

Joint Research Group

Manuscriptology and Digital Humanities**Digital Epigraphy in the Project DHARMA****Annette Schmiedchen**

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Dániel Balogh

(Humboldt University, Berlin)

Fri., 16th Jun.**10:00-11:30 Hrs**
(CEST Germany)**01:30-03:00 pm**
(IST India)**05:00-06:30 pm**
(JST Japan)

FREE online talk

[ZOOM LINK](#)Meeting ID:
826 6024 3111Passcode:
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The DHARMA project, financed by an ERC Synergy grant, seeks to understand the process of the institutionalisation of “Hinduism” by investigating the roles of various agents, from kings and noblemen to priests, monks and local communities. Our approach is based on the correlation and contextualization of written evidence from inscriptions and manuscripts, as well as material evidence from temples and other kinds of archaeological sites. Inscriptions are the main sources for the history of premodern South and Southeast Asia, but they are not all accessible, even less so in a machine-processable format. One of the core objectives of the project is therefore to make as much as possible of South and Southeast Asian epigraphy available in a digital database. To achieve this, we are developing standards ranging from the transliteration of the relevant languages to the TEI/EpiDoc compliant encoding of epigraphic and manuscript editions to controlled vocabularies for describing various aspects of our material to the conceptual framework for metadata to the workflow for managing all these. By making the epigraphy of South and Southeast Asia (in Sanskrit and vernacular languages) enter the digital age, the DHARMA project will create exciting new pathways to comparison across regions.



In this presentation, **Annette Schmiedchen**, as one of the three principal investigators of the project, will introduce DHARMA in general, while **Dániel Balogh** will discuss some of the challenges involved in the digital study of Indic material, in particular the edition of inscriptions.