

Dr. Jürgen Schaflechner

South Asia Institute
Im Neuenheimer Feld 330, 69120 Heidelberg, Germany

Nationality: Austrian
Birthplace: Judenburg, Austria
Phone: +49 176 630 25 952
Mail: juergen.schaflechner@uni-heidelberg.de

Curriculum Vitae

(updated March 2017)

Education

- 2009-2014 University of Heidelberg**
PhD (*summa cum laude*) from the Department of Modern South Asian Languages and Literatures and the Department of Anthropology
- Dissertation: *Hinglaj Devi: Identity, Change, and Solidification at a Hindu Temple in Pakistan*
- Supervisors: Prof. Hans Harder (Modern South Asian Languages and Literatures)
Prof. William Sax (Anthropology)
- 2006-2009 University of Heidelberg**
Magister (M.A.) in Modern South Asian Languages and Literatures
- Thesis: *Die Göttin Hiṅglāj. Eine Untersuchung unter besonderer Berücksichtigung ihrer Bedeutung für die jātī der Brahmakṣatriya (The Goddess Hiṅglāj. A Study with a Special Focus on her Importance for the Brahmakṣatriya Jātī)*
- Major: Modern South Asian Languages and Literatures
Minors: Comparative Religions, Classical Indology
- 2005 Study and fieldwork in South Asia, primarily Varanasi (India)**
Translation of *Śiva sūtra* and study of Kashmir Shaivism with private teacher at the Banaras Hindu University
- 2001-2004 University of Vienna**
B.A. (Erster Abschnitt), Comparative Religions
B.A. (Erster Abschnitt), Classical Indology

Academic Positions

2017-2018	Princeton University , Fung Global Fellow at the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies
2012-present	University of Heidelberg , Assistant Professor, Department of Modern South Asian Languages and Literatures, South Asia Institute
2012-2015	University of Heidelberg , (Post-doc) Research Associate, <i>Cluster Asia and Europe in a Global Context</i> with the project MC 3.4 <i>Negotiating Religious Identities among Hindu Communities in Pakistan</i> (part of the mini-cluster Nr. 3 <i>Negotiating Religions</i>)
2011 (spring term)	Harvard University , Visiting Scholar, Department for the Study of Religion
2009-2012	University of Heidelberg , Research Associate, Collaborative Research Center 619 <i>Ritualdynamik</i> member of the project A8 <i>Grenzen, Rituale, Reflexivität (Borders, Rituals, Reflexivity)</i>
2009	Mannheimer Abendakademie , Hindi teacher
2008-2010	University of Heidelberg , Research Assistant and Lecturer of Hindi language, <i>Cluster of Excellence Asia and Europe in a Global Context</i>
2007-2009	University of Heidelberg , Research Assistant in the SFB 619, project A7: <i>Ritualtransfer</i> . Research Assistant (translating Hindi) in the South Asia Institute's library

Research and Other Languages

- **German** Native language
- **English** Fluent (speaking, writing, reading)
- **Hindi** Fluent (speaking, writing, reading)
- **Urdu** Fluent (speaking, writing, reading)
- **Sindhi** Intermediate (speaking, writing, reading)
- **Bengali** Basic (speaking, writing, reading)
- **Farsi** Basic (speaking, writing, reading)
- **Sanskrit** Translation proficiency
- **Latin** Translation proficiency

Publications

Book

(forthcoming) *Hinglaj Devi: Identity, Change, and Solidification at a Hindu Temple in Pakistan*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Chapters and other Articles

(forthcoming) “Forced conversion and (Hindu) women’s agency in Sindh” in *Pakistan. Parallel Narratives of the Nation-State*, eds. Christian Oesterheld & Jürgen Schaflechner. Karachi: Oxford University Press.

(forthcoming) “Introduction” in *Pakistan. Parallel Narratives of the Nation-State*, eds. Christian Oesterheld & Jürgen Schaflechner. Karachi: Oxford University Press.

(forthcoming) “Making Hinduism: A case of governmentality at Hinglaj” in *Ritual Journeys*, eds. Christoph Bergmann & Jürgen Schaflechner. London et al.: Routledge. (peer reviewed).

(forthcoming) “Introduction: ritual journeys in South Asia” (with Christoph Bergmann) in *Ritual Journeys*, eds. Christoph Bergmann & Jürgen Schaflechner. London et al.: Routledge. (peer reviewed).

2017 “Why does Pakistan’s horror pulp fiction stereotype ‘the Hindu’” in *The Conversation*. (<https://theconversation.com/why-does-horror-pulp-fiction-in-pakistan-demonise-hindu-characters-73885>)

2016 “‘The Hindu’ in recent Urdu horror stories from Pakistan” in *Zeitschrift für Indologie und Südasiastudien*. Band 32. Bremen: Hempen Verlag. (peer reviewed).

2016b “What is lacking in the law on forced conversion” in *The Herald*, December issue. Karachi.

2015a “The mother and the *other*” in *Muslim Wanderers in South Asia*, eds. Michel Boivin & Remy Delage. London et al.: Routledge. (peer reviewed).

2015b “Denial and repetition: the solidification of tradition” in *The Ambivalence of Denial. What’s Behind Denying Ritual?*, eds. Ute Hüsken & Udo Simon. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz. (peer reviewed).

2015c “Royal Asiatic Society” in *Lexikon zur Überseegeschichte*, ed. Hermann Hiery. Stuttgart: Franz Steiner Verlag. (peer reviewed).

2015d “Hinduism” (with Hans Hommes) in *Lexikon zur Überseegeschichte*, ed. Hermann Hiery. Stuttgart: Franz Steiner Verlag. (peer reviewed).

2015e “Economy of sacrifice: The Vagris of Karachi” in *The Karachi Conference*, ed. Sabiah Askari. Karachi: Cambridge Scholars Publishers. (peer reviewed).

2014 “The shrine of Hinglaj Devi” in *The Herald*, October issue. Karachi.

Edited Volumes

- (forthcoming) *Pakistan. Parallel Narratives of the Nation-State*, eds. Christina Oesterheld & Jürgen Schaflechner. Karachi: Oxford University Press.
- (forthcoming) *Ritual Journeys*, eds. Christoph Bergmann & Jürgen Schaflechner. London et al.: Routledge. (peer reviewed)

Documentary Films

(Published full-length films found at www.beingintheworld.eu)

- 2016** *THRUST INTO HEAVEN*
(65 min)
- 2014** *THERE THEY CALL US HINDUS. HERE WE ARE PAKISTANIS* (52 min)
Selected at: *FIFEQ*, Quebec, Canada 2014
Bir Duino Human Rights Film Festival,
Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan 2014
Ethnocineca, Vienna, Austria 2015
- 2013** *MOTHER CALLING. KALI IN KARACHI* (45 min)
Selected at: *FiFEQ*, Quebec, Canada 2014
One with a movie camera,
Marburg, Germany 2013
Music Mela, Islamabad, Pakistan 2015
I am Karachi, Karachi Pakistan 2015
- 2012** *FAKEERA. AN UNEXCEPTIONAL STORY* (8 min)
Selected at: *Short on work*, Modena, Italy 2012
Ethnocineca, Vienna, Austria 2013
- 2011** *...ON BECOMING GODS* (43 min)
Screened at: University Heidelberg
University of Vienna
- 2010** *AGNEYA TIRTHA HINGLAJ* (28 min)
Screened at: University Heidelberg

Courses Taught

Winter term 2016-17	<i>Cultural Landscapes of Pakistan</i>
Winter term 2016-17	<i>Methoden der Text- und Kulturwissenschaften (Methods of Literary and Cultural Studies)</i>
Summer term 2016	<i>Voices from the Margins: What is the Political in Political Documentary Film?</i>
Summer term 2016	<i>Political Rhetoric in South Asia</i>
Winter term 2015-16	<i>Pakistan: A Nation Insufficiently Imagined?</i>
Winter term 2015-16	<i>“Der Hindu” in rezenten Urdu Horrorgeschichten aus Pakistan. (“The Hindu” in recent Urdu Horror Tales from Pakistan)</i>
Summer term 2015	<i>Traces of the Other. Theories of Difference in Cultural Studies</i>
Summer term 2015	<i>Public Spheres in South Asia. Languages of Resistance and Political Mobilization</i>
Winter term 2014-15	<i>Sprache. Kultur: Grundfragen der Textwissenschaften mit Südasiensbezug. (Language. Culture. Introduction to Literary Studies with Regard to South Asia)</i>
Summer term 2014	<i>Pakistanische Minoritäten in verschiedenen Hindiquellen (with Gautam Liu) (Minorities in Pakistan through Hindi Sources)</i>
Summer term 2014	<i>Hitchhiker’s Guide to Ideology. From A(lthusser) to Ž(ižek)</i>
Winter term 2013-14	<i>Pakistan: Non-Muslim Communities, Human Rights, and Radical Democracy</i>
Summer term 2013	<i>Theories of Language, Theories of Practice</i>
Winter term 2012-13	<i>Cultural Landscapes of Pakistan</i>

Summer term 2012

*Looping, Grouping, and Instituting:
Theories of Group Formation*

Winter term 2010-11

Minorities in Pakistan (with Prof.
William Sax)

Talks and Panels at Institutions outside of Heidelberg

2016

EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES, WARSAW

–Panel P 11 “Resisting Images, Political Aesthetics, and Documentary Film.”

–Film: “Thrust into Heaven” (pre-view: 75 min)

–“Passionate Utterances and Independent Documentary Film” (with Max Kramer)

–“Forced Conversion and Hindu Agency in Sindh, Pakistan”

UNIVERSITY TÜBINGEN

–“Ethnographical Film Practice and Theory” (with Max Kramer)

2015

INSTITUTE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, KARACHI

–“Secularism, Religious Hegemony, and the Idea of Universality”

**KARACHI UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATION,
KARACHI**

–“Reductionism and Responsibility in Pakistan’s Media”

SÜDASIEN-, TIBET- UND BUDDHISMUSKUNDE, UNIVERSITÄT WIEN

ERASMUS SCHOLAR EXCHANGE

–„Zwangskonvertierung, patriarchaler Opportunismus und Handlungsmacht von Hindufrauen im pakistanischen Sindh”

(Forced Conversion, Patriarchal Opportunism, and Hindu Women’s Agency in Sindh, Pakistan)

–„Zwei-Nationen Theorie, pakistanische Ideologie und Hindus im Umgang mit pakistanischer Öffentlichkeit”

(Two-Nation Theory, Pakistani Ideology and Hindu Engagement with the Pakistani Public)

–„*Us vaq't vahāṃ cal'nā muśkil thā, āj vahāṃ jānā muśkil hai.*”

Transnationale Pilgerreisen von indischen Verehrern der Hiṅglāj Devī nach Pakistan”

(The Transnational Pilgrimage of Indian Devotees to the Shrine of Hinglaj Devi in Pakistan)

–„Hiṅglāj Devī: Identität, Wandel und Konsolidierung an einem Hinduschrein in der Islamischen Republik Pakistan”

(Hinglaj Devi: Identity, Change, and Solidification at a Hindu Shrine in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan)

CENTRE D’ÉTUDES DE L’INDE ET DE L’ASIE DU SUD, PARIS

–“The Solidification of Tradition”

**DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE STUDIES AND ORIENTAL LANGUAGES.
UNIVERSITY OF OSLO**

- “Forced Conversion and Hindu Women’s Agency in Sindh”
ETHNOCINECA, INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL VIENNA
–Film “There They call us Hindus. Here we are Pakistanis”
2014 EUROPEAN CONFERENCE FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES, ZÜRICH
–“The Solidification of Tradition”
SINDH THROUGH THE CENTURIES, SMI UNIVERSITY, KARACHI
–“The Shrine of Bibi Nani in Baluchistan”
INDUS VALLEY SCHOOL, KARACHI
–“Tradition and Modernity in Pakistan”
2013 THE KARACHI CONFERENCE, KARACHI
–“Karachi: Religious Taxonomies in Question”
LUDWIG MAXIMILIANS UNIVERSITÄT, MÜNCHEN
–„Hinduidentitäten in Pakistan” (“Hindu Identities in Pakistan”)
EBERHARD KARLS UNIVERSITÄT, TÜBINGEN
–„Hinduismus im Inshallah Land?” (“Hinduism in Inshallah
Country?”)
–Film: “Mother Calling. Kali in Karachi”
ONE WITH A MOVIE CAMERA FILM FESTIVAL, MARBURG
–„Ethnographischer Film” (“Ethnographic Film”)
–Film: “Mother Calling. Kali in Karachi”
INDUS VALLEY SCHOOL, KARACHI
–“Centers over Centers. How to Make a Tradition”
2012 BOSTON UNIVERSITY, BOSTON
–Film “Mother Calling. Kali in Karachi”
–Lecture: “The Vagris of Karachi”
HARVARD UNIVERSITY, CAMBRIDGE
–Film: “Mother Calling. Kali in Karachi”
–Lecture: “The Vagris of Karachi”
2011 HARVARD UNIVERSITY, CAMBRIDGE
–“The Pilgrimage of Hinglaj Devi: Shaping Local Identity among
Hindu Communities in Pakistan”
ASCINA, BOSTON
–“A Hindu Goddess in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan: A Long Walk
for Identity”
2010 ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE, KARACHI
–“Encountering the Border: Dynamics of Transnational Pilgrimage”
CENTRE D’ÉTUDES DE L’INDE ET DE L’ASIE DU SUD, PARIS
–Lecture: “Moving through Meaning: The Pilgrimage of Hinglaj Devi
in Pakistan”
–Film: “Agneya Tirtha Hinglaj”

Conferences and Workshops (Co-)Organized

- 2015** **WORKSHOP: POLITICAL THEORY AND TRANSCULTURALITY.**
International Participant: David Howarth
- 2014** **UNEVEN MARGINS. TRANSCULTURAL DYNAMICS AND RELIGIOUS
VIOLENCE IN SOUTH ASIA AND THE HIMALAYA REGIONS**
International Participants: Paolo Aranha, James Caron, Diana Riboli,
Paul Rollier, Nicholas Sihle
- 2014** **PAKISTAN. PARALLEL NARRATIVES OF THE NATION-STATE**
International Participants: Michel Boivin, Matthew Cook, Laurent
Gayer, Urs Geiser, Aqsa Ijaz, Omar Kasmani, Nida Kirmani, Julien
Levesque, Kamal Siddiqi
- 2013** **PUTATIVE PURITIES. TRANSCULTURAL DIMENSIONS OF MASTER
NARRATIVES IN RELIGION**
International Participants: Sadaf Ahmad, Stefano Beggiora, Sven
Bretfield, Giulia Gebke, Stuart Lachs, Ranjana Mukhopadhyaya, Sita
Steckel, Federico Sqarcini, Andrew Quintman, Nicholas Vogt,
Alexandra Walsham, Benjamin Zachariah
- 2012** **RITUAL JOURNEYS IN SOUTH ASIA**
International Participants: Michel Boivin, Simon Coleman, Prekumara
DeSilva, John Eade, Daniel Olsen, Michael Oppitz
- 2011** **WORKSHOP: RITUAL AND NATIONALISM IN SINDH**
International Participants: Michel Boivin, Remy Delage, Omar
Kasmani, Hasan Ali Khan, Oscar Verkaaik

On Campus Service

Coordinator B.A. Modern South Asian Languages and Literatures
Coordinator M.A. Communication, Literature, and Media in Modern South Asian
Languages
Selection Committee Member for the M.A. Communication, Literature, and Media in
Modern South Asian Languages
Teacher for “Capoeira Angola” (beginners and advanced classes) at the University
Sports Center, Heidelberg University
Organizer of Workshop for Camera and Documentary Film for Students at the SAI
Member/Organizer of the “Arbeitskreis Pakistan” (“Working Group Pakistan”)

Off Campus Service

Listed Translator for Urdu and Sindhi for Refugees coming to Germany
Teacher for Capoeira Angola in the Judo Club Handschuhsheim

Honors, Fellowships, and Grants Awarded

- 2017** FUNG fellowship at Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies
- 2016** Grant for the post-production of my film *Thrust into Heaven* given by the Institute for the Promotion of Film (Filmförderung) Baden-Württemberg
- 2015** Grant for the post-production of my film *Thrust into Heaven* given by the South Asia Institute (SAI)
Erasmus Exchange Grant for a Visiting Scholarship to the University of Vienna
DFG (German Research Foundation) Post-Doc Fellowship for the Research Cluster “Asia and Europe in a Global Context” for the years 2012-2015
- 2014** German Embassy Travel Grant to the Bir Duino Human Rights Film Festival Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, to screen my film *There we are Hindus. Here we are Pakistanis*
- 2013** Research Cluster Travel Grant for the Essex Summer School of Discourse Theory
- 2012** DFG (German Research Foundation) PhD Fellowship for the Collaborative Research Center 619 (SFB) “Ritualdynamics” with Research and Travel Grant, 2009-2012
Indus Valley School (Karachi) Travel Grant for co-directing a theater production based on one of my films
Grant for the post-production of my film *There we are Hindus. Here we are Pakistanis* given by the SAI
SFB 619 Book Publication Grant for language editing
- 2011** Harvard Visiting Scholar (Affiliated with the Study of Religion) funded by the SFB 619
- 2009** SAI M.A. Research Grant
- 2005** University Vienna Honor for Student Excellence