

Call for application

The subproject “Changing Sacred Waterscapes: Religious and Scientific Knowledge Systems in Varanasi” of the Cluster of Excellence “Asia and Europe in a Global Context” offers one doctoral scholarship (3 years) within the interdisciplinary research group “Waterscapes in Transcultural Perspectives” (Research Area C, MC 9.2).

Within the framework of the research group we will look at discourses linked to changes of the waterscape of the north-Indian city Varanasi. Research will be carried out based on textual and cartographic sources as well as field work. One focus will be case studies situated in the 19th (James Prinsep) and 21st century. We will look at the waterscape of Varanasi in the context of an environmental history where technological, scientific and religious knowledge systems interact.

The successful applicants’ primary task will be to complete a PhD degree, but active participation in relevant graduate courses offered at the Cluster of Excellence or other institutes at Heidelberg University is recommended. The stipends are rated at €1200/month and last for 3 years. Access to travel and publication funding is available.

Candidates must hold an M.A. or equivalent in a relevant discipline of Indology, South Asian Studies and/or experience in ethnographical fieldwork methods in Asia/Asian contexts. Proficiency in English is mandatory as well as knowledge of one Asian language (Hindi / Sanskrit). An interest in interdisciplinary collaboration is essential.

To apply, send curriculum vitae, academic transcripts, an outline of a dissertation project (2-3 pages) related to the research group, names and contact details of two referees, and one written sample via email to apl. Prof. Dr. Jörg Gengnagel (joerg.gengnagel@urz.uni-heidelberg.de). Stipend start should be in 2013, review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

Heidelberg University is an equal opportunity/affirmative-action employer. In case of equality of qualification and suitability of applicants, the applications made by female researchers will be given preferential consideration. We also encourage and welcome applications from disabled persons.

For additional information see:

<http://www.asia-europe.uni-heidelberg.de/en/research/interdisciplinary-research-groups/mc9-waterscapes/mc92-changing-sacred-waterscapes.html>