

# For a Multivocal History of the Attitudes Towards Non-Human Animals in South Asia

**Ethics, Practices, Symbolism.  
Investigating New  
and Unsolved Issues**

**Università degli Studi di Milano  
21-23 November 2024**

**21-22 November**

**Aula 113, via Festa del Perdono 3**

**23 November**

**Sala Napoleonica, via Sant'Antonio 12**

**Dipartimento di Studi Letterari,  
Filologici e Linguistici**





**Thursday, 21 November 2024**

**Classroom 113, via Festa del Perdono 3**

**9.00 Welcome by the Department of *Studi Letterari, Filologici e Linguistici***

**Thursday morning: Chair Prof. Marco Franceschini**

**1<sup>st</sup> Session. Sacrifice**

**9.30** Gianfranco Mormino, Università degli Studi di Milano

*Sacrifices Gone Wrong: Precautions, Consequences, Damage Control*

**10.00** Paola M. Rossi, Università degli Studi di Milano

*From the Bellowing Cow to the Cow's Soul. A Few Remarks on the Indo-Iranian Animal Sacrifice*

**10.30** Saverio Marchignoli, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna

*Against Animal Sacrifice. Philosophical Arguments and Discussions on Abstention from Sacrificial Violence in Sāṃkhya and Yoga Texts*

**11.00 Coffee Break**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Session. *Ahiṃsā* and Vegetarianism**

**11.30** Bryan De Notariis, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia

*The Dawn of Vegetarianism and Ahiṃsā in Ancient India: Pāli Buddhism vis-à-vis Early Upaniṣads and Aśoka Edicts*

**12.00** Julia Hegewald, Universität Bonn

*Jaina Attitudes Towards Animals: Ahiṃsā, Lāñchana Symbols and Animal Depictions in Temples*

**12.30 Lunch**

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**Thursday afternoon: Chair Prof. Cinzia Pieruccini**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Session. Animals and the Divine: Visual Arts**

**14.30** Laura Giuliano, Museo delle Civiltà, Roma

*Animals in the Image of Oēṣo-Śiva: To the Origins of Śaiva Art*

**15.00** Anna Ślącza, Rijksmuseum Amsterdam

*Not Entirely Divine? Śiva's Bull and the Bronze Casting Techniques in Tamil Nadu*



**4<sup>th</sup> Session. Some Philosophical and Linguistic Views**

**15.30** Gianni Pellegrini, Università di Torino

*Animal-Oriented Laukikanyāyas. Analogical and Metaphorical Usages of Non-Human Animals in Selected Philosophical Contexts*

**16.00 Coffee Break**

**16.30** Alberto Anrò, Università di Torino

*Minimal Inference. Expanding Nyāya in Quest of Non-Human Logic*

**17.00** Andrea Drocco, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia

*Animal Names in the History of the Indo-Aryan Languages. Hereditary Traits and Innovative Trends*



**Friday, 22 November 2024**

**Classroom 113, Via Festa del Perdono 3**

**9.30 PRESENTATION OF THE PROJECTS OF THE ITALIAN PRIN GROUP**

**Friday morning: Chair Prof. Antonio Rigopoulos**

**5<sup>th</sup> Session. Sentience and Rasa**

**10.30** Cinzia Pieruccini, Università degli Studi di Milano

*Love and Sorrow. On the Sentience of 'Common' Animals in the Vālmīki Rāmāyaṇa*

**11.00 Coffee Break**

**11.30** Marco Franceschini, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna

*Can Animal Characters Be 'Receptacles of Rasa'? An Overview of the Positions Held on This Issue in the Kāvyaśāstras*

**12.00** Luigi H. T. Singh, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna / Universität Wien

*The Flight of the Antelope. Outlining Two Different Perspectives on the Aesthetic Reception of a Verse from Kālidāsa's Abhijñānaśākuntala*

**12.30 Lunch**

**Friday afternoon: Chair Prof. Alberto Pelissero**

**6<sup>th</sup> Session. Saints and Mystics**

**14.30** Thomas Dähnhardt, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia

*Nourishing the Body or Food for Soul: The Role of Animals in the South Asian Sufi Environment*

**15.00** Antonio Rigopoulos, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia

*Animals in the Shri Sai Satcharita*

**7<sup>th</sup> Session. Tigers, Snakes, and the Forest**

**15.30** Alessandro Vescovi, Università degli Studi di Milano

*R.K. Narayan's A Tiger for Malgudi: An Indian View on Non-Human Animals*

**16.00 Coffee Break**

**16.30** Maria Angelillo, Università degli Studi di Milano

*Illicit Devotion: Priests for a Day, Snake Charmers for a Lifetime*

**17.00** Stefano Beggiora, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia

*Multispecies Ethnography and Human-Animal Relations in Ādivāsī India*

**19.30 Dinner**



**Saturday, 23 November 2024**

**Sala Napoleonica, Via Sant'Antonio 12**

**Saturday morning: Chair Prof. Gianni Pellegrini**

**8<sup>th</sup> Session. Emblematic Animals**

**9.30** Klaus Karttunen, University of Helsinki (keynote lecture)

*The Musk Deer and Its Musk in Classical Indian Literature*

**10.30** Alexandra van der Geer, Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden

*The Great Monkey King: Carvings of Monkeys in Indian Religious Architecture*

**11.00 Coffee Break**

**11.30** Chiara Policardi, Università degli Studi di Milano

*On Early Attestations of Vāhana Associations: Remarks Between Iconography and Texts*

**12.00 Roundtable**

**12.45 Lunch**

**Scientific and organizing committee**

**Cinzia Pieruccini**

**Chiara Policardi**

