

Rebecca J. Manring

**Rebecca J. Manring**

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**Education**

- 1995 Ph.D., University of Washington, Asian Languages and Literature (Sanskrit, Bengali, Hindi). Dissertation Title: "Sacred Biography in the Formation of Religious Community: Advaitācārya and the Genesis of Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇavism."
- 1989 M.A. University of Washington, Asian Languages and Literature
- 1974 M.A., University of Washington, Slavic Linguistics
- 1973 B.A., University of Montana, Russian (with honors)

**Professional Positions**

- 7/2019 Full Professor, Indiana University, 50% Religious Studies, 50% India Studies.
- 7/2019-2021 Director, Dhar India Studies Program, Indiana University
- 1-12/2010 Acting Director, India Studies Program, Indiana University
- 6/2008 – 1/2010 Director of Curricula, Bangla Summer Institute, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 7/2006 - present Associate Professor, Indiana University, 75% India Studies, 25% Religious Studies.
- 7/2002-6/2006 Assistant Professor, Indiana University, 75% India Studies, 25% Religious Studies.
- 8/2000 - 6/2002 Assistant Professor, Indiana University, Religious Studies.
- 1996 - 7/2000 Visiting Assistant Professor, Indiana University, India Studies and Religious Studies.

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- 1995 Faculty, Antioch College (Yellow Springs, Ohio) Buddhist Studies Abroad Program, Bodh Gaya, India.
- 1994-95 Predoctoral Teaching Associate, University of Washington.
- 1991-1992 Sanskrit Instructor, Gold Summit (Buddhist) Monastery, Seattle.
- 1988-1990 Teaching Assistant, University of Washington.

### **Languages**

Principal research languages: Sanskrit, Middle Bengali, (Modern Kolkata Standard) Bengali, Pali.

Reading languages: Sanskrit, Bengali, Hindi, Russian, French, German.

Other languages studied: Bulgarian, Ukrainian, Old Church Slavic, Latin, Spanish, Urdu, Cornish, Colville.

### **Awards**

John W. Ryan Award for Distinguished Contributions to International Programs and Studies, 2020.

### **International Service Appointments**

- Spring 2022 Elected to Chair, Executive Committee, South Asian Summer Languages Institute.
- Fall 2020 Elected to 4-year term as Vice President, American Institute of Bangladesh Studies.
- Fall 2019 Appointed to IU Islamic Studies Program Advisory Board.
- Dec. 2017 Elected to 3-year term as Language Representative to the Executive Committee of the South Asian Summer Languages Institute.
- April 2014 Re-elected to 3-year term as Secretary, American Institute of Bangladesh Studies
- August 2012- present Appointed Director of Language Instruction, Dhar India Studies Program, IU
- May 2012 Appointed Chair, Language Committee, American Institute of Indian Studies
- June 2011 Elected to 2-year term on IU India Studies Executive Committee
- April 2011 Elected to 3-year term as Secretary, American Institute of Bangladesh Studies
- April 2011-2013 Elected to Executive Board, South Asia Microforms Project.
- Oct. 2010 Elected to South Asian Summer Language Institute executive board

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- April 2010 Appointed to curriculum committee, Global Village Living Learning Centre
- March 2009 Appointed to Language Committee, American Institute of Indian Studies.
- Feb. 2010 Elected to South Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies
- Nov. 2007 Named trustee for IU to the American Institute of Bangladesh Studies
- Nov. 2007 Elected to Steering Committee, Religion in South Asia Section, American Academy of Religion
- April 2005 Appointed to Executive Committee, South Asian Language Resource Council.
- May 2002 Appointed to advisory board of Eurasian Languages Program.
- 2001-2003 Elected to Executive Board, South Asia Microforms Project.
- 11/00-2/01 Directed South Asia Microforms Project's (SAMP) first microfilming venture in Bengal, to film the Sukumar Sen (Barddhamān Sāhitya Sabhā) Manuscript Collection.
- July 1998 Leader, first Indiana Network for Development of India Awareness (INDIA) faculty summer study-tour to India.
- May 1998 Organizer and host, 32nd Bengal Studies Conference. Indiana University.

## Research

## Books

*The Fading Light of Advaita Ācārya: Three Hagiographies.* New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.

*Reconstructing Tradition: Advaita Ācārya and Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇavism at the Cusp of the Twentieth Century.* A study of the biographical corpus of Advaitācārya and its position in and impact on Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇavism. New York: Columbia University Press, 2005.

*Catalogue of the Sukumar Sen (Barddhamān Sāhitya Sabhā) Manuscript Collection.* With Hena Basu. Resources for Scholarship on Asia Series. Ann Arbor: Association for Asian Studies, 2006.

## Publications (\* indicates peer-reviewed publications)

\*"Rādhāntram: Rādhā as Guru in the Service of the Great Goddess." *International Journal of Hindu Studies*, 23(3), 259-282.

\*"Pāli Buddhist and Christian Analyses of Gender," with Carol S. Anderson. *Journal of Buddhist and Christian Studies*, Vol. 38, 2018.

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\*Rebecca J Manring; Child Sacrifice in Rūparāma's *Dharmamaṅgala*, *The Journal of Hindu Studies*, hiy003, <https://doi.org/10.1093/jhs/hiy003>.

"Radha in Tantra," in Harsha Dehejia, *Radha: From Gopi to Goddess*, New Delhi: Niyogi Books, 2013.

\*"Does Kṛṣṇa Really Need His Own Grammar? Jiva Gosvamin's Answer." *International Journal of Hindu Studies*, Vol. 12, No. 3 (2008):257-286.

\*"Sītā Devī: An Early Vaiṣṇava Guru." In *The Graceful Guru: Hindu Female Gurus in India and the United States*, Karen Pechilis-Prentiss, editor. Oxford University Press, 2004. pp. 51-64.

"The Sukumar Sen (Bardhamān Sāhitya Sabhā) Manuscript Collection." In *Śraddhālekhamālā, the Sukumar Sen Centenary Volume*, Pavitra Sarkar, editor. Kolkata: Paścimabaṅga Bāṅglā Academy, 2003. pp. 437-444.

\*"Vaiṣṇava Jīvana-Sāhityacarcāya Sukumāra Sena." *Bāṅgīya Sāhitya Pariṣat Patrikā*, Vol. 106, No. 1-4, 1409 Bengali Era (2002 C.E.), pp. 99-102.

"Research on Advaitācārya." In *Devotional Literature in South Asia: Current Research 1997-2000*. Proceedings of the Eighth International Conference on Early Literature in New Indo-Aryan Languages, Leuven, 23-26 August 2000. Winand M. Callewaert and Dieter Taillieu, eds. Delhi: Manohar, 2002. pp. 123-127.

"The Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇava Philosophy and the Life of Advaitācārya." *Bulletin of the Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture*. Kolkata, India. Vol. XLIX No. 9. October 1998.

\*"At Home in the World: The Lives of Sītādevī." *International Journal of Hindu Studies*, Vol. 2, No. 1 (1998):21-42.

"In the Name of Devotion: Acyutacaraṇa Caudhurī and the Hagiographies of Advaitācārya," with Tony K. Stewart. *Journal of Vaiṣṇava Studies*, Volume 5 No. 1 (Winter 1996-97):47-70.

"*Advaitaprakāśa*: Questions of authenticity in Vaiṣṇava hagiography." *Studies in Early Modern Indo-Aryan Language, Literature and Culture*, edited by Alan W. Entwistle and Carol Salomon. Delhi: Munshiram Manohar, 1999, pp. 227-238.

"Pāglā Kānāiyera Gānera Ingreji Tarjamā," in Abul Ahsan Chaudhuri, *Pāglā Kānāi: 1824-1889*, Dhaka: Bāṅglā Akadēmī, 1994. Appendix.

## Work in Progress

Body and Embodiment in the Middle Bengali Imaginary. Multi-year project jointly sponsored by the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies and Jagiellonian University (Cracow, Poland).

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Rūparāma's *Dharmamaṅgala*, translation of this 26,000-verse Middle Bengali epic poem, with articles published separately. Under contract with Oxford University Press.

Rūparāma's *Dharmamaṅgala*, ethnographic project describing contemporary celebrations of the *baramati* of the god Dharma.

Jiva Gosvami's *Harināmāmṛtavayākaraṇa*; book-length project on sectarian Sanskrit grammars.

### Conference Papers and Invited Lectures

“Magic and Maya in Rūparāma’s *Dharma-maṅgala*,” Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin, October 20, 2023.

“What Makes a Woman, or, Can We Trust Our Senses? Visual Testimony in Viṣṇudāsa’s *Sītā-guṇa-kadamba*.” All-day Vaiṣṇava Sensorium symposium at the Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin, October 18, 2023.

“Is Death Really the End”? Paper presented to the 20<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the European Association for the Study of Religions, Vilnius, Lithuania, September 5, 2023.

“Magic and Mystery in Maṅgala-kāvya.” Keynote address at the International Conference on South Asian Literature and Culture at Gour Banga University, Malda, April 26, 2023.

“Sukumar Sen and the Place of Popular Literature: Why Story Matters.” Invited lecture at the National Institute of Technology, Silchar, April 20, 2023.

“From Bardhamana to Bloomington: How Lausena Made the Sun Rise in the West.” Invited lecture for the Comparative Literature Department, Jadavpur University, April 10, 2023.

“Rupram’s *Dharma-maṅgala* and the Importance of a Good Story.” Valedictory lecture, *Literature and Aesthetics: Poetics of the Affective: An International Seminar* organized by the Departments of Comparative Indian Languages and Literature and English, University of Calcutta, March 28, 2023.

“Devotional Self-Destruction: How a Narcissistic Dancer Fell to Earth and Birthed a Mighty Champion.” Madison Conference on South Asia, October 21, 2022.

“Prayer and Practice: Surviving the Worship of Lord Dharma in Premodern Bengal.” Conference on the Study of Religion in India, Colby College, Waterville, Maine. June 24, 2022.

“Does Critical Editing Really Help?” Madison Conference on South Asia, October 21, 2021.

Keynote address, South Asian Language Teachers’ Association annual meeting (virtually), “Don’t Give Up Until It’s Done.” June 26, 2021.

“Hanumāna’s Leaps of Faith: Intertextuality in the *Dharma-maṅgala*,” invited talk, 37th annual symposium, Sanskrit Traditions in the Modern World, Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies (virtually), May 28, 2021.

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Who Cares About the Past? Rūparāma's *Dharmamaṅgala*. Small Talks Series sponsored by Heritage Walks Calcutta, Neogi Books, Kolkata, India, January 25, 2020.

Unity in Diversity in Premodern Bengal: Rūparāma Cakravartī's *Dharma-maṅgala*, invited lecture at the Centre for the Study of Social Sciences, Calcutta, January 22, 2020.

"A Journey to 1650," International Seminar on Bengali Literature, St. Xavier's College, Kolkata, India, January 21, 2020.

"Human Rights and Middle Bengali Literature," keynote address at International Conference on Human Rights: Context and Concerns, Bijoy Krishna Girls' College, Howrah, India, January 17, 2020.

"It's All in the Family: Translating Kinship Terms," Translation Across Time and Space seminar at Indiana University India Gateway, Delhi, India, January 12, 2020.

"Lāusena Goes to Australia: Rūparāma's *Dharmamaṅgala*: Translating the Precolonial Bengali World." South Asian Research Institute, Australian National University, September 3, 2019.

Keynote speaker, Innovations in Language Teaching Symposium, Australian National University, Friday, September 6, 2019, Canberra, Australia.

"Unexpected Epic Heroes," presented to the Annual Meetings of the Association for Asian Studies, March 24, 2019, Denver, Colorado.

"Little Boy Lost: Rūparāma Cakravartī's Ātmakāhinī," presented to the Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Friday, October 12, 2018.

"The Slaying of the Tiger," Canto 13 in Rūparāma's *Dharmamaṅgala*. Led several translation sessions at the August 2017 Middle Bengali Literary Workshop cum Retreat at Sapientia University in Miercurea Ciuc, Romania.

"Early Bengali Printed Materials," Lilly Library, Indiana University, April 3, 2017.

Work in progress on cannibalism in Rūparāma's *Dharmamaṅgala*, IU Religious Studies Department Colloquium, November 2, 2016.

"The Kidnapping of Lāusena," Canto 9 in Rūparāma's *Dharmamaṅgala*. Led several translation sessions at the August 2016 Middle Bengali Literary Workshop cum Retreat at Sapientia University in Miercurea Ciuc, Romania.

"Child Sacrifice in Rūparāma's *Dharmamaṅgala*," presented to American Institute of Bangladesh Studies Conference on Bengali Maṅgalakāvya and Related Literature, University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 22, 2015.

"Americans Abroad, with Bangla, Boishnabs and Buddhists," Keynote address, SEASSI/SASLI/CESSI Joint Student Conference, University of Wisconsin-Madison, July 25, 2015.

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“Language in the Movies,” Brown bag talk presented to the Indiana University Summer Language Institute, June 9, 2015.

“*Rādhātantram*: Reverse Vernacularization and Role Reversal,” invited paper, Oxford University conference on Bengali Vaiṣṇavism, March 27-29, 2015, Oxford, England.

“Reverse Vernacularization in Seventeenth-Century Bengal: *Rādhātantram*,” presented at the Annual Meetings of the American Oriental Society, Phoenix, AZ, March 16, 2014.

“Rādhā Tantra: Kṛṣṇa as Kālī’s Child, Rādhā as Guru,” presented at the Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 19, 2013.

“Tagore and the Unitarians.” Keynote address, annual Tagore Conference, Urbana, Illinois, November 10, 2012.

“Translation and Appropriation in Rūparāma’s *Dharmamaṅgala*.” International Conference on Early Modern Literatures in North India, Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla, India. August 6, 2012.

“Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇava Hagiography.” Presidency University, Kolkata, India. January 2, 2012.

“The Genesis of the Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇava Tradition.” Dr. U.P. Shah Memorial Lecture, The Oriental Institute, M.S. University, Baroda, Gujarat, India. December 21, 2011.

“The *Mahābhārata* in Cross-cultural Perspective.” Dr. U.P. Shah Memorial Lecture, The Oriental Institute, M.S. University, Baroda, Gujarat, India. December 21, 2011.

Keynote address, Kazi Nazrul Islam Endowment for Bengali Arts, Culture and Literature. California State University-Northridge, October 3, 2011.

“Mandir and Masjid at the Movies.” Conference on the Study of Religion in India, Los Angeles, June 26, 2011.

“Slippery Stotras and Shifting Alliances in Pre-colonial Hagiographies.” American Oriental Society, Chicago, March 12, 2011.

“Western Women in South Asian Cinema: The Slut/Savior Dichotomy.” South Asian Feminist Conference, IU-B, March 5, 2011.

Keynote address, Conference on Mitigating Rural Poverty in India, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, October 29, 2010.

Organizer and presenter, Panel in Memory and Honour of Carol Goldberg Salomon at the Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 24, 2009.

“Sanskrit and Western Popular Media,” presented at the annual meeting of the American Oriental Society, Albuquerque, March 14, 2009.

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Respondant to "In Search of Bene Israel," film shown during the "Jewish Women in Global Perspective" conference, Indiana University, October 12, 2008.

Respondant to "Tradition and Asian Modernity" panel, conference on Traditional Scholarship and Asian National Modernity, Indiana University, Bloomington, October 3, 2008.

"Advaita's Nineteenth Century Reconstruction," presented as part of the panel on the nineteenth century reconstruction of Bengali Vaishnavism at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Diego, Nov. 17, 2007.

"Does Krsna Really Need His Own Grammar? Jiva Gosvami's Answer," presented as part of the panel on sectarian grammars at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Washington, D.C., Nov. 21, 2006.

"Jiva Gosvami's *Harinamamrtavyakarana*," Part IV, Thirteenth World Sanskrit Conference, Edinburgh, UK, July, 2006.

"Jiva Gosvami's *Harinamamrtavyakarana*," Part III, American Oriental Society National Meeting, Seattle, WA, March 20, 2006.

"Jiva Gosvami's *Harinamamrtavyakarana*," Part II, Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin, October 7, 2005.

"Jiva Gosvami's *Harinamamrtavyakarana*," South Asia faculty seminar, University of Chicago, January 27, 2005.

Response to "Religion and Philosophy" section, international conference on "The Status of India Studies in the United States," Bloomington, IN, September 16, 2004.

Response to "Kabir Between Religious and Political Discourses," panel at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion. Atlanta, November 22-25, 2003.

"The Goddess Constrained? Women in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Hinduism." Lecture delivered to the Indiana University Mini-University, June 23, 2004.

"Mirabai: The Bengali Perspective." Invited lecture at the International Conference on Mirabai: Hindu Saint for a Global World. Los Angeles, October 3-7, 2002.

"Saviours and Serpents: A Middle Bengali Epic." Lecture delivered to the Indiana University Mini-University, June 19, 2002.

"*Bālyalīlāsūtra*: Nineteenth-Century Forgery or Mere Child's Play." Annual Meeting, American Oriental Society, Houston, TX, March 23, 2002.

"The Sukumar Sen Manuscript Preservation Project: Mission Accomplished!" Lecture jointly sponsored by the Indiana University Main Library and India Studies Program, Sept. 27, 2001.



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- “Vaiṣṇava Jīvanera Carcā o Sukumāra Sena.” Sukumar Sen Centenary Seminar, jointly sponsored by the Baṅgīya Sāhitya Pariṣat and the Bāṅglā Academy, Kolkata, January 15, 2001.
- “Advaitācārya and the Sahajīya Tradition.” Eighth International Conference on Early Literatures in New Indo-Aryan Languages, Leuven, Belgium, August 23-26, 2000.
- “Sītā Devī: An early Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇava Guru.” Annual Meeting, American Academy of Religion, Boston, MA, November 23, 1999.
- “Rādhā Tantra: Vernacular Sanskrit in the Service of the Goddess.” Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, October 16, 1999.
- “Mādhavendra Pūrī: Gauḍīya Link with the South?” Conference on Religion in South India, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina, June 11, 1999.
- “The Sukumar Sen Manuscript Collection: Issues in Preservation.” Western Branch, American Oriental Society, Seattle, Washington, October 31, 1998.
- “The Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇava Philosophy and the Life of Advaitācārya.” Mala Das Endowment Lecture, Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Calcutta, India, August 1, 1998.
- “*Rādhā Tantra*: Kṛṣṇa as Kālī's Child, Rādhā as Guru.” Constrained by Choice? The Places of Bengali Vernacular Tantra. Conference held at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia PA, September 11-14, 1997.
- “Dating of Bengali Vaishnava Hagiographies: Is it a Sin to Tell a Lie?” Pacific Northwest Regional Meeting, American Academy of Religion, Great Falls, MT, May 4, 1996.
- “Dating problems in Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇava Hagiography.” Krishnanagar Public Library, Krishnanagar, West Bengal, January 16, 1996.
- “Sītādevī and the position of women in Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇavism.” American Association for Asian Studies, Washington, D.C., April 20, 1995.
- “*Advaitaparakāśa*: Questions of authenticity in Vaiṣṇava hagiography.” Sixth International Conference on Early Literature in New Indo-Aryan Languages, Seattle, WA, July 8, 1994.
- “Hagiographical process as exemplified in the biographies of Advaitācārya.” Seminar, The American Institute of Bangladesh Studies, Dhaka, Bangladesh, June 14, 1994.
- “Advaitācārya o Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇava Dharma” (in Bengali). Meeting of the Śāntipur Purān Pariṣad, Shantipur, West Bengal, April 18, 1993.
- “Advaitācārya's *Mañjarī Sādhanā*.” The Society for Tantric Studies, Palo Alto, CA, May 28, 1992.
- “The Biographies of Advaitācārya.” Western Regional Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Santa Clara, CA, March 27, 1992.

## Fellowships and Grants

- 2022-23 Fulbright-Nehru Academic Excellence (flex) Award for “Rūparāma Cakravartī’s *Dharma-maṅgala* and Performing Devotion from Precolonial Bengal to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.”
- 2019 IU OVPIA Global Gateway Seed Grant to host Translation Across Time and Space seminar at India Gateway, January 10-12, 2020.
- 2016 Indiana University OVPIA International Conference Award, for the first Middle Bengali retreat-cum-workshop in Mircurea Ciuc, Romania, August, 2016.
- 2015 Indiana University Institute for Advanced Study Individual Research Award, used for travel to International Women in Buddhism conference in Jogjakarta, Indonesia.
- 2013 Indiana University nominee for National Endowment for the Humanities summer fellowship
- 2013 Indiana University College Arts and Humanities Institute Fellowship (Fall)
- 2011 Indiana University College Arts and Humanities Institute travel exploration grant
- 2007 Indiana University College Arts and Humanities Institute travel exploration grant
- 2006 Indiana University International Travel award, to present an invited paper at the Thirteenth World Sanskrit Conference in Edinburgh, Scotland, in July.
- 2003 Indiana University Summer Faculty Research Fellowship.
- 2001 Indiana University College of Arts and Sciences Summer Research Fellowship.
- 2000 Indiana University International Travel award, to present an invited paper at the Eighth International Conference on Early Literatures in New Indo-Aryan Languages, Leuven, Belgium.
- 1999 American Institute of Indian Studies senior research fellowship to catalogue and microfilm Sukumar Sen manuscript collection, West Bengal, India (project completed 2/2001). Grant awarded in non-convertible Indian rupees.
- 1999 Indiana Network for Development of India Awareness travel grant to attend 1999 Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin.
- 1997 Indiana Network for Development of India Awareness travel grant to attend Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin
- 1994 University of Washington Graduate School Dissertation Fellowship

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- 1993-94 American Institute of Bangladesh Studies Junior Fellowship (Bangladesh)
- 1992-93 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship (India)
- 1990-91 National Resource Fellowship (Hindi)
- 1987-88 American Institute of Indian Studies Advanced Language Fellowship (Bengali)
- 1985-87 National Resource Fellowship (Hindi) (2 academic year awards and one summer award)

## **Teaching**

### **Teaching Programs and Fellowships**

- May 2017 Making Principles of Effective FL/SL Instruction Real in the Classroom, Indiana University Center for Language Excellence
- 2004 Faculty Learning Community, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

## **Courses Taught**

### *Religious Studies*

- History of South Asian Buddhism (Antioch College Buddhist Studies Abroad Program)
- Introduction to the Religions of the East (R153)
- Introduction to Hinduism (R220)
- Bollywood and Beyond: Religion in South Asian Cinema (R335)
- Medieval Devotional Literatures of India (in translation) (R352/I370)
- Women in South Asian Religious Traditions (I380/580)
- The Goddess in Contemporary India (R202)
- Religion in Practice: Yoga (R D-325)

### *India Studies*

- Elementary Hindi
- Intermediate Hindi
- Elementary Sanskrit

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Intermediate Sanskrit

Advanced Sanskrit Readings

Sanskrit for Yogis

Literatures of Ancient and Classical India (in translation) (I370/570)

Medieval Devotional Literatures of India (in translation) (I371/571; R352; CMLT 301/645)

The Indian Epic in Comparative Perspective: The *Mahabharata*

Introduction to India (I100)

### **Other Teaching Competencies**

The *Rāmāyaṇa* in Comparative and Cross-Cultural Perspective

Early non-western epic literature

South Asian romance literature through the ages

Indian Iconography

Asian Hagiographical Traditions

Goddess Traditions of India

### **Consulting**

Nov. 2, 2020 “History of Sanskrit.” Taught for Mount Madonna (Ayurvedic and Yoga) Institute.

Spring 2015 Sanskrit script and pronunciation for yoga teachers. Vibe Yoga Study, Bloomington, Indiana, March 6-8 (20 hours)

Fall 2013 Indianapolis Art Museum, Indianapolis, translation on series of Rajasthani manuscripts for *Fabled Kings: Court Painting of India* exhibit, March-September, 2014.

Dec. 2011 National Library of India, Kolkata, on preserving India’s unpublished literary heritage.

Fall 2011- Pali/Sanskrit commentary tutorial for Prof. Carol Anderson of Kalamazoo College present

July 2007 Language pedagogy consultant, Bangla Summer Institute, Dhaka, Bangladesh (American Institute of Bangladesh Studies and U.S. Dept. of State).

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## Service

### Conferences and Programs Organized

*Śitalā-maṅgalas* and Their Places in Pre-modern Bengali Literature. Virtual symposium held on three successive Fridays (Oct. 29, Nov. 5, Nov. 12, 2021) with scholars from India, Russia, Poland, the U.S., and more.

Middle Bengali Reading Group: *Śitalā-maṅgala*. Scholars from around the world meet weekly via Zoom to read and discuss this premodern epic treating the smallpox goddess.

Translation Across Time and Space, international conference held at Indiana University India Gateway, Delhi, India, January 11-12, 2020.

Organizer (with Thibaut d'Hubert and Imre Bangha), fourth Annual Middle Bengali Reading Retreat-cum-Workshop, Bab Zouina, Morocco, August 4-12, 2019.

Organizer (with Thibaut d'Hubert and Ishan Chakrabarty), third Annual Middle Bengali Reading Retreat-cum-Workshop, to be held at Deer Park, Himachal Pradesh, India, August 1-10, 2018.

Organizer, with Susan Seizer, of the IU Cinema series "Fans of the Indian Cinema," Spring 2017.

Organizer, with Susan Seizer, of the IU Cinema series "Managing Differences," Spring 2016.

American Institute of Bangladesh Studies Conference on Bengali *Maṅgalakāvya* and Related Literature, University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 22, 2015.

(Near) Annual Faculty Development Workshop, American Institute of Indian Studies, early January in New Delhi, India; since 2012.

Bengal Studies Conference, IUB, Spring 1998.

### Encyclopedia Articles

"Hinduism in West Bengal and Surrounding Areas." In Oxford Bibliographies Online: Hinduism. Ed. Alf Hiltebeitel. New York: Oxford University Press, forthcoming.

"The Goddess Sitala," for Brill *Encyclopedia of Hinduism*. Brill, 2009.

"Religion in South Asia (India)," for Brown Reference Group encyclopedia of world religions for high school students.

### Book Reviews

Tony K. Stewart. *Witness to Marvels: Sufism and Literary Imagination*. Oakland: The University of California Press, 2019. [Witness to Marvels | Reading Religion](#)

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Rembert Lutjeharms. *A Vaiṣṇava Poet in Early Modern Bengal: Kavikarṇapūra's Splendour of Speech*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018. *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 141.1 (2021)

Carol Salomon. *City of Mirrors: Songs of Lālan Sāi*. Text, translation, and commentary by Carol Salomon. Edited by Keith E. Cantu and Saymon Zakaria. New York: Oxford University Press, 2017. *Bhāva-nagara* 12.13-14 (2020):1537-1540. Bangla Akademy, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Varuni Bhatia, *Unforgetting Caitanya* and Sukanya Sarbadhikary, *The Place of Devotion*. Review essay for *History of Religions* 59.1, August 2019.

Mans Broo. *The Radha Tantra: A critical edition and annotated translation*. Routledge 2017. In *The International Journal of Hindu Studies*, forthcoming.

Lisa I. Knight. *Contradictory Lives: Baul Women in India and Bangladesh*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011. In *The Oxford Journal of Hindu Studies*.

Tony K. Stewart. *The Final Word: The Caitanya Caritāmṛta and the Grammar of Religious Tradition*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2010. *The Journal of the American Oriental Society* 131.2 (2011):297-299.

Vijaya Mulay. *From Rajahs and Yogis to Gandhi and Beyond: Images of India in International Films of the Twentieth Century*. Calcutta: Seagull Press, 2007. *Studies in South Asian Film and Media* 2.2(2011): 134-136.

Sudha Chandola. *Entranced by the Goddess: Folklore in North Indian Religion*. Wymeswold: Heart of Albion Press, 2007. In *Asian Ethnology* 68.1 (2009):165-167.

Ravi M. Gupta. *The Caitanya Vaisnava Vedanta of Jiva Gosvami: When Knowledge Meets Devotion*. London and New York: Routledge, 2007. In *The Journal of Hindu Studies* 3.1 (2010): 143-144.

Patrick Colm Hogan. *Understanding Indian Movies: Culture, Cognition, and Cinematic Imagination*. Austin, University of Texas Press, 2008. In *The Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol. 69.1 (February 2010): 308-310.

Michael Madhusudan Datta. *The Slaying of Meghanada: A Ramayana from Colonial Bengal*. Translated with an introduction by Clinton B. Seely. New York: Oxford University Press, 2004. *Religion and Literature*, 2007 (39.3):97-98.

David L. Haberman, translator. *The Bhaktirasāmṛtasindhu of Rūpa Gosvāmin*. New Delhi: Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts and Motilal Banarsidass, 2003. *South Asia Research* 26.3 (2006):303-304.

J.E. Llewellyn, editor. *Defining Hinduism: A Reader*. New York: Routledge, 2005. *International Journal of Hindu Studies* 10.3 (2006): 337-338.

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C.J. Fuller. *The Camphor Flame: Popular Hinduism and Society in India*. Revised and expanded edition. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2004. *Journal of Religion*, forthcoming.

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Rajat Kanta Ray. *The Felt Community: Commonalty and Mentality before the Emergence of Indian Nationalism*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2003. *Journal of Asian Studies*, May 2004.

Catherine A. Robinson. *Tradition and Liberation: The Hindu Tradition in the Indian Women's Movement*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1999. *International Journal of Hindu Studies*, 6.2, 2002.

Geoffrey A. Oddie, ed. *Religious Traditions in South Asia: Interaction and Change*. Richmond: Curzon Press, 1998. In *International Journal of Hindu Studies*, 4.1 (2000).

Lee Siegel. *City of Dreadful Night: A Tale of Horror and the Macabre in India*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1997. In *International Journal of Hindu Studies* 1.3 (1997).

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Malcolm McLean. *Devoted to the Goddess: The Life and Work of Ramprasad*. SUNY Series in Hindu Studies. Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, 1998. In *Religious Studies Review*, October 1998.

### **Other Publications and Activities**

On-line article on linguistic diversity in South Asia for *Fair Observer*, September 2013.

“Rādhā in Tantra,” in Harsha Dehejia, ed., *Radha: From Gopi to Goddess*, New Delhi: Niyogi Books, 2013.

Forward to Susunaga Weeparuma, editor, *The Essential Swami Ramdas*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Bloomington: World Wisdom, 2005.

“Religious Diversity in India.” *Ricepaper* (Newsletter of the Indiana University Asian Cultural Center), Fall 2001.

Asian Religions monthly lunch table, Collins Living-Learning Center, Indiana University.

“Devotional Literature.” Indiana Consortium for International Programming. Brown County, Indiana. November 5, 1999.

Rebecca J. Manring

“Bengali Culture through the Eyes of an American Professor.” Keynote address (in Bengali), Baṅga Mela, Louisville, KY, July 31, 1999.

“The Bauls of Bengal.” Keynote address, Bangladeshi Cultural Association of the Midwest annual meeting, Indianapolis, IN, June 20, 1998.

“Response to *An Unlikely Donor*,” in *Ethics and World Religions: Cross-cultural Case Studies*. Regina W. Wolfe and Christine E. Gudorf, editors. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books: 1999, pp. 346-348.

*Traditions of Yoga Yesterday and Today*. Main speaker. Andrea Roth, producer. 13-week television series for Rogers TV, Ontario, Canada.

### **International Service Appointments**

Fall 2020 Elected to 3-year term as Vice President, American Institute of Bangladesh Studies.

Dec. 2017 Elected to 3-year term as Language Representative to the Executive Committee of the South Asian Summer Languages Institute.

April 2014 Re-elected to 3-year term as Secretary, American Institute of Bangladesh Studies

August 2012- Appointed Director of Language Instruction, Dhar India Studies Program, IU  
present

May 2012 Appointed Chair, Language Committee, American Institute of Indian Studies

June 2011 Elected to 2-year term on IU India Studies Executive Committee

April 2011 Elected to 3-year term as Secretary, American Institute of Bangladesh Studies

April 2011- Elected to Executive Board, South Asia Microforms Project.  
2013

Oct. 2010 Elected to South Asian Summer Language Institute executive board

April 2010 Elected to Bloomington Faculty Council

April 2010 Appointed to curriculum committee, Global Village Living Learning Centre

March 2009 Appointed to Language Committee, American Institute of Indian Studies.

Feb. 2010 Elected to South Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies

Nov. 2007 Named trustee for IU to the American Institute of Bangladesh Studies



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- Nov. 2007 Elected to Steering Committee, Religion in South Asia Section, American Academy of Religion
- April 2005 Appointed to Executive Committee, South Asian Language Resource Council.
- Feb 2003 Appointed adjunct assistant professor of Comparative Literature.
- May 2002 Appointed to advisory board of Eurasian Languages Program.
- June 2002 Appointed to associate membership on Indiana University's Graduate School Faculty.
- 2001-2003 Elected to Executive Board, South Asia Microforms Project.
- 11/00-2/01 Directed South Asia Microforms Project's (SAMP) first microfilming venture in Bengal, to film the Sukumar Sen (Barddhamān Sāhitya Sabhā) Manuscript Collection.
- July 1998 Leader, first Indiana Network for Development of India Awareness (INDIA) faculty summer study-tour to India.
- May 1998 Organizer and host, 32nd Bengal Studies Conference. Indiana University.
- 1997-98 Coordinator and lecturer, Indiana University India Studies Film/Lecture Series.

### **Professional Memberships**

American Academy of Religion  
American Oriental Society  
Association for Asian Studies  
Baṅgīya Sāhitya Pariṣad (Kolkata, India)  
International Society for Tantric Studies

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