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EDUCATION

2011	Columbia University	<i>Ph.D., Religion</i>
2008	Columbia University	<i>M.Phil., Religion</i>
2002	Princeton Theological Seminary	<i>M.Div., Theology</i>
1997	Saint Olaf College	<i>B.A., Religion, Philosophy</i>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2011-2013	Lecturer – Centre for Modern Indian Studies, University of Göttingen <i>Untouchability and Religious Identity in Modern India</i> <i>Hinduism and its Others</i> <i>Religions in Modernity</i>
2007	Teaching Assistant – Religion Department, Columbia University <i>Introduction to Islam</i> <i>Early Christianity</i>
2004	Teaching Assistant – Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago <i>Systematic Theology I</i>

POSITIONS HELD

2013-present	Sushila & Durga Agrawal Postdoctoral Fellow in India Studies <i>Comparative Cultural Studies Department, University of Houston</i>
2011-2013	Postdoctoral Fellow in Indian Religions <i>Centre for Modern Indian Studies, University of Göttingen</i>
2010-2011	Visiting Research Associate <i>Institute of Ethnology, Academia Sinica (National Research Center of Taiwan)</i>

SELECTED AWARDS AND HONORS

2011-12	Whiting Dissertation-Year Fellowship (Columbia University) (<i>declined</i>)
2010-11	Faculty Fellowship (Columbia University)
2009-10	Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship (India)
2009-10	American Institute of Indian Studies Dissertation Fellowship (India) (<i>declined</i>)
2006-08	Delores Zohrab Liebmann Fellowship (Columbia University)
2005-08	Faculty Fellowship (Columbia University)
2005	Lutheran Confessions Prize (Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago)
2002-03	Princeton Theological Seminary – Universität-Tübingen Exchange Fellowship
2002	Senior Prize in Theology (Princeton Theological Seminary)
1999-2002	Presidential Fellowship (Princeton Theological Seminary)
1998-99	Fulbright-Institute of International Education Scholarship (India)
1999	Spalding Trust Scholarship for Inter-Religious Research (London)
1997	Phi Beta Kappa, Distinction in Religion and Philosophy Departments, Ken Bonde Award for Outstanding Work in the Paracollege (St. Olaf College)

PUBLICATIONS

Submitted	“Matthias Christian Sprengel’s Writings on India: A ‘Disenchanted’ and Forgotten German Orientalism at the End of the 18th Century,” in <i>Deploying Orientalism</i> . Ed. James Hodkinson. (Rochester NY: Camden House, Dec 2013 forthcoming).
2013	“Varkaris in Rural Western India” in <i>Contemporary Hinduism</i> . Ed. P. Pratap Kumar. (Durham: Acumen Publishing), pp. 148-161.
2012	“Eknāth,” (5000 words) in <i>Encyclopedia of Hinduism</i> . Ed. Knut Jacobsen. Vol. 4. (Leiden: Brill), pp. 218-226.
2012	“Jñāndev,” (5000 words) co-authored with Christian Novetzke, in <i>Encyclopedia of Hinduism</i> . Ed. Knut Jacobsen. Vol. 4. (Leiden: Brill), pp. 258-264.
2011	<i>Eknāth Remembered and Reformed: Bhakti, Brahmans, and Untouchables in Marathi Historiography</i> . PhD diss., Columbia University. UMI/Proquest No. AAT 3478107 and Columbia University Academic Commons: http://hdl.handle.net/10022/AC:P:11409 .
2011	“Vārkarī sampradāy,” (5000 words) co-authored with Christian Novetzke, in <i>Encyclopedia of Hinduism</i> . Ed. Knut Jacobsen. Vol. 3. (Leiden: Brill), pp. 617-626.

- 2010 “Bhārat āṇi Dharmaviṣayak Abhyās” [Marathi] in *Pratiṣṭhan* – the leading Marathi journal of literature and philosophy, 58:1, pp. 32-39. (translated title: “India and the Academic Study of Religion”)
- 2007 “Gathering the Bhaktas in Marāṭhī.” *Journal of Vaishnava Studies* 15:2, pp. 169-188.
- 2004 “The Inter- and Intra-Religious Conversions of Nehemiah Nilakantha Goreh” in *Journal of Hindu-Christian Studies* 17:1, pp. 45-54.

Book Reviews:

- Submitted *Anecdotes in the Vārakarī Kīrtana Folk Tradition of Mahārāṣṭra* – By Kasturi Dadhe. (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2012). *Orientalische Literaturzeitung* (2014 forthcoming)
- 2012 *The Rise of a Folk God: Viṭṭhal of Pandharpur* – By Ramchandra Chintaman Dhere, Translated by Anne Feldhaus. (Oxford University Press, 2011). *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 132:4, pp. 699-701.
- 2009 *The German Gītā: Hermeneutics and Discipline in the German Reception of Indian Thought, 1778-1831* – By Bradley L. Herling. (Routledge, 2006). *Religious Studies Review* 35:1, pp. 71-72.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Eknath Remembered and Reformed: Historicizing Bhakti and Caste in Western India

This book manuscript, which I will submit for consideration to the South Asia Across the Disciplines series at Columbia University Press, examines the deep-seated tension in *bhakti* traditions between a theologically egalitarian ideal and the endurance of caste hierarchy in practice. By investigating how hagiographical stories of caste transgression changed over centuries of retelling in various Marathi media, I shed light on a cultural history of caste.

“Pedagogical Otherness in Bhakti Literature: Muslims, Untouchables, and Eknāth”

This article, to be submitted for publication in October 2013, examines constructions of alterity in a set of 16th-century Marathi allegorical poems attributed to Eknath. I show that Eknath crafted his depictions of Muslims and Untouchables in order to convey theological messages, and Eknath found Untouchables to be more effective Others for this purpose than Muslims.

“Representations of Europe in Marathi School Textbooks”

I am preparing translations of key passages from Marathi school textbooks and critical commentaries on how Europe is depicted in them. This is part of a project *Repräsentationen Europas in internationalen Schulbüchern des 20./21. Jahrhunderts* (Representations of Europe in international schoolbooks in the 20th/21st centuries) with scholars of other languages at the Georg Eckert Institut in Braunschweig (Germany), to create an online database and interpretive tool for their vast archive of school textbooks from around the world. Initial contributions are scheduled to come online in 2014.

SELECTED RECENT PRESENTATIONS

- Nov 2013 “Emphatically Ignoring the Neighbors: the Selective Inter-Regional Orientation of the Varkari Tradition.” American Academy of Religion Conference. Baltimore.
- May 2013 “Eknath of Paithan in Context: Bhakti and the Limits of Intellectual and Social History.” Oxford Early Modern South Asia Workshop. Oxford University.
- Apr 2013 “Mahipati’s Mostly Missing Muslims: Islam, Bhakti, and Historiography in the Northern Deccan.” British Association of South Asian Studies Conference. Leeds.
- Nov 2012 “The Many Agendas of Interpreting Social Equality in Marathi Bhakti (1890-1933),” paper presenter & panel organizer “Modern Interpretations of Bhakti Traditions.” American Academy of Religion Conference. Chicago.
- Nov 2012 “The Limits of Royal Patronage for Historicizing Marathi Bhakti,” paper presenter & panel organizer “Indian Religions and the Limits of Royal Patronage.” American Academy of Religion Conference. Chicago.
- Sept 2012 “Conditions for Historicizing Religion: Hinduism, Social Change, and Regional Identity.” European Science Foundation Conference: “Historiography of Religion.” Norrköping, Sweden.
- July 2012 “Religious Others Redacted: the Writings of and Hagiographies about Eknath.” European Conference of South Asian Studies. Lisbon, Portugal.
- May 2012 “Distinguishing Spheres of Discourse: Public Marathi Bhakti and the Varkari Sampraday.” 11th Annual Israeli Asian Studies Conference. Tel Aviv, Israel.
- Nov 2011 “Untouchables, Brahmans, and Bhakti on the Marathi Stage and Screen.” Modern Indian History and Society Seminar. CeMIS, University of Göttingen, Germany.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- 2012-2013 Representative of mid-level teaching staff to CeMIS Board
Centre for Modern Indian Studies, University of Göttingen
- 2012 Manuscript reviewer (in German)
Columbia University Press
- 2011-present Co-chair and website designer/coordinator
Maharashtra Studies Group (affiliated with the Association of Asian Studies)
- 2007-2008 Student Representative of the Religion Graduate Students Association
Columbia University

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Marathi (advanced speaking & reading)

German (advanced speaking & reading)

Sanskrit (intermediate reading)

Biblical Greek (basic reading)

Biblical Hebrew (basic reading)

MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion

Association of Asian Studies

British Association of South Asian Studies

Society for Hindu-Christian Studies

Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute (Pune, India)

Rajwade Sanshodhan Mandal (Dhule, India)

Eknath Sanshodhan Mandir (Aurangabad, India)