EDITORIAL

Farewell Editorial

In the past 6 years, the CSH and the IFP have built on the foundations of the agreements between the French External and European Affairs Ministry and the Centre National de Recherche Scientifique to expand their research programs, to obtain very substantial amounts of external funding, to develop research partnerships with institutions of excellence in India, in France and in Europe, and to facilitate the access of students and scholars who want to do collaborative research in our areas of specialization.

As far the Centre de Sciences Humaines is concerned, we have expanded our multidisciplinary research focus to work on issues related to climate change, natural resource constraints and ecological vulnerability, quantitative and qualitative modeling of a variety of economic and social phenomena such as population dynamics and industrial change, socioprofessional evolutions of the population, and the spatial analysis of maladies such as dengue. These projects, funded through competitive bidding, have brought together a variety of disciplines from natural, environmental and social sciences in large collaborative networks. Along with these areas, we have continued our previous research on different problems in economics, politics and sociology, international relations and urban studies.

Research focus and fashions change over time, but for research centres such as ours (and IFP also) that rely to a substantial extent on expatriate and contractual scholars, it is much more difficult and challenging to maintain a strong momentum on core areas that we are specialized in, but that need to be continuously renewed in the light of research methods in core disciplines. Attracting scholars who are not necessarily specialists of a particular geographical area but who want to collaborate on some specific research agenda concerning a country or group of countries, is an essential task of our research establishment and those responsible for making decisions. The failure to open up and to innovate continuously in terms of scientific objects, research methods and evolving contemporary issues would strongly diminish our capacity to attract the best scholars.

In this context, the Horizon 2020 Framework Program of the European Union, which will set the financing priorities for European research, provides us with a set of ideas to explore, in terms of research agendas, on the issues of innovative, sustainable and secure societies. Extensive debates and controversies will be raised from this agenda, and particularly with these three keywords, innovation, sustainability and security. Is the principle task of the European Union, and its political system, the protection of the living standards of its citizens and the competitiveness of its economies? How is it going to engage with, and relate to, the rest of the world, and in particular with the countries that it perceives as both threats and opportunities, such as China, India and Brazil? Given the renowned focus on comparative research, a careful analysis of this research agenda would be very useful for our centres.

It has been a privilege and an honour to be the director of CSH and the adjoint director of the CNRS research unit in India, Savoirs et Mondes Indiens comprising of the CSH and the IFP. I warmly thank all my colleagues and administrative staff of these two institutes for their support and would also like to thank all our colleagues and well wishers in India, France and other countries. From September, I can be contacted at the Economics Faculty of the University of Caen in Normandy, basudeb.chaudhuri@unicaen.fr

Basudeb Chaudhuri
Director CSH and Adjoint Director USR CNRS 3330 Savoirs et Mondes Indiens

FOCUS

EFEO

- The Archaeology of Bhakti: Royal Bhakti and Local Bhakti International Workshop-cum-conference Centre of Pondicherry, Ecole française d’Extrême-Orient 31 July – 13 August 2013

“The Archaeology of Bhakti” is a biennial workshop-cum-conference organised at the centre Pondicherry Centre of the Ecole française d’Extrême-Orient by three
researchers: Valérie Gillet (EFEO Pondichéry), Charlotte Schmid (EFEO Paris) and Emmanuel Francis (CEIAS, UMR 8564, CNRS-EHESS).

The purpose is to bring together senior researchers, PhD students and students from various disciplines (history, history of religions, art history, philology, archaeology, anthropology) around the theme of Bhakti, a devotional form of religion in India. During the first eight days presentations are held in-doors and on the field. The event concludes with a two-day international conference.

The second edition will be held from 31 July to 31st August 2013 and will focus on the theme of royal and local bhakti. The aim is to describe the role, interaction and impact of different actors in the development of Bhakti: the kings in power, primary and secondary queens, royal courts, elites and local devotional communities. Researchers and research institutions from various countries will be represented (Germany, Belgium, Australia, Canada, France, United States, India, Italy, Japan, Norway, United Kingdom).

http://www.efeo.fr/base.php?code=775

RESEARCH

EFEO

Eighth International Intensive Sanskrit Summer Retreat

Twenty-five participants from around the world, including Dr. R. Sathyanarayanan and Dr. Manjunath Bhat (Pondicherry Centre of the EFEO), gathered in Cambodia, for the Eighth International Intensive Sanskrit Summer Retreat, held at the EFEO’s Siem Reap Centre from 4th to 14th January 2013. Following the usual format, Sanskrit texts were studied that are currently being edited by members of the group, but this year there was a particular focus on Cambodian epigraphy. The following texts were read and discussed:

- A draft edition, prepared by Csaba Dezső (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest) of Vallabhadheva’s unpublished tenth-century commentary on chapter 19 of the Raghuvamśa. (Following Dominic Goodall and Harunaga Isaacson’s critical edition of chapters 1–6, Csaba Dezső has joined the editing team for the edition of the remaining thirteen chapters.)

- The foundation inscription of the Eastern Mebon temple (K. 528). With the help of Claude Jacque’s unpublished transcription, made at a time when new fragments had been discovered that have since been lost, Dominic Goodall (EFEO) and Csaba Dezső have begun work to improve upon the first edition and translation, published by Louis Finot in 1925 (BEFEO 25, pp. 309—352), of this long and elaborate tenth-century poem about King Rājendravarman. To this end, the huge broken stela on which its 218 verses have been inscribed has been transported, for cleaning and restoration, from the Angkor Conservation Depot to the Conservation Workshop of the National Museum of Cambodia in Phnom Penh, headed by Bertrand Porte (EFEO).

- Other small published and unpublished Pre-Angkorian inscriptions, for some of which, notably K. 1235, a stela now in Ta Keo Museum, editions are underway.

Contact: Dr. Dominic Goodall (EFEO) dominic.goodall@gmail.com

CSH

Geography of Dengue in Delhi (India) and Bangkok (Thailand)

Vector-borne diseases cause a significant fraction of morbidity and mortality rates in the world. Dengue is one of these diseases, whom virus is transmitted to human by Aedes aegypti mosquito. Mainly presents in urban cities of tropical area, it has been recently observed to the European frontiers. Climate warming and adaptive mosquito behavior seems to be key factors to explain this increase of the area extension. Aedes aegypti has been invariably found to be associated with these outbreaks in Delhi and Bangkok. Overhead and ground level tanks, evaporation coolers and tires or pot have repeatedly been reported as key containers for Aedes. This imposes the description of local environment using geographical information system and remote sensing. However, the low dispersal rate of the mosquito suggests that man himself is
dispersing the virus at city level, hypothesis which must be confirmed by field studies.

Through the French National Research Agency and the Seventh Framework Program, a consortium of 14 academic institutions including CNRS, Pasteur Institute and Imperial College of Medicine was awarded two research program on dengue in two big tropical cities, Delhi (India) and Bangkok (Thailand). Geographers in the AEDESS project (Analyse de l’Emergence de la Dengue Et Simulation Spatiale) and of the DENFREE project (Dengue research Framework for Resisting Epidemics in Europe) study the spatio-temporal diffusion of dengue in these two cities based on surveillance data and socio-epidemiological surveys. The team will also develop geosimulation models of both human behaviors and mosquito dynamics in order to test scenarios of dengue control. These models should provide new insights on dengue transmission patterns and will be used as a decision support tool with local partners of the projects in Delhi (Municipal Corporation of Delhi) and Bangkok (Bangkok Metropolitan Administration).

The CSH is a partner of this consortium headed by Pasteur Institute and welcome 6 full time researchers, post-doc, phd and research assistant. Eric Daudé (CNRS CSH) and Alain Vaguet (CNRS Rouen) are the heads of these projects in Delhi and Bangkok. Olivier Telle (ANR post-doc, Pasteur Institute) and Bertrand Lefebvre (FP7 post-doc, Bangkok) conduct the epidemiological survey of the 2013 epidemic and retrospective studies. Somsakun Maneerat (ANR phd) is developing the agent-based model of the Aedes vector. Alexandre Cebellac (INSHS phd) is studying the impact of human mobility on the diffusion of virus. Renaud Misslin (MRT phd) use remote sensing to produce risk maps at urban scale.

Contact in CSH: eric.daudé@univ-rouen.fr

IFP

MoU signed between the IFP and the Sharma Centre for Heritage Education

An MoU was signed between the IFP and the Sharma Centre for Heritage Education, at the IFP, on Wednesday June 26, 2013.

This MoU is designed to facilitate and strengthen interdisciplinary scientific cooperation between the two institutions, in the fields of Ecology, Indology, Archeology and Cultural studies.

Contact: Dr. Anupama K. (IFP)
anupama.k@ifpindia.org

The shape of pollen grains

Pollen grains help to reconstruct past and present vegetations, as they possess features that reflect plant species communities. Yet, some grains of the same species may vary in shape, so that they blur the confidence we have in identifying the plants occurring at the studied site. An article has recently been published* on the geometric variations of pollen grains at the microscopic scale within the same plant species from different populations in India. Five species of tropical India were chosen and an elliptic Fourier analysis, a powerful morphometric approach for the comparison of object outlines, was performed on two specific microscopic views of their pollen grains. The goal here was to test whether there was any difference in the shape of the pollen. The analysis showed significant intraspecific variations of the pollen grains in three of the five species studied. Thoughts are in progress to speculate on the nature of the evolutionary processes underlying the morphological differences observed, in other words, whether they might have arisen from natural selection or from random drift.

Contact: Prasad S. (IFP)
prasad.s@ifpindia.org

Icons Identification Project

A pioneering CD-ROM project on the Icons Identification is launched to...
identify the Hindu Gods and Goddesses by using the BIOTIK software of the Ecology Department in association with Dr. J.P. Pascal, the former Director, and Dr. Pierre Grard, the present Director.

Contact: Dr. Murugesan N. (IFP)
murugesan.n@ifpindia.org

➢ Jain Sites of Tamil Nadu

The Jain Sites of Tamil Nadu DVD-ROM is in the final stage of publication. A prototype CD is prepared to release in advance. The final DVD will be ready in three months’ time.

Contact: Dr. Murugesan N. (IFP)
murugesan.n@ifpindia.org300

EVENTS

SEMINARS / WORKSHOPS / ROUND TABLES / LECTURES

For a detailed list of these events, consult the respective links:

C.SH:

➢ SUBURBIN
http://suburbin.hypotheses.org/

On 23rd and 24th April, the CSH jointly organized with the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (Mumbai) and the School of planning and Architecture (Delhi) a workshop untitled Provincial Urbanization: examining the role of small and medium towns and cities in the urbanization of India. This workshop focused on the significance of India’s small and medium cities and towns to the rapidly changing and complex processes of urbanization in India. It addressed complex questions about the relations between urban and rural areas, the nature and the extent of urbanization in contemporary India and the economic and social changes occurring in smaller urban settlements. The workshop was designed around 4 sessions of 3 to 4 paper presentations based on field work results. The topics of these sessions were: (1) scale and substance of urbanization in India, (2) economic, spatial and social changes and (3) governing medium and small towns: institutional changes, public policies and reforms. A final open panel discussion discussed some broader issues around urbanization as a process and the significance of non-metro settlements to the process.

Contact in CSH: zerah@ird.fr

➢ ANR Shiva
http://www.shiva-anr.org/

Final Meeting of the Indo-French ANR-VMC-S-2008 SHIVA Project, at the NGRI in Hyderabad, on 2 July 2013.

Contact in CSH : basudeb.chaudhuri@gmail.com

➢ CSH-CPR Seminars
http://www.cprindia.org/CPR-CSH-Workshop


CSH-CPR Urban Workshop Series, Decoding China’s Urban Dilemmas, by Geeta Kochhar, 26 February 2013

CSH-CPR Urban Workshop Series, Dirty but Comfortable?: Everyday state’s view of waste water in Delhi’s informal settlements, by Anna Zimmer, 26 March 2013


CSH-CPR Urban Workshop Series, Incremental City: The Interconnectedness of Place, Experience and Engagement, by Julia King, 25 June 2013

Contact in CSH : marie-helene.zerah@ird.fr
Internal seminar in CSH, Quality of choices, by Ivan Collombet and Emmanuel Schenck, 18 February 2013,

Contact : Ivan.Collombet@malix.univ-paris1.fr

IFP: http://www.ifpindia.org/-Seminars-Events.html

Seminars


- National seminar on "Provincial Urbanization. Examining the role of small and medium towns and cities in India", held at the IFP on 23-24 April 2013: http://www.ifpindia.org/Documenting-through-Film-in-Social-Science-Research.html/2013

- National seminar on "Interdisciplinary approach to tolkā ppīyam", held at the IFP on 31 January and 1 February 2013: http://www.ifpindia.org/article1212,12.html

Lectures


- "Biodiversity in deep time: Paleobotanical evidences from Indian subcontinent", held at the IFP on 25 February 2013: http://www.ifpindia.org/Biodiversity-in-deep-time-Paleobotanical-evidences-from-Indian-subcontinent.html

WELCOME

... at the EFEO

Dr Andrew DAVIES, Lecturer in Human Geography, Department of Geography and Planning, University of Liverpool was awarded a fellowship award to visit the EFEO Pondicherry this summer by the British Association of South Asian Studies and the European Consortium for Asian Field Study. He will visit the Centre from mid-July to Mid-August. His research focuses on political/activist networks, usually ones that cross national boundaries in some way. Whilst in Pondicherry, he will be looking at ideas of territory and political exile, in this case by looking at the lives of people like Subramania Bharatiyar and VVS Aiyar and how they acted politically whilst being simultaneously 'in' and 'out' of their homeland.

... at the CSH

Jayani BONNERJEE joined CSH in March 2013 as postdoctoral fellow to work on a project on identity and belonging for Calcutta's Chinese community. She completed her PhD on Calcutta's Anglo-Indian and Chinese communities from Queen Mary, University of London as part of the Leverhulme Trust funded 'Diaspora Cities' project.

Alexandre CEBEILLAC, PhD student in Geography at the Université de Rouen, joined CSH in April for three years, as part of the AEDESS Project (Analyse de l'Emergence de la Dengue Et Simulation Spatiale). His study, under the supervision of Dr. Michel Bussi and Alain Vaguet, focus on “Human mobility in relation with the spread of Dengue fever in Delhi”.

Claire-Lise DUBOST, student at the Ecole Nationale de la Statistique et de l'Administration, joined CSH from June to July, as a trainee, to work on a prosopographic study of the board members of the first 250 companies listed in the National Stock Exchange (NSE) in Mumbai from 2000 to 2012, under the supervision of Jules Naudet.

Estelle FOURAT, Ph D student at the Université Toulouse le Mirail, joined CSH from March to June, as a scholarship, to work on the topic “Food models' dynamics and modernity: determining factors implied in animal source food consumption in India”.

Guillaume GAGNEROT joined CSH in July. He will take care of the IT service for the next year.

Somsakun MANEERAT, PhD student in Geography at the Université de Rouen, joined CSH in April for two years, as part of the AEDESS Project. Her research, under the supervision of Emmanuel Eliot, consists of developing the agent-based model of the Aedes vector.

Guillaume TZELEPOGLOU, student at the Ecole Supérieure de Commerce de Toulouse, joined CSH from April to August, as a trainee, to work on a prosopographic study of the top executives of the first 250 companies listed in the National Stock Exchange (NSE) in Mumbai from 2000 to 2012, under the supervision of Dr Jules Naudet.

Paul VERTIER, student at the Ecole Nationale de la Statistique et de l'Administration, joined CSH from June to July, as a trainee, to conduct an
economic analyze of the urban growth in India, under the supervision of Basudeb Chaudhuri.

... at the IFP

Jérôme FERET, engineer in signal processing, joined the Laboratory of Applied Informatics and Geomatics (LIAG) from June 21, 2013 to May 31, 2014, as an International Volunteer, to work on signal processing, under the supervision of Dr. Cédric VEGA.

Sean KHER, student at the Department of South and South East Asian Studies, University of California at Berkeley, who has been awarded the IFP’s Sandwich fellowship within the framework of his thesis entitled “The South Indian Production of Pali Commentarial Literature”, joined the IFP on May 1st 2013, for a period of two years. He he will be working in the ongoing Buddha project of the Indology department under the local coordination of Prof. Y. SUBBARAYALU.

Jean-Luc BADER, engineer at the French Agency for Water, joined the Laboratory of Applied Informatics and Geomatics (LIAG) from April 2 to December 31, 2013, to work on statistical modelling, in the framework of the projects on Western Ghats Ecology and on Urban Growth, and under the supervision of Dr. Cédric VEGA.

Ahmed HAMROUNI joined the Laboratory of Applied Informatics and Geomatics (LIAG) from March 25, 2013 to February 14, 2014, as the new International Volunteer, working under the supervision of Dr. Cédric VEGA.

LAZAR J., MSc (Plant Biology and Biotechnology) joined from March to May 2013 and July to December 2013 to be trained in and assist with research on Pollen based Landcover Reconstructions and Melissopalynology, in the framework of the ongoing project on Paleoenvironments in south India under the joint supervision of Dr. K. ANUPAMA and Mr. S. PRASAD.

GOODBYE

... At the EFE0

Irene MAJO GARIGLIANO, PhD student at "Sapienza" University of Rome and at University "Paris Ouest-Nanterre La Défense", arrived at Pondicherry Centre of the EFE0 on 10th January 2013 for three months with an EFE0 scholarship. Her studies concentrate on the community of Brahmans of the Kāmākhyā Temple (Guwahati, Assam). Based on the understanding of the categories through which the Kāmākhyā Temple’s Brahmans subdivide themselves, her analyses focus on social, economic and political issues within the community. The number of pilgrims visiting the Kāmākhyā Temple has risen considerably in the last decades, producing deep economical changes and exacerbating rivalries among Brahmans. Having completed three fieldtrips (ten months altogether), Irene Majo Garigliano is now taking up the writing of her thesis.

Mayumi IIZUKA, doctoral student in Cultural Anthropology at the Kyoto University, Japan, visited the Centre from 8th to 12th February 2013 to consult the library and continue working on her thesis about Tamil Hinduism and the priest culture.

Sylvain BROQUET, Université de Provence, visited the Pondicherry Centre of the EFE0 from 20 to 26 February 2013.

Judith UNTERDÖRFLER (South Asia Institute, University of Heidelberg, ECAF member) received a scholarship from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) to spend three months in India for the preparation of her MA thesis. In March and April 2013 she stayed at the EFE0 Pondicherry, continuing her study of Govinda vilāsamahākāya, an unpublished Sanskrit poem, and preparing an edition and translation of its first chapter.

... at the CSH

Floriane BOLAZZI, student at the Institut d'étude du développement économique et social (IEDES), France, joined CSH from March to July, as a trainee, to work on the topic "networks and mobility" for the project “Palanpur: India’s Economic Revolution: A Perspective from Six Decades of Economic Development in a North Indian Village", under the supervision of Dr Himanshu.

Rémy DELAGE, research fellow at the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), member of the Centre d'Études de l'Inde et de l'Asie
Laurent GAYER was the ordinator of the International Relations research program of CSH between 2006 and 2008, before joining CNRS (CURAPP, Amiens). He has been affected by CNRS at CSH since October 2009. His affectation in CSH finished in September 2012 but he stayed in Delhi for a long-term mission until March 2013 before joining CERI in Paris. His most recent publications include a collective volume coedited with C. Jaffrelot, Muslims of Indian Cities. Trajectories of Marginalization.

Louise LAAGE, student at the Ecole Nationale Polytechnique, France, joined CSH from April to June, as a trainee, to work on the topic “Human Capital and growth in India”, under the supervision of Dr Basudeb Chaudhuri.

Caroline LÉGER, IT in charge of CSH, who had joined the Center in May 2012, left us in June of this year.

Renaud MISSLIN, student at the Université de Rouen, joined CSH from April to June, as a trainee, to produce risk maps at urban scale for the ANR project on Dengue, under the supervision of Eric Daudet.

Dr. Kamala MARIUS, PhD, HDR (Habilitation à diriger des recherches i.e. “accreditation to supervise research”), Associate Professor in Geography at the University of Bordeaux 3, France, who had been delegated by her University to pursue research at the French Institute of Pondicherry (IFP) from July 2012, left in May 2013.

R. PONNUCHAMY, student affiliated to the IFP and a PhD scholar under the supervision of Dr. A. Pragasam at the Kanchinamunivar Centre for Postgraduate Studies, Pondicherry, left the Institute on June 30 on completion of the works required to submit his doctoral thesis on pollen contents of honey from Ousteri, in the framework of cooperation with Project Ecolake, SAICE Pondicherry. He had been at the IFP since September 2006, initially as a trainee and field resource person in Madurai and later as a student under the co-supervision of Dr. K. ANUPAMA.

Devayani KHARE, project manager, who had joined the Laboratory of Applied Informatics and Geomatics (LIAG) on March 15, 2011, to work on the Western Ghats Collaborative Information System under the supervision of Dr. Cédric VEGA, left on June 30, 2013.

Baradhidashan P., Kaviarasam V. Priyan E. and Ravanyammal T, all MLIS students from the Pondicherry University, who had joined the Institute on 3 June 2013 for an internship at the library under the supervision of Ms. Anurupa NAIK, left on June end.

Roxane de FLORE, PhD student in Urbanism at the LAB’URBA, University of Marne-la-Vallée, France, who had joined the Social Sciences Department on January 8, 2013, to work on Micro-logics and private actor networks in land transaction. The case of IT corridor in Chennai under the supervision of Dr. Eric DENIS, left on June 10, 2013.

Jules MOREL, Engineer in Research and Development, who had joined the Laboratory of Applied Informatics and Geomatics (LIAG) of the IFP, on June 2, 2011, as an International Volunteer (VI), to work on geomatics and computer programming under the supervision of Dr. Cédric VEGA, left in May 2013.

Ritwika BASU, Master’s student from TERI University, Delhi, who had joined the Ecology Department on January 12, 2012, as a trainee, to work on Assessment of economic and conservation potential of different land uses in Chikmagalur, Western Ghats, under the supervision of Dr. Cheryl Nath and in the framework of the Rufford Small Grants Project, “Farming native timber trees on private fallow lands”, left on May 12, 2013.

Sébastien MICHELS, PhD student at the University Montesquieu - Bordeaux 4, France, joined the Social Sciences Department from January 30 to May 2, 2013, for fieldwork on Study of the diversity of migration in rural Indian area, under the supervision of Dr. Isabelle GUERIN and in the framework of the RUME project.

Annabara SHANTHALINGAM, 3rd year student at Sciences Po, Paris, who had joined the Social Sciences Department on September 1, as a trainee, to work in the framework of the SUBURBIN project and under the supervision of Dr. Eric DENIS, left on May 31, 2013.

Coralie ZORZI, student at the EPOC Laboratory of the University Bordeaux 1, France, who had joined the Ecology Department on February 1, 2013, for a training in South Indian pollen morphology and vegetation distribution, in the framework of her Master’s project, under the joint supervision of Dr. K. ANUPAMA and Mr. S. PRASAD, left on April 15, 2013.
Roshan D. PURANI, Masters in Wildlife Management from Kuvempu University who had joined the Ecology Department on September 17, 2012, as a trainee, to work on Population dynamics of one herbivore in Kaziranga National Park, Assam under the supervision of Dr. Cédric GAUCHEREL, left on March 31, 2013.

Dr. STEPHEN. A, who initially joined the IFP in January 2006 as an affiliated PhD student in the framework of the project on Paleoenvironments of South India, later as an IFP postdoctoral fellow from November 2009 in the DST funded project Pollen Analyses of quaternary Sediments: Reconstructing Vegetation and Environment History in the Cauvery Floodplains under the supervision of Dr. K. Anupama, left on February 28, 2013.

Bastien ROUY, Software engineer who had joined the Ecology Department on January 16, 2012, to work in the BVH project under the supervision of Dr. Cédric GAUCHEREL, left on February 28, 2013.

Salima EL MOKHTARI, engineer in digital and vision imaging from Télécom Saint-Etienne, France, who had joined the IFP as an International Volunteer (VI) on March 31, 2011, to work in the the LIAG in the field of signal and image processing for remote sensing, left on February 28, 2013.

Guillaume TZELEPOGLU, Master 1 student at the Ecole Supérieure de Commerce de Toulouse, France, who had joined the Institute on August 1, 2012, as a trainee, to help in identifying Indian Institutions having an interest in terms of cooperation for the Agreenium consortium under the supervision of Dr. Pierre GRARD, left on January 31, 2013.

MILESTONES

**CSH**

The Indo-French research project on history and sociology of engineers, initiated by Roland Lardinois, sociologist (CNRS) at the Centre for Human Sciences of Delhi, has been redefined. Entitled "Engineers India", now led by Vanessa Caru, historian (CNRS), affiliated to the Centre for Indian and South Asian Studies (EHESS, Paris), the project gathers a dozen of researchers, and is funded by ANR for a period of three years from 2014 to 2016.

The French Ambassador in India, Francois Richier, gave the insignia of Chevalier de l'ordre des Palmes Académiques to Mr. Basudeb Chaudhuri, Director of the Centre for Sciences Humaines in New Delhi, on 14th of July.

**IFP**

- Dr. G. Thanikaimoni, listed as one of the great Indian Scientists.

The leading publishing house Manorama, has, in its recent publication (titled Tell Me Why, issue N°81), listed the great Indian Scientists across all time periods. The publication has included the Late Dr. G. Thanikaimoni, former head of the Palynology Laboratory at the French Institute of Pondicherry, as one among them in a list comprising of persons like Aryabhata, C.V Raman, Jagadish Chandra Bose, Homi Bhabha, Srinivasa Ramanujan...

- Endowment in the name of Prof. Y. Subbarayalu at the the Tanjavur Tamil University

An endowment has been created in the name of Prof. Y. Subbarayalu (Head of the Department of Indology at the French Institute of Pondicherry) and Prof. S.E. Rasu (Retired professor in History and Archaeology, Tanjavur Tamil University), in the Department of Epigraphy and Archaeology, as well as the Department of Marine Archaeology of the Tanjavur Tamil University, by their former students and colleagues.

This endowment will support research activities in those Departments. The function for the establishment of this endowment was held on 11th Feb 2013 at the Tamil University. The inaugural endowment lecture was delivered by Prof. Raghava Varier.

PUBLICATIONS

**BOOKS**

EFEO

Dhyānaratnāvali of Trilocanaśivācārya
Edited by R. Sathyanarayan and S. A. S. Sarma, SSSRI Series No 004, Srimath Srikanta Sivacharya Research Institute, Karaikal, 2013, xxxvi; 101 p.

Language: Sanskrit and English.

The Dhyānaratnāvali of Trilocanaśivācārya is a śaiva [liturgical] stotra, a hymn that provides the prescriptions for the visualisations required in worship. As in other Indian traditions, in the śaiva system prayer involves the
visualisation of the divinity often upon
a throne along with a retinue. The
Dhyanarathnâvalî edited in this volume
prescribes the visualisations used in
the daily prayer of an initiate into the
Śaiva Siddhânta school as formulated by the Śaiva theologian
Trilocaṇaśivâcārya.

Dhyanarathnâvalî, of about 202 verses,
most of them in anuṣṭubh metre,
contains a detailed prescription of the
worship of Sadāśiva with his five
retinues. This stotra does not treat the
execution of external ritual at all; what
it does is to present all that is done
with the mind in the course of the daily
obligatory worship of Sadāśiva and
his retinue (yâga) by an initiate to the
Śiva siddhânta. It takes the form of
instructions for mental worship
(dhyâna or, in modern parlance,
dhyânaśloka) formulated as
expressions of praise. At high-points
it is ornamented with doctrinal
statements that are similarly
formulated. What we have then are
the visualisations of all the divinities
of the worship given in the order
required in obligatory daily worship
(nityapūjā), beginning with the
worship of Šiva as sun, the
veneration of the deities on the
doorway and of Brahmr̥ as protector
of the site (vâstupa), the visualisation
of the throne worship, and finally of
Sadāśiva enthroned and encircled by
the five circuits (âvaraṇa).

IFP

Bhaṭṭoji Diksita on the Gajasûtra.

S.L.P. Anjaneya Sarma, François
Grimal with the collaboration of
Luther Obrock, Regards sur l’Asie
du Sud / South Asian Perspectives
no 1. Vyâkhyânamâlâ no 1, Institut
Français de Pondichéry, 2013, iii,
136 p.

Language: Sanskrit, English. 450 Rs

The present volume offers a glimpse
into early modern commentaries
in the field of vyâkaraṇa, the
discipline of grammar. The selection
at hand is comprised of three
commentaries of Bhattaji Diksita, the
17th century Mahâ râ s-trian brahmin
writing in Benares, on the sûtra 1.3.67
of the Astâdhyâyî, often called the
Gajasûtra after the elephants that
feature so prominently in its examples.
The present authors have chosen
these specific commentaries on this
particular sûtra since they are
exemplary in regard to their subject;
Bhattaji’s analysis and interpretation
of the sûtra both takes into account
much previous scholarship on the sûtra
and leads later scholars to further
discussions that take up the subtleties
of Bhattaji’s position — often in critical
ways. Furthermore, the method and
style of his commentaries here
reproduced and translated are in many
ways emblematic of the style of early
modern Sanskrit intellectuals.

Keywords: Sanskrit, Paninian
Grammar, Sanskrit Commentaries, Bhattaji Diksita

Târâkacakravarti Gâdâiharabhâttacâ
râyâkårtâhat>Vyutpattivā dah N.
S. Râ mà nujâtâ tâ cā râyâkårtâyā:
Vidvanmanorâmâ khâyâ Vâyâ

General editor Harekrishna Satapathy;
associate editors F. Grimal, S.
Lakshminarasimham, Rashtriya
Sanskrit Vidyapeetha Publication

The present volume intends to be
the first of a series under the general
title of Vyâkhyânamâlâ (A Garland of
Commentaries). The purpose of this
series is to illustrate and explain the
genre of commentary as an integral
part of Sanskrit intellectual history.
The works chosen will belong to
different domains: śåstra, that is
grammatical, poetic, and other
technical literature as well as kâvya,
the Sanskrit genre of belles lettres.
In the end, this series hopes to
include commentaries of different
types from different regions and
times. These commentaries can be
on a single source text — as in the
case of the present volume — or can
center around the explanation of a
specific topic. The criterion for
“commentary” is a deep
engagement with a problematic text
or concept. The prerequisite for
inclusion in this series is that the
commentaries must be previously untranslated.

Series; no. 266 / Steles: Jean Filliozat
Series in South Asian Culture and
History; no 1.2, Institut Français de
Pondichéry / Rashtriya Sanskrit

Language: Sanskrit. (Distributed by the
RSV, Tirupati / Diffusé par le RSV,

Language: English.

Many villages in India seem to possess urban characteristics. The Indian definition of urban area is restrictive and excludes numerous localities. This paper consequently explores what is potentially an urban area. A literature review of various definitions of the notion of urban and urbanity enables to develop indicators susceptible to enter a multidimensional approach going beyond the census definitions. It suggests a palette of indicators (demographic, social, economic, spatial, infrastructural and administrative) to categorize rural and urban localities. This methodological tool is then applied to a set of eight villages around Bhopal, the capital of Madhya Pradesh. The study identified two types of urban areas, those under the influence of Bhopal (suburban type) and those with a large degree of autonomy (growth-centre type). The results show that even in a sub-metropolitan environment, localities are very diverse and that factors of transformation depend on multiple factors ranging from accessibility and location to situated historical capital. Finally, this working paper demonstrates that studying urbanization only within the Census classified urban local units is certainly limiting and a broader approach may help us better understand the spread of urban characteristics in India even in small settlements and micro agglomerations.

Keywords: India, Bhopal, small towns, urban, urbanization, census, urban indicators

IFP-EFEO

➡️ Ancient Fortifications in the Tamil Country as Recorded in Eighteenth-Century French Plans.

Jean Deloche, Collection Indologie n° 120, Institut Français de Pondichéry / Ecole française d’Extrême-Orient, 2013, viii, 139 p. incl. ill.


Today, very few Indians know that, in the eighteenth century, the southern part of the peninsula was richly studded with fortifications, great and small, as most of them were dismantled by the British at the beginning of the nineteenth century. These strongholds, some of which had considerable administrative or political importance, were once crowded with large bodies of troops and resounded to the blaring noise of the guns; now they are completely abandoned and silent. In addition to this, temples, edifices dedicated to the service of gods, were also used as forts, though no vestiges of military structures are found around their enclosures today. Fortunately, eighteenth-century French engineers have drawn the plans of several of these defence works. These magnificent watercolour plans preserved in the French Archives are presented here: they illustrate in an extraordinarily precise and explicit manner the technological level of the South Indian fortifications and enable us to comprehend the role they played in the life of the Tamil Country.

Keywords: French plans, Tamilnadu, Forts, Fortified temples

Bilingual Discourse and Cross-Cultural Fertilisation: Sanskrit and Tamil in Medieval India.

Edited by Whitney Cox and Vincenzo Vergiani, Collection Indologie n° 121, Institut Français de Pondichéry / Ecole française d’Extrême-Orient, 2013, x, 466 p.

This collection of essays aims to trace the exchanges, responses, affinities and fissures between the worlds of Sanskrit and Tamil literary cultures in the medieval period. The literati who produced the works in these languages moved freely between domains that earlier Indological scholarship has tended to compartmentalise. The eleven studies presented in this volume strive to move beyond this narrow perspective and thus do justice to the richness and complexity of the cultural synthesis that took shape in South India in this period. By looking at the articulation of identities, practices, and discourses in texts of a range of genres composed in Tamil and Sanskrit (as well as Prakrit and Malayalam), these essays supply a picture of South India in the medieval period that is unique in its historical depth and conceptual complexity and demonstrate innovative ways to investigate and problematise cross-cultural phenomena, while suggesting how much work yet remains to be done.

Keywords: Sanskrit, Tamil, medieval, cultural and intellectual history, transculturation

An Enquiry into the Nature of Liberation: Bhaṭṭa Rāmakaṇṭha’s Paramokṣanirāsakārikāvṛtti, a commentary on Sadōyōjotih’s refutation of twenty conceptions of the liberated state (mokṣa).

For the first time critically edited, translated into English and annotated by Alex Watson, Dominic Goodall, S.L.P. Anjaneya Sarma, Collection Indologie n° 122, Institut Français de Pondichéry / École française d’Extrême-Orient, 2013, 508 p.


This book presents a short philosophical treatise in which twenty rival theories of the liberated state (mokṣa) are introduced and countered, and a long, discursive commentary that explores and develops the arguments that the treatise advances or implies. The original treatise comprises fifty-nine Sanskrit verses or implies. The original treatise comprises fifty-nine Sanskrit verses composed by Sadyojyotih (c. 675–725 AD), the earliest named Śaiva philosopher of the Mantramārga of whom works survive. The commentator, Bhaṭṭa Rāmakaṇṭha (c. 950–1000 AD), was a Kashmirian whose writings systematised the doctrines of the classical Śaiva Siddhānta, for some centuries the dominant school of tantric Śaivism.

Presented here is a first critical edition of these interlinked works and a richly annotated introduction lays out clearly the ideas that the edited texts expound. Their study casts light not only on the history of Śaiva thought, but also on a number of religio-philosophical doctrines for which little other testimony survives.

Keywords: Liberation (mokṣa), Śaiva siddhānta, Indian philosophy, Hindu theology, Śaivism, Sanskrit philology, Sadyojyotih, Rāmakaṇṭha

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SIELER R., 2013. From Lineage Transmission to Transnational Distance Education: The Case of Siddha Varmam Medicine, European Journal of Transnational Studies, 5(1): 112-143.

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