



SFB 1070 ResourceCultures



SFB 1070 ResourceCultures: Socio-cultural Dynamics and the Use of Resources

An International Conference

Medicine, Religion and Alchemy in South India Resources and Permutations of Siddha Traditions and Siddha Medicine 25 – 27 July 2019 | Hohentübingen Castle | Tübingen University

South Indian Siddha Medicine is arguably the least researched and understood among Indian medical systems. The same might be said for other Siddha traditions as found in South Indian textual sources and lived practices. This may be due to complex interrelations of diverse subjects including alchemy, philosophy, astrology, therapies, ritual practices, etc., as well as to the synthesis of various strands of traditions throughout different periods of South India, including yogic principles, different schools of thought, or the influence of different therapeutic philosophies. This conference aims to bring together specialists on South Indian medical, alchemical and religious traditions, all described or understood as "Siddha" and to palpate the permutations, varieties, and, above all, interrelations of different Siddha traditions and their relations to other Indian traditions from various interdisciplinary social science perspectives, including anthropology, sociology, history, philosophy, religious studies and Indology.

In collaboration with Dept. of Anthropology; Institute of Asian and Oriental Studies Sponsored by SFB 1070 "ResourceCultures", Subproject C06

Venue: R119, Inst. für Ur- und Frühgeschichte & Library, Dept. of Anthropology, Hohentübingen Castle

DFG

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25.07.2019: Day 1

10 a.m. Get-together and tour around Tübingen Castle

12:30 p.m. Lunch

2:00 p.m. Official welcome + Introduction @ Room 119, Hohentübingen Castle

3:00 p.m. Coffee Break

3:30 p.m. Panel 1: Siddha Essentials, Essences

Chair: Kanchana Natarajan

V. Sujatha Understanding Medical Syncretism: Subjectivity, Medical Knowledge

and Institutions in Contemporary Siddha

Brigitte Sébastia From the Siddha Corpus to Siddha Medicine: An Exploration of

Manuscripts Digitised for the Project EAP 810 "Conservation,

Documentation and Preservation of the Knowledge of Siddha Medicine"

Discussant: Roman Sieler

7:30 p.m. Dinner

26.07.2019: Day 2

@ Library, Dept. of Anthropology, Hohentübingen Castle

9:00 a.m. Panel 2: Colonial (Trans)formations

Chair: Brigitte Sébastia

Christèle Barois The Usman Report as a Resource for Siddha Medicine, Yoga

and Alchemy

D.V. Kanagarathinam Emergence of 'Siddha System': Nature, Ambiguity and Contest

in Colonial Tamil Region

11:00 a.m. Coffee Break

Gary Hausman Indigenous (Ayurveda and Siddha) Clinical and Pharmaceutical

Research in Twentieth-Century Madras State, India

Discussant: T. Dharmaraj

1:00 p.m. Lunch



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2:30 p.m. Panel 3: Alchemy and Medicine

Chair: T. Dharmaraj

Ilona Kędzia Transformative Aspects of Alchemy and Medicine in Selected Works

of Siddhar Yākōpu

3:45 p.m. Coffee Break

Justus Weiß Muligaikappu: Life Forces and their Protection in Tamil Siddha

Pharmacology: Perspectives from a Family Tradition

Roman Sieler Mercurial Medicines: Is Siddha Medicine without Mercury possible?

Discussant: Layne Little

7:30 p.m. Dinner

27.07.2019: Day 3

@ Library, Dept. of Anthropology, Castle Hohentübingen

9:00 a.m.: Panel 4: Religion

Chair: Roman Sieler

Kanchana Natarajan Virgin Creatrix / Bountiful Womb: Siddha Equivalence

towards Women

Nina Rageth Kaya Kalpa Yoga: The Remaking of an Esoteric Siddha

Tradition through a Hindu Guru Organization

11:00 a.m. Coffee Break

Layne R. Little Nine Poisons and a Broken Promise: Changing

Narrative, Cultural Loss & the Commodification of the

'Navapashanam' Icon at Palani

Discussant: V. Sujatha

1:00 p.m. Lunch

2:30 p.m. Wrap-up discussion, plans for future networking and publication