

David J. Brick

Senior Lector of Sanskrit

Yale University | South Asian Studies Council
Luce Hall | 34 Hillhouse Ave.
New Haven, CT 06520
Phone: (203) 824-4843
david.brick@yale.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D. | 2009 | University of Texas at Austin | Asian Cultures and Languages (South Asia/Sanskrit)

Dissertation: *The Dānakāṇḍa (Book on Gifting) of the Kṛtyakalpataru: A Critical Edition and Annotated Translation.*

Advisor: Prof. Patrick Olivelle, UT-Austin.

M.A. | 2003 | University of Texas at Austin | Asian Cultures and Languages (South Asia/Sanskrit)

Thesis: “The Origin and Early Development of *Smṛti*.”

B.A. | 2000 | University of Washington | Asian Languages and Literature (South Asia/Sanskrit)

EMPLOYMENT

South Asian Studies Council, Yale University: Senior Lector of Sanskrit, 2014–present.

South Asian Studies Council, Yale University: Lector of Sanskrit, 2009–2014.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Brahmanical Theories of the Gift: A Critical Edition and Annotated Translation of the Dānakāṇḍa of the Kṛtyakalpataru. Harvard Oriental Series 77. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press. 751 pages. 2015.

Associate editor with Patrick Olivelle (editor) and Mark McClish (associate editor). *A Sanskrit Dictionary of Law and Statecraft.* Delhi, India: Primus Books. 448 pages. 2015.

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

“The Incorporation of Devotional Theism into Purāṇic Gifting Rites.” *Journal of Indian Philosophy* (2017) 45: 191–205.

- “*Bhoḥ* as a Linguistic Marker of Brahmanical Identity.” *Journal of the American Oriental Society* (2016) 136.3: 567–90.
- “The Widow-Ascetic under Hindu Law.” *Indo-Iranian Journal* (2014) 57.4: 352–83.
- “The Origin of the *Khatvāṅga* Staff.” *Journal of the American Oriental Society* (2012) 132.1: 31–39.
- “The Dharmaśāstric Debate on Widow-Burning.” *Journal of the American Oriental Society* (2010) 130.2: 203–23.
- “The Court of Public Opinion and the Practice of Restorative Ordeals in Pre-Modern India.” *Journal of Indian Philosophy* (2010) 38: 25–38.
- “Transforming Tradition into Texts: The Early Development of *smṛti*.” *Journal of Indian Philosophy* (2006) 34: 287–302.

PEER-REVIEWED BOOK CHAPTERS

- “Social and Soteriological Aspects of Sin and Penance in Medieval Hindu Law.” In *Sins and Sinners: Perspectives from Asian Religions*, ed. by Phyllis Granoff and Koichi Shinohara, pp. 9–30. Numen Book Series 139. Leiden: Brill, 2012.
- With Donald Davis, Jr. “Chapter 2: Social and Literary History of Dharmaśāstra: Commentaries and Legal Digests.” In *The Oxford History of Hinduism: Hindu Law*, ed. by Patrick Olivelle and Donald Davis, Jr., pp. 30–45. Oxford University Press, forthcoming.
- “Chapter 15: Gifting: *Dāna*.” In *The Oxford History of Hinduism: Hindu Law*, ed. by Patrick Olivelle and Donald Davis, Jr., pp. 197–207. Oxford University Press, forthcoming.
- “Chapter 24: Penance: *Prāyaścitta*.” In *The Oxford History of Hinduism: Hindu Law*, ed. by Patrick Olivelle and Donald Davis, Jr., pp. 313–24. Oxford University Press, forthcoming.
- “Sati.” In *Martyrdom, Self-Sacrifice, and Self-Annihilation: Religious Perspectives on Suicide*, ed. by Margo Kitts. Oxford University Press, forthcoming.

BOOK REVIEWS

- R. Sathyanarayanan, ed. and tr. with an introduction by Dominic Goodall, *Śaiva Rites of Expiation: A First Edition and Translation of Trilocanaśiva’s Twelfth-century Prāyaścittasamuccaya (with transcription of Hṛdayaśiva’s Prāyaścittasamuccaya)*, in *Indo-Iranian Journal* (2017): 182–86.
- Ishvarachandra Vidyasagar, *Hindu Widow Marriage*, tr. with an introduction by Brian A. Hatcher, in *Journal of the American Oriental Society* (2012) 132.3: 519–20.
- Timothy Lubin, Donald R. Davis, Jr., and Jayanth K. Krishnan, eds., *Hinduism and Law: An Introduction*, in *Journal of the American Oriental Society* (2011) 131.4: 655–57.
- Donald R. Davis, Jr., *The Spirit of Hindu Law*, in *Journal of Hindu Studies* (2010) 3 (3): 373–75.

CONFERENCE/SYMPOSIUM PRESENTATIONS

- “The Debate on Cross-Cousin Marriage in Medieval Hindu Law.” Entanglements of Law and Religion in South Asia. Yale University, April 29, 2017.
- “A Widow’s Right to Inherit in Diachronic Perspective.” Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society, Los Angeles, California, March 17, 2017.
- “How a Brahmin Talks: An Unnoticed Sociolinguistic Marker of Brahmin Identity.” Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin, October 22, 2016.
- “The Incorporation of Devotional Theism into Purāṇic Gifting Rites.” Exploring Bhakti: Is Bhakti a Language of Power or of Protest. Yale University, May 15, 2016.
- “Mādhava’s Defense of Cross-Cousin Marriage and Its Impact on Brahmanical Custom.” Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society, Boston, Massachusetts, March 19, 2016.
- “The Use of Terms for ‘Householder’ in Early Dharmaśāstra Literature.” Symposium on the *Gṛhastha*: New Approaches to the Householder in Ancient India. University of Texas at Austin, February 20, 2016.
- “India’s Seven Deadly Sins: Interpreting Āpastamba’s *Patanīyas* in Light of Earlier Sources.” Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society, New Orleans, Louisiana, March 14, 2015.
- “The Incorporation of Devotional Theism into Purāṇic Gifting Rites.” Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society, Phoenix, Arizona, March 16, 2014.
- “An Introduction to Classical Hindu Law.” Sir Thomas More Lecture Series. Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, January 31, 2014.
- “The Danger of Purity in Medieval Hindu Law.” (part of an organized panel on “The Ethical Subject in Medieval and Early Modern India”). Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, San Diego, California, March 22, 2013.
- “The Shifting Rules of Widowhood in Ancient and Medieval India.” Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society, Portland, Oregon, March 16, 2013.
- “A Brief Introduction to Classical Indian Law.” Workshop on Law in Ancient Societies (organized by the Classics Department of Yale University), New Haven, Connecticut, December 14, 2012.
- “Competing Theories of the Gift in Ancient and Early Medieval India.” Organized by Prof. James Fitzgerald. Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, October 31, 2012.
- “The Danger of Purity and a Dharmaśāstric Remedy.” Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society, Boston, Massachusetts, March 19, 2012.
- “The Origin of the *Khaṭvāṅga* Staff.” Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society, Chicago, Illinois, March 12, 2011.

- “The Social and Soteriological Effects of Sin in Classical Hindu Law Texts.” Sin and Repentance in Asian Religions (conference held at Yale University), New Haven, Connecticut, October 17, 2010.
- “The Dharmasāstric Debate on Widow-Burning.” Presented by the Council on East Asian Studies (Yale University), New Haven, Connecticut, September 22, 2010.
- “Manuscripts as a Tool for Sanskrit Education.” Teaching South Asia: Language Instruction and Literary Culture (conference held at Yale University), New Haven, Connecticut, April 16, 2010.
- “Donors’ Dispositions in the Brahmanical Theory of *Dāna*.” Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society, St. Louis, Missouri, March 14, 2010.
- “The *Kṛtyakalpataru* and the Formation of a *Smṛti* Canon.” Authors and Patrons: Social Contexts of Legal Texts in Ancient India (conference held at the University of Texas at Austin), Austin, Texas, February 19, 2010.
- “On the Intention of the Gift in Classical Brahmanical Thought.” Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin, October 25, 2009.
- “The Dharmasāstric Debate on Widow-Burning.” Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society, Albuquerque, New Mexico, March 14, 2009.
- “The Practice of Ordeals in Pre-Modern India.” Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society, Seattle, Washington, March 18, 2006.
- “Transforming Tradition into Texts: The Early Development of *smṛti*.” Graduate Student Conference, Austin, Texas, October 2, 2004.
- “The Early Development of *smṛti*.” Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society, San Diego, California, March 13, 2004.

COURSES TAUGHT

- Introductory Sanskrit (Fall 2009–present)
Intermediate Sanskrit (Fall 2009–present)
Advanced Sanskrit (Fall 2009–present, alternating semesters)
Law and Religion in Ancient India (Spring 2009, Spring 2010)
Sanskrit Classics in Translation (Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Spring 2013)
History of Ancient India (Fall 2013, Spring 2015, Fall 2016)

LANGUAGES

- Modern: English, Hindi, Urdu, and German.
Classical: Sanskrit, Pali, and Prakrit.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Sanskrit language and literature, ancient and medieval India, classical Indian law, systems of sin and penance, canonization, theories of gifting, women in pre-modern India.

