



Centre for Religious Studies

Manipal Centre for Philosophy and Humanities

Invites you to a talk and interactive session with

Dr. Prashant Keshavmurthy, McGill University, Montreal, Canada

Translating Rāma as a Proto-Muhammadan Prophet:

Masih's Masnavi-i Rām va Sitā

DATE:

16TH JANUARY 2017 | 5:15PM

VENUE:

LECTURE HALL 3, MANIPAL CENTRE FOR PHILOSOPHY AND HUMANITIES, DR TMA PAI PLANETARIUM COMPLEX, MANIPAL



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Abstract:

This lecture proposes an interpretation of the meanings and methods of translation in Masih's early seventeenth century Masnavi-i Rām va Sitā, a Persian verse translation of Vālmiki's Sanskrit epic Rāmāyana. It opens by remarking on a shift in the study of the relations between poetics and politics of Persian translations of Indic texts. Then, purporting to complicate understanding of this relation, it takes issue with prior studies of this poem before answering the following questions these studies fail to pose: how does the prophetological metaphysics of the prefatory chapters relate to the poetics of emotion in the main body of his tale? And: what does this relation let us infer of Masih's theological conception of translation?

Bio note:

Prashant Keshavmurthy is Associate Professor of Persian-Iranian Studies in the Institute of Islamic Studies, McGill University, Montreal. He is the author of Persian Authorship and Canonicity in Late Mughal Delhi: Building an Ark (Routledge, 2016) and is currently working on a monograph on Mughal Persian commentaries on Sa'di's Gulistān. His interests include classical Persian and Urdu literature, literary theory and Islamic and Indian intellectual history.