



CENTRE FOR ASIAN AND TRANSCULTURAL
STUDIES
SOUTH ASIA INSTITUTE



UNIVERSITÄT
HEIDELBERG
ZUKUNFT
SEIT 1386

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN SOUTH ASIAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

Workshop

Revival, Reform or Revolution? The Bhakti Period and its Modern Interpreters

Convenors: Dr. Alok Oak and Prof. Dr. Hans Harder
(Heidelberg University)

Speakers:

Moments and Voices of Bhakti in Odisha: Confirmation, Contestation and Resistance

Prof. Pralay Kanungo (University of Leiden)

Toward a Genealogy of Modern Bhakti: Politics, Poetry and Publics in the Writings of Savitribai and Jotirao Phule

Prof. Christian Lee Novetzke (University of Washington)

Bhakti for/against Politics: Ramdas, the *Dasbodh* and Hindu Political Theology

Dr. Alok Oak (Gerda Henkel Stiftung Postdoctoral Fellow)

Ganapati Maharaj and the *Ajāt Sampradāy*: Travails of an Anti-Caste Bhakti Tradition in 20th century Vidarbha

Prof. Jon Keune (Michigan State University)

From Critical to Scriptural History: Bhaktivinod's Second Naiveté

Dr. Lucian Wong (University of Oxford)

Chairs: Prof. Dr. Michael Bergunder and Prof. Dr. Hans Harder, Heidelberg University



Date: 16th June, 2025

Time: 9:30 – 17:15

Venue: Institut für Medizinische Psychologie,
Hörsaal, Bergheimer Straße 20, 69115
Heidelberg