



**HEIDELBERGER AKADEMIE
DER WISSENSCHAFTEN**
Akademie der Wissenschaften
des Landes Baden-Württemberg



EFEO
École française d'Extrême-Orient



KANCHI
Kanchipuram Archive of Narratives
and Cultural Heritage Interface

Early Career Researchers' Workshop

May 18 and 19, 2026

Heidelberger Akademie der Wissenschaften

Karlstraße 4, 69117 Heidelberg

Programme · 40 minutes per paper including Q&A

Monday May 18

Session I · Chair: Olli-Pekka Littunen

09:00	Roland Ferenczi	<i>Ascetics at the kitchen's threshold: a literary tour of Kāvrippaṭṭiṇam's outskirts</i>
09:40	Leo Rishi Nelson-Jones	<i>A recipe for a lost text: the Poruḷiyal and Tamil literary historiography</i>
10:20	Tea / coffee break · 15 minutes	

Session II · Chair: Roland Ferenczi

10:35	Devaki Sapkota	<i>From Sanskrit Texts to Tamil Hymns: Superimposing the South onto the Northern Śālagrāma</i>
11:15	Sanne Dokter-Mersch	<i>One Source, Different Outcomes: On How and Why the Same Devotional Practice Appears Twice in the Bhaviṣyapurāṇa</i>

12:00	Lunch · 12:00 – 13:00	
-------	------------------------------	--

Tuesday May 19

Session III · Chair: Kexin Zheng

09:00	Jonas Buchholz	<i>The Lord With the Sapphire Throat: The Maṇikaṇṭheśvara Temple in Kanchipuram and the Myth of the Churning of the Milk Ocean</i>
09:40	Yunheng Xu	<i>The City of Kanchipuram through its Inscriptions</i>
10:20	Tea / coffee break · 20 minutes	

Session IV · Chair: Maanasa Visweswaran

10:40	Aneesh Raghavan	<i>From Iguana to anklet — In search of Vedunūpūreśvara mentioned in the Māhātmyas of Kanchipuram</i>
11:20	Olli-Pekka Littunen	<i>Vārāṇasīmāhātmya as a Textual Environment</i>
12:00	Lunch · 12:00 – 13:00	

Session V · Chair: Jonas Buchholz

13:00	Maanasa Visweswaran	<i>Bhīma's Cookbook and the Burning Lacquer Palace: Sanskrit Interactions with Classical Tamil and its Manuscripts</i>
13:40	Wang Chenyi	<i>Chinese makeover of Skanda</i>
14:20	Kexin Zheng	<i>Tulāpuruṣadāna in Thirteenth-Century South Indian Temples: A Study of Sanskrit Inscriptions of Jaṭāvarman Sundara-Pāṇḍya I and Kāḍava Kopperuñjiṅga</i>
15:00	Tea / coffee break · 20 minutes	

Session VI · Chair: Yunheng Xu

15:20	Arkamitra Ghatak	<i>Transnational Spiritual Networks, Female Gurus, and Transculturation of India as a Spiritual Land</i>
16:00	Kush Depala	<i>Who Writes a Rite? Scribal Agency, Print Culture, and Transmission in Modern Swaminarayan Ritual</i>
16:40	Wrap Up	
