

Asadullah Khan qayamat hai – Translating Ghalib's Urdu ghazals and the Persian masnavi, Chiragh-e-Dair Maaz bin Bilal

Mirza Ghalib (1779–1869) is arguably Urdu's greatest poet, and possibly that of 19th-Century world literature. Maaz Bin Bilal has translated his Persian masnavi *Chiragh-e-Dair* into English as *Temple Lamp: Verses on Banaras* (Penguin India 2022). He has also translated selected Urdu ghazals by Ghalib that have been published in different journals, while some have been reproduced in Maaz's collection of poems, *Ghazalnama*. The talk will briefly describe Ghalib's achievements before moving on to the aims and challenges of translation in general and then segue into elucidating the experience of translating Ghalib into English. Towards the latter, there would also be some comparisons drawn with other translations, while closely scrutinising the poetics of the ghazal and the masnavi in the original and across translations.

Tuesday, 23rd of May

at 4pm

SAI 130.00.03



CENTRUM FÜR ASIEN-
WISSENSCHAFTEN UND
TRANSKULTURELLE STUDIEN
SÜDASIEN-INSTITUT



UNIVERSITÄT
HEIDELBERG
ZUKUNFT
SEIT 1386