



THE
OXFORD
CENTRE
for
HINDU
STUDIES
Report 2019



A RECOGNISED INDEPENDENT CENTRE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

The Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies

Annual Report 2019

1. The academic year 2018–19.....	4
Teaching.....	5
Research.....	6
Publication	11
Fellows’ Publications	12
Fellows’ conference papers and lectures.....	15
Visiting Fellows Reports	18
Conferences	22
Exhibitions	24
Exhibitions by Fellows.....	25
Awards for Students	25
2. Library	26
3. Continuing Education Department.....	28
Online courses	29
Taught Courses	30
Publication	30
Scholarships and Visiting Fellows	31
4. Bhumi Project.....	32
International Conferences	33
SHINE	33
Events.....	33
UN	33
Meetings	33
5. Development activities and achievements	34
Development Planning Committee.....	35
Outreach.....	35
Chaplaincy	36
Volunteers and donations in kind.....	36
Awards and Sponsors.....	37
6. Accounts and finance.....	38
Summary Results.....	39
Charitable Activities	39
Gains on investment	39
Expenditure.....	39
7. Appendix one: Organisation.....	40
8. Appendix two: Lectures and seminars	42
9. Appendix three: Visiting fellows	44
10. Appendix four: New students	46



A RECOGNISED INDEPENDENT CENTRE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies

13-15 Magdalen St

Oxford OX1 3AE

Tel. 01865-304300

www.ochs.org.uk

Regd Charity No. 1074458

Message from the Director

When we started our OCHS journey twenty years ago, I was focused on the study of my own Hindu denomination. I thought it time for that tradition to engage in a critical assessment of itself. We should use the apparatus of scholarship to compare its perspectives with those of other world views, and provide a basis for discussion and dialogue in a more public and global context.

In the association of wonderful scholars, such as Prof. Keith Ward, Peggy Morgan, and Prof. Richard Gombrich, we realised that the field of my focus and its wider context – Hindu Studies per se – remained greatly unexplored. And so the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies was born.

After twenty years we now see young scholars, from many Hindu denominations, inspired by the same impulses that motivated our approach. They are opening up fields of study, based on objective research and critical scholarship, with the support of their communities. This is a historic development and is complemented by OCHS scholars who do not share a Hindu practice. Together, these reflections create a holistic and balanced discourse.

We now have a global community of scholars. They come together regardless of nationality, religion, race, or gender, to dig deeply into the rich and fertile soil of this field. Together, they uncover ideas, arts, practices, literature, film, history, society, and so much more, even jokes.

One sign of our success: recently a teenager visiting the OCHS from a UK Hindu faith school, declared with great certainty, that she would become a student in our Centre, then a lecturer in Hindu studies, and then help develop Hindu studies in Indian Universities. Twenty years ago, this pathway did not exist. Now it does.

Our patrons and friends support the infrastructure that supports this bright young student: a library, conferences (five this year), research projects (three new ones this year), publications, lectures and lecturers, tutors, a chaplaincy, online courses, and more.

This support makes it possible for her potential to become a reality.

This annual report is a snapshot of what is possible from very humble beginnings. It enthuses me to see it all wrapped up in one place. I hope it will enthuse you too.

Enjoy this report and warm regards,

Shaunaka Rishi Das



1. THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2018–19

Teaching

Research

Publication

Fellows' Publications

Fellows' conference papers and lectures

Visiting Fellows Reports

Conferences

Exhibitions

Exhibitions by Fellows

Awards for Students

THIS report presents an overview of activities conducted at the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies during the academic year 2018-19, covering teaching, research, and outreach events. We are pleased to present this report on the hard work and dedication of faculty and staff.

Over the year the OCHS has begun a number of new research initiatives that bear witness to the breadth of Hindu Studies and the wide range of research interests of Faculty and Fellows.

The OCHS has hosted five major conferences, four of which are linked to the research projects and one a new development as the OCHS takes over the hosting of the Sanskrit Tradition in the Modern World conference, previously hosted by Dr Hirst at Manchester University. Three new Research Projects were also launched this academic year: The Beginnings of the Hindu Temple, The Comparative Study of Religion, and Vedānta in Practice.

All Faculty have published the results of their research over the year in books and journals as well as contributing to teaching and administration in the Theology and Religion Faculty.

We are proud of this achievement and look forward to further development in the coming academic year. Not only do we see the OCHS as an institution at the forefront of Hindu Studies but also as an institution important for the academic study of religions, promoting the highest standards of philological rigour, detailed ethnography, along with conceptual consideration, historical understanding, and theological and philosophical reflection.

The Academic Year 2018-19

The OCHS developed its research projects and continued to offer teaching to the University and to develop its further education courses.

Teaching

OCHS faculty provided teaching for the Faculty of Theology and Religion for undergraduates (Single and Joint Honours) and postgraduates (the Master of Studies (MSt) in the Study of Religion) as well as supervising DPhil and MPhil students and supporting the academic administration of transfer and confirmation of status for DPhil students. OCHS faculty were both internal examiners for DPhil students and external examiners for PhD's from other universities.

Undergraduate teaching involves offering Hinduism I and II in the Michaelmas and Hilary Terms, the lectures being presented by Dr Rembert Lutjeharms. There is also a Further Studies in Hinduism paper that has been offered this year. Sanskrit is offered by Dr Bjarne Wernicke-Olesen for the Prelims in Theology and Religion.



Professor Gavin Flood continued to supervise DPhil students, convened the weekly seminar 'Readings in Phenomenology' and with Dr Wernicke-Olesen convened Readings in Comparative Religion and Readings in the Netra Tantra. He taught three undergraduates during the academic year and supervised most of his remaining six DPhil students.

Dr Jessica Frazier taught Indian Philosophy in the Philosophy Faculty, tutored undergraduates for Hinduism I and II and new Further Studies papers which together make a full three-year course of study in Hinduism in the Theology and Religion Faculty. She also helped in the running of the MSt in the Study of Religions, and added Hinduism-based sections to the Faculty's comparative courses 'Feminist Approaches to Religion', and 'Jesus Through the Ages', and 'Interactions Between Religions'.

Aside from giving the lectures for Hinduism I and II in the Michaelmas and Hilary terms, Dr Rembert Lutjeharms tutored undergraduate students and Stanford University visiting students, supervised DPhil students, and offered Sanskrit readings of Vedāntic texts.

Dr Bjarne Wernicke-Olesen taught Sanskrit Prelims for Theology and Religion students, tutored undergraduates for Hinduism I and co-supervised DPhil students as well as continuing to teach on the Aarhus visiting student programme (e.g. Pali, Extended Essays and Theory and Method in the Study of Religion). He also taught the Readings in the *Netrat Tantra* and Comparative Religion together with Professor Gavin Flood.

Research

The OCHS has a number of research projects, each of which continued to develop in significant ways.

The Śākta Traditions Research Project

Project Leaders: Professor Gavin Flood FBA and Dr Bjarne Wernicke-Olesen

The Śākta Traditions research project has developed to encompass a number of interdisciplinary projects and publications and a growing international research network. New Research Fellows in 2019 include Dr Rajan Khatiwoda (Heidelberg) and Dr Silvia Schwarz Linder (Leipzig).

The newly established OCHS Kathmandu Research Office founded by Dr Wernicke-Olesen has seen an increase in activities this year, including a number of visiting students and scholars conducting fieldwork and Sanskrit studies and an important digital humanities research project focusing on manuscript digitisation/preservation and the building of a database. The local manager in Kathmandu is Gitte Poulsen (MA, Aarhus).

A delegation from the OCHS including Director Shaunaka Rishi Das met with Nepal's Minister of Science and Education in January 2019 to discuss Sanskrit and Hindu Studies in Nepal.

The research programme continues to develop with symposia, seminars, teaching, publications and a number of new activities. The year saw two exhibitions held at the OCHS in November 2018 and June 2019, one archaeological and one photographic. 'Hidden Treasures in Private Academic Collections' and 'The Path of Śakti'.

Tanja Louise Jakobsen developed an important website for the research programme (saktatraditions.org). A research documentary movie of Śākta festivals and pilgrimage places in north east India and Nepal with a focus on tantric yogis has been initiated with a visit to Assam in June 2019 followed by an expedition to Gosainkunda in Nepal in 2020.

Prema Goet (MA, SOAS) is a new documentary researcher and photographer for the programme. During the year Dr Wernicke-Olesen has given a number of Śākta-related papers and organised two



successful Śākta symposia in Oxford and four workshops on the *Haṭhpradīpikā* in Oxford and Denmark.

Dr Wernicke-Olesen and Prof. Flood continue their work on a full translation of the *Netratantra* in two volumes.

Bengali Vaishnavism in the Modern Period

Project leaders: Dr Ferdinando Sardella and Lucian Wong

The Bengali Vaiṣṇavism in the Modern Period project continued to make steady progress during the 2018–19 academic year. Project leaders Dr Ferdinando Sardella and Lucian Wong submitted the manuscript of an edited volume to Routledge. Based on research presented at the project's inaugural workshop, the book is due to be in print toward the end of 2019 and will make an important contribution to both the field of Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇava studies (effectively concretising the birth of the subfield of Modern Bengali Vaiṣṇava studies) and Colonial Hinduism more broadly.

Members of the project in Europe (Dr Mans Broo, Dr Ferdinando Sardella, and Lucian Wong) and India (Santanu Dey and Amiya Sen) have continued to collect, organise, and translate material for a collaborative Bengali Vaiṣṇava periodical translation project. They plan to meet in Kolkata for a workshop pertaining to this translation project at the end of 2019.

In Trinity term 2019, project co-leader Lucian Wong teamed up with Dr Rembert Lutjeharms, co-leader of the OCHS Gosvāmī Era Research Project, to organise a one day symposium in honour of the work of the late eminent scholar of Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇavism. Entitled 'Caitanya Vaiṣṇavism in Bengal', the successful symposium brought together leading and rising scholars of Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇavism in both pre-colonial and colonial periods.

In Trinity term 2019, Prof. Brian Hatcher (Tufts University), Dr Sukanya Sarbadhikary (Presidency College, Kolkata), and Dr Abhishek Ghosh (Grand Valley, Michigan) spent time at the OCHS as visiting research fellows. They were invited to the centre due to the pertinence of their work to Bengali Vaiṣṇavism in the Modern Period. In addition to giving presentations related to the project while in Oxford, all three scholars are keen to remain actively involved in the project, and plans are currently underway to affiliate all three of them more formally with the project, thereby expanding its international network.



The Bhāgavata Purāṇa Research Project

Project leaders: Dr Ravi Gupta and Dr Kenneth R. Valpey

In the 2018–19 academic year, the Bhāgavata Purāṇa Research Project published two special issues of the *Journal of Hindu Studies* focused on the *Bhāgavata Purāṇa*. The first issue highlighted the *Bhāgavata*'s points of intersection with other Sanskrit worlds, such as the Vedas, while the second volume dealt with art history as well as particular commentaries.

Dr Hanumant Adavi (Mumbai) completed a concordance of the *Bhāgavata Purāṇa*, providing an exhaustive list of parallels between the verses of the *Bhāgavata* and the Vedas, Upaniṣads, and *Mahābhārata*. We hope to have the concordance edited and published on the Project's website within the next academic year.

We continue to make progress on the *Bhāgavata Purāṇa* documentary (for use in university classrooms). To this end, several interviews with scholars of the *Bhāgavata* were edited and posted on YouTube.

Dr Neeraja Poddar became a Research Fellow of the project as well as leader of the project's art history division. She is planning to organize a conference on the *Bhāgavata*'s art history to be held at the OCHS, hopefully in the next year. Prof. Daniel J. Ehn bom also became a Research Fellow of the project. Dr S. Bhuvaneshwari and Prof. Ravi Gupta have been appointed Shivdasani and Khaitan fellows, respectively, at the OCHS during Trinity 2020.

The Gosvāmī Era Research Project

Project leaders: Dr Rembert Lutjeharms and Prof. Kiyokazu Okita

The Gosvāmī Era Research Project, which was officially launched in September 2017 with a two-day international conference on the early modern history of Vṛndāvana, is making steady progress. Dr Rembert Lutjeharms and Prof. Kiyokazu Okita are currently finalising the editing of a book with papers from that successful conference (to be submitted to Brill).

A second international conference was held this year, *Caitanya Vaiṣṇavism in Bengal*, in memory of Prof. Joseph O’Connell. This symposium, co-organised by Dr Lutjeharms and Lucian Wong of the Bengal Vaiṣṇavism in the Modern Period Project, brought international scholars together to discuss the impact of the work of Prof. O’Connell on Caitanya Vaiṣṇava studies, both in the directions of research he pioneered and in the approach he took in studying religious traditions.

Dr Lutjeharms has published two books this year that contribute to the project. *A Vaiṣṇava Poet in Early-modern Bengal: Kavikarṇapūra’s Splendour of Speech* (Oxford University Press, 2018) is the first comprehensive study of the sixteenth century Vaiṣṇava poet and poetician Kavikarṇapūra, who was a contemporary of the Vṛndāvana Gosvāmīs and profoundly influenced some of them. He also edited the final book of the late Prof. Joseph O’Connell, *Caitanya Vaiṣṇavism in Bengal: Social Implications and Historical Import* (Routledge, 2019), which explores the social impact of Caitanya’s devotees in the sixteenth and seventeenth century society of Bengal and the nature of their engagement with other social groups.

Prof. Okita has continued work on his book project, provisionally titled *God as Paramour: Ethics and Aesthetics in Early Modern South Asia*. Chapter One (‘A History of Devotional Aesthetic Theory’), and Chapter Two (‘Foundational Emotion’) are now completed, and he is currently working on Chapter Three, tentatively titled ‘Divine Adultery’.

Prof. Okita has also been involved in digitising microfilms of Vaiṣṇava manuscripts that were created in the 1980s by the Matsya Project, led by Prof. Charles S. J. White. Work on this digitisation started in 2016 with funding from The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science until 2017, and since then with funding from The Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies. Much progress has been made in the last academic year. Currently 41 out of a total of 77 microfilms have been digitised; the entire collection – of about a thousand manuscripts in total – should be fully digitised in two or three years time, depending on further funding.

Dr Måns Broo (Åbo Akademi, Finland) is making rapid progress on the critical edition of the *Hari-bhakti-vilāsa*, the earliest and most comprehensive Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇava ritual text, compiled by the Gosvāmīs in the sixteenth century. He has gathered over a hundred manuscripts of the text, and has so far completed a critical edition of the first four chapters (of twenty) of this voluminous text.

Themes in Global Philosophy

Project leader: Dr Jessica Frazier

Having already produced the 2011 conference and 2014 volume *Categorisation in Indian Philosophy* (Routledge), this project has continued with a conference on ‘Being, Substance and Essence in Indian Philosophy’ and the beginnings of a series of edited volumes on *Dialogues in Indian Philosophy* (within Laurie Patton, Brian Black, and Chakravarthi Ram-prasad’s *Dialogues in South Asian Traditions* series with Routledge). The project will continue with a 2020 conference on a new theme in Indian Philosophy.

Dr Frazier’s own publications also continue within this strand, including a chapter on ‘Dialogical Discourses on Brahman in the early



Upaniṣads’, an article giving a Heideggerian phenomenological reading of *Chāndogya Upaniṣad* chapters 6–8, and an article entitled ‘The View From Above: A Theory of Comparative Philosophy’ in an edited collection on Global Philosophy, aiming to establish a theoretical framework for the project as a whole.

Further ‘comparative philosophy’ conference presentations included ‘The Philosophy of Divine Creativity in late *Bhedābheda*’ for the ‘Deus Ludens: God at Play Across Traditions’ conference (Cambridge University), ‘Transcendental Reduction in Indian Philosophical Argument’ for the Philiminality programme (University of Cambridge), ‘Conceptions of World-soul in *Viśiṣṭādvaita* and *Bhedābheda Vedānta*’ for the ‘World Soul’ conference (Humboldt University, Berlin), ‘Indian Classical Philosophy as Creative Therapy’ for the ‘Philosophy as Therapy in Ancient Traditions’ conference (Oxford Torch Network), ‘Samvada: Philosophy in the Public Sphere’ for the 2019 SACP conference, and ‘Roles of Reasoning in *Bhedābheda Vedānta*’ for the Leiden Indian Philosophy Symposium.

The Beginnings of the Hindu Temple: Material Foundations of Indian Culture in Early Historic Deccan

Project Leader: Prof. Himanshu Prabha Ray

This project aims to provide a social and cultural context to religious and cultural developments from 600 BCE to 600 CE based on an analysis of archaeological data, monumental remains, inscriptions and coins.

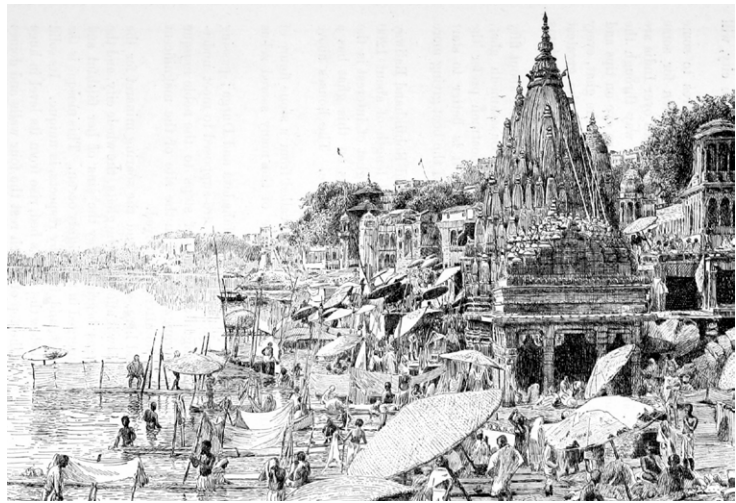
Archaeological data including coins have generally been studied in terms of trade, but larger issues relating to transformations in the society have seldom been addressed, such as what made the accumulation of wealth and its ethical use possible? What philosophical principles guided spending? More importantly, what were the cultural changes that led to the development of a new architectural vocabulary of religious shrines that dotted the Deccan in the period.

The Research Project will examine archaeological data from the Deccan, as well as mapping remains of religious architecture – Buddhist, Hindu, and Jain. It will incorporate data from inscriptions to unravel the relationship between rituals and economic activities in the context of the desire and need to conform to the idea of dharma in its varied meanings.

A study of texts such as the *Arthaśāstra*, *Manusmṛiti* and the *Kāmasūtra* will help provide insights into the cultural milieu of the period. This will be further supported by representations of Jataka narratives on monuments in the Deccan and their descriptions in early Buddhist sources.

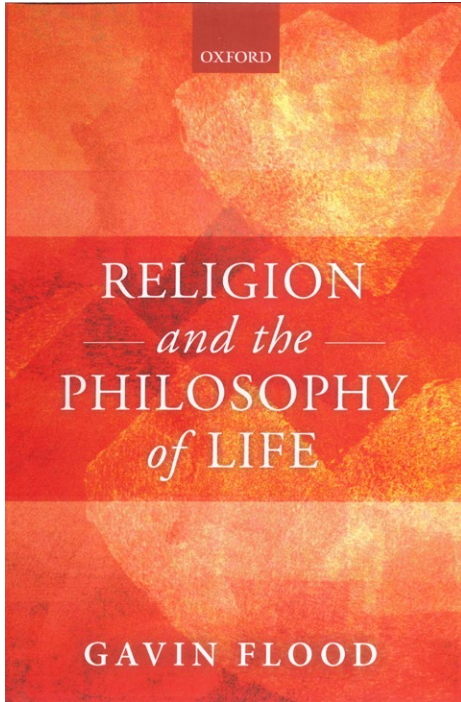
The period of study will be analysed through four chronological time-brackets of 600 to 300 BCE (pre-Mauryan); 300 BCE to 0BCE (Mauryan and post-Mauryan); 0BCE to 300 CE (beginnings of political change and emergence of local dynasties); 300CE to 600CE (development of complex religious architecture). The chronological markers, as is evident, will be cultural developments rather than political structures, such as the various dynasties.

This study will fill a major lacuna in secondary writings on early India in respect of the cultural context of religious architecture, sculptures and coins. The existing paradigm highlights economic activity as the prime motivation of social and religious changes and the framework continues to be that of the state and dynastic history. There is an urgent need to shift the focus to the multi-religious and plural milieu of the history of early India, rather than continuing with the present trend of contestation and competition between the different religious communities. A more realistic account of the history of ancient India can be developed by examining the validity of śāstric accounts within the framework of surviving monuments and artefacts.



The Comparative Study of Religion

Project Leaders: Prof. Gavin Flood FBA and Dr Bjarne Wernicke-Olesen



This was launched as a research programme in 2019 as the result of a long discussion over the years about the possibility of reinvigorating comparative religious studies at Oxford.

Professor Flood's important book publications within the field of Comparative Religion (e.g. *Religion and the Philosophy of Life*, Oxford University Press 2019) provide a strong basis for such an undertaking as does the ground research and teaching by the fellows of the OCHS. Thus, building on the success of the OCHS and what has already been achieved in Comparative Philosophy and Hindu Studies, the Comparative Study of Religion research programme intends to articulate its intellectual agenda through publication, lectures, and teaching.

Among its initial enterprises has been a webpage, establishing a research network and providing the Comparative Study of Religion Seminar Series I in Trinity Term 2019, convened by Professor Flood and Dr Wernicke-Olesen.

Among its planned enterprises will be providing further reading seminars on contemporary approaches to the study of religions and the comparative study of religions; for those within the research programme to continue publishing their research under its banner;

producing an *Oxford Handbook for the Comparative Study of Religion*; and in due course developing a book series and a journal, *The Oxford Journal for the Comparative Study of Religion*.

Vedānta in Practice

Project Leaders: Dr Rembert Lutjeharms and Dr James Madaio

This project seeks to redress a palpable imbalance in critical discourse pertaining to the tradition of Vedānta.

The academic study of vedāntic traditions (*sampradāya*) has often been framed in relation to the Western disciplines of theology and philosophy. This is not without good reason. Vedāntins employ sophisticated forms of exegesis, developing complex theological arguments in relation to foundational sources. Vedānta is also synonymous with dexterous methods of logical reasoning and dialectics that are acutely evidenced in the famed polemical works of respective vedāntic *sampradāyas*.

Attention to this kind of high-culture vedāntic literary production, whether in the form of commentaries or independent treatises, has overwhelmingly shaped the scholarly representation of Vedānta. The upshot of this has been the neglect of vedāntic text genres detailing practical exercises, such as contemplative, yogic, and devotional disciplines.

Historically, such methods of self-fashioning, along with the broader ecology of vedāntic praxeology, have played an indispensable role in the lives of vedāntic practitioners, particularly those who fall outside the narrow confines of specialist forms of *paṇḍita* scholasticism. This project aims to bring to light and critically examine salient praxeological currents across textual and material vedāntic environments in order to rethink Vedānta outside the confines of scholasticism.

The long-term aim of the project is to develop a new understanding of Vedānta that draws from across methodological boundaries, including text-historical, philosophical, anthropological, theological, and visual cultures.

Over the past year the Vedānta in Practice project has been organizing a network of scholars who work on various practice-related approaches within the broad canopy of vedāntic traditions. Having now identified this network, the project is moving into the second phase of planning an academic conference at the OCHS circa June 2020. The papers delivered at this conference will be included in an edited volume that hopes to critically rethink the category of Vedānta.

Publication

The OCHS publishes the *Journal of Hindu Studies* with Oxford University Press and has two book series with Routledge: the *Hindu Studies Book Series*, edited by Prof. Gavin Flood, and the *Archaeology and Religion in South Asia Book Series*, edited by Prof. Himanshu Prabha Ray.

Journal of Hindu Studies

In the academic year 2018–19 there were three issues of the *Journal of Hindu Studies* including two themed volumes on the history and thought of the *Bhāgavata Purāṇa*, and one issue exploring conceptions of *mokṣa* across traditions. We also acquired a new editor in Dr James Madaio of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic.

The Editorial Board is: Daud Ali, Mandakranta Bose, John Brockington, Gudrun Buhnemann, Francis X. Clooney, Richard Freeman, Jonardon Ganeri, Ravi Gupta, John Stratton Hawley, Will Johnson, Richard King, Shashiprabha Kumar, Julius Lipner, Angelika Malinar, Vasudha Narayanan, Patrick Olivelle, Laurie Patton, Ted Proferes, Himanshu Prabha Ray, T. S. Rukmani, Deepak Sarma, Arvind Sharma, David Washbrook, and Somdev Vasudev.

Routledge OCHS Hindu Studies Book Series

This series aims primarily at the publication of constructive Hindu theological, philosophical and ethical projects aimed at bringing Hindu traditions into dialogue with contemporary trends both in scholarship and society. The series invites original, high quality, research level work on religion, culture, and society concerning Hindus living in India and abroad.

The following new volumes appeared in the last year:

- *Caitanya Vaiṣṇavism in Bengal: Social Impact and Historical Implications*. By Joseph T. O'Connell, edited by Rembert Lutjeharms.
- *The Goddess and the King in Indian Myth: Ring Composition, Royal Power and The Dharmic Double Helix*. By Raj Balkaran.
- *Debating 'Conversion' in Hinduism and Christianity*. By Ankur Barua.
- *Nonviolence in the Mahabharata: Siva's Summa on Rishidharma and the Gleaners of Kurukshetra*. By Alf Hiltebeitel.
- *Epistemologies and the Limitations of Philosophical Inquiry: Doctrine in Madhva Vedanta*. By Deepak Sarma.
- *The Integral Philosophy of Aurobindo: Hermeneutics and the Study of Religion*. By Brainerd Prince.

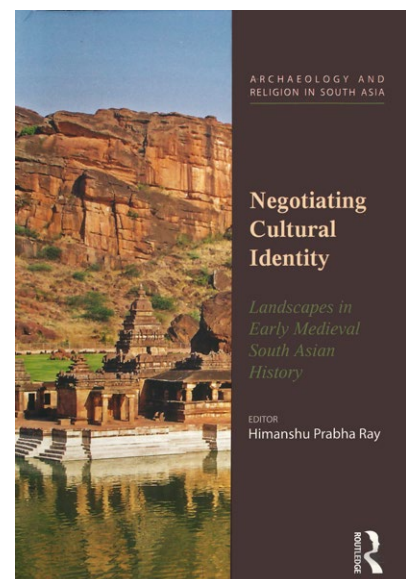
Archaeology and Religion in South Asia Book Series

This series reflects on the complex relationship between religion and society through new perspectives and advances in archaeology. It looks at this critical interface to provide alternative understandings of communities, beliefs, cultural systems, sacred sites, ritual practices, food habits, dietary modifications, power, and agents of political legitimisation.

The books in the series underline the importance of archaeological evidence in the production of knowledge of the past. They also emphasise that a systematic study of religion requires engagement with a diverse range of sources such as inscriptions, iconography, numismatics and architectural remains.

In the past academic year, the following new book was published in the series:

- *Negotiating Cultural Identity: Landscapes in Early Medieval South Asian History*, 2nd Edition. Edited by Himanshu Prabha Ray



Fellows' Publications

Prof. Purushottama Bilimoria

- *Routledge History of Indian Philosophy*. Edited with Amy Rayner. Routledge, 2018.
- *Indian Diaspora Hindus and Sikhs in Australia*. Edited with Jayant Bapat and Philip Hughes, 2nd revised edition. Manticore Press, Melbourne, 2019.
- *Emotions, Aesthetics in Indian Thought-Systems*. Edited volume with Aleksandra Wenta. Routledge (South Asia Edition) 2018.
- 'Diversification of *Sophia*—a short history'. Blog of the American Philosophical Association <https://blog.apaonline.org/>
- 'Śrī Swāminārāyaṇ's Position on śabdapramāṇa and Śruti : Questions of Epistemic and Theological Validity'. *Journal of Dharma Studies* 1, October 2018, pp. 1–23.
- 'Muslim Personal Law', in *Encyclopedia of Indian Religions Islam, Zoroastrianism & Judaism*, (Eds Zyam Kassam, Y. K. Greenberg, and J. Bagli. Springer (India), July 2018, pp. 510–6.
- 'The Missing God of Karl Jaspers (and Heidegger)' (trans in Portuguese, Brazil) Pragmatizes 13 <http://www.pragmatizes.uff.br/>
- 'Panentheism(s): What It Is and Is Not.' *Journal of World Philosophies* 3 (2018), pp. 49–64, with Raphael Lataster.
- 'Gandhi with Tagore between Lyotard and Habermas: educating for/against modernity, arts and technoculture', in: Zehlia Babaci-Wilhite (ed.) *Promoting Human Rights in Education through STEAM*. Dordrecht/Singapore: Springer Nature, pp. 39–56.
- 'Animal Justice and Moral Mendacity.' In Ithamar Theodor and Yudit Kornberg Greenberg, eds., *Dharma and Halacha*. Lanhan: Lexington Books, 2018, pp. 109–28.
- 'Intuition in Classical Indian Philosophy: Laying the Foundations for Cross-Cultural Study.' In Shyam Wuppuluri and F A Doria, eds., *The Map and the Territory: Exploring the Foundations of Science, Thought and Reality*. Dordrecht: Springer, 2018, pp. 35–70, with Anand J. Vaidya.
- 'Globalisation: Good, Bad, and The Ugly: Casualties of India Liberalisation – a Postcolonial Perspective', In. Purbayan Jha & Sukumar Chandra Roy (eds.) *Interrogating the 'Self' Essays on the Philosophical facets of Existence and Morality*. Delhi: Levant Books, pp. 11–28.
- 'S. Radhakrishnan: "Saving The Appearances" In East-West Academy', *Sophia* March 2019, Volume 58, Issue 1, pp 31–47.
- 'Totaram Sanadhya's Experience of Racism in Early White Australia: A Transcreated Narrative.' In S Bandyopadhyay & J. Buckingham, eds., *Indians and the Antipodes*. New Delhi/Melbourne: Oxford University Press, 2018, pp. 162–80.
- 'Raimon Panikkar: a Peripatetic Hindu', *Researcher. European Journal of Humanities & Social Sciences* 2, 2019, with Devasia M Anthony.

Prof. Mandakranta Bose

- *The Goddess*. Edited by Mandakranta Bose. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018.
- 'Sītā and Rādhā: From Human to Divine.' In *Finding Radha*. Edited by Malashri Lal and Namita Gokhale. Gurgaon, Haryana: Penguin, 2018.

Prof. John Brockington

- 'Introduzione', in *Rāmāyaṇa: il grande poema epico della mitologia indiana*, trans. by Saverio Sani and others, 3 vols (Milan: Mimesis, 2018), pp.17–49.
- 'Regions and Recensions, Scripts and Manuscripts', in *L' Espace du sens: approches de la philologie indienne / The space of meaning: approaches to Indian philology*, ed by Silvia D'Intino and Sheldon Pollock, Publications de l'Institut 84. Paris: Diffusion de Boccard, 2018, pp. 357–74.
- 'Illustrated Rāmāyaṇa manuscripts', in *Mitrasampradānam: a collection of papers in honour of Yaroslav Vassilkov*, ed. Nataliya Yanchevskaya. Saint Petersburg: MAE, RAS, 2018, pp. 204–21.
- 'Stone, wood, paint: Rāma story representations throughout Southeast Asia', in *Connecting cultures: Rāmāyaṇa retellings in South India and Southeast Asia*, Proceedings of an international conference held in Bangalore, 2017, ed. by S. Settar and Parul Pandya Dhar (Mangalore: Manipal University Press, forthcoming).
- 'Stories in stone: sculptural representations of the Rāma narrative', to appear in proceedings of panel 'Oral–Written–Performed: the Rāmāyaṇa narrative in Indian literature and arts'. Edited by Danuta Stasik (Heidelberg: CrossAsia- eBooks.).

Mary Brockington

- ‘Sharing the story, revising the image: interaction of Purāṇas and other developing Rāma narratives’, in *Mitrasampradānam: a collection of papers in honour of Yaroslav Vassilkov*. Saint Petersburg: MAE RAS, 2018, pp. 222–38.
- ‘Showing what is not: the use of illusion in classical Sanskrit Rāma plays’, in *Oral—Written—Performed: the Rāmāyaṇa Narratives in Indian Literature and Arts*. Edited by Danuta Stasik (in press).

Prof. Francis X. Clooney

- ‘Rāmānuja’s *Nityam*: A Neglected Key to His Theology,’ *Brahmavidya* (The Adyar Library Bulletin) Śrī Rāmānuja’s Sahasrābdi Volume. Volumes 81–2, pp. 231–64.
- ‘*Nostra Aetate and the small things of God*’ *Catholicism Engaging Other Faiths: Vatican II and its Impact* Edited by Vladimir Latinovic, Gerard Mannion, and Jason Welle. Palgrave MacMillan, 2018, pp. 305–16.
- ‘An Epilogue: After Panikkar,’ *Cambridge Companion to Raimon Panikkar*. Edited by Peter Phan. Cambridge University Press, 2018, pp. 258–69.
- ‘Comparative Theology: Writing Between Worlds of Meaning,’ in *Theologically Engaged Anthropology*. Edited by Derrick Lemons. Oxford University Press, 2018, pp. 280–95.
- ‘Traveling the *Via Pulchritudinis* —Both Ways,’ *Finding Beauty in the Other: Theological Reflections across Religious Traditions*. Edited by Peter Casarella and Sirry Mun’im. The Crossroad Publishing Company, 2019, pp. 213–43.
- ‘Learning from a Medieval Hindu Theologian’s *Manual of Daily Worship*: A Counter-Intuitive Relevance,’ *International Journal of Asian Christianity* Vol. 2, 2019, pp. 48–63.
- ‘A Christian Pilgrim along the Buddhist Way: An Essay on S. Mark Heim’s *Crucified Wisdom*,’ *Harvard Divinity Bulletin* 47.1–2, 2019, pp. 71–75.
- ‘Rāmānuja at 1000: The Heritage and Promise of the Study of Rāmānuja in a Christian-Hindu Comparative Theology,’ *Journal of Hindu-Christian Studies* 31, 2019, pp. 60–66.

Prof. Madhav M. Deshpande

- ‘Re-Viewing the Tradition: Language, Grammar and History,’ in *L’Espace du Sens: Approaches de la Philologie Indienne / The Space of Meaning: Approaches to Indian Philology*. Edited by Silvia

D’Intino & Sheldon Pollock, Publications de L’Institut de Civilisation Indienne. Paris: Collège de France, 2018, pp. 127–36.

Prof. Daniel J. Ehnobom

- ‘Visions of the Blue God: A Note on Composition (and Performance?) in *Bhāgavata Purāṇa* Illustrations’, *Journal of Hindu Studies*, Volume 11, Issue 2, 2018, pp. 107–15.

Prof. Gavin Flood

- *Religion and the Philosophy of Life*. Oxford University Press, 2019.

Prof. Ravi M. Gupta

- ‘Restoring Sight to Blinding Love: The *Bhagavata Purana*’s Transformation of the Urvashi-Pururavas Narrative’ in *The Journal of Hindu Studies*, 11.1, 2018, pp. 67–79.
- ‘Translators’ Troubles: Seeking a Method that Suits the *Bhagavata Purana*’ in *International Journal of Hindu Studies*, 22.1, 2018, pp. 175–89.
- ‘Vedantic Connections: Jiva Gosvami’s Use of Ramanuja’s *Sribhasya*’ in *Brahmavidya: The Journal of the Adyar Library*, vol. 82, 2018, pp. 489–517.

Dr Sanjukta Gupta Gombrich

- ‘Lalitā: the Graceful and Enchanting Goddess of Kāñcīpuram’, in *The Oxford History of Hinduism: The Goddess*. Edited by Mandakranta Bose. Oxford University Press, 2018, pp. 65–77.

Dr Jessica Frazier

- ‘Speakers of Highest Truth: Philosophical Plurilogues in the Early Upaniṣads’, in *Dialogue in Early South Asian Religions: Hindu, Buddhist and Jain Traditions*, (Routledge).
- ‘Epic News: Storying Current Events in Mythic Literatures’ in: *Knowledge and Information*, Alexander Linklater ed. (Axess Publishing).
- ‘The View from Above: A Theory of Comparative Philosophy’, in: *Religious Studies Journal*.
- ‘“You Will Become this Whole World”: Heidegger’s Phenomenology of Religious Life in Chāndogya Upaniṣad 6–8’, in: *Religion journal*.

Prof. Dermot Killingley

- ‘Edwin Arnold’s translation of the *Hitopadeśa*’ in: *Asian Literature and Translation*, 5(1) 2018, pp. 25–71. <http://doi.org/10.18573/alt.30>

Dr Rembert Lutjeharms

- *A Vaiṣṇava Poet in Early Modern Bengal: Kavikarṇāpūra's Splendour of Speech*, Oxford University Press, 2018.
- (Edited) Joseph T. O'Connell, *Caitanya Vaiṣṇavism in Bengal: Social Impact and Historical Implications*. Routledge, 2019.

Dr James Madaio

- 'The Instability of Non-dual Knowing: Post-gnosis *sādhana* in Vidyāranya's Advaita Vedānta', *Journal of Dharma Studies*, Volume 1, Issue 1 (2018), pp. 11–30.
- 'Transformative dialogue in the *Yogavāsiṣṭha*' in *In Dialogue with Classical Indian Traditions: Encounter, Transformation and Interpretation*, edited by Brian Black and Chakravarthi Ram-Prasad. Routledge, 2019.

Prof. Kiyokazu Okita

- 'Bitextuality in *Bhāgavata Purāṇa* X.29.' *The Journal of Indian and Buddhist Studies*, 66: 3 (2019), pp. 1043–48.
- 'Singing in Protest: Early Modern Hindu-Muslim Encounters in Bengali Hagiographies of Chaitanya', *Bhakti and Power: Debating India's Religion of the Heart*. Edited by John Stratton Hawley, Swapna Sharma, and Christian Lee Novetzke. The University of Washington Press, 2019, pp. 159–70.

Prof. Patrick Olivelle

- *Gṛhastha: The Householder in Ancient Indian Religious Culture*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2019.
- *Yājñavalkya: A Treatise on Dharma* (Critical Edition and Translation). Murty Classical Library of India 20. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2019.
- 'Aśvaghoṣa's Apologia: Brahmanical Ideology and Female Allure.' In *Reading Aśvaghoṣa across Boundaries*, ed. Roy Tzohar. Special issue of *Journal of Indian Philosophy* 47 (2019), pp. 257–68.
- 'Scholasticism in the Legal Tradition: Dharmaśāstras and their Commentators.' In *Scolastiques indiennes: genèses, développements, interactions*, ed. Émilie Aussant and Gérard Colas. École française d'Extrême-Orient, 2019.
- 'From trivarga to puruṣārtha: A Chapter in Indian Moral Philosophy.' *Journal of the*

American Oriental Society 139, 2019, pp. 381–96.

- 'Ashoka's Writings: New Insights into Ancient Indian Cultural History.' In *Questioning Paradigms Constructing Histories: A Festschrift for Romila Thapar*, eds. Kumkum Roy and Naina Dayal. New Delhi: Aleph, 2019, pp. 3–16.
- 'Showbiz in Ancient India: Data from the Arthaśāstra.' In *Early History and Beyond: Essays in Honour of Prof. B. D. Chattopadhyaya*, ed. Osmund Bopearachchi and Suchandra Ghosh. Delhi: Primus Books, 2019, pp. 56–65.

Dr Neeraja Poddar

- "'Re-framing" the *Bhāgavata*: Preservation and Reuse in South Asian Illustrated Manuscripts,' *Journal of Hindu Studies*, Volume 11, Issue 2 (August, 2018), pp.116–32.
- With Arthur Dudley, 'In the Age of Non-Mechanical Reproduction: Manuscript Variation in Early Modern South Asia,' *Manuscript Studies*, Volume 4, Number 1 (Spring, 2019), pp.1–18.
- Edited, with Arthur Dudley, Special issue of *Manuscript Studies*, Volume 4, Number 1 (Spring 2019).

Prof. Himanshu Prabha Ray

- Edited, *Decolonising Heritage in South Asia: The Global, the National and the Trans-national*. Routledge, London and New York, 2019.
- 'Ethnographies of Sailing: From the Red Sea to the Bay of Bengal in Antiquity,' Mathew Adam Cobb edited, *The Indian Ocean Trade in Antiquity: Political, Cultural and Economic Impacts*, Routledge, London and New York, 2019, pp. 73–94.
- 'Trans-locality and Mobility across the Bay of Bengal: Nagapattinam in Context,' Shyam Saran edited, *Cultural and Civilisational Links between India and Southeast Asia*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2018, pp. 31–50.
- 'Warp and Weft: Producing, Trading and Consuming Indian Textiles across the Seas (1st to 13th century CE),' Pedro Machado, Sarah Fee and Gwyn Campbell, edited, *Textile Trades, Consumer Cultures, and the Material Worlds of the Indian Ocean*, Palgrave Series in Indian Ocean World Studies, Palgrave Macmillan, 2018.
- 'From Salsette To Socotra: Islands Across The Seas And Implications For Heritage,' Burhard Schnepel and Edward A. Alpers edited, *Connectivity in Motion: Island Hubs in the*

Indian Ocean World, Palgrave Series in Indian Ocean World Studies, Palgrave Macmillan, 2018, pp. 347–68.

Prof. Amiya P. Sen

- *Chaitanya: A Life and Legacy*. Oxford University Press, 2019.

Dr Kenneth R. Valpey

- ‘Animating Samadhi: Rethinking Animal-Human Relationships Through Yoga’ in: *The Routledge Handbook of Religion and Animal Ethics*. Routledge, 2018.
- ‘From Devouring to Honoring: A Vaishnava-Hindu Therapeutic Perspective on Human Culinary Choice.’ In *Ethical Vegetarianism and Veganism*. Routledge, 2018.

Dr Bjarne Wernicke-Olesen

- ‘Hinduism and Meditation: Yoga’, in Farias, Miguel, David Brazier, and Mansur Laljee (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Meditation*. Oxford University Press, 2019.
- ‘The Goddess and the Śākta Traditions’, in: Flood, Gavin (ed.), *The Blackwell Companion to Hinduism*, 2nd rev. ed. (Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, forthcoming 2019).
- with Silje Lyngar Einarsen et al., *Haṭhapradīpika* (Højbjerg: Forlaget Systime, forthcoming 2019).

Lucian Wong

- *The Legacy of Vaiṣṇavism in Colonial Bengal*. Edited by Ferdinando Sardella and Lucian Wong. Routledge, 2019.
- With Ferdinando Sardella, ‘Vaisnavism in Colonial Bengal: Beyond the Hindu Renaissance’ In *The Legacy of Vaisnavism in Colonial Bengal*. Eds. Ferdinando Sardella and Lucian Wong. Abingdon: Routledge.
- ‘Colonial Morals, Vaisnava Quarrels: Tracing the Sources of Nineteenth Century Anti-Sahajiya Polemics’ In *The Legacy of Vaisnavism in Colonial Bengal*. Eds. Ferdinando Sardella and Lucian Wong. Abingdon: Routledge.
- ‘Universalising Inclusivism—and Its Limits: Bhaktivinod and the Experiential Turn.’ *Journal of South Asian Intellectual History* 2.1.

Fellows’ conference papers and lectures

Prof. Purushottama Bilimoria

- ‘Aesthetics of Grief, Sorrow & Compassion in the *Mahābhārata* and Tagore’s Paintings’. Shri Shankaracharya Sanskrit University, Bharatitya Vidya Bhavan, New Delhi. 3 July 2018.
- ‘The Place of Indian Philosophy & Theology in the History of Global Philosophy and Religious Studies’. On the Occasion of the Australasian Launch of the *Routledge History of Indian Philosophy* (ed. P Bilimoria), Australia India Institute and History of Philosophy Group, The University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. 23 August 2018.
- ‘Diversity in Philosophy Departments: the experience from Australasia’, in APA Pacific Division, April 2019.

Prof. Mandakranta Bose

- ‘Correlating Divinity and Femininity in the Hindu Tradition.’ Śākta Traditions Symposium III. Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies and Campion Hall, Oxford, June 17, 2019.
- ‘The Body as Paintbrush: The Idiom of Classical Indian Dance.’ 36th Annual Sanskrit Traditions in the Modern World Symposium. Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies and Trinity College, Oxford. May 24, 2019.
- ‘Bharata’s Concept of Dance.’ Department of Asian Studies, University of British Columbia. March 9, 2019.
- ‘Hindumānase Devīkalpanā’ [in Bengali: ‘The Idea of the Goddess in the Hindu Consciousness’]. Department of Sanskrit, Ramakrishna Mission Vidyapith, Belur Math. Calcutta. February 27, 2019.
- ‘Nārī, Nīti o Dharma’ [in Bengali: ‘Women, Ethics and Religion’] Department of Sanskrit, Sanskrit University, Calcutta. February 22, 2019.
- ‘Abhijñānaśakuntalam: Mañce Upasthāpanā’ [in Bengali: ‘Staging Abhijñānaśakuntalam’] Department of Sanskrit, University of Calcutta. February 12, 2019.

Mary Brockington

- ‘Showing what is not: the use of illusion in classical Sanskrit Rāma plays’, paper presented at the European Conference on South Asian Studies, Paris, July 2018.

Prof. Madhav M. Deshpande

- ‘The How and Why of Sanskrit Poetry: Musings through Sanskrit Poetics,’ Comparative Literature Program, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, 16 October 2018.
- ‘The Significance of the *Mahābhārata* Narrative in the *Gītābhāṣya* of Śaṅkara,’ Department of South Asian Studies, University of Berkeley, CA, 26 October 2018.
- ‘My Introduction to Sanskrit Poetry,’ at Leiden University. Leiden, Netherlands, 29 November 2018.
- 26th Gonda Lecture: ‘From Pāṇini to Patañjali and beyond: Development of religious motifs in Sanskrit grammar.’ Amsterdam, Netherlands, 30 November 2018.

Prof. Santanu Dey

- ‘Mapping the Gaudiya Vaishnava cultural heritage of Navadwip/Mayapur’ at AHRC/ICHR workshop on Cultural Heritage, Migration and Indian Diaspora held on 30–31 January 2019 at Ahmedabad, India

Prof. Daniel J. Ehnobom

- ‘The Development and Spread of Illustration of the *Bhagavata Purana* in North India,’ presented at The San Diego Museum of Art in the symposium ‘Epic Tales from Ancient India,’ San Diego, 9 June 2019.
- Docent Training for ‘Charleston Collects: South Asian Art’ at the Gibbes Museum, Charleston, SC, 26 October 2018.
- ‘Charleston Collects: South Asian Art,’ public lecture at the Gibbes Museum, 26 October 2018.
- Public Gallery Tour for ‘Charleston Collects: South Asian Art’ at the Gibbes Museum, 26 October 2018.
- ‘A Time of Wonder: South Asian Painting 1500–1800,’ The College of Charleston, Charleston, SC, 24 January 2019.

Prof. Gavin Flood

- ‘Implicit Anthropologies in Pre-Philosophical Śaivism with Particular Reference to the *Netra-tantra*,’ *Sanskrit Traditions in the Modern World* conference, Oxford, May 2019.
- ‘Religion and the Philosophy of Life,’ four lectures given at the OCHS, Hilary 2019.

Dr Jessica Frazier

- ‘Saṃvāda, Ativāda: Rules of Debate in the Classical Indian Public Sphere,’ Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy (Bath Spa, June 2019).
- ‘Roles of Reason in Bhedābheda Vedānta,’ Indian Philosophy Symposium (Leiden, June 2019) ‘Indian Classical Philosophy as Creative Therapy’ for the ‘Philosophy as Therapy in Ancient Traditions’ conference (Oxford Torch Network, June 2019).
- ‘Changing Approaches to Change in Bhedābheda Ontology,’ Being Substance and Essence in Indian Philosophy, OCHS Conference (Oxford, May 2019).
- ‘Transcendental Reduction in Indian Philosophical Argument’ for the Philiminality programme (University of Cambridge, Mar 2019).
- ‘Cosmogony from the R̥g Veda to the early Upaniṣads,’ From Myth to Metaphysics Symposium, OCHS (Oxford, Feb 2019).
- ‘The Philosophy of Divine Creativity in late Bhedābheda’ for the *Deus Ludens: God at Play Across Traditions* conference (Cambridge University, Jan 2019).
- ‘The World Soul in India: Primary and Secondary Causality in the Acintya-bhedābheda of Jīva Gosvāmī,’ World Soul conference, Humboldt University (Berlin, Nov 2018).
- ‘The View from Above: A Theory of Global Philosophy,’ Global Philosophy of Religion conference (Leeds, Dec 2018).

Prof. Ravi M. Gupta

- ‘Can Empirical Knowledge Influence Scriptural Testimony? An Exploration through Jiva Gosvami’s *Sarva Samvadini*.’ Symposium on Caitanya Vaisnavism, Oxford. June 2019.
- ‘Who Owns Religion? Toward a Dialogue Between Scholar and Practitioner.’ University of Stockholm. April 2019.
- ‘When One Becomes Many: Identity and Difference in Caitanya Vaisnavism.’ Symposium on Self-Knowledge in Classical India and China, Engelsberg, Sweden. April 2019.
- ‘Hindu Perspectives on Air Quality.’ Symposium on Air Quality and Faith, Logan, Utah. March 2019.
- ‘Battling Serpents, Marrying Trees: Models for Ecological Care from the *Bhagavata Purana*.’ International Seminar on Gaudiya Vaisnava

Philosophy and Culture, Kolkata, India. February 2019.

- ‘Negotiating Insider/Outsider Identities in the Indian Religious Landscape.’ Conference on Establishing Religious Studies as a Discipline in India, Mumbai. December 2018.
- ‘Religion and the Academy: A Troubled Marriage?’ Wheatley Conference on Religion in the Public Sphere, Provo, Utah. November 2018.
- ‘Bait for the Advaitins: The Enigmatic Theology of Sridhara Svami.’ World Sanskrit Conference, Vancouver, July 2018.
- ‘Controversy in the Classroom: Opportunity or Catastrophe?’ Empowering Teaching Excellence Faculty Seminary, Utah State University. February 2018.

Prof. Dermot Killingley

- ‘Sources of Authority in British India’, Dublin American College, 7th March 2019.

Dr Rembert Lutjeharms

- ‘The Poison of Power: Kavikarṇapūra on political power and devotion’, *Caitanya Vaiṣṇavism in Bengal: A Symposium in Honour of Prof. Joseph T. O’Connell*, OCHS, 1 June 2019.

Prof. Kiyokazu Okita

- ‘Bitextuality in *Bhāgavata Purāṇa* X.29.’ The 69th Annual Conference of the Japanese Association of Indian and Buddhist Studies, September 1.
- ‘Rejecting Absolute Monism: The Commentaries of Madhva and Vijayadhva on *Bhāgavatapurāṇa* 1.1.1.’ The 17th World Sanskrit Conference, July 9–13.

Dr Neeraja Poddar

- ‘The Usha-Aniruddha Episode in Two Formats’ Paper at the conference *Performing Bhakti: An Artistic Array*, Yale University, New Haven, May 2019.
- ‘Narrative Techniques in Nepali Painting: A Comparative Study’. Paper at *European Association of South Asian Archaeology and Art Conference*, Naples, July 2018.

Prof. Himanshu Prabha Ray

- ‘Decoding Gandharan Art: Making of Museum Collections in India’ 22 November 2018, OCHS, Oxford.

- Co-ordinated a three-day workshop on ‘Challenging Stereotypes in Early Indian Buddhism,’ 11th to 13th February 2019, Anneliese Maier Research Programme, Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich in collaboration with India International Centre, New Delhi.

Dr Kenneth R. Valpey

- ‘Cosmopolitan Bovinity: Care for Cows in Indic Memory and Anticipatory Communities.’ Paper delivered at *(Un)Common Worlds—Human-Animal Studies conference*, Türku, Finland, 9 August 2018.
- ‘Contemporary Hindu Animal Ethics.’ Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium, 17 October 2018.
- ‘Grammar and Poetics of “Action” (*karma*) and “Agency”’: Highlights from a 3000-year long discourse in Sanskrit.’ Department of Linguistics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, 29 May 2019.
- ‘Mantra, Yoga, Music—Their Meaning in Ancient and Modern India.’ Department of Musicology, Chinese Conservatory of Music, Beijing, 23 May 2019.

Dr Bjarne Wernicke-Olesen

- *Mapping Śākta Traditions*, Śākta Symposium II, OCHS, 1 June 2018.
- *Hinduismens Gudindevi* (The Goddess Devī), Folkeuniversitetet, Copenhagen, 22 November 2018.
- *On the State of the Art and Research Challenges in the Study of Hindu ‘Śāktism’*, Śākta Symposium III, OCHS, 17 June 2019.



Visiting Fellows Reports

J.P. and Beena Khaitan Visiting Fellow, Michaelmas Term: Dr Himanshu Prabha Ray

I am thankful to the OCHS for the two-month J. P. & Beena Khaitan Fellowship during Michaelmas Term 2018. The fellowship had two objectives: one, to work on a book manuscript on Coastal Shrines and Maritime Networks between India and Southeast Asia; and the second, to coordinate a two-day conference on 'Knowledge Traditions of the Indian Ocean World'.

Both these objectives were successfully completed. I continue to work on the book manuscript on Coastal Shrines in India and Southeast Asia and am hoping to complete and submit it to Routledge by mid-2019.

The two-day conference was successfully held on 29–30 November 2018 in collaboration with Dr Shailendra Bhandare, Ashmolean Museum, and with financial assistance and support of the five-year (2014–19) Anneliese Maier research award given to me by Humboldt Foundation tenable at Distant Worlds Programme, Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich.

Fifteen research papers on a wide range of themes were presented and well-received by the audience comprising of senior professors, researchers, and other interested participants. The papers from the meeting will now be revised and published by Shailendra Bhandare and myself.

In addition to these stated objectives, a seminar was presented at OCHS on 'Decoding Gandharan Art: Making of Museum Collections in India' on 22 November 2018. I used the opportunity of my stay to complete video recordings of the seven lectures for the OCHS online course on 'Archaeology and the Hindu Temple'.

The fellowship provided me an opportunity to learn about the current focus of research, especially the emphasis that the OCHS places on the intersections between material culture and textual studies, as indicated by the exhibition on 'Hidden Treasures in Private Academic Collections' at the Centre from 26–30 November 2018.

Shivdasani Visiting Fellow, Michaelmas Term: Dr Salila Kulshrestha

I am grateful to the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies (OCHS) for hosting me as a Shivdasani visiting fellow to spend the Michaelmas term 2018 at Oxford.

I came to OCHS with Prof. Himanshu Prabha Ray to work on our project on coastal shrines in the Indian Ocean world. I spent my time primarily researching on and exploring this larger theme. We are now looking at coastal shrines in two distinct geographical regions: Prof. Ray is working on the shrines of South and Southeast Asia while I am looking at the shrines around the western Indian Ocean.

Prof. Ray towards the end of the fellowship organised a two-day conference at the Ashmolean Museum on 'Knowledge Tradition of the Indian Ocean World.' I participated in this conference and presented a paper 'Practices of Faith: Shrines on the Rim of the Western Indian Ocean', concentrating on the shrine at the site of Khor Rori in Oman.

Being at the OCHS provided the space for Prof. Ray and me to closely work together as well as interact with the larger academic community at the OCHS. I had a comfortable office and more importantly access to some of the best library facilities at the old Bodleian Library and especially at the Sackler Institute of Art. The library at the OCHS by itself is quite a treasure trove.

Dr Salila Kulshrestha

Being at the OCHS provided the space for Prof. Ray and me to closely work together as well as interact with the larger academic community at the OCHS. I had a comfortable office and more importantly access to some of the best library facilities at the old Bodleian Library and especially at the Sackler Institute of Art. The library at the OCHS by itself is quite a treasure trove.

A second theme that I spent my time researching was on colonial museums which is a continuation of my earlier research and is now culminating in a course which I am designing to teach in Spring 2019. While at the OCHS I got the opportunity to visit various museums in Oxford and London and look at their collections, displays and the histories of some of the acquisitions.

I also spent my time working closely with Lal Krishna on developing an online course on Indian Art, as part of the Continuing Education Programme of the OCHS. I video-recorded seven lectures and had several meetings with Lal on how to carry this forward once the course is launched. I look forward to developing more online courses for OCHS in future.

I also delivered a lecture at OCHS; ‘From Temple to Museum: Contextualising Uma Mahesvara Sculptures’ based on my book published under the Routledge-OCHS series on Archaeology and Religion in South Asia. My lecture was well attended and more importantly brought into focus the importance of examining material culture in the study of Hindu religion.

J.P. and Beena Khaitan Visiting Scholar, Hilary Term: Zoë Slatoff

This scholarship allowed me to spend Hilary Term 2019 in Oxford. This time proved fruitful in many ways, both those I expected and those I did not. It enriched my own academic study, gave me the opportunity to further develop the courses I teach for the OCHS, and introduced me to a wonderful community. It was such a great experience that I am already contemplating when I might return.

Personally, the best part about it was that it allowed me to be a student again. Although I am doing a Ph.D. at Lancaster University, it is a distance program and I only visit a couple of times a year for a week at a time. While this allows me to work on my dissertation and I have regular communication with my advisor through email and Skype, I do not get to take any classes.

During my time at Oxford, I sat in on a few weekly Sanskrit classes, with Professors Diwakar Acharya and Christopher Minkowski at the Oriental Institute, and Rembert Lutjeharms at the Centre. Fortuitously for me, since it is what I am working on, they were all reading Vedāntic texts. I also read the *Aparokṣānubhūti*, which I am translating for my Ph.D., with Professor Acharya.

Away from my normal responsibilities, I had the luxury of spending six hours reading Sanskrit most days. This allowed me to reinvigorate and deepen my passion for my own studies. By giving me the time to focus on translation, it has helped me to realize that I want to shift my dissertation in that direction, rather than toward ethnographic study.

It was also helpful to spend time in person talking about the future of the online courses and how we imagine them moving forward, taking steps towards me having some assistance so that I can teach more classes. I had the opportunity to teach a workshop and meet some of my online students. It was great to get to work with them in person and lovely to teach in the beautiful colleges of Oxford.

And perhaps best of all was the time spent at the OCHS. From our weekly meetings to conversations in passing, we explored a lot of interesting new ideas about the future of the online courses in general, which will hopefully bear fruit. And I thoroughly enjoyed the Wednesday lunches and meeting other students and members of the community who gather together for a meal. The warmth of the atmosphere, the people, the books, the flowers, and incense all add to its special environment. I am grateful to everyone there for welcoming me and making me feel at home, introducing me to the libraries, campus, and surroundings. I hope that I will be able to return one day soon.

This time proved fruitful in many ways, both those I expected and those I did not. It enriched my own academic study, gave me the opportunity to further develop the courses I teach for the OCHS, and introduced me to a wonderful community. It was such a great experience that I am already contemplating when I might return.

Zoë Slatoff

Shivdasani Visiting Scholar, Hilary Term: Daniel Simpson

I was delighted to be invited to Oxford for a term of immersion in yogic studies. My primary aim was to help develop plans to expand the range of online courses offered by the OCHS’s Continuing Education Department. I currently tutor two of these and am working on a third about yogic engagement in social affairs.

The scholarship enabled me to focus on these projects, drawing on the knowledge of OCHS colleagues and the resources of the library to advance my research. I especially enjoyed Gavin Flood’s lectures on Religion and Phenomenology, which helped me to develop a framework for thinking systematically about my ideas. I also benefited from access to the Bodleian Library, reading widely on related subjects.

Perhaps most importantly, I feel more connected to the OCHS as a community, with a deeper understanding of its underlying mission. Through extensive discussions with Shaunaka Rishi Das, Lal Krishna, Manish Thakrar and fellow scholar Zoë Slatoff, I gained new insights into ways that online teaching can both be enriched by academic research and at the same time help to make it more accessible. We discussed how to combine these objectives by attracting alumni from online courses to more immersive ways of studying in Oxford, from day schools to weekends and longer events.

While in Oxford, Zoë proved the effectiveness of this model, teaching a three-day Sanskrit workshop that drew many students from her very popular online courses. We replicated this with a weekend school

in May on the *Yoga Sūtra*, half of which I tutored with input from others who teach online, including Nick Sutton, Jessica Frazier, and Karen O'Brien-Kop.

The great strength of the OCHS's work is that its scholarly rigour can be geared to demystifying complex ideas for a general audience. Rembert Lutjeharms' talk about Sanskrit literature at Zoë's workshop was a textbook model of this, using entertaining stories to convey deep insights.

Daniel Simpson

The great strength of the OCHS's work is that its scholarly rigour can be geared to demystifying complex ideas for a general audience. Rembert Lutjeharms' talk about Sanskrit literature at Zoë's workshop was a textbook model of this, using entertaining stories to convey deep insights.

Inspired by such examples, I also found time to finish editing a book that I've been preparing for the past two years, presenting the history and philosophy of yoga to modern practitioners. This is now awaiting publication. It grew out of discussions I've had with students on the online courses, inspiring me to see that learning works both ways.

I hope in future to produce more books, with one perhaps accompanying my latest course, and to deepen my involvement with the OCHS as it continues to grow. Thank you again for the generous support and hospitality – and especially to Nandana for her warm welcome and assistance at reception.

Shivdasani Visiting Fellow, Trinity Term: Dr Sukanya Sarbadhikary

I have spent the most productive time at the OCHS. My stay was short, from May 1–17, 2019, but I was able to use the time very well. Prior to my visit, I was mostly associated with the Vaishnavism in the Modern Period project, but during my stay, I was also able to benefit from the project on Sakta Traditions.

My earlier research was on contemporary forms of Bengal-Vaishnavism. In my new research, I engage ethnography with texts in understanding relations between sounds of religious musical instruments and communities making them, listening to them, and meditating on them, in Bengal. My ethnography is spread across different districts of West Bengal.

The four instruments I specifically focus on are the *shankh* (conch; blown during different kinds of domestic and public rituals), *dhak* (drum played during Durga, Kali and Shiva worship), *khol* (another kind of drum played especially during *Vaishnava kirtan* musical gatherings), and the flute (which has direct connections with *Vaishnava* aesthetics). Thus, for this research, I need to engage with *Vaishnava* aesthetics along with tantric understandings of sonic physiology, and specifically, their relations with instrumental sounds.

I found a wealth of resources in the OCHS library on classical and instrumental music. Dr Bjarne Wernicke-Olesen also provided access to a number of texts of tantra and yoga on the sonic cultivation of the body. Reading these texts have been very helpful, and have seriously impacted the way in which I shall conceptualise my work.

I have constantly benefited from my interactions with all the fellows and visitors, and received very specific linguistic and theoretical guidance from a number of seniors in the field. I received especially productive feedback on my two talks from those associated with the OCHS, and also others who came to participate. During my visit, Lucian Wong was also completing an edited book which was born from the Vaishnavism in the Modern Period project, and we had interesting conversations.

Easily, this has been one of my most productive academic and social times. The academic environment, administrative ease, library access, and very warm hospitable sociality contributed to my excellent period in Oxford.

I hope I have been able to contribute with my work to the OCHS. I also hope to be able to develop good research in future, and visit again.

Visiting Fellow, Trinity Term: Prof. Mandakranta Bose

In late April 2019, I visited Oxford as a Visiting Senior Fellow at the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies, to spend Trinity Term 2019 there, working for the most part of my time on a course text for the Centre I had been invited to write. The working title of the text is ‘Women and Religion in the Hindu Tradition’. I had planned the project with prior consultations with colleagues in order to be able to write as much as possible during my eight-week visit at the Centre. Fortunately, most of the material I was using as reference was available at the Centre, including the original texts as well as critical studies on the subject. I was able to complete drafts for three-fourths of my manuscript and have them looked at by the Centre’s publication advisers before returning home to Vancouver, Canada. I expect to complete the rest by the end of the summer.

I also joined in the Centre’s scholarly activities through the term, attending most lectures given by various scholars and presenting papers at two conferences through the term. The first was the annual symposium on Sanskrit Studies in the Modern World jointly organized by the Centre and Trinity College, held at Trinity College on 24 May, where I presented a paper entitled, ‘The Body as Paintbrush: The Idiom of Classical Indian Dance’.

I presented a second paper at the Centre’s other major academic gathering, Śākta Symposium III, which was jointly organised by the Centre and Campion Hall and held at both premises on 17 June. My paper was entitled, ‘Correlating Divinity and Femininity in the Hindu Tradition’.

I also attended two day-long conferences, the Vaiṣṇava Conference held at the Centre on 1 June and the Mahopādhyāya Sanskrit Conference at Wolfson College on 20 June in honour of Professor Jim Benson to bid him farewell on his retirement. International scholars from Europe, USA, Canada and the UK attended these conferences.

Visiting Fellow, Trinity Term: Dr Abhishek Ghosh

It was a great honour and pleasure to be a Visiting Fellow for Trinity Term 2019 at the Oxford Centre for Hindu studies, and I am also grateful for Catalyst and Early Career Grants from the Center for Scholarly and Creative Excellence, Grand Valley State University that made this possible.

The main purpose of this visiting fellowship was to utilize my non-teaching time to fulfil some tenure research requirements and make some progress with my publication projects. With this aim in mind, in 2017 I had proposed to be in residence for one term during the academic year 2018–19 to finish my upcoming monograph while contributing to the intellectual life of OCHS.

The book I am working on is tentatively titled *Hinduism and the World: Contending Universalisms in Colonial India and Kedarnath Bhaktivinoda* and is under contract with the Hindu Studies Series at the State University of New York Press for submission in June 2020. While I was visiting Oxford I collected important primary materials both from the Bodleian as well as British Library, London.

During my stay at OCHS, I submitted an article which I had been working on since earlier this year, titled *Innate Intuition: An Intellectual History of Sahaja-jñāna and Sahaja Samādhi in Brahmoism and Modern Vaiṣṇavism* which is scheduled to be published in the journal *Religions* by the end of June 2019. I also had the opportunity to complete a second article titled *Autobiography of an Indian Religious Thinker: Contextualizing and Critically Reading Bhaktivinoda’s Svalikhita Jivani* which is based on a manuscript I had digitised in 2008 at Birnagar, India. I plan to finish up this article by the end of Trinity Term and submit it for publication to *Humanities* journal. OCHS provided invaluable personnel and library resources, and a warm academic home as I researched, revised, and rewrote these articles for publication.

In particular, the other Visiting Fellows during Trinity Term became incredible conversation partners,

[The visiting fellows’ collegiality, wit, and humour provided an effective dimension to my scholarly pursuit and made the (otherwise tedious) writing process very enjoyable.

Dr Abhishek Ghosh

especially Mandakaranta Bose and Tirthankar Bose from the University of British Columbia; Sukanya Sarbadhikary from Presidency University; and Brian Hatcher from Tufts University. They were all specialists in Bengal Studies, Modern Hinduism, and are very knowledgeable about Caitanya Vaishnavism which is my area of specialisation. Their collegiality, wit, and humour provided an effective dimension to my scholarly pursuit and made the (otherwise tedious) writing process very enjoyable. My OCHS hosts, Shaunaka Rishi Das, Lal Krishna, Manish Thakrar, and Nandana Nagraj made my life easier as I transitioned into the term, and I also want to express my heartfelt gratitude to my academic hosts Lucian Wong, Rembert Lutjeharms, and Jessica Frazier. I am especially grateful for Gavin Flood's feedback on my book project and it was good to converse once again with my professor from fourteen years back when I had him as a supervisor for my MSt in the Study of Religion at Mansfield College, Oxford University.

Conferences

June 2018 to March 2019 – Haṭhāpradīpikā seminars and workshops

Convened by Dr Wernicke-Olesen

This study and first full translation of the *Haṭhāpradīpikā* (also known as the *Haṭhayogapradīpikā*) into Danish is being done by a team of nine former and present Sanskrit students from the research unit for South Asian Religion (SAR) at Aarhus University. The team is led by Dr Wernicke-Olesen and PhD Fellow Silje Lyngar Einarsen. The translation is annotated with an introduction and essays by Danish yoga scholars and includes the full Sanskrit text in *devanāgarī*. The book is illustrated with photographs of traditional and modern yoga practitioners to show different ways of interpreting āsanās and *mudrās* presented in this work. The translation is based on Svāmī Dīgambārjī and Pītāmbara Jhā's edition of Svātmārāma's *Haṭhāpradīpikā* (Lonāvlā: Kaivalyadhāma Śrīmanmādhava Yogamandira Samiti, 1980).

November 2018 – Knowledge Traditions of the Indian Ocean World

Convened by Prof. Himanshu Prabha Ray and Dr Shailendra Bhandare (Ashmolean)

This two-day conference, organised by J.P. and Beena Khaitan Visiting Fellow Prof. Himanshu Prabha Ray in collaboration with Dr Shailendra Bhandare from the Ashmolean Museum, and with financial assistance from the *Anneliese Maier Research Award*, brought together fifteen scholars who presented papers on a wide range of themes related to maritime trade and maritime communities in the Indian Ocean. Speakers included Prof. Paul Lane (Cambridge), Prof. Ingo Strauch (Lausanne), Dr Srinivas Reddy (Brown), Dr Andrew Bauer (Stanford), Dr Mathew A. Cobb (Wales), Ms. Nesrin El-Galy (Oxford), Dr Anna M. Kotarba-Morley (Macquarie), Prof. Dionisius A. Agius (Exeter), Dr Elizabeth Lambourn (De Montfort), Dr Shailendra Bhandare (Ashmolean), Dr Salila Kulshreshtha, Dr Mamta Dwivedi (Freiburg), Dr Vincent Tournier (EFEO), Dr Veronica Walker Vadillo (Helsinki), Prof. Richard Gombrich (OCBS).

March 2019 – Mahabharata in Indian Art and Culture

Convened by Nanditha Krishna, C.P.R. Institute of Indological Research Chennai

In conjunction with the OCHS, the C.P. Ramaswami Aiyar Institute of Indological Research held a three-day conference on the *Mahabharata* in Indian Art and Culture.

Over 60 papers were presented by scholars from India and abroad on various subjects such as the archaeology and the dating of the *Mahabharata* and philosophical discussions on dharma in the *Mahabharata*. The conference was inaugurated by Prof Aravind Jamkhedkar, Chairman, ICHR.

May 2019 – Being, Substance, and Essence in Indian Philosophy: The Heart of the Matter

Convened by Dr Jessica Frazier

The Dialogues in Indian Philosophy project made a step toward its next edited volume, and the building of

its scholarly network of philosophers of Indian thought, with a two-day conference exploring metaphysical issues in comparative perspective: ‘Being, Substance and Essence in Indian Philosophy: The Heart of the Matter’. For this conference we were joined by ten international scholars from San Diego and Rochester, to Warsaw, Heidelberg and Leiden, to Cambridge, Lancaster, Leeds and Oxford. They came together in Oxford to debate India’s approaches to the notion of existence, and to place them into global perspective with the help of a scholar of both Analytic Philosophy, and European Early-Modern History of Philosophy, Dr Alison Peterman. In Autumn we will begin collecting these papers into an edited volume.

May 2019 – Sanskrit Traditions in the Modern World

The OCHS hosted STIMW for the first time this year, holding discussions on five pre-circulated papers by both established scholars and graduate students from around the UK. Professors Jacqueline Suthren Hirst and Dermot Killingley passed on this longstanding project to our team at the OCHS, and the result was a highly successful conference that will continue in the years to come.

June 2019 – Caitanya Vaiṣṇavism in Bengal: A Symposium in Honour of Prof. Joseph T. O’Connell

Convened by Dr Rembert Lutjeharms and Lucian Wong.

Professor Joseph O’Connell was one of the pioneers in the Western study of Caitanya Vaiṣṇavism, the devotional tradition that emerged in sixteenth-century Bengal and, in subsequent centuries, profoundly shaping the religious culture of Bengal, Orissa, Mathura, and Rajasthan. His interest in the ethics of the Vaiṣṇavas of Bengal and his deep concern for human flourishing have profoundly shaped the field.

His recently, posthumously published book, *Caitanya Vaiṣṇavism in Bengal: Social Impact and Historical Implications* (Routledge, 2019) – a summation of his research – exemplifies his lifelong interest in ‘the relationship between the “transcendent” intentionality of religious faith of human beings and their “mundane” socio-cultural ways of living’, as he put it. It explores the way Caitanya Vaiṣṇavas’ theology and practice informed their varied engagement with both the non-Vaiṣṇava world and their own religious community, from the early sixteenth century to the twentieth century, and addresses such topics as forms of institutionalisation and identity, attitudes to caste and gender, the negotiation of heterodoxies, engagement with changing political regimes, and the interactions with Muslim.

At this symposium, co-organised by the Gosvāmī Era Research Project and the Bengali Vaiṣṇavism in the Modern World Research Project at the OCHS, scholars from across the globe gathered to discuss the themes of the book and O’Connell’s academic work more broadly. Speakers included: Dr Måns Broo, Prof. Ravi M. Gupta, Prof. Abhishek Ghosh, Prof. Brian A. Hatcher, Dr Rembert Lutjeharms, Prof. Kathleen O’Connell, Dr Jeanne Openshaw, and Prof. Tony K. Stewart.



June 2019 – Śākta Traditions Symposium III

Convened by Dr Wernicke-Olesen

This Śākta symposium is a contribution by leading scholars in the field as well as research students to the Śākta Traditions project and its endeavour in tracing developments in the history of goddess worship among the orthoprax brahmans, among the tantric traditions and at village level in South Asia. Thus, the symposium acts as a historical exploration of distinctive Indian ways of imagining God as Goddess (and goddesses) and aims at presenting an interdisciplinary state-of-the-art survey of Śākta history, practice and doctrine in its diversity as well as to convey something of the fascinating Śākta religious imaginaire and ritual practice that is distinctive and sets ‘Śāktism’ apart from other South Asian religious traditions. Any headway in this field will be of great value for the future study of religion in South Asia.

The successful symposium brought together eight international scholars in Oxford for an interdisciplinary discussion of Śākta history, practice and doctrine. A number of these scholars were included in the research network for the Śākta Traditions research programme and in the autumn we will begin collecting papers from this and previous symposia into an edited volume.

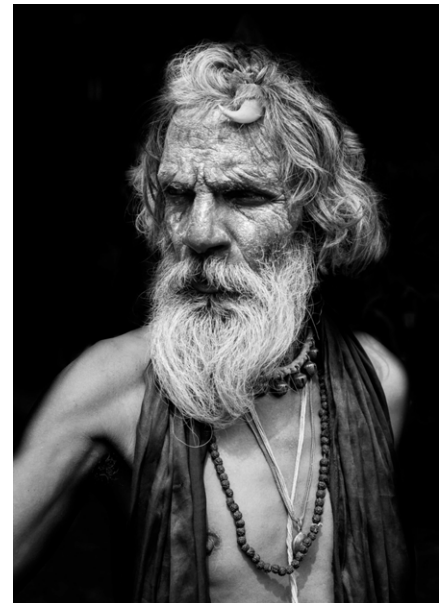
Exhibitions

June 2019 – The Path of Śakti

Photographer: Prema Goet. Curator: Prof. Chris Dorsett

The Path of Śakti exhibition was shown in relation to the Śākta Traditions Symposium III and was born out of the desideratum to create a visual story-telling document for the Śākta Traditions Programme at the OCHS. This small exhibition is part of a larger documentary film project about the worship of the Goddess(es) and its various manifestations. The 23 photographic portraits were shot in India and Nepal by Prema Goet between 2018 and 2019.

The photographs taken in Nepal depict the Ajimā Jatra festivities at the Naradevī temple in Kathmandu while the rest of the exhibition was about a particular group of Śākta *aghorīs* in Kāmākhya and at Allahabad. The Ajimā Jatra photographs presented in the exhibition showed the faces of four of the *ajimās* – ancestral female deities of the Newarī people.



November 2018 – Hidden Treasures in Private Academic Collections

Curator: Iana Lukina (Aarhus).

Supervisors: Dr Wernicke-Olesen and Prof. Chris Dorsett

This exhibition aimed to discover and reveal an unknown aspect of the lives of Oxford academics related to the OCHS and to bring their individual interests closer to the public. The idea was to display unusual examples of what scholars collect, as a matter of personal preference, when they travel. These are hidden treasures, objects of special affection kept privately, at home or in an office, far from the public eye.

For students and scholars at the Centre, viewing these objects contributes to, and enhances, the fascination we feel for utilising a Study of Religion perspective. This is especially so since the provenance of the exhibits strongly suggests that, in order to advance our understanding of religion in South Asia, we need to combine textual studies and material culture.

Furthermore, the exhibition showed how religious objects can be seen from new angles, and take on added significance, when gathered together and displayed in a non-religious setting. The exhibition was followed up by a seminar on textual and material thinking.

All the exhibits originated from the South Asian region and were generously loaned by academics related to the OCHS. An exhibition catalogue was produced which brought forward new information and insights concerning objects related to various Hindu traditions of Vaiṣṇava, Śaiva, and Śākta orientation.

Exhibitions by Fellows

Prof. Daniel J. Ehn bom

- Guest Curator, ‘Charleston Collects: South Asian Art’, an exhibition at the Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, South Carolina. USA. 26 October 2018 – 17 February 2019. (<http://www.gibbesmuseum.org/exhibitions/charleston-collects-south-asian-art/95>)
- Co-curator, ‘Asian Art from the Permanent and Select Private Collections’, an exhibition at the Fralin Museum of Art, The University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA USA. 21 June – 10 November 2019 (<https://uvafralinartmuseum.virginia.edu/exhibitions/upcoming>)

Dr Neeraja Poddar

- ‘Mewar Photographs, 1857-1947: A Glimpse into the Archive’. Exhibition at The City Palace Museum, Udaipur, October 18th 2018 to March 31st 2019.

Awards for Students

Aku’s Bursary	Tanja Jakobsen
Amit Mishra Scholarship	Prema Goet
Dr Sivaswami & Dr Renuka Nagraj Bursary	Jesper Moeslund
Gopal and Elizabeth Krishna Bursary	Valters Negribs
	Alan Herbert
Gupta Dan Bursary	Prema Goet
Hansraj & Kanchanben Popat Bursary	Prema Goet
Hanuman Bursary	Sibylle Koch
	Sneha Yanaapa
	Yizhou Liu
	Tilak Parekh
Jiva Gosvami Scholarship	Tanja Jakobsen
Leicester FOCHS Scholarship	Sibylle Koch
Okita Bursary	Jonas Hedelund
Om Bahl Scholarship	Meera Trivedi
	Priyesh Patel
	Barbora Sojkova
Patel Book Grant	Nanna Roes Dahl
Prof. Makhan Lal Roy Chowdhury Book prize	Abigail Hodges
Ramaiah Alagappan Bursary	Ranjamrittika Bhowmik
Sri Swami Haridas Giri Scholarship	Ranjamrittika Bhowmik
	Valters Negribs
	Alan Herbert
Urmimala and Diptendu Ghosh Bursary	Waverly Sisson



2. LIBRARY

THE OCHS Library has acquired a large collection of books in recent years, and the focus in the past year has been in cataloguing these books, which will occupy the library staff and volunteers for years to come. This year, the Library has had the great support of two volunteers who helped with the cataloguing on a regular basis: Mrs Rachna Bahl and Mr Rajen Joshi.

The Library continues to be a quiet and friendly space for students and scholars not just to work but also to meet other students and scholars, and both reading rooms have been in constant use.

This year, the Library has received a substantial collection from Jñāna Pravāha and other donations from Elizabeth Krishna, Kapila Vatsyayana, Matthew Carlos, Kenneth Valpey, Gavin Flood, Nandana Nagraj, Jessica Frazier, Rembert Lutjeharms, Keshav Prasad Varma, Demian Martins, Emily Kilburn, and Silvia Schwartz Linder.

Further afield, the OCHS Kathmandu Office is building up a reference library for visiting students and scholars and has received a number of book donations. Danish student Jonas M. Hedelund has been an intern at the Kathmandu Office in Trinity Term 2019 and has produced a catalogue and library system for the reference library. The office has two work spaces on the first floor and is expanding with two more work spaces on the second floor of the office building at Basantapur Durbar Square, Kathmandu.



3. CONTINUING EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Online courses

Taught Courses

Publication

Scholarships and Visiting Fellows

THE Continuing Education department has been identified as an important growth centre for the OCHS in terms of funding and outreach. This year's growth in enrolments has been just short of 100%, largely due to the introduction of new courses. Publication and taught courses also continue to develop.

Online courses

Online courses continue to be the main activity of our Continuing Education Department. This financial year we had just over 1200 enrolments and seven new courses. We are aiming to continue this level of growth by adding new courses, a number of which are nearing completion.

We are working towards a strategy for Learning Pathways to help students decide which course of study to complete. We are also looking to plan the next five years of course development this quarter.

Another development has been to increase some of our fees, which had remained unchanged since 2008.

Current courses (new courses in italics)

1. Vedas and Upanishads
2. Mahabharata and Ramayana
3. Bhagavad Gita
4. The Puranas
5. Philosophy of Yoga
6. Introduction to Hinduism – History, Text, Philosophy
7. Introduction to Hinduism – Ritual, Yoga, Caste, and Gender
8. Three Short Upanishads
9. Introduction to Hindu Philosophy – Vedanta and Samkhya
10. *God in the Gita*
11. *Hindu Temples*
12. *Hinduism and Sacred Sound – Chant and Music*
13. *History of Yoga: Medieval to Modern*
14. Sanskrit Level 1
15. Sanskrit Level 2
16. *Sanskrit Level 3*
17. *Sanskrit Level 4*
18. *Sanskrit Level 5*
19. *Discovering Ancient Temples*



Proposed for 2019–20

1. Hatha Yoga Pradipika
2. Indian Art
3. Modern Hinduism
4. Sanskrit Level 6–7
5. Shaivism
6. Shakta Traditions
7. Women in Hinduism
8. Yoga in the Modern World

Other courses in development

1. Dharma
2. Hindu Popular Culture
3. Tantra
4. Vaishnavsim
5. Yoga Sutras
6. Hindu Ethics
7. Yoga Psychology

Taught Courses

Enrolments on our taught courses (day schools and Summer School), while sustainable, were on the low side. We were averaging enrolments of 10–12 against a target of 20. Following discussions with our CED Visiting Fellows in Michaelmas, we revamped the programme. This meant:

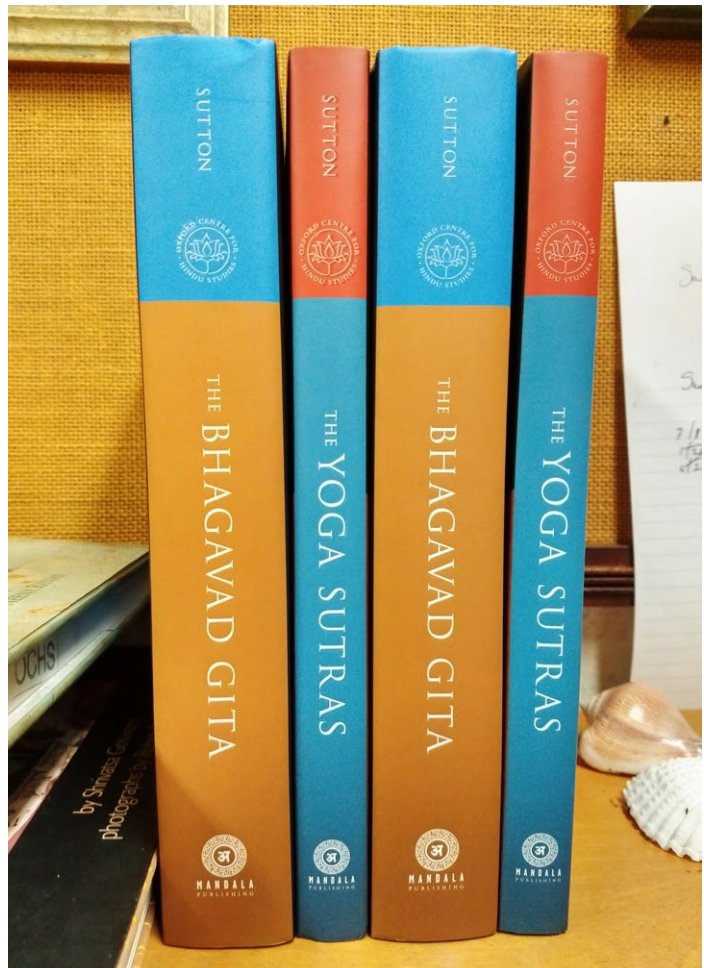
- changing day schools to weekend schools;
- changing the three-day Summer School to a weekend school;
- moving them from London to Oxford, to give students a taste of college life;
- upgrading the enrolments page to provide clearer and better information;
- revising the fees to £345 for a weekend (as opposed to £145 for a day school);
- creating more interesting and cohesive curricula;
- finding new tutors.
- We have since run three weekend schools, each with 18–20 participants.

Publication

Following successful experiments with self-publishing, our Hindu Studies series has been picked up by Insight Editions, an imprint of Simon and Schuster. The first two titles, *Bhagavad-gita* and *The Yoga Sutras*, are already being published.

It is hoped that the reach of a large publisher will significantly expand sales. One of the goals of the publishing arrangement is that the books act as an advertisement for our online courses.

We are monitoring this programme, and if successful we have a backlog of course books that could work well as standalone books.



Scholarships and Visiting Fellows

For Hilary Term 2019 we welcomed both Zoë Slatoff, our Sanskrit course developer, and Daniel Simpson, our Philosophy of Yoga tutor, on a scholarship to the OCHS. These were kindly funded by Mr Azad Shivdasani and Mr Ajay Khaitan.

The aims of the scholarship were to: (1) enable both to work towards doctorates, (2) to assist in development planning for the Continuing Education Department, (3) in Daniel's case, to help him begin development of a new online course. This may be a model for CED Fellowships and paid internships with an aim to set specific goals for recipients.

We also worked with Visiting Fellows to develop new courses. In Michaelmas 2018, Prof. Himanshu Prabha Ray and Dr Salila Kulshreshtha filmed lectures for their courses, 'Hindu Temples and Archaeology' and 'Hindu Art' respectively.

Prof. Mandakranta Bose wrote up her forthcoming course on 'Women in Hinduism' during Trinity term.

4. BHUMI PROJECT

International Conferences

SHINE

Events

UN

Meetings

International Conferences

We attended the Global Climate Action Summit in San Francisco in September 2018. Organised by the Governor of California, Jerry Brown, the Summit brought together business leaders and non-profit organizations to explore how to address climate change. The Bhumi Project was the only Hindu organisation invited to the Summit.

We also attended the Parliament of the World's Religions in November 2018 in Toronto. The gathering brought together 8000 religious leaders from across the world to discuss issues related to women's empowerment, young people, and climate change. Serving as an Advisor to the Parliament, Bhumi's Director, Gopal Patel, was asked to attend and present on a number of panels to offer insights into Hindu understandings of environmental care and the work of the Bhumi Project.

SHINE

We continued our work with the Shine campaign, which advocates for renewable energy solutions for rural India. In November 2018 we launched a report at the UK House of Lords that looked at the role religious communities are playing in India to promote renewable energy. The event was attended by Lord Gadhia and Tan Dhesi MP.

Events

In September and October we held a number of events in the US and India as part of our participation in the Living the Change campaign. They were held in New York, Detroit, San Francisco, Delhi and Kolkata. The events highlighted the importance of reducing personal carbon emissions by changing certain behaviors.

In February 2019 we held a major one-day conference at Yale University on the topic of 'Hindu Earth Ethics and Climate Action', co-sponsored by the Hindu American Foundation, Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology, and the Hindu Life Programs at both Princeton and Yale universities. Speakers at the conference included Hindu academics, activists, and community leaders.

UN

Our engagement with the United Nations continued over the past year. Gopal was appointed to the first-ever UN faith advisory council. Made up of 40 religious leaders and organisations, the Council is a formal body that advises the UN on matters of religion and sustainable development. The Council held its inaugural meeting in New York City in September.

In December we attended the annual UN climate negotiations, held in Poland. We also attended the annual Assembly of UN Environment, held in Nairobi, Kenya.

Meetings

In February and March we helped organise three major consultations in the Indian cities of Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata. These meetings brought together a wide range of religious and environmental leaders to explore how to mobilise faith groups for environmental action in India.



5. DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Development Planning Committee

Outreach

Chaplaincy

Volunteers and donations in kind

Awards and Sponsors

Development Planning Committee

The Development Planning Committee supplies planning and operational support to the OCHS through charting the development agenda of the Centre and overseeing operational matters. It meets monthly as a PMO (Project Management Office) by teleconference and in person.

The Committee has taken a leading role in establishing the OCHS on a firm footing both financially and structurally.

Activities include:

- focussing energies on the Continuing Education Department (CED) as an income source;
- clarifying and establishing partnerships with other institutions and scholars;
- funding academic staff positions;
- clarifying the Centre's budgeting and financial reporting;
- and identifying other ways to fund the Centre's operational costs.

With these interim goals achieved, the OCHS will be in a much better position to continue its endowment campaign and its effort to establish the Centre's finances on a permanent basis.

Outreach

House of Lords Event

In March, the OCHS celebrated its 20th anniversary at the House of Lords. The event was hosted by Lord Dholakia, a longstanding supporter and OCHS Board member. The event was aimed at Hindu temples and organisations from around the UK.

Prominent attendees included Lord Popat, Virendra Sharma MP, and C.B. Patel, Chairman of Asian Voice Publishing.

Lord Dholakia highlighted the need to create a bridge between Hindu communities and the OCHS.

Suggested partnerships include establishing a think-tank to address the concerns of Hindu communities, providing tailored courses for Hindu communities, promoting Hindu Studies online, working on new research projects, and generally working together to provide neutral, well-researched information and opinion to the public and media.



Media

OCHS Director Shaunaka Rishi Das's media output this year included recording six 'Prayer for the Day' broadcasts for BBC Radio 4. He also appeared on Doordarshan TV in India.

Speaking Engagements

- Speaking at Bradford Literary festival on the *Bhagavad Gita*;
- Speaking at Ahimsa Day at the House of Commons;
- Sessions on Leadership for Avicenna, with Dr Jessica Frazier and Anuradha Dooney;
- Speaking to sixth form students at Wimbledon High School;
- Speaking at Oxford's Student Ministry Forum;
- Speaking on education at the Institute for Soft Power in Delhi;
- Speaking at the St Philip's Centre, Leicester.



Other Outreach Events

- Hosting a visit from the High Commissioner of India, Ruchi Ghanashyam;
- Participation in FaithInvest;
- Hosting a visit from the Kurukshetra Foundation;
- Hosting a school group from St Mary's, Ascot;
- Meeting with a group of Malaysian Imams at the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies;
- Meeting with Shashi Taroor;
- Visiting and hosting groups of potential students from Krishna Avanti School;
- Hosting an annual visit from Fr Douglas Bailey and students from the University of Florida;
- Consulting on the British Library's Learning Project;
- Ongoing Anglican–Vaishnava Dialogue at Christchurch college, along with Anuradha Dooney and Dr Rembert Lutjeharms.



Chaplaincy

As the University's Hindu Chaplain Shaunaka Rishi Das led a number of programmes, including:

- Held a series of seminars on Hindu Chaplaincy at the OCHS;
- Held weekly *Bhagavad Gita* study sessions during the term for students;
- Celebrated Diwali at St Edmunds Hall;
- Gave a talk at Katharine House Hospice about Hinduism and palliative care;
- Hosted meetings of the Oxford University Hindu Society on a weekly basis;
- Led a series of meditations at Jesus College;
- And, as always, a steady stream of students came in to meet Shaunaka for personal consultations.

Volunteers and donations in kind

In keeping with our tradition of encouraging voluntary service and keeping costs down, we are safeguarding the true charitable nature of the OCHS. The OCHS Director and other administrative staff continue to work on a voluntary basis or at reduced rates.

Other friends and businesses have been kind to the Centre by charging greatly reduced rates for services. This includes our accountant, Wenn Townsend.

As always, special thanks are due to David Smith, Washington DC, who funds and maintains our web server. Since 2002 David has been responsible for keeping us online in hardware and software, saving us considerable expense and effort. Mr Nitin Palan has also provided invaluable advice and offers of assistance in this sphere.

Amazon Web Services and Microsoft Azure have both been very generous in providing free or reduced-cost web hosting.

The Nagraj family have kindly supplied much-needed audio-visual equipment.

Ajay Khaitan and Ramesh Venkataraman gave significantly of their time and expertise on our Development Planning Committee.

Other significant voluntary service has been very gratefully received from Kirk Ott (audio editing), and Sanjay Gadhvi (mobile phone contract).

The Continuing Education Department has been greatly assisted by Musaret Siddiqui who has been an invaluable asset with proof-reading. Ramila Chauhan, one of our pre-eminent Leicester Friends, has also helped with page layout. The CED has also been assisted by Satinder Vohra of the Rembrandt Hotel who provided first-class rooms for our Day Schools.

Our Wednesday lunches saw excellent attendances again this year. Managed by Anita Desai, this was greatly assisted by numerous helpers. The BAPS Swaminarayan Temple in Neasden has come forward as a major sponsor of this programme.

All these contributors save us considerable time, effort, and expense. Their service has been an invaluable and heartfelt offering to the cause of good education; thousands of pounds have been saved and donated to the OCHS by their thoughtfulness and commitment.

Awards and Sponsors

Aku's Bursary	Anonymous
Amit Mishra Scholarship	Atul Mishra
Dr Sivaswami & Dr Renuka Nagraj Bursary	Dr Sivaswami & Dr Renuka Nagraj
Gopal and Elizabeth Krishna Bursary	Gopal and Elizabeth Krishna
Gupta Dan Bursary	Anonymous
Hansraj & Kanchanben Popat Bursary	Jayesh Popat
Hanuman Bursary	Anonymous
Jiva Gosvami Scholarship	Dr Ravi & Mrs Amrita Gupta
Leicester FOCHS Scholarship	Leicester Friends of the OCHS
Okita Bursary	Dr Kiyokazu Okita
Om Bahl Scholarship	Dev and Rachna Bahl
Patel Book Grant	Anonymous
Prof. Makhan Lal Roy Chowdhury Book prize	Prof. Mandrakanta Bose
Ramaiah Alagappan Bursary	Ananthi Al Ramiah
Sri Swami Haridas Giri Scholarship	Sri Gnanananda Giri Peetam

6. ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE

Summary Results

Charitable Activities

Gains on investment

Expenditure

The audited accounts for 31 March 2019 have been prepared by Wenn Townsend Chartered Accountants, Oxford.

The Board is pleased to have seen a net increase in Funds due to a substantial one-off donation in the year, the success of the 20th Anniversary Board of Governors Dinner and the continued growth in income from online courses.

The Board continues to monitor its current cost base and is implementing plans to create a long-term fund-raising strategy which will allow the Centre to continue to meet ongoing costs and long-term ambitions.

Summary Results

	2019 £	2018 £
Income		
Donations	252,729	300,923
Charitable Activities (Note 1)	205,312	78,546
Interest Received	885	716
Endowment - Designated	215,205	-
Gains/(Loss) on Investment (Note 2)	10,123	(1,143)
Total Income	684,254	379,042
Expenditure (Note 3)	502,596	351,716
Net Increase in Funds	181,658	27,326

Charitable Activities

Charitable Activity Income has grown significantly due to the ongoing success of the Continuing Education Department, which has achieved a doubling in online course income this year. The department is aiming to add several new courses each year resulting in 40 deliverable courses by 2022. The growth and development of this commercial arm has provided valuable additional revenue and support to the main activities of the organisation.

Gains on investment

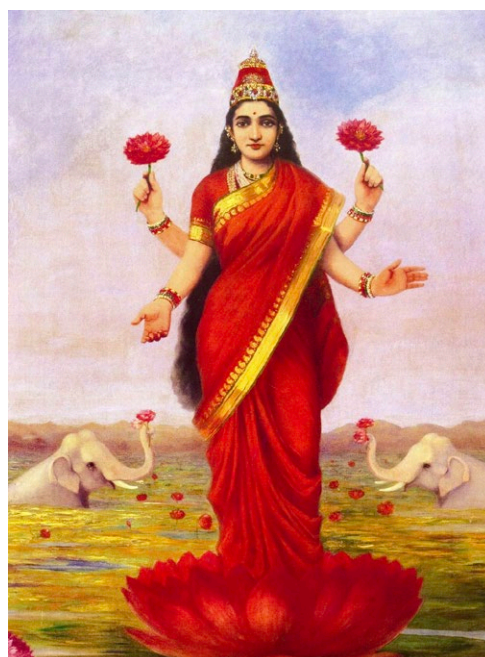
The Centre's Investment Committee and its appointed investment broker are proactively investing surplus and endowed funds in a basket of investments in the UK and globally. The committee is pleased to report a significant gain on its investments that has resulted in an additional £6,000 in scholarships and bursaries this year.

Expenditure

Staff costs represent the greatest share of the organisation's expenditure. Historically the organisation has benefited from employees working on a volunteer, part-time, or economically unsustainable basis. The Board has recognised that this model is neither sustainable nor one which will attract and retain employees in the future. A process of addressing staff remuneration and numbers has been undertaken in both 2018 and 2019, which is in line with the Board's previously stated ambition of addressing historical remuneration anomalies. The addressing of the disparity has seen full-time and full-time equivalent staff numbers rise to eight this year and remuneration costs rise by 80%.

The year saw a 100% increase in the cost of developing seven new online courses. This investment resulted in a doubling of online course income which in turn produced a significant net contribution by the Continuing Education Department to the overall operational costs of the organisation.

Governance Costs for the current year represent 5% of total income and are 7% of overall expenditure.



7. APPENDIX ONE: ORGANISATION

Board of Governors

Prof. Diwakar Acharya
(Humanities Division representative)
Prof. Francis X. Clooney, SJ
Shaunaka Rishi Das
Lord Dholakia, OBE, DL
Prof. Mark Edwards
(Theology Faculty representative)
Dr S. Bhattacharya-Ford
Prof. Richard Gombrich
Pujan H. Patel
Ajay Piramal
Prof. Ulrike Roesler
(Oriental Studies representative)
Madhu Ruia
Azad Shivdasani
Prof. Mark Smith
Ramesh Venkataraman

Administration

Director
Shaunaka Rishi Das
Academic Director
Prof. Gavin Flood, FBA
Development Administrator
Lal Krishna
Librarian
Dr Rembert Lutjeharms

Fellows

Prof. John Brockington
Mary Brockington
Anuradha Dooney
Dr Gillian Evison
Dr Jessica Frazier
Dr Rembert Lutjeharms
Dr Bjarne Wernicke Olesen
Dr Nicholas Sutton

Research Fellows

Prof. Mandakranta Bose
Prof. Purushottama Bilimoria
Prof. John Brockington
Mary Brockington
Dr Måns Broo
Dr Santanu Dey
Prof. Daniel J. Ehnborn
Prof. Ravi M. Gupta
Dr Rajan Khatiwoda
Dr Silvia Schwartz Linder
Dr James Madaio
Dr Kiyokazu Okita
Dr Neeraja Poddar
Prof. Himanshu Prabha Ray
Dr Ferdinando Sardella
Prof. Amiya P. Sen
Dr Kenneth Valpey

Senior Fellows

Prof. Francis X. Clooney, SJ
Prof. Madhav M. Deshpande
Prof. Gavin Flood, FBA
Dr Sanjukta Gupta
Prof. Dermot Killingley
Prof. Julius Lipner, FBA
Peggy Morgan
Prof. Patrick Olivelle
Prof. Thomas Hopkins

Kathmandu Office

Silje Lyngar Einarsen
Dr Rajan Khatiwoda
Dr Bjarne Wernicke Olesen
Gitte Poulsen

Continuing Education Department

Dr Nicholas Sutton
Prof. Guy Beck
Prof. Mandakranta Bose
Richard Coldman
Anuradha Dooney, MSt
Silje Lyngar Einarsen
Dr Jessica Frazier
Lal Krishna
Dr Salila Kulshreshtha
Dr Layne Little
Dr Rembert Lutjeharms
Danny MacGregor
Dr Karen O'Brien Kop
Dr Ramesh Pattni
Gitte Poulsen
Prof. Himanshu Prabha Ray
Musaret Siddiqui
Daniel Simpson
Chirayu Thakkar
Zoë Slatoff
Dr Kenneth R. Valpey
Christopher S. Wood, MSt

Patrons Council

Amitabh Bachchan
Dr Karan Singh
HE The Indian High Commissioner

Academic Council

Prof. Diwakar Acharya
Prof. John Brockington
Dr Gillian Evison
Dr Jessica Frazier
Dr Ravi Gupta
Dr Sondra Hausner
Dr Rembert Lutjeharms
Peggy Morgan
Shaunaka Rishi Das
Prof. G.C. Tripathi
Dr Bjarne Wernicke Olesen

Academic Planning Committee

Prof. Brockington
Shaunaka Rishi Das
Dr Jessica Frazier
Dr Rembert Lutjeharms
Dr Bjarne Wernicke Olesen
Lucian Wong

Development Planning Committee

Shaunaka Rishi Das
Ajay Khaitan
Lal Krishna
Manish Thakrar
Ramesh Venkataraman

Friends of OCHS

Birmingham

Jyoti Patel
Raj Patel
Yogesh Patel
Subrata Roy
Meena Sodha
Nitin Sodha

Leicester

Alkaji Agarwal
Dr Virendra Agarwal
Raj Chauhan
Ramila Chauhan
Dr Ranjit Johri
Sumanji Johri
Bina Modi
Prafullaben Raja
Deepak Samani
Manishbhai Thakrar
Shobhaben Trivedi

USA

Mr Robert Cohen
Shaunaka Rishi Das
Dr S. Bhattacharya-Ford
Mr Todd Wahlstrom

8. APPENDIX TWO: LECTURES AND SEMINARS

Michaelmas Term 2018

Hinduism 1: Sources and Formations

Dr Rembert Lutjeharms

Sanskrit Prelims I

Dr Bjarne Wernicke-Olesen

Readings in Phenomenology

Lucian Wong

Lecture of the Shivdasani Visiting Fellow

From Temple to Museum: Colonial Collections and Uma Mahesvara Icons in the Middle Ganga Valley

Dr. Salila Kulshreshtha

Lecture of the J.P. And Beena Khaitan Visiting Fellow

Decoding Gandharan Art: Making Of Museum Collections In India

Prof. Himanshu Prabha Ray

Workshop: Knowledge Traditions of the Indian Ocean World

Organised by Ashmolean Museum, Anneliese Maier Research Award, and the OCHS.

Speakers include Prof. Paul Lane (Cambridge), Prof. Ingo Strauch (Lausanne), Dr. Rebecca Darley (Birkbeck), Dr. Srinivas Reddy (Brown), Dr. Andrew Bauer (Stanford), Dr. Mathew A. Cobb (Wales), Ms. Nesrin El-Galy (Oxford), Dr. Anna M. Kotarba-Morley (Macquarie), Prof. Dionisius A. Agius (Exeter), Dr. Elizabeth Lambourn (De Montfort), Dr. Shailendra Bhandare (Ashmolean), Dr. Salila Kulshreshtha, Dr. Mamta Dwivedi (Freiburg), Dr. Vincent Tournier (EFEO), Ms. Sophia van Zyle Warshall (UCLA), and Dr. Veronica Walker Vadillo (Helsinki).

Other Lectures

Is gnosis enough? The path to liberation-while-living in Vidyāraṇya's Advaita Vedānta
Dr. James Madio

Guru-śiṣya-sambandha: The Structure of Faith in the Śāṅkaran Vedānta Religious Tradition
Prof. Yoshitsugu Sawai

Semantics of Indian Philosophy: Toshihiko Izutsu's "Oriental Philosophy"
Prof. Yoshitsugu Sawai

Rethinking Advaita Within the Colonial Predicament: The Subject as Freedom and the 'Confrontative' Philosophy of K. C. Bhattacharyya (1875–1949)
Pawel Odyniec

Śākta Traditions Symposium III
Convener: Dr Bjarne Wernicke-Olesen

Hilary Term 2019

Hinduism 2: Modern Hinduism
Dr Rembert Lutjeharms

Sanskrit Prelims
Dr Bjarne Wernicke-Olesen

Intermediate Sanskrit Readings: Pañcadaśī of Vidyāraṇya
Dr. Rembert Lutjeharms

Readings in Phenomenology
Prof. Gavin Flood FBA

Religion and Phenomenology Lectures

Prof. Gavin Flood FBA

Lecture 1: Religion as System

Lecture 2: Religion as the Political

Lecture 3: Religion as Verticality

Lecture 4: Religion as Intimacy

Workshops

From Myth to Metaphysics: The Emergence of Ancient Philosophy in Greece, India, Egypt and China

Convener: Dr. Jessica Frazier

Seminars

Solving the Mystery of Exams: A Revision Seminar
Dr. Jessica Frazier

Trinity Term 2019

Sanskrit Prelims

Dr Bjarne Wernicke-Olesen

Readings in the Netra Tantra

Prof. Gavin Flood FBA

Readings in Vedānta: Rāmānuja's Vedārtha-saṅgraha

Dr. Rembert Lutjeharms

Readings in Phenomenology

Prof. Gavin Flood FBA

Comparative Study of Religion Seminar Series I

Convener: Prof. Gavin Flood FBA & Dr. Bjarne Wernicke-Olesen

Brain Science and the Study of Religion

The Importance of Philology

Understanding Ritual

Phenomenology of Religion

Lectures of the J.P. And Beena Khaitan Visiting Fellow

Before Reform: The Swaminarayan Sampraday and Brahmo Samaj as Early Colonial Religious Polities

Prof. Brian A. Hatcher

The Rise and Fall of a Monastic Network in Colonial Bengal

Prof. Brian Hatcher

Lectures of the Shivedasani Visiting Fellow

The Spiral Conch, Home, and Body: An Everyday Phenomenology of Sonic Metaphysics in Hindu Bengal

Prof. Sukanya Sarbadhikary

Uddanda as One and Many: Meditation, Ecstasy, and Time in Vaishnava Aesthetic Experience.

Prof. Sukanya Sarbadhikary

Graduate Lectures

Ritual Visualisation and Imagination: Representation or Reality

Alan Herbert

Conferences and Symposia

Being, Substance, and Essence in Indian Philosophy: The Heart of the Matter

Early Vedanta, Samkhya, and Vaisesika.

Advaita, Visistadvaita, Bhedabheda.

Madhyamaka, Kashmiri Saivism, Jainism.

Ontological essence (svabhava), Non-being, Western reflections.

Sanskrit Traditions in the Modern World

Implicit Anthropologies in Pre-Philosophical Śaivism with Particular Reference to the Netra-tantra

Gavin Flood

Exploring Eclecticism in Svāminārāyaṇa Scripture

Avni Chag

Was the Thirteenth Year Over?

Simon Brodbeck

Fragments and Perspectives: The Abduction of the Princesses of Kāśī in the Mahābhārata
Zuzana Spicova

Caitanya Vaiṣṇavism in Bengal: A Symposium in Honour of Prof. Joseph T. O'Connell

Speakers include: Dr. Måns Broo, Prof. Ravi M. Gupta, Prof. Brian A. Hatcher, Dr. Rembert Lutjeharms, Prof. Kathleen O'Connell, Dr. Jeanne Openshaw, and Prof. Tony K. Stewart.

Śākta Traditions Symposium III

9. APPENDIX THREE: VISITING FELLOWS

Shivdasani Visiting Fellow, Michaelmas Term: Dr Salila Kulshreshtha

Salila Kulshreshtha secured her Ph.D. in History from Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Her doctoral research focuses on tracing how the spatial relocation of sacred sculptures brings about a change in their identity and ritual purpose. She has worked on issues of urban heritage and heritage education with the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) (2004) and with the Dr Bhau Daji Lad Mumbai City Museum, Mumbai (2011-2012). She has taught Art history, History and Humanities in Mumbai at Rizvi College of Architecture and Indian Education Society's College of Architecture (2012-2013) and in the USA at the Old Dominion University and Virginia Wesleyan College (2005-2007). She is currently based in Dubai. Her research interests include religious iconography, colonial archaeology, museum collections and Indian Ocean trade networks. She has also contributed to designing an online course for the OCHS on Indian Art.

J.P. and Beena Khaitan Visiting Fellow, Michaelmas Term: Prof. Himanshu Prabha Ray

Himanshu Prabha Ray is a recipient of the Anneliese Maier research award of the Humboldt Foundation (2014 – 2019) and a member of the Board of the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies, Oxford. She is a former Professor, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University and former chairperson, National Monuments Authority, Ministry of Culture, Government of India.

She is series editor of the Routledge Archaeology and Religion in South Asia book series in collaboration with the OCHS. Her recent books include *Archaeology and Buddhism in South Asia* (Routledge, 2018); *The Return of the Buddha: Ancient Symbols for a New Nation* (Routledge, New Delhi, 2014); *The Archaeology of Seafaring in Ancient South Asia* (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2003), and also several edited volumes: *Buddhism and Gandhara: An Archaeology of Museum Collections* (Routledge, 2018); *Bridging the Gulf: Maritime Cultural Heritage Of The Western Indian Ocean* (India International Centre & Manohar Publishers, 2016); Satish Chandra and Himanshu Prabha Ray, editors, *The Sea, Identity and History: From the Bay of Bengal to the South China Sea* (Manohar Publishers, 2013).

J.P. and Beena Khaitan Visiting Scholar, Hilary Term: Zoë Slatoff Shivdasani Visiting Scholar, Hilary Term: Daniel Simpson

For Hilary Term we brought together two of our leading Continuing Education teachers. Zoë Slatoff is completing a Ph.D. under Prof. Chakravarthi Ram-Prasad at Lancaster and teaches and prepares our Sanskrit online courses. Daniel Simpson has an MA from SOAS and is teaching and preparing online course.

J.P. and Beena Khaitan Visiting Fellow, Trinity Term: Brian A. Hatcher

Brian A. Hatcher is Professor and Packard Chair of Theology at Tufts University. His research focuses on religious and intellectual transformations in colonial and contemporary South Asia, with a special interest in early colonial Bengal. His publications explore issues of vernacular modernity, translation, the life histories of Sanskrit scholars under colonialism, and the modalities of religious eclecticism and scriptural

reform among a wide range of Kolkata-based intellectuals. His most recent book-length project, *Religion before India*, is a comparison of the emergence of the Swaminanarayan Sampraday in Gujarat and the Brahmo Samaj in Bengal as two religious polities that come to be scripted in terms of an emergent “empire of reform” after the 1830s. At present, he is conducting research toward a new book entitled *Mapping a Monastic Mandala*, which explores the networking and emplacement of Shaiva monastic complexes in south western Bengal from the eighteenth to the twentieth century under the leadership of the Dasnami Sampraday.

Shivdasani Visiting Fellow, Trinity Term: Sukanya Sarbadhikary

Sukanya Sarbadhikary works at the interface of the anthropology of religion, religious studies, and philosophy. In her first work she did an intensive ethnography among different kinds of Bengal-Vaishnavas, focusing on diverse experiences of religious place and sensory affective discourses. Her book, *The Place of Devotion: Siting and Experiencing Divinity in Bengal-Vaishnavism* (University of California Press) was published in 2015. She is also passionately interested in the sociology and philosophy of aesthetics and music, and their relations with sacred embodiment. She is currently working on a range of devotional instruments and traditions of sonic metaphysics.

10. APPENDIX FOUR: NEW STUDENTS

Willow Allison

UK
St Peter's College

Eika Chaturvedi Banerjee

India
Pembroke College

Martha Harlan

UK
St Benets Hall

Jonas Midtgaard Hedelund

Denmark
Aarhus, Denmark

Nelson Landry

Canada
St Anthony's College

Yizhou Liu

China
Harris Manchester College

Jessica Andrea Luo

USA
Corpus Christi College

Shree Nahata

India
St Cross College

Madeleine Parr

UK
Trinity College

Michael Sasonow

UK
Kellogg College

Amber Shrimpton

UK
Pembroke College

Waverly Sisson

USA
St Stephen's House

Lum Bahadur Tangnab Thapa

Nepal
Wycliffe College

Oluwatobi Thomas

UK
Trinity College



Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies
13-15 Magdalen St
Oxford OX1 3AE
Tel. 01865-304300
www.ochs.org.uk
Regd Charity No. 1074458