

**BHARATA DARSHAN, PAST AND PRESENT IN THE
STUDY OF INDIA'S HISTORY AND CULTURE
INSTITUTE DAILY SCHEDULE**

Week 1 (Shimla)

Monday, July 7

Morning: Bev Blois, Dan Ehn bom and David Berry, "Introduction to the Institute"

Afternoon: Visit Shimla

Reading: A. L. Basham, The Wonder That Was India, 3rd rev. ed. (2004); James Harle, Art and Architecture of the Indian Subcontinent, 2nd ed. (1994).

Recommended Book: Octavio Paz, In Light of India (1997).

Tuesday, July 8

Morning: Shereen Ratnagar, "The Indus Valley Civilization"

Afternoon: Dan Ehn bom, "Early Indian Art and Architectural Themes"

Reading: Dan Ehn bom, "Painting," in Frederick M. Asher, ed., Art of India: Prehistory to the Present (2003), pp. 221-44; Shereen Ratnagar, Understanding Harappa: Civilization in the Greater Indus Valley (2001).

Recommended Book: Jonathan Kenoyer. Ancient Cities of the Indus Valley Civilization (1998).

Wednesday July 9

Morning: Shereen Ratnagar, "The Ganges Migration"

Afternoon: Visit Jakhu temple, a structure that contains an ancient Hanuman idol located on the highest peak in Shimla

Evening: Kumar Shahani, film screening

Reading: Shereen Ratnagar, "The Aryan Homeland Debate in India" in P. Kohl, ed., Selective Remembrances: Archaeology in the Construction of National Pasts (forthcoming 2007); Shereen Ratnagar, "Agro-Pastoralism and the Migrations of the Indo-Iranians," in Romila Thapar, et al, India: Historical Beginnings and the Concept of the Aryan (2006), pp. 157-192.

Recommended Books: Edwin Bryant and Laurie Patton, The Indo-Aryan Controversy (2005); Thomas R. Trautmann, The Aryan Debate (2005); The Edicts of Asoka, translated by N. A. Nikam and Richard McKeon (1978).

Thursday, July 10

Morning: Meena Nayak, "The Creation of Indian Myth"

Afternoon: Ramchandra Gandhi, "Exploring the Ramayana and the Mahabharata"

Evening: Kumar Shahani, film screening

Reading: Excerpts from R. K. Narayan, Ramayana (2006) and Eknath Easwaran, The Bhagavad Gita (1985).

Recommended Book: Mahabharata, translated by R. K. Narayan (1989).

Friday July 11

Morning: Dan Ehn bom, The Art of Classical India

Afternoon: Visit the Himachal State Museum, which has a good collection of coins, photographs, handicrafts, dolls, Pahari miniature painting and sculptures.

Recommended Book: Frederick M. Asher, ed., Art of India: Prehistory to the Present (2003).

Week 2 (Shimla)

Monday, July 14

Morning: Indrani Sanyal, "Hinduism and Idea of Caste"

Afternoon: Visit local temples as available (Sankat Mochan Temple; Tara Devi Temple; Bheemakali Temple; Hatkoti Temple) or the Chail Maharaja palace

Reading: Excerpts from Harold A. Gould, The Hindu Caste System, 3 vols. (1987-90).

Tuesday July 15

Morning: Indrani Sanyal, "The Buddha and Religious Diversity in India"

Afternoon: Institute Roundtable Discussion

Reading: Selections from Gail Omvedt, Buddhism in India: Challenging Brahmanism and Caste (2003).

Wednesday, July 16

Morning and Afternoon: Sunil Kumar, "Islam's Encounter with South Asia"

Reading: Sunil Kumar, excerpts from "The Emergence of the Delhi Sultanate" (forthcoming).

Recommended Books: Richard Eaton, A Social History of the Deccan, 1300-1761: Eight Indian Lives (2005); Irfan Habib, The Agrarian System of Mughal India, 1526-1707, 2nd rev. ed. (1999).

Thursday July 17

Morning: Asghar Ali Engineer, "The Islamic Tradition in India"

Afternoon: Asghar Ali Engineer, "Sufism and the Indian Spiritual Experience"

Reading: Asghar Ali Engineer, Muslims and India (2006).; Sunil Kumar, "Reflections on the Past and Present of two Sufi Shrines in Delhi" in The Present in Delhi's Past (2002).

Recommended Book: Yoginder Sikkand, Sacred Spaces: Exploring Traditions of Shared Faith in India (2003).

Friday July 18

Morning: Dan Ehnbohm, "The Synthesis of Islamic and Hindu Artistic Traditions"

Afternoon: Leave for Delhi (maybe stop at Chandigarh on the way and see Nek Chand's Rock Garden).

Recommended Books: Ebba Koch, Mughal Architecture: An Outline of Its History and Development, 1526-1858 (2002); Catherine Asher, Architecture of Mughal India (1992); Andrew Topsfield, Court Painting in Rajasthan (2000).

Week 3 New Delhi

Monday, July 21

Morning: Romila Thapar, "The Early (post-classical) Indian Kingdoms"

Afternoon: Visit the Red Fort (the palace for Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan's capital) and the Masjid-i-Jahan Numa (the principal mosque of Old Delhi, commissioned by Emperor Shah Jahan and completed in the year 1656), Delhi

Reading: Excerpts from Romila Thapar, *History and Beyond: Interpreting Early India* (1992).

Tuesday July 22

Morning: Meena Nayak, "Regional Myths and the Inclusion of Folklore"

Afternoon: Visit the Qutub Minar (the tallest brick minaret in the world in the Qutb complex, built between 1193 and 1368) and the Iron Pillar (one of the world's metallurgical wonders, located in the Qutb complex, erected by Chandragupta II Vikramaditya 375–414 ce).

Reading: Excerpts from R. K. Narayan, *Gods, Demons and Others* (1993) and Meena Nayak, *The Puffin Book of Legendary Lives* (2004); Sunil Kumar, "Qutb and Modern Memory" (forthcoming).

Wednesday July 23

Morning: Shiva Prakash, "The Emergence (and Rediscovery) of Vernacular Literary Traditions"

Afternoon: Visit Birla Temple (a temple built in 1622 to honor the Hindu goddess of wealth, Laxmi, and her consort, Vishnu).

Reading: Excerpts from Savitri Chandra Shobha, *Medieval India and Hindi Bhakti Poetry: A Social & Cultural Study* (1996), and Simon Digby, *Wonder-tales of South Asia: Translated from Hindi, Urdu, Nepali and Persian* (2006).

Thursday July 24

Morning: Visit the National Museum, New Delhi (home to over two million items of art covering more than five thousand years of India's rich cultural heritage)

Afternoon: Institute Roundtable Discussion.

Friday July 25

Morning: Visit Taj Mahal (mausoleum commissioned by Shah Jahan for his favorite wife, Mumtaz Mahal, 1632-48) and Fatehpur Sikri (the capital of the Mughal Empire under Akbar, 1571 until 1585) with return on Saturday.

Reading: Excerpts from Ebba Koch, *The Complete Taj Mahal* (2006).

Week 4 New Delhi

Monday, July 28

Morning: Janaki Nair, "Princely States and the British Raj: Power and Authority in Southern India"

Afternoon: Visit Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi memorials/libraries, also the Raj Ghat (a memorial to Mahatma Gandhi that marks the spot of his cremation on 31 January 1948).

Reading: Janaki Nair, excerpts from *Miners and Millhands: Work, Culture and Politics in Princely Mysore* (1998) and *The Promise of the Metropolis: Bangalore's Twentieth Century* (2005).

Recommended Books: Sheela Saha, *The Company Rule in India: Some Regional Aspects* (2004); William Dalrymple, *The Last Mughal: The Fall of a Dynasty, Delhi, 1857* (2006); Mohandas Gandhi, *An Autobiography* (1957).

Tuesday July 29

Morning: Janaki Nair, "How Did Southern India Reconfigure the 'Women's Question'?"

Afternoon: Visit the Lotus temple (the Baha'i temple in Delhi, completed in 1986, and winner of numerous architectural awards; its design, based on a Lotus flower, is composed of 27 freestanding marble "petals" arranged in clusters of three to form nine sides).

Reading: Janaki Nair, excerpts from *A Question of Silence? The Sexual Economies of Modern India* (2000).

Wednesday July 30

Morning: Swapan Chakravorty, "Bengali Literature and the British Colonial Experience"

Afternoon: Institute Roundtable Discussion

Reading: Rabindranath Tagore, *Selected Short Stories* (2005).

Recommended Books: Amitav Ghosh, *The Circle of Reason* (1986); Manju Kapur, *Difficult Daughters* (1998).

Thursday July 31

Morning: Sunil Kumar, "The Present in Delhi's Past"

Afternoon: Visit possible Delhi sites described by Kumar in his essays

Reading: Sunil Kumar, excerpts from *The Present in Delhi's Past*, such as "Making Sacred History or Everyone His/Her Own Historian: The Pasts of the Village of Saidlajab."

Recommended Books:

Shahid Amin, *Event, Metaphor, Memory: Chauri Chaura, 1922-1992* (1995); Gyanendra Pandey, *Remembering Partition: Violence, Nationalism and History in India* (2001).

Friday, August 1

Morning: Review of Participant Reflections/Projects

Afternoon: Departure of participants

INSTITUTE BOOK LIST

Pre-Institute Reading

A. L. Basham, *The Wonder That Was India*. 3rd rev. ed. Kundli, India: Picador India, 2004

James Harle, *Art and Architecture of the Indian Subcontinent*. 2nd ed. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1994

Books Used in the Institute

Simon Digby, *Wonder-tales of South Asia: Translated from Hindi, Urdu, Nepali and Persian*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2006

Eknath Easwaran, *The Bhagavad Gita*. Petaluma, CA: Nilgiri Press, 1985

Asghar Ali Engineer, *Muslims and India*. New Delhi: Gyan Publishing House, 2006

Harold A. Gould, *The Hindu Caste System*, 3 vols. Delhi: Chanakya Publications, 1987-90

Ebba Koch, *The Complete Taj Mahal, and the riverfront gardens of Agra*. London: Thames & Hudson, 2006

Sunil Kumar, *The Present in Delhi's Past*. New Delhi: Three Essays Press, 2002. 2nd ed., 2007 forthcoming

Mahabharata. Translated by R. K. Narayan. Columbia, MO: South Asia Books, 1989

Janaki Nair, *Miners and Millhands: Work, Culture and Politics in Princely Mysore*. New Delhi: Sage Publications, 1998

Janaki Nair, *The Promise of the Metropolis: Bangalore's Twentieth Century*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2005

Janaki Nair and Mary John., eds. *A Question of Silence? The Sexual Economies of Modern India*. New York: Zed Books, 2000

R. K. Narayan, *Gods, Demons and Others*. Chicago: University Of Chicago Press, 1993.

R. K. Narayan, *Ramayana: A Shortened Modern Prose Version of the Indian Epic*. New ed., New York: Penguin Classics, 2006

Meena Nayak, *The Puffin Book of Legendary Lives*. New Delhi: Puffin Books, 2004

Gail Omvedt, *Buddhism in India: Challenging Brahmanism and Caste*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 2003.

Shereen Ratnagar, *Understanding Harappa: Civilization in the Greater Indus Valley*. Delhi: Tulika, 2001

Savitri Chandra Shobha, *Medieval India and Hindi Bhakti Poetry: A Social & Cultural Study*. New Delhi: Har-Anand Publications, 1996

Rabindranath Tagore, *Selected Short Stories*, edited and translated by William Radice. New York: Penguin Classics, 2005

Romila Thapar, *History and Beyond: Interpreting Early India*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1992

Recommended Books

Shahid Amin, *Event, Metaphor, Memory: Chauri Chaura, 1922-1992*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1995

Catherine Asher, *Architecture of Mughal India*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1992

Frederick M. Asher, ed., *Art of India: Prehistory to the Present*. Chicago: Encyclopedia Britannica, 2003

Edwin Bryant and Laurie Patton, *The Indo-Aryan Controversy*. London: Routledge, 2005

William Dalrymple, *The Last Mughal: The Fall of a Dynasty*, Delhi, 1857. London: Bloomsbury, 2006

Richard Eaton, *A Social History of the Deccan, 1300-1761: Eight Indian Lives*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2005

The Edicts of Asoka. Translated by N. A. Nikam and Richard McKeon. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1978

Mohandas Gandhi, *An Autobiography*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1993 (1957)

Amitav Ghosh, *The Circle of Reason*. New York: Viking, 1986

Irfan Habib, *The Agrarian System of Mughal India, 1526-1707*. 2nd rev. ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 1999

Jonathan M. Kenoyer. *Ancient Cities of the Indus Valley Civilization*. Karachi: Oxford University Press, 1998

Manju Kapur, *Difficult Daughters*. Boston: Faber & Faber; 1998

Ebba Koch, *Mughal Architecture: An Outline of Its History and Development, 1526-1858*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2002

Gyanendra Pandey, *Remembering Partition: Violence, Nationalism and History in India*. New York: Cambridge, 2001

Octavio Paz, *In Light of India*. new ed. New York: Harcourt Brace, 1997

Sheela Saha, *The Company Rule in India: Some Regional Aspects*. Delhi: Kalpaz Publications, 2004

Yoginder Sikkand, *Sacred Spaces: Exploring Traditions of Shared Faith in India*. New Delhi: Penguin, 2003

Andrew Topsfield, *Court Painting in Rajasthan*. Mumbai: Marg Publications, 2000

Thomas R. Trautmann, *The Aryan Debate*. New York: Oxford Universtiy Press, 2005