

The Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures (CSMC)

cordially invites you to a workshop on

Śāradā: Goddess, Learning, Script. On the Sanskrit manuscript culture of Kashmir

Śāradā, the name of the script that was used in Kashmir to write down Sanskrit, is also one of the names of the goddess Sarasvatī, the goddess of Arts and Letters, of Learning and of Speech. The Sanskrit manuscript culture of Kashmir is characterized by distinguishing features such as the use of the Śāradā script (from around the 11th century), the use of birch-bark as a writing support (at least until the 17th century) and the bound book format. It raises specific issues for scholars who study these features and edit the texts they transmit, and for library curators who describe the manuscripts and are responsible for their preservation. The challenging issue of dating the manuscripts is the starting point of this first workshop devoted to Śāradā manuscripts.

The topics of the papers, presented by scholars who have worked intensively with Śāradā manuscripts, will include the evolution of scribal and orthographic practices, the changes of format from the *pothi* to the bound book, the introduction of binding, as well as the layout and content of paratexts and marginalia. Śāradā manuscripts are mostly either on birch-bark or on paper but Proto-Śāradā palm-leaves are preserved in Tibet. Some papers will focus on the diachronic study of Kashmirian manuscript culture and some will tackle issues raised while studying specific manuscripts for the purpose of editing texts. The presentation of the material aspects will be enriched by historical information about the scribes, as well as studies on the genealogy of annotated manuscripts.

Friday, 6 March 2020, 9 am – 5 pm

Saturday, 7 March 2020, 9:30 am – 4 pm

Warburgstraße 26, room 0001

20354 Hamburg

Programme

Friday, 6 March 2020

- 9:00-9:30 Welcoming words and introduction
Michael Friedrich (Hamburg)
Harunaga Isaacson (Hamburg)
Iris Iran Farkhondeh (Paris)
- 9:30-10:15 Camillo Formigatti (Oxford): Judging a Book by Its Cover. A
Codicological Approach to Dating Kashmirian Manuscripts
- 10:15-11:00 Alexis Sanderson (Oxford/Portland): Observations on the book in pre-
Islamic Kashmir and the history of Kashmirian Sanskrit orthography
- 11:00-11:15 *Coffee break*
- 11:15-12:00 Walter Slaje (Halle), in absentia: Two less considered points in the field
of Śāradā textual criticism
- 12:00-12:45 Luther Obrock (Toronto): Śāradā Miscellanies: Manuscript culture and
book technologies
- 12:45-13:45 *Lunch*
- 13:45-15:00 Lab tour by Sebastian Bosch (Hamburg) and Ivan Shevchuk (Hamburg)
- 15:00-15:15 *Coffee break*
- 15:15-16:00 Kazuo Kano (Tokyo): Proto-Śāradā Materials in Tibet
- 16:00 -16:45 Jürgen Hanneder (Marburg): From cloth to birch bark and other
oddities in Śāradā paleography

Programme

Saturday, 7 March 2020

- 9:30-10:15 Isabelle Ratié (Paris): On editing fragments from marginal annotations in Śāradā and Nāgarī manuscripts
- 10:15-11:00 Stanislav Jager (Marburg): The Author's Redaction or a Copyist's Reworking? Remarks on the Transmission of the *Cittānubodhaśāstra*
- 11:00-11:15 *Coffee break*
- 11:15-12:00 Alessandro Graheli (Vienna): History and Transmission of the *Nyāyamañjarī*: the Śāradā Autograph of Śitikaṅṭhasvāmin
- 12:00-12:45 Dominic Goodall (Pondicherry): Some observations on Kashmirian scribal practices derived mostly from study of manuscripts transmitting the *Raghuvamśa*
- 12:45-14:15 *Lunch*
- 14:15-15:30 Final discussions
- 15:30-16:00 *Coffee*