



CENTRE FOR ASIAN AND
TRANSCULTURAL STUDIES

SOUTH ASIA INSTITUTE
Department of Cultural and
Religious History of South Asia



**UNIVERSITÄT
HEIDELBERG**
ZUKUNFT
SEIT 1386

LECTURE SERIES

UNDERSTANDING RELIGIOUS ICONS IN ANCIENT INDIA

Prof. Gérard Colas (EHESS-CNRS, Paris)



In this lecture series Professor Colas will examine the diversity of Indian viewpoints about religious icons up to around 13th century (and if time permits up to 18th century). Further, he will explore the devotional attitude, the artisanal and priestly conception of the icon as a material object suffused with power; the relationship of icons with divination and the dangers which threaten them. Moreover, he will also study several scholarly viewpoints which to a certain extent discussed religious icons (Mīmāṃsā, Vedānta, Nyāya). Finally, the currents that favour and criticize iconic veneration from the 14th-15th century onwards and instances of interaction with Islamic and Catholic concepts of icon will be examined.



Professor Colas is a senior researcher at the EHESS-CNRS (École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales du Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique), which is France's leading academic institution for South Asia.

Tuesdays 09:00 - 11:00 Hrs (s.t.) from 07.05. to 25.06.2019
Venue: Voßstr.2 CATS/EG SR 01 (010.00.01)