

TRANSPOSITION AND TRANSFORMATION,  
CONTROVERSY AND DISCOVERY

ON THE CHRISTIAN ENCOUNTER WITH THE RELIGIONS OF  
EIGHTEENTH AND NINETEENTH-CENTURY INDIA

Edited  
by  
KARIN PREISENDANZ and JOHANNA BUSS



WIEN 2021

PUBLICATIONS  
OF THE DE NOBILI RESEARCH LIBRARY

Edited by

Gerhard Oberhammer  
Karin Preisendanz

\*\*\*

MOST RECENT RELEASE

KARIN PREISENDANZ – JOHANNA BUSS (ED.), *Transposition and Transformation, Controversy and Discovery. On the Christian Encounter with the Religions of Eighteenth and Nineteenth-Century India*. (Publications of the De Nobili Research Library 38). Wien 2021. 277p. € 28,-

\*\*\*

FOR ORDERS

<http://sdn-istb.univie.ac.at/order-form>

De Nobili Research Library  
Department of South Asian,  
Tibetan and Buddhist Studies  
Vienna University  
Spitalgasse 2, Hof 2.1  
A-1090 Vienna, Austria

# CONTENTS

Johanna Buss – Karin Preisendanz	
Introduction .....	vii
Martin Gaenzle	
Laudation .....	xxiii
Christophe Vielle	
Devotional Christianity and Pre-Indology in Early Eighteenth-Century Kerala: Johann Ernst Hanxleden, S.J., alias Arnos Padiri, Scholar and Poet .....	1
Mitch Numark	
The Emergence of Resistant Judaism in Colonial Bombay: Christian Missionaries, Cochin Jews, and the Hebraization of India’s Bene Israel Jews, 1738–1905 .....	49
Vera Höke	
“... But Knows Not of His Need of the Atonement”: Rammohun Roy’s Selective Construction of Christianity in His <i>Precepts of Jesus</i> and the Dispute about “True Christianity” in Early Nineteenth-Century Calcutta .....	125
Mitch Numark	
The Scottish “Discovery” of Jainism in Nineteenth-Century Bombay .....	193
The Authors .....	245

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

### VERA HÖKE

Vera Höke holds a master's degree in Religious Studies and South Asian History from Heidelberg University. She currently works on the finalization of her Ph.D. thesis which is devoted to a later branch of the Brahmos led by the famous — and to some extent notorious — Brahmo Keshab Chandra Sen. In her thesis, she demonstrates how Sen sought to construct his very own universal religion by merging influences of English and American Unitarianism and New England Transcendentalism with notions and concepts of *bhakti* as well as with Advaita Vedānta current in the second half of the nineteenth century.

Höke is affiliated to the Max-Weber-Kolleg Erfurt, where she participated in the interdisciplinary research group “Religious Individualization in Historical Perspective” and continues to contribute, as an associated doctoral researcher, to the Kolleg's agenda in her area of specialization.

### MITCH NUMARK

Mitch Numark is Associate Professor of History at California State University Sacramento. He received his BA from Pitzer College (Claremont, CA) and his MA and PhD from the University of California, Los Angeles. He has taught South Asian, British, and Jewish history at Pitzer College, the University of Oklahoma, UCLA, Bowdoin College (Brunswick, ME), and California State University Sacramento. He has published research articles in *Jewish Social Studies*, *Journal of Asian Studies*, *Modern Asian Studies*, and *Journal of Scottish Historical Studies*. In 2012, he received the De Nobili Research Library Prize for the best essay on the topic “Dimensions of the Christian Encounter with the Religions of India.” His recent publications include “Perspectives from the Periphery: The East India Company's Jewish Sepoys, Anglo-Jewry, and the Image of ‘the Jew’”, in *On the Word of a Jew: Religion, Reliability, and the Dynamics of Trust*, edited by Nina Caputo and Mitchell B. Hart (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2019).

## CHRISTOPHE VIELLE

Christophe A. M. Vielle holds a doctoral degree (1996) in Oriental Philology and History from the Catholic University of Louvain. He specialized in Indology and, in 1998, was chosen for the Michael Coulson Research Fellowship at Wolfson College, Oxford. As research associate of the Belgian Foundation for Scientific Research (FNRS), he is affiliated to the Oriental Institute in Louvain-la-Neuve, where he coordinates Indological research and functions as general editor of the series “Publications de l’Institut orientaliste de Louvain” and “Anecdota Lovaniensia Nova.” In charge of the courses on Sanskrit and classical Indology at the Catholic University of Louvain since 1996, he was appointed as professor there after his habilitation (Doctorat d’Agrégation de l’enseignement supérieur) in 2007. His primary research interests are in the philology of Itihāsa–Purāṇa, Kāvya and Śāstra, the historiography and epistemology of Western (pre-)Indology, and in the cultural history and anthropology of premodern Kerala (according to Sanskrit, Malayāḷam and Western sources) where he has travelled extensively. He has received the 2013 Colette Caillat Prize in Indian Studies, awarded by the Institut de France, for his work on the *editio princeps* of the eighteenth-century Sanskrit grammar by the Jesuit Johann Ernst Hanxleden.

### COMING NEXT

FRANCIS X. CLOONEY, S.J.: *Saint Joseph in South India. Poetry, Mission and Theology in Costanzo Gioseffo Beschi’s Tēmpāvaṇi.* Wien 2022. 194p. (€ 20)

RECENT PUBLICATIONS OF THE  
DE NOBILI RESEARCH LIBRARY

29. MARCUS SCHMÜCKER, *Weder als seiend noch als nichtseiend bestimmbar*. Vimuktātman's Lehre von der "Realität" der Welt. Wien 2001. 187p. (€ 19)
30. MINORU HARA, *Pāśupata Studies*. Ed. by JUN TAKASHIMA. Vienna 2002. 320p. (€ 32)
31. MARZENNA CZERNIAK-DROŹDŹOWICZ, *Pāñcarātra Scripture in the Process of Change*. A Study of the Paramasaṃhitā. Vienna 2003. 226p. (€ 23)
32. ALEX WATSON, *The Self's Awareness of Itself*. Bhaṭṭa Rāma-kaṅṭha's Arguments against the Buddhist Doctrine of No-Self. Wien 2006. 433p. (€ 43)
33. GERHARD OBERHAMMER, *Ausgewählte kleine Schriften*. Hrsg. von UTZ PODZEIT gemeinsam mit VELIZAR SADOVSKI und unter redaktioneller Mitarbeit von SUSANNE BOHDAL. Wien 2007. 769p. (€ 77)
34. ROQUE MESQUITA, *Madhvas Zitate aus den Purāṇas und dem Mahābhārata*. Eine analytische Zusammenstellung nicht identifizierbarer Quellenzitate in Madhvas Werken nebst Übersetzung und Anmerkungen. Wien 2007. 643p. (€ 64)
35. CEZARY GALEWICZ, *A Commentator in Service of the Empire*. Sāyaṇa and the Royal Project of Commenting on the Whole of the Veda. Wien 2010. 327p. (€ 33)
36. HIMAL TRIKHA, *Perspektivismus und Kritik*. Das pluralistische Erkenntnismodell der Jainas angesichts der Polemik gegen das Vaiśeṣika in Vidyānandins Satyaśāsanaparīkṣā. Wien 2012. 401p. (€ 28)
37. ELI FRANCO (ED.), *Periodization and Historiography of Indian Philosophy*. Wien 2013. 396p. (€ 40)
38. KARIN PREISENDANZ – JOHANNA BUSS (ED.), *Transposition and Transformation, Controversy and Discovery*. On the Christian Encounter with the Religions of Eighteenth and Nineteenth-Century India. Wien 2021. 277p. (€ 28)

For further information see <http://sdn-istb.univie.ac.at/publications>

## RECENT OCCASIONAL PAPERS

7. DERMOT KILLINGLEY, *Polemic and Dialogue in Rammohun Roy*. Wien 2013. 48p. (€ 10)
8. SRINIVASA AYYA SRINIVASAN, *Hinduismus und ökologische Ethik*. Einige Bemerkungen. Wien 2014. 88p. (€ 12)
9. GERHARD OBERHAMMER, *Monistische Gotteslehre und Spiritualität Vāmanadattas*. Ein religionshermeneutischer Versuch. Wien 2016. 76p. (€ 10)

## OUT OF SERIES

GEORGE CHEMPARATHY, *La Bible et le Veda comme parole de Dieu*. Un essai en théologie comparée. Vienne 2010. xxviii + 373p. (€ 42)

For further information see <http://sdn-istb.univie.ac.at/publications>