

Curriculum Vitae for Andy Rotman

OFFICE

Smith College
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EDUCATION OFFICE

DEGREES

University of Chicago

Ph.D., Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations, 1990–2003
Dissertation: “Monks, Merchants, and a Moral Economy:
Visual Culture and the Practice of Faith in the *Divyāvadāna*”

Columbia University

B.A., *cum laude*, Department of Religion, 1984–1988
Thesis: “Buddhist Soteriology Reconsidered: The Theory and Practice of Abhidhamma”

RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS

Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies (Sarnath, India)

Research scholar, 1996–1998
Read and translated Pali, Sanskrit, and Tibetan texts as well as Newari manuscripts.

National Film Archive of India (Pune, India)

Visiting fellow, 1996
Studied Indian film and film theory.

Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth (Pune, India)

Research scholar, 1994–1996
Studied Pali literature, Sanskrit poetics, Spoken Sanskrit, and Indian historiography.

Pune University (Pune, India)

Research scholar, 1994–1996
Studied Buddhist Hybrid Sanskrit literature, Persian poetry, and Urdu poetry.

Landour Language School (Mussoorie, India)

Research scholar, summer 1993
Read and translated medieval Hindi texts.

University of California at Los Angeles

Visiting student, summer 1991
Studied Persian language and literature.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Smith College

Instructor, 2000–2002; Assistant Professor, 2002–present

Courses taught: *Introduction to World Religions; Violence and Non-Violence in Religious Traditions of South Asia; Advanced Readings in Sanskrit; Religious History of South Asia I (ancient to medieval); Religious History of South Asia II (medieval to modern); South Asian Visual Culture; The Meaning of Life; Introductory Tibetan I and II; Special Studies (Buddhism, Dalits, and Conversion; South Asian Masculinities; Indian Buddhist History and Historiography; Aural Religion; Buddhist Narrative Literature; Aging Women in India)*

Antioch Buddhist Studies Program (Bodh Gaya, India)

Lecturer, 1996

Courses taught: *Intensive Introductory Hindi; Advanced Readings in Hindi; South Asian Buddhist History; History of Buddhist Meditation*

Research projects supervised: *Dalit Buddhist Literature; Hindu/Buddhist Pilgrimage Sites; Tibetan Medicine; Tibetan Purificatory Practices*

GRANTS RECEIVED

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, summer 2006 (for book completion)

Committee on Educational Technology, Smith College, fall 2005 (for recording equipment)

Picker Fellowship, Smith College, spring 2005 (for a course release)

Rappaport Fellowship, Smith College, summer 2004 (for course development)

Smith College Faculty Research Grant, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006 (for research in India)

Committee on Southern Asian Studies Fellowship, University of Chicago, 1998, 1999
(for dissertation write-up)

Rocky Foundation Fellowship, 1996, 1997, 1998 (for research in India)

Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant, 1994–1995 (for research in India)

Title VI Fellowship, U. S. Department of Education:

Summer 1993 (for advanced study of Hindi)

Summer 1991 (for introductory study of Persian)

Century Fellowship, University of Chicago, 1990–1995 (for tuition and stipend)

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS IN PRESS

Thus Have I Seen: Visualizing Faith in Early Indian Buddhism. New York: Oxford University Press, forthcoming in 2008.

Divine Stories: Translations from the Divyāvadāna, volume 1. Classics of Indian Buddhism, volume 1. Cambridge: Wisdom Publications, forthcoming in 2008.

EDITED VOLUMES

Institute for Culture and Consciousness: Occasional Papers 1. Edited with Susanne Hoerber Rudolph and Leela Fernandez. Chicago: Committee on Southern Asian Studies, University of Chicago, 1993.

MONOGRAPHS

A Guide to Pali Text Society Sources. Compiled and annotated with James Nye and Steven Collins. Chicago: Committee on Southern Asian Studies, University of Chicago, 2000.

TRANSLATIONS

“The Story of One Who Relishes the Dharma.” In *The Longman Anthology of World Literature: Volume B, The Medieval World*, edited by David Damrosch et al., pp. 16–19. New York: Longman Publishers, 2004.

ARTICLES

“The Erotics of Practice: Objects and Agency in Buddhist Avadāna Literature.” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 71.3 (2003): 555–578. (refereed journal)

“The Midnight Buffet.” Co-written with Elizabeth Pérez. *Public Culture* 13.2 (2001): 329–332. (refereed journal)

ARTICLES IN PRESS

“White African Masks: Representing Africa in a Johannesburg Hotel.” Co-written with April Strickland. Forthcoming in *Material World*. (refereed journal)

“The Power of Proximity: Creating and Venerating Shrines in Indian Buddhist Narratives.” In *Buddhist Stūpas in South Asia: Recent Archaeological, Art-Historical, and Historical Perspectives*, edited by Jason Hawkes and Akira Shimada. Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming in 2008.

BOOK REVIEWS

Review of Timothy Lenz, *A New Version of the Gāndhārī Dharmapada and a Collection of Previous-Birth Stories: British Library Kharoṣṭhī Fragments 16 + 25* (Contributions by Andrew Glass and Bhikshu Dharmamitra. Gandhāran Buddhist Texts Series, volume 3. Seattle and London: University of Washington Press, 2003) for H-Buddhism@h-net.msu.edu, May 2006. (refereed listserve)

Review of Ratna Handurukande, *Three Sanskrit Texts on Caitya Worship: In Relation to the Ahorātravrata* (Tokyo: International Institute for Buddhist Studies of The International College for Advanced Buddhist Studies, 2000) in *Religious Studies Review*, 29.1 (2003): 113–114. (refereed journal)

Review of Sunil Gupta, *An Economy of Signs: Contemporary Indian Photographs* (London and Boston: Rivers Oram Press, 1990) in *Chicago South Asia Newsletter*, spring/summer 2002. (refereed journal)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

BOOKS

Divine Stories: Translations from the Divyāvadāna, volume 2. Cambridge: Wisdom Publications. (under contract)

Saving the World through Commerce: Buddhism, Merchants, and Mercantilism in Early India.

The Visual Economy of Indian Jute Bags: Image, Affect, and Imagination in the North Indian Marketplace.

In Praise of Rivers: Sanskrit Hymns to India's Gods of Water. With the assistance of Shrikant Bahulkar. To be accompanied by a compact disk containing a recitation of the hymns.

EDITED VOLUMES

Amar, Akbar, Anthony: Community, Nation, and Religion in a Landmark Hindi Film. Co-edited with Christian Novetzke and William Elison.

BOOK INTRODUCTIONS

“Introduction” to Timothy Lenz, *Gāndhārī Avadānas: British Library Kharoṣṭhī Manuscript Fragments 1, 2, 3, 21, and Robert Senior Fragment 25*. Gandhāran Buddhist Texts Series, volume 5. Seattle: University of Washington Press.

ARTICLES

“Marketing Morality: The Economy of Faith in Early Indian Buddhism.” Requested submission by the journal *History of Religions*.

“A Marketplace for Virtue: The Economy of Early Indian Buddhism.” Co-written with Lewis Davis.

“Conversion Experiences and the Politics of Faith in Contemporary Indian Buddhism.”

“Skin Trade: Buddhism and Modernity among North Indian Leatherworkers.”

BOOK REVIEWS

Review of Reiko Ohnuma, *Head, Eyes, Flesh, and Blood: Giving Away the Body in Indian Buddhist Literature* (New York, NY: Columbia University Press, 2007) in *History of Religions*.

EXHIBITIONS

“Baba’s Got a Brand New Bag: Jute Shopping Bags from North India.” Exhibited at Foster Hall, University of Chicago, January–March 2005.

CONCERTS

Organizer and Producer, Spirit of Banaras Music Tour, 2001, 2005.

Twice arranged for musicians from Banaras to lecture and perform at all five colleges and at many other colleges and universities across the United States.

PRESENTATIONS

“Recyclable Images: Affect, Imagination, and North Indian Jute Bags.” 36th Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 2007.

Respondent for the panel *Making Buddhist Worlds*. 36th Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 2007.

“Commodity Image, Consumerism, and the Changing Politics of Affect in Contemporary North India.” Holy Cross College, September 2007.

“Bhutanese Buddhism in Theory and Practice.” A series of four lectures for Smith Travel in Bhutan, May 2007.

“Market Moralities and Moral Economies in Early Indian Buddhism.” University of Pennsylvania, February 2007.

“Negotiating Place and Space in a Banaras Neighborhood.” University of Wisconsin College Year in India Program, Banaras, India, January 2007.

“*Main hoon Inspector Amar: Big Brother is a Hindu with a Gun.*” In a panel entitled *Amar, Akbar, Anthony: Community, Nation, and Urban Cosmopolitanism in a Landmark Hindi Film*. 35th Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 2006.

“Baba’s Got a Brand New Bag: Image, Affect, and Indian Jute Bags.” Liberal Arts Luncheon, Smith College, September 2005.

“Baba’s Got a Brand New Bag: The Visual Economy of Indian Jute Bags.” (Panel Organizer). 33rd Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 2004.

“Religious Life in the Indian Public Sphere.” Public lecture given in Datiya, India, January 2004.

“Ethnographic Research Methods.” University of Wisconsin College Year in India Program, Banaras, India, December 2003.

“Visibly Moved: Faith and Arousal in Buddhist Sanskrit Narratives.” (Panel Organizer). 32nd Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 2003.

“Duty and Dharma in the *Bhagavad Gītā*.” University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 2003.

“The Power of Proximity: Creating and Venerating Shrines in Indian Buddhist Narratives.” South Asia Forum in Honor of Simon Digby: Sufis, Shrines, and South Asia at the University of Pennsylvania, October 2003.

“Seeing, Faith, and Giving: Issues of Mechanics and Agency.” Five Colleges Buddhist Studies Seminar at Smith College, September 2003.

“The Erotics of Practice: Objects, Agency, and Ethics.” Harvard University, February 2002.

“The Logic of Violence among Khalistani Sikhs.” Panel discussant on “just war.” Smith College, November 2001.

“Prasāda, Practice, and Agency: Thoughts on an Object-Oriented Ethics.” Association of Asian Studies Conference in Chicago, Illinois, March 2001.

“The Buddha and the Money Shot.” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion in Nashville, Tennessee, November 2000.

“Confidence in Uncertainties: Belief and Community in Avadāna Literature.” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion in Boston, Massachusetts, November 1999.

“Low Interest, High Yield: Some Thoughts on Giving and Exchange in the *Divyāvadāna*.” International Association of Buddhist Studies Conference in Lausanne, Switzerland, August 1999.

“Seeing, *śraddhā*, and Giving: Cultivating Belief in *karma* and *dakṣiṇā*.” Buddhist Studies Workshop Lecture Series, University of Chicago, May 1999.

“Early Buddhist Narratives: Stories about the Telling of Stories.” Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies in Sarnath, India, June 1998.

“Buddhism and Mercantilism in the Kuṣāṇa Period.” Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies in Sarnath, India, April 1997.

“Preliminary Research on the *Divyāvadāna*.” Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth in Pune, India, February 1995.

“Mūlasarvāstivādin Cultural Imagination in Northwest India.” Buddhist Studies Workshop Lecture Series, University of Chicago, October 1994.

“A Prolegomenon to Reading the *Buddhavaṃsa*.” South Asian Studies Workshop Lecture Series, University of Chicago, May 1993.

“Darius’s ‘New Introduction’ at Behistun.” Religion and Social Theory Workshop Lecture Series, University of Chicago, May 1993.

“Tales about Tales about Time.” Temporality in Buddhism Conference, University of Chicago, January 1992.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Board Member, South India Term Abroad (SITA) Program, 2007–present

Chief Editor, Classics of Indian Buddhism Series, Wisdom Publications, 2007–present

Consultant, Alliance for Global Education, India Programs, 2007

Academic Consultant, *In Search of the Bene Israel*, a documentary about Indian Jews, 2005

Tenure Reviewer, 2005

Reader, dissertation committee, Performance Studies, New York University, 2005

Judge, Seventh Annual Asian American Literary Awards (Fiction), 2004

Assistant Treasurer, Kuroda Institute, 2002–present

MANUSCRIPT REVIEW SERVICE

History of Religions

Journal of Hindu Studies

Journal of Ethnobiology

ANB Publishers

Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies Press

University of Hawai’i Press

Westview Press

Wisdom Publications

MUSIC PRODUCTION

Banaras Soul Music, volume 1, 2005

Banaras Soul Music, volume 2, 2006

FILM COLLABORATIONS

Baba's Got a Brand New Bag. Co-directed with April Strickland. New York, NY, (in progress).

Shiva in the City. Directed by April Strickland. New York, NY, 2005.

India: Caste is a Word. Directed by Karl Knapp. Northampton, MA, 2004.

Teaching for Today—and Tomorrow: Faculty and Students Talk about Learning at Smith.

Filmed and produced by Searchlight Films, 2004.

Cricket and Bollywood. Directed by Adam Chasen. Amherst, MA, 2003.

MEMBERSHIPS

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion

Association of Asian Studies

International Association of Buddhist Studies

The Asian American Writer's Workshop

FIVE COLLEGE MEMBERSHIPS

Five College Buddhist Studies Faculty Seminar

Five College Faculty Sanskrit Reading Group

Five College South Asia Faculty Seminar

LANGUAGES

Hindi: Very good reading, writing, and speaking ability

Sanskrit: Very good reading knowledge, good writing and speaking ability

Pali: Very good reading knowledge

Spanish: Very good reading knowledge, fair writing and speaking ability

French: Very good reading knowledge

Urdu: Good reading, writing, and speaking ability

Tibetan: Good reading knowledge

Medieval Hindi dialects: Good reading knowledge

Persian: Good reading, fair writing and speaking ability

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Member, Curriculum Committee, 2003–2005, 2007–present

Helped reorganize course listings.

Helped redraft the requirements for the major and minor.

Helped redesign the introductory course to the major (REL 105).

Member, Search Committee for position in Islamic religion, 2004–2005

Member, Subcommittee on Curriculum Initiatives, 2003–2004

Departmental Secretary, 2003–2004

Member, Senior Theses Committees: chaired, 1; reader, 6, 2003–2005

Premajor and major advisor, 2003–present

Served as a pre-major advisor to 8 students in 2004–2005 and 8 additional students beginning in fall 2007. I have been a major or minor advisor to approximately 15 students.

Frequent guest lecturer in REL 105 and REL 201, 2003–present

Praxis advisor, approximately 17 students, 2003–present

Assisted the History Department in their search for a South Asian historian, spring 2001

COLLEGE SERVICE

Member, Kahn Institute Advisory Committee, 2007–present
Member, Campus Education Committee for the Dalai Lama’s visit, spring 2007
Speaker, “Learning with Smith Travel,” Advancement Meeting, June 2007
Tour Leader for Smith Travel, *Bhutan: Inside the Dragon Kingdom*, May 2007
Participant, Kahn Institute Short-Term Research Project:
 The Meaning of Matter: Materiality and its Representations, June 2007
 Pierre Bourdieu in Algeria, February 2007
 Who Is Buddha? Understanding Buddhahood Past and Present, June 2003
Contributor, “For Classroom Use Also: Video in the Libraries,” *New from the Libraries*, fall 2005
Speaker, “The Value of a Liberal Arts Education,” Summer Preview, 2005
Reader, American Studies Masters Thesis, 2005
Co-organizer, Reading the News Weekly Study Group, 2005
Developed a Buddhist Studies reference section for the library, 2005–present
Developed an extensive catalogue of Indian films for the library, 2004–present
Admissions Reviewer, Smith College, 2004
Participant, Kahn Institute Long-Term Research Project:
 TransBuddhism: Transmission, Translation, Transformation, 2003–2004
Fellowship Mentor, Smith College, 2003–present
Five Colleges Tibetan Studies in India Program
 Member of Selection Committee, 2002–present
 Co-director, 2002
Faculty Advisor, EKTA (South Asian Students Organization), 2002–present
Faculty Advisor, International Students Organization, 2002–present