

TRADITION AND INNOVATION IN THE LANGUAGES AND CULTURES OF PREMODERN SOUTH ASIA

EÖTVÖS LORÁND UNIVERSITY, FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
3RD–4TH SEPTEMBER, 2026



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ELTE
FACULTY OF
HUMANITIES



सत्यमेव जयते

Embassy of India
Budapest

3rd September

8:30–9:30	Registration
9:30–10:00	Opening ceremony (Faculty Council Hall – Building A, Room 039) H. E. ANSHUMAN GAUR (Ambassador of India to Hungary) DÁVID BARTUS (Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Eötvös Loránd University) MÁTÉ ITTZÉS (Director of the Institute of Oriental Studies, Eötvös Loránd University)
10:00–10:40	Plenary session (Faculty Council Hall – Building A, Room 039)
10:00	SHONALEEKA KAUL (Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi) <i>The antonimic didactic: Humans, animals, and flight from tradition in the Hitopadeśa</i>
10:40–11:10	Coffee break
11:10–12:30	Plenary Session (Faculty Council Hall – Building A, Room 039)
11:10	ALEXANDER LUBOTSKY (Leiden University) <i>Post-caesura position and its importance in the Rgvedic meter</i>
11:50	PETER BISSCHOP (Leiden University) <i>Sanatkumāra's teachings to Vyāsa: Reflections on purāṇic processes of canonisation</i>

12:30–14:00 **Lunch break**

14:00–15:30 **Section presentations**

	Linguistics (Building R, Room 151) Chair: MÁTÉ ITTZÉS	Epics and Purāṇas (Building R, Room 253) Chair: PETER BISSCHOP	Buddhism (Building R, Room 356) Chair: PÉTER-DÁNIEL SZÁNTÓ
14:00	ANDREY KLEBANOV (University of Hamburg) <i>On the construction odanaḥ pacyate</i>	SVEN SELLMER (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań) <i>Are epic formulas traditional?</i>	GERGELY HIDAS (Dharma Gate Buddhist College, Budapest) <i>Mahāmeghasūtra – a Buddhist ritual text: Towards a critical edition</i>
14:30	MANISH RAJAN WALVEKAR (MIT-ADT University, Pune) <i>The Aṣṭādhyāyī available to Mallināthasūri: A study of pre-Kaumudī Sūtrapāṭha</i>	PÉTER SZÁLER (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest) <i>„Parallel lives”: Kṛṣṇa and Karna</i>	CHAMAL NISHANTA PRATAPASINGHE (University of Hamburg) <i>Once the bodhisattva was a lover: Rethinking the Sudhanakumāra-avadāna in the Divyāvadāna</i>
15:00	IMRE BANGHA (University of Oxford) <i>The transition from Apabhramsha to New Indo-Aryan in Jain narratives in Madhyadeśa</i>	CHARLES LI (University of Hamburg) <i>Reconstructing the purāṇic imaginary of the śyenakapotīya</i>	GLEB SHARYGIN (Bavarian State Library, Munich) <i>A thorny road to canonicity? Glimpses from the hitherto unknown Buddhist Sanskrit sūtra</i>

15:30–16:00 **Coffee break**

16:00–17:30

Section presentations

	Linguistics (Building R, Room 151) Chair: ALEXANDER LUBOTSKY	Dravidian studies (Building R, Room 253) Chair: ROLAND FERENCZI	Philosophy (Building R, Room 356) Chair: FERENC RUZSA
16:00	MÁTÉ ITTZÉS (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest) <i>Archaisms and innovations in the neuter s-stems of the Indo-Iranian languages</i>	EVA WILDEN (University of Hamburg) <i>Flooded, eaten by insects, or simply forgotten: How do Tamil's canonical texts survive?</i>	KAREN O'BRIEN-KOP (King's College, London) <i>Tradition and innovation in the question of god: The doctrine of īśvara in Pātañjala yoga and Śaṅkara's response in the Vivaraṇa</i>
16:30	ALEX ROY (University of California, Los Angeles) <i>Complex predication between Old and New Indo-Aryan</i>	JEAN-LUC CHEVILLARD (University of Hamburg; Paris Diderot University) <i>What is the price to pay for giving a classical language an international outreach? The case of Tamil and its Latin-speaking users</i>	IVAN ANDRIJANIĆ (University of Zagreb) <i>The Nṛsiṃhapūrvatāpanīya-Bhāṣya and the Prapañcasāra: Stylometry, philology, and the question of common authorship</i>
17:00	LEONARDO MONTESI (Guglielmo Marconi University, Rome) <i>Root-ing for lexical aspect in derivative morphology: Findings from Early Vedic *-ti- and *-tu- derivatives</i>	SIVAN GOREN-ARZONY (Bar-Ilan University, Ramat Gan) <i>On enemies and stomachs: The Līlātilakam and the first standardisation of Malayalam</i>	ANNA KATALIN AKLAN (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest) <i>Rāmānuja's commentary on Brahmasūtra 1.1.1</i>

4th September

9:00–10:20 **Plenary session** (Faculty Council Hall – Building A, Room 039)

9:00 HARUNAGA ISAACSON
(University of Hamburg)
Homage, rivalry: Classical Sanskrit poets and their allusions to the poetry of their predecessors

9:40 HUGO DAVID
(École française d'Extrême-Orient, Paris)
The two lives of a verse: Ambiguity and its resolution from Bhartṛhari to Appayya Dikṣita

10:20–10:50 **Coffee break**

10:50–12:20 **Section presentations**

	Literature (Building R, Room 151) Chair: CSABA DEZSŐ	Sciences (Building R, Room 253) Chair: IVAN ANDRIJANIĆ	Philosophy (Building R, Room 356) Chair: ANNA KATALIN AKLAN
10:50	MELINDA ZULEJKA FODOR (EPHE-PSL University; Sorbonne Nouvelle University, Paris) <i>Folk, folk-like, folk-less: Traditions and innovations in the Saṭṭaka genre (9th–18th c.)</i>	VITUS ANGERMEIER (Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna) <i>The formation of Āyurveda: Consolidation by brahmanisation</i>	OŁENA ŁUCYSZYNA (Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw) <i>Is liberation natural (or spontaneous) in Sāṃkhya?</i>
11:20	HELEEN DE JONCKHEERE (Ghent University) <i>How the 'piśāca of poetry' pushes poetics at the Rāstrakūṭa Court: Puṣpadanta's Apabhramsha Mahāpurāṇu</i>	DEBASISH GHORUI (independent researcher) – RITWIJ BHOWMIK (IIT Kanpur) <i>Between mind and matter: Reading materiality and embodied practice beyond the canons of śilpaśāstras</i>	AKSHARA RAVISHANKAR (Ghent University) <i>The Bhagavad Gītā as worldly manual: Innovation and circulation in the 'greater Gītā' traditions</i>

11:50	HARUKI TSUJI (University of Tokyo) <i>From ornament to satirical device: Śleṣa in Kṣemendra's Deśopadeśa</i>	PRIYAMVADA NAMBRATH (University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia) <i>Vernacular commentary and the reconfiguration of canon: The Gaṇita Yuktibhāṣā in early modern Kerala</i>
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12:20–14:00 **Lunch break**

14:00–15:30 **Section presentations**

	Literature (Building R, Room 151) Chair: HARUNAGA ISAACSON	History (Building R, Room 253) Chair: GYULA WOJTILLA	Philosophy (Building R, Room 356) Chair: HUGO DAVID
14:00	CSABA DEZSŐ (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest) <i>Translation as poetic practice in kāvyā</i>	ROLAND FERENCZI (University of Hamburg) <i>Rites of sovereignty: Vedic ritual practice in the Tamil royal courts</i>	JUDIT TÖRZSÖK (EPHE-PSL University, Paris) <i>How to open your eyes? Kṣemarāja's (1000–1050) innovative reply</i>
14:30	GIL BEN-HERUT (University of South Florida, Tampa) <i>Innovation, not revolution: The twelfth-century literary turn in Kannada literature</i>	DÁNIEL BALOGH (Humboldt University of Berlin) <i>We are kings of kings, but how to pitch that to the world? Shifting conventions in Cālukya dynastic eulogy</i>	JINGHUI LIANG (Sorbonne Nouvelle University, Paris) <i>Between convention and intention: Mukula, Mammāta and Someśvara on the interpretation of idiomatic usage</i>
15:00	IVANA DELIĆ (University of Zagreb) <i>From description to classification: The (un)making of linguistic and cultural canons in Filip Vesdin's Voyage to the East Indies (1796)</i>	RYAN CONLON (University of Hamburg) <i>Language politics in 11th-century India: Arguments concerning vernaculars and written media in the Kālacakra</i>	HIMANSHU (IIT Bombay, Mumbai) <i>Prasiddhi: An inexhaustible ground of scripture and the mundane world in the Tantrāloka</i>

18:00 **Cultural program and reception at the Embassy of India**