

The Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures (CSMC)
announces a public lecture

by

PROF. DR. UWE HARTMANN, *Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München*

Copyists, collectors and consumers: observations on the book in ancient India

Manuscript production in India is attested at least since the beginning of the Common Era, possibly as early as the first century BCE. With very few exceptions the surviving examples are Buddhist in content. This is related to climate and history: Buddhism is the only major Indian book religion that spread into areas offering much more favorable conditions for the preservation of manuscripts than India itself. For at least half a millennium the manuscripts preserved come only from Buddhist archaeological sites. A huge amount of manuscript fragments has come down to us, but disappointingly little is known about their original "Sitz im Leben". The lecture will present relevant data gleaned from the manuscripts themselves, from the find spots and from additional information found in texts.

4 July 2013 at 6 p.m., Room 0001

Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures
Warburgstraße 26
20354 Hamburg