GENERAL SEMINAR

Dr. Thibaut d'Hubert, Associate Professor, and Dr. Tyler Williams, Assistant Professor, Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago

will be panelists in a session titled:

“Lipi and Sound, Sacred and Otherwise: Vernacular Texts, Literacy, and Performance in North India.”

Moderator: Rajarshi Ghose

Abstract

In the domains of religious, social, or literary studies, texts are now less seen as abstract vehicles of meaning encoded in language, and they are rather considered within the multiple dimensions that led to their production and consumption. What surrounds the text contributes to regiment its meaning, and language alone is not enough to turn a text into a source or an object of aesthetic inquiry. With this panel we will discuss the renewed interest in the material and performative dimensions of the study of textual practices in South Asia. We will use as points of entry two recent publications: the volume Text and Tradition in Early Modern North India (OUP 2018), co-edited by Tyler Williams, Anshu Malhotra, and John Stratton Hawley, and Thibaut d’Hubert’s In the Shade of the Golden Palace: Ālāol and Middle Bengali Poetics in Arakan (OUP 2018). Tyler Williams and Thibaut d’Hubert will also introduce their respective book projects, both of which address topics related to the history of vernacular literacy in early modern North India.

Date: Wednesday, 29 May, 2019; Time: 3 – 5 pm

Venue: CSSSC Seminar Room 2, Patuli Campus

Debdatta Chowdhury
(Convener, Seminar Committee)

All are welcome to attend.