a group entry by Reuters AlertNet (Thomson Reuters Foundation) and is accessible here: http://www.sai.uni-heidelberg.de/PDFs/Ghosh_Article.pdf

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BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS**CONTACT****PROF. DR. CHRISTIANE BROSIUS RECEIVED AN OFFER BY THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. GALLEN (CH)**

by Christiane Brosius

In 2013, Prof. Dr. Christiane Brosius received and declined an offer for the position of a full professorship for South Asian Cultures and Societies (including anthropology) at the Department of Cultural Studies, University of St. Gallen (CH).

In 2009, Brosius became full professor of Visual and Media Anthropology at the cluster of excellence, 'Asia and Europe in a Global Context' at Heidelberg University. Until then, she held the position of as-



sistant professor at the Department of Anthropology at the South Asia Institute. Her doctoral dissertation explored propaganda videos of the Hindu Right in North India (publ. 2004) and the habilitation thesis about urban spatialisation and economic liberalisation was published with Routledge (India's Middle Class. New Forms of Urban Leisure, Consumption and Prosperity, 2010, reprint as paperback 2014). Currently, Brosius conducts research on contemporary art in Nepal and India, on youth cultures and media as well as on gender and urbanisation in Delhi (see HERA-Project, this newsletter).

For more information see: <http://www.asia-europe.uni-heidelberg.de/>

DAAD FELLOW ABU DAYEN

The Department of Modern South Asian Languages & Literatures hosted Abu Dayen, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Bangla Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka for a research visit in summer/fall 2013.



The DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) fellow stayed from mid-September to mid-November 2013 at the South Asia Institute. Mr. Dayen completed his PhD at the Jahangirnagar University on "*Poetics reflected in the prose written by the major poets of 1930s Bangla Literature*".

KEYNOTE BY PROF. MITRA AT RABINDRANATH TAGORE - CENTENARY NOBEL PRIZE AWARD CELEBRATION

Professor Subrata K. Mitra, Head of the Department of Political Science, South Asia Institute, University of Heidelberg & Chairman, SADF gave a keynote address entitled "*Rabindranath Tagore: A Global Prophet of the Post-modern*" at Rabindranath Tagore - Centenary Nobel Prize Award Celebration, Brussels, on November 14, 2013. Further information and the recording of the talk are available at www.sadf.eu.



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BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS**CONTACT****CONGRATULATIONS TO ANAND MISHRA, BORYAIN LARIOS AND SILKE BECHLER**

The three PhD students Anand Mishra, Boryain Larios and Silke Bechler of the Department for Cultural and Religious History of South Asia (Classical Indology) of the South Asia Institute completed their dissertation projects in July and September 2013 including oral exams conducted by Prof. Dr. Axel Michaels.

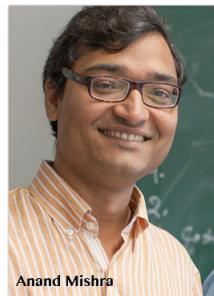
The oral disputations were held on 26th of July 2013 by Anand Mishra with "*Modelling the Pāṇinian System of Sanskrit Grammar*" and by Boryain Larios with "*Embodying Sacred Sound. The transmission of knowledge in traditional Vedic schools of contemporary Maharashtra*" and at the 30th September 2013 by Silke Bechler with the topic "*The Vedic Sacrifice in Transcultural Public Spheres*".

Anand Mishra works now as Assistant in the department of Cultural and Religious History of South Asia, Heidelberg University.

Silke Bechler, former managing director of SFB 619 until September 2013, works now as coordinator of the Graduiertenkolleg

1876 "Frühe Konzepte von Mensch und Natur" at the Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz.

Boryain Larios has recently joined the new project "*Umbrüche in der kulturellen Bedeutung frühmittelalterlichen Edelsteinschmucks vor dem Hintergrund von Wirtschaftsgeschichte sowie Ideen- und Technologie-transfer*" funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) as a research fellow. He is also supporting the new research project Religion and law in pre-modern Nepal as a research assistant.



Anand Mishra



Boryain Larios



Silke Bechler

BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG FELLOWSHIP-HOLDER PROF. PARUL DAVE MUKHERJI

The South Asia Institute hosted Parul Dave Mukherji as Baden-Württemberg Fellowship-Holder in Summer 2013. Parul Dave-Mukherji is a professor and former dean (2006-2013) at the School of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India.

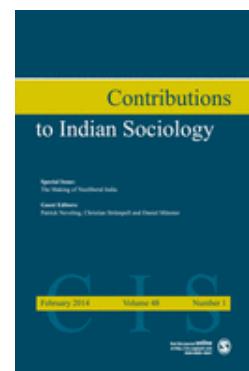
She holds a PhD in Indology from Oxford University and has lectured in India, China, Europe, USA, Australia, Turkey, South Korea, Mauritius and Japan. As a recipient of the British Academy award, 2011, she was affiliated with Goldsmiths College, London to conduct research on globalization and Art Theory.

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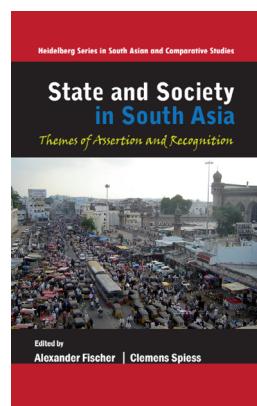
- Contributions to Indian Sociology - Special Issue: The Making of Neoliberal India (Patrick Neveling, Christian Strümpell and Daniel Münster)
- State and Society in South Asia (Prof. Subrata K. Mitra, Edited by Alexander Fischer, Clemens Spiess)
- Uday Prakash, Mohandas (Translated from Hindi by Gautam Liu and Ines Fornell)
- Colloquial Tibetan (Jonathan Samuels)
- Exploring the Senses - South Asian and European Perspectives on Rituals and Performativity by Axel Michaelis and Christoph Wulf

CONTACT**BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS****CONTRIBUTIONS TO INDIAN SOCIOLOGY - SPECIAL ISSUE: THE MAKING OF NEOLIBERAL INDIA (PATRICK NEVELING, CHRISTIAN STRÜMPPELL AND DANIEL MÜNSTER)**

This special issue brings together ethnographic accounts exploring local and regional effects of transformations in India that social scientists have described under the heading of "neoliberalism". Chief among these transformations in India are the economic restructuring processes after 1991 when the Government of India launched far-reaching policies of economic liberalisation, arguably under the pressure of global financial institutions. Acknowledging this significant turning point, the editors aim to highlight the variegation with which neoliberal ideas, policies and technologies are dispersed and experienced among different segments of the population. In doing so, the authors of this special issue pursue an ethnographically informed "grounding" of large neoliberal transformations. In Michael Burawoy's terms, such grounding is about "extending out from the micro-processes to macro forces, from the space–time rhythms of the site to the geographical and historical context of the field".

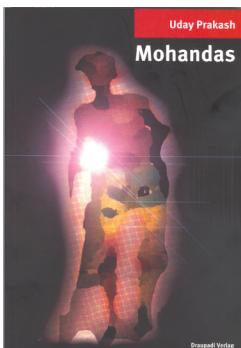
**STATE AND SOCIETY IN SOUTH ASIA (SUBRATA K. MITRA, EDITED BY ALEXANDER FISCHER, CLEMENS SPIESS)**

In South Asia as elsewhere, scholars have been busy rethinking, reinventing and revisiting the interlinkages between the world of the state – in its rather generic meaning, from institutions to political actors – and the great and little traditions of the subcontinent's various social worlds. The contributors to this volume all share this concern with different aspects of the role of society in South Asia, its assertion and recognition and the interplay of social and state structures within the regional context. This book's unifying theme, the politics of assertion and recognition, is linked to actual narratives of struggle within each chapter: the assertion of ethnic identity, religious diversity, the interests of marginalized social groups, caste and language or the recognition of minority rights. The scope of comparative analysis stretches across time and space, as the chapters bring together different South Asian countries and regions, as well as history and contemporary issues. All contributors ascribe to the basic assumption that states mould their social surrounding, but that states are also continually moulded by the societies in which they are embedded. The volume thus aims to contribute to the widening scholarship on South Asia that takes an integrated state–society approach seriously and combines different disciplinary angles.



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- Contributions to Indian Sociology - Special Issue: The Making of Neoliberal India (Patrick Neveling, Christian Strümpell and Daniel Münster)
- State and Society in South Asia (Prof. Subrata K. Mitra, Edited by Alexander Fischer, Clemens Spiess)
- Uday Prakash, Mohandas (Translated from Hindi by Gautam Liu and Ines Fornell)
- Colloquial Tibetan (Jonathan Samuels)
- Exploring the Senses - South Asian and European Perspectives on Rituals and Performativity by Axel Michaels and Christoph Wulf

CONTACT**UDAY PRAKASH, MOHANDAS (TRANSLATED FROM HINDI BY GAUTAM LIU AND INES FORNELL)**

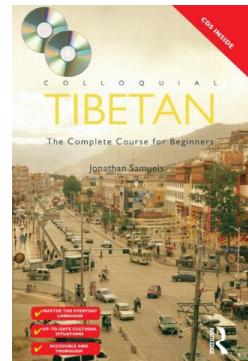
Uday Prakash presents in his novel "*Mohandas*" the consequences that result from the still existing social problems in India, like caste spirit, corruption and nepotism. It is based on a true story and the film adaption of the novel has been shown at numerous international film festivals. Uday Prakash is a popular Hindi author of the present and was awarded by the Indian Literary Academy for *Mohandas*.

Since 2007 Gautam Liu is a lecturer in Hindi at the South Asia Institute, University of Heidelberg, Department of Modern South Asian Languages and Literatures and co-author of *Hindi bolo*.

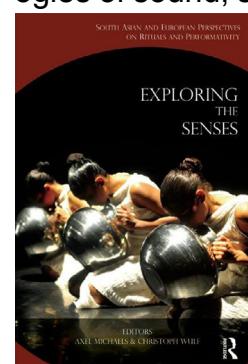
COLLOQUIAL TIBETAN (JONATHAN SAMUELS)

Colloquial Tibetan provides a step-by-step course in Central Tibetan as it is spoken by native speakers. Combining a thorough treatment of the language as it is used in everyday situations with an accurate written representation of this spoken form, it equips learners with the essential skills needed to communicate confidently and effectively in Tibetan in a broad range of situations. No prior knowledge of the language is required.

Jonathan Samuels (also known by Sherab Gyatso) spent 20 years as a monk, living in Tibetan communities in Asia. He holds a Masters degree from the Oriental Institute of the University of Oxford, and is there completing his PhD. He currently holds the position of Research Fellow (Buddhist Studies) at the Cluster of Excellence "Asia and Europe in a Global Context" at Heidelberg University.

**EXPLORING THE SENSES - SOUTH ASIAN AND EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVES ON RITUALS AND PERFORMATIVITY BY AXEL MICHAELS AND CHRISTOPH WULF**

This fascinating volume offers a transdisciplinary and transcultural approach to understanding the senses by exploring themes in anthropologies of sound, sight, smell, taste, touch, and movement as expressed through aesthetic, perceptual, religious, and spiritual experiences. In drawing upon comparative perspectives from Indian and Western theories, the essays demonstrate the integral relation of senses with each other as well as with allied notions of the body, emotion and cultural memory. Stressing the continued relevance of senses as they manifest in a globalized world under the influence of new media, this work will interest scholars of anthropology, cultural studies, sociology, ritual studies, psychology, religion, philosophy, and history.



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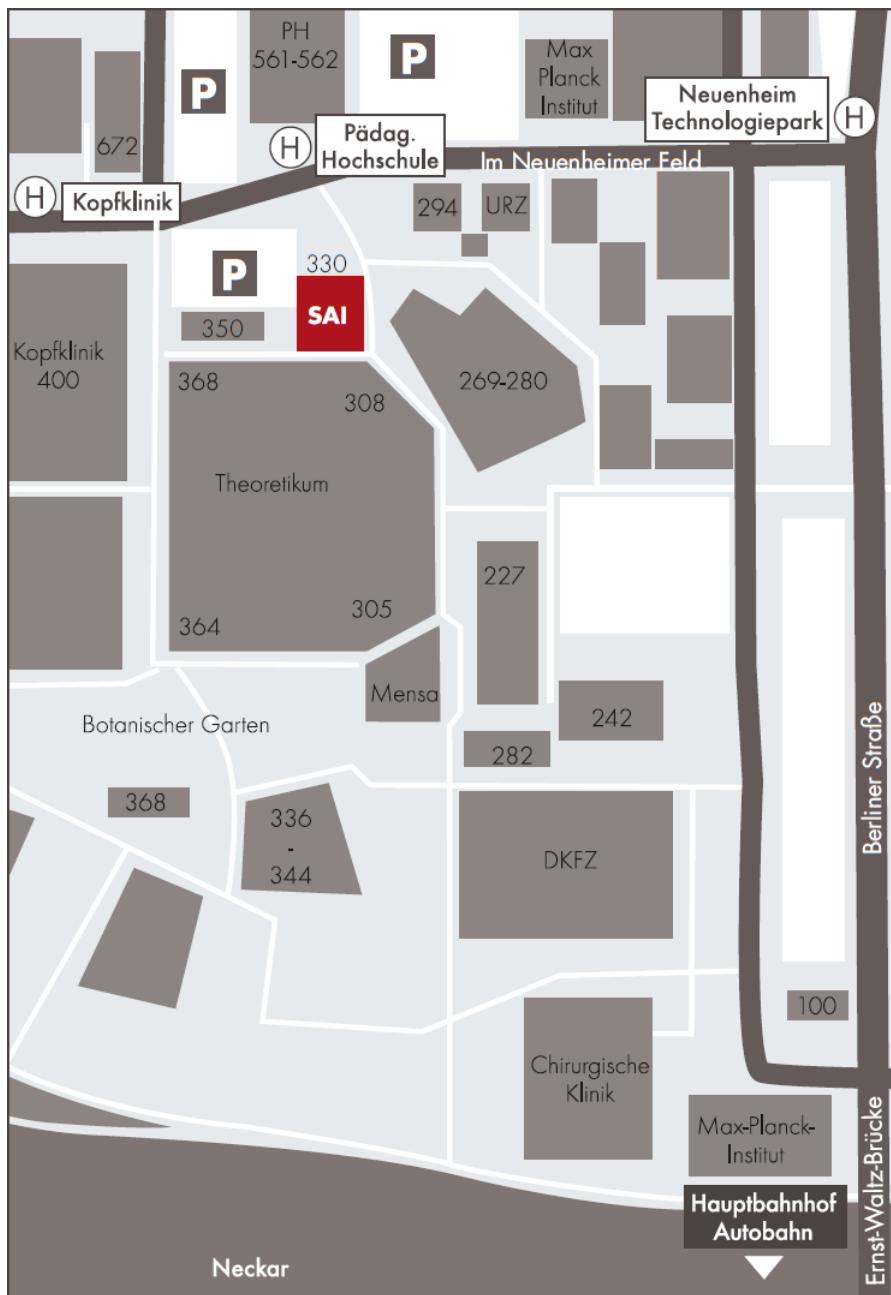
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MAP OF THE AREA



Arriving by car from Autobahn A656

Turn left towards "Chirurgie" and "Zoo" at the end of the Autobahn. Cross the Neckar on Ernst-Waltz-Brücke. You are now at "Berliner Straße". At the third traffic light turn left and enter into the Neuenheimer Feld Campus. After ca. 200 m the SAI is on the left hand side. Use one out of three public parking lots close to the institute.

Public Transport

From Heidelberg main station: Take bus line 32 or 21 (direction towards "Neuenheim"). Get off at the stop "Kopfklinik" or "Pädagogische Hochschule". Bus line 31 also brings you to University Square (Uniplatz) in Heidelberg Old Town and back.

