36th Spalding Symposium on Indian Religions
Manchester Harris College, the University of Oxford
15-17TH APRIL 2011

Friday, 15th April

4.00 p.m.  Welcome and refreshments

4.30 p.m.  Jo Backus (University of Bath Spa)
Dharma Goes to School: Reflections on the Representation of Buddhism in the British Religious Education Classroom

5.30 p.m.  Alice Collett (York St John University)
An Examination of Female Sexuality through the Sanghādisesa Rules of the Pali Vinaya

6.45 pm.  Dinner

8.00 p.m.  Nick Allen (University of Oxford)
Vidura’s Pasts — Proximal and Remote

Saturday, 16th April

8.00 a.m.  Breakfast

9.15 a.m.  John Brockington (University of Edinburgh)
The Jāpakopākhyāna (MBh 12.189-93) or “Japa — old or new?”

10.15am  Lynn Thomas (University of Roehampton)
The Duties of the King and the Welfare of the People: Issues of Human Rights in the Mahābhārata’s Rājadharmaparvan

11.15 a.m.  Refreshments

11.45 a.m.  Catherine Robinson (Bath Spa University)
Interpreter of Hinduism to the West? Sir Edwin Arnold’s (Re)Presentation of Hindu Texts and their Reception

12.45 p.m.  Lunch

2.00 p.m.  Sharada Sugirtharajah (University of Birmingham)
The Mahatma and the Philosopher: Mohandas Gandhi and John Hick and their Search for Truth

3. 00p.m.  Tom Green (University of Cambridge)
Ancient Indian Philosophy and Modern Ethics: ‘Practical Vedānta’ in the Works of Swami Vivekananda and Max Müller
3.30 p.m. Refreshments

4.00 p.m. David Webster (University of Gloucestershire)
The Fetish of Authenticity: Western Buddhism, Zizek and the New-Age

5.00 pm Martin Wood (Bath Spa University and University of Bristol)
Jalarām Bāpā, Miracles and Meaning—Providing Context to the Miraculous Works of a Gujarāṭī Saint

6.15 p.m. Dinner

7.30 p.m. Param. P. Tomanec (Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies)
Rasa Yatra (film)
Rasa yatra is, in Sanskrit, ‘a journey of sentiment’ — or perhaps ‘a journey to sentiment’. A dominant tradition of Indian aesthetic analysis chooses the metaphor of liquid or flavour (rasa) to describe the way in which all emotions are related, and how they go to the core of who we are as embodied beings.

Sunday, 17th April

8.00 a.m. Breakfast

9.15am Bela Bhattacharya (University of Calcutta)
Medical Matters as Depicted in the Milindapañha

10.15am. Elizabeth J Harris (Liverpool Hope University)
Sacred Space and the Imperial Imagination: Zones of Contest in Nineteenth-century Ceylon

11.15am Refreshments

11.45am Michael Hertzberg (Chr. Michelsen Institute/ University of Bergen, Norway)
The Needs of the Hour: Political Monks at the Threshold of Politics

12.15pm Birendra Nath Prasad (BB Ambedkar Central University, Lucknow)
Reconsidering Cultic Equations in the ‘Last Stronghold’ of Indian Buddhism: An Analysis of Votive Inscriptions on the Sculptures of Early Medieval Magadha, South Bihar, c. 500 CE - 1200 CE

1.15 p.m. Lunch (followed by an optional meeting to discuss impressions from the Symposium)

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