

## EDITORIAL

### ➤ IFP and the French National Strategy for Research and Innovation

France has defined a National Strategy for Research and Innovation (SNRI) in order to face global scientific and economic competition, similar to what has been done in other big European countries. It has fixed three priority axes of development, which address well-identified societal issues that relate to innovative economic fields and require multidisciplinary research for which France can mobilize some prime researchers. These three axes are 1) health, well-being, diet and bio-technologies, 2) environmental urgency and eco-technologies, and 3) information, communication and nanotechnologies, with all three axes being of interest to the French Institute of Pondicherry.

The French Institute of Pondicherry (IFP) is a multidisciplinary institute under the joint supervision of the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (MAEE) and the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS). It is a privileged place to facilitate scientific exchanges between South and Southeast Asia on the one hand, and France and the European Union on the other hand. Thus, thanks to its geographical location and its mandate covering this region, the Institute must find its place within the National Strategy for Research and Innovation as a Research Institute and play an instrumental role towards French and European cooperation.

For this, the IFP must do quality science that attracts our Indian counterparts, or otherwise conduct research in other fields which are still not mastered by Indian research. Recognition of the Institute by our Indian counterparts is a prerequisite to any form of scientific collaboration with them.

As a tool for cooperation, the Institute must be able to facilitate contacts and collaborations between South Asia, South East Asia and the European Union: in the North-South way, as has historically been the case at the Institute, but also in the South-North way, India having now reached the status of emerging economic power. The Institute will now have to keep up with scientific and technological innovations, and, will have to make sure that it does not miss out on the big scientific changes in

the country by ensuring the quality of collaborations (as much in India and Asia, as with European institutions). These collaborations, as much in the field of fundamental research as in applied research, will allow the transfer of competence in both ways, mark of a true cooperation, and will be in conformity with the recommendations of the SNRI in matters of international strategy.

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## FOCUS

### EFEQ

### ➤ Classical Tamil Winter and Summer Seminars at the EFEQ

The EFEQ will be celebrating a jubilee this summer when the Classical Tamil Summer Seminar takes place for the tenth year in a row. What started ten years back, in February 2003, as a Classical Tamil Winter School is by now a firmly established event for those interested in learning ancient and medieval Tamil, a language that is little studied today, especially given that it has been recognised as India's second classical language. For one summer month Pondicherry becomes a meeting point for international students (at beginner's and advanced levels) but also of scholars and pandits employed by the centre, who unite for the purpose of reading and discussing Tamil texts predominantly from the first millennium. While European universities have, in effect, put an end to teaching programmes devoted to pre-modern Tamil by cutting back an already meagre academic infrastructure, the EFEQ has so far maintained its focus on classical Tamil studies and is thus still able to offer this unique event, to which scholars from all over the world have responded.

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## IFP

### ➤ Inventory of the Biodiversity of Forest Canopies in Laos

Opération Canopée, France and National Science Council of Laos PDR have organized a program 'Inventory of the biodiversity of forest canopies in Laos' during May to June 2012 at Phou Hin Poun National Biodiversity Conservation Area (<http://blog.radeau-des-cimes.org/>).



The canopy of limestone hill forests (*Karsts*) was explored by several biologists using helium balloon and canopy platforms. B. R. Ramesh and N. Ayyappan from IFP and Juliana Prospero from CIRAD took part in this canopy expedition program and have collected and photographed more than one hundred tree species. After identifying collected specimens, the botanical database of these species will be incorporated into existing online interactive tree species identification system for the Anamite mountain range of Laos ([www.biotik.org](http://www.biotik.org)).

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## RESEARCH

### CSH

#### ➤ The NOPOOR Project

Poverty in developing countries is a major challenge for the European Union (EU): its persistence alters the stability of the world economy, and poverty reduction initiatives are becoming an issue in the process of global governance redesign. Through the Seventh Framework Programme for cooperation in the Social Sciences and Humanities, the European Union has awarded a consortium of 19 academic institutions spread over Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America a grant of € eight million to execute this research project whose acronym stands for 'Enhancing Knowledge for Renewed Policies against Poverty'.

We are pleased to announce that the CNRS Research Unit in India, USR 3330 Savoirs et Mondes Indiens, comprising of the CSH and the IFP, is a partner of this consortium, the other major partner based in India being the Centre for Development Economics of the Delhi School of Economics. The NOPOOR project started off with a kick-off meeting in Paris on 11-13 June 2012.

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#### ➤ Essays in the Economics of Environmental Policy

Ashok Ankur Dutta, post doctoral fellow at the CSH, defended his Ph.D. thesis entitled 'Essays in the Economics of Environmental Policy' before the Indian Statistical Institute in April. The thesis consisted of three main chapters, each dealing with an aspect of environmental policy.

The first chapter studied the distributional effects of fuel taxes in India. Ashok Ankur Dutta has done an input-output analysis to show that, for most of the fuels generally used by Indian households (either directly or indirectly), taxes are progressive.

The second chapter studied the role of market instruments in inducing emission reducing research and development in an environment where the policy maker cannot commit to a policy for the future. It showed that the equivalence between price and quantity instruments break down in such an environment. It characterizes the conditions under which one instrument performs better than another. The role of investment subsidy was also studied.

The third chapter looked at the impact of community forestry on the distribution of forest resources amongst different socio-economic groups in Nepal. It tested the hypothesis that, in stratified societies, communal control of resources ensured an inequitable distribution of resources amongst different groups.

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### EFEQ

#### ➤ A Critical Edition and Study of the *Bālarāmāyaṇa* of Rājaśekhara

The *Bālarāmāyaṇa* is a ninth-century play in Sanskrit based on the story of Rāma as recounted in the *Rāmāyaṇa*, the celebrated epic poem attributed to the sage Vālmīki. Drawing on other versions of the Rāma legend, the poet Rājaśekhara has transformed the story into a highly literary work of theatre. The play has been published

several times, but it has not hitherto been critically edited on the basis of all extant testimonia. (A recent so-called 'critical edition' is based not on a collation of surviving manuscripts but of earlier editions.) Our new critical edition is being prepared by Dr. H.N. Bhat, well-known to scholars in this field for his critical edition of the previously unpublished commentary of Viṣṇubhaṭṭa on another rich and difficult literary drama in Sanskrit, the *Anargharāghava* of Murāri. He has been assisted by Manjunath Bhatt and, in earlier years, by Dr. V. Lalitha. It will document the readings of four previous editions and of just under thirty manuscripts, written in different scripts and in different parts of the subcontinent, the oldest being a birch-bark Kashmirian manuscript in Śāradā script held in the Bodleian library in Oxford. The first part of this major work, covering the first six of the drama's ten acts, is scheduled for publication in 2013.

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### ➤ 'The Bawd's Counsel', an eighth-century novel set in Benares

A project now nearing completion for which much of the work was done in Pondicherry is the new critical edition and English verse translation of the *Kuṭṭanīmata*, 'The Bawd's Counsel', an eighth-century Sanskrit novel in verse, set in Benares, about courtesans. An elderly successful bawd narrates two contrasting tales to Mālatī, a young prostitute whose business is flagging and who asks for advice: one is the tale of the beautiful Hāralatā who falls for her client and dies of a broken heart; the other is that of Mañjarī, a temple-prostitute who performs the heroine's rôle of Ratnāvalī in the

celebrated drama of that name, and is spotted there by a prince whom she seduces, drains of all wealth and then casts aside. The poem, the work of the Kashmirian minister Dāmodaragupta, presents a vivid tableau of urban life in North India: instead of the gods, sages and heroes of legend that people the literary epics and the *Purāṇas*, here gurus, princes and merchants jostle upon the streets of Benares with bawds, prostitutes, rakes and rustics, all grappling with matters of life, death, love, lovelessness and livelihood. The book, to be published shortly in the series of Groningen Oriental Studies, was jointly prepared by Csaba Dezső (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest) and Dominic Goodall (EFEO).

**Contact : Dominic Goodall (EFEO) and Csaba Dezső (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest)**

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### IFP

### ➤ Western Ghats Biodiversity Open Collaborative Information System

The Western Ghats Biodiversity Open Collaborative Information System is a joint effort by the French Institute of Pondicherry and Strand Life Sciences, Bangalore, and is currently being supported by the Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund (CEPF). We are trying to establish a comprehensive, single-point, collaborative and community-owned system that will facilitate a transparent and informed approach towards conservation. To tackle this huge but interesting challenge, we are hoping to tap into a collective intelligence with the help of biodiversity informatics.

To this end, the Western Ghats Portal has recently launched the Observation

Interface - a biodiversity observation recording module. This is a citizen science initiative, where users can upload species observations; collaboratively identify species; and contribute to our knowledge of biodiversity. The objective is to crowd source biodiversity information from scientists, amateurs and naturalists dispersed across various geographies.

Observation Interface:

<http://thewesternghats.in/biodiv/>

Users can upload a photograph of a species; choose an associated Creative Commons license for the photograph; provide a species name; mark the location for the observation; write some notes on the observation; and thus create an Observation.

Others can agree with the species identification or suggest a different species name, comment on the observation and interact with their facebook social network.

The crowd sourced information through the Observation Interface will be curated for developing descriptive species pages and distribution maps, collectively enhancing our understanding of biodiversity.

We hope to create a virtual ecosystem of stakeholders that evolves to bridge the gaps in information, helps to identify conservation priorities and can provide the foundation to optimize management strategies. We request you to be a part of building up this open access biodiversity information system.

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## EVENTS

### SEMINARS / WORKSHOPS / ROUND TABLES / LECTURES

#### CSH

➤ Centre de Sciences Humaines (CSH) Open Day for University Students, 21 February 2012, 2-4 pm: <http://www.csh-delhi.com/pastevents.php?selectedcategory=6&tri=1&idevent=104#reperer>

➤ Odette Louiset, from the University of Rouen presented her recently published book: *L'oubli des villes de l'Inde. Pour une géographie culturelle de la ville* on 23 February 2012. <http://www.csh-delhi.com/pastevents.php?selectedcategory=6&tri=1&idevent=102#reperer>

➤ Ingrid Therwath, 'Cyberhindutva: Hindu transnationalism and the Web', International seminar 'Indian Transnationalism Online', Centre for the Study of the Indian Diaspora, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, 26 March 2012. <http://www.csh-delhi.com/pastevents.php?selectedcategory=6&tri=1&idevent=128#reperer>

➤ Ingrid Therwath, 'Re-imagining India: long-distance nationalism and sub-nationalisms', Association for the Study of Nationalities, Columbia University, New York, 22 April 2012. <http://www.csh-delhi.com/pastevents.php?selectedcategory=6&tri=1&idevent=129#reperer>

➤ An internal seminar on 'Islam, Religious Minorities and Urban Spaces in India and Pakistan' was

held at the CSH Meeting Room, on Wednesday 25 April 2012.

<http://www.csh-delhi.com/pastevents.php?selectedcategory=6&tri=1&idevent=133#reperer>

➤ Ingrid Therwath, 'Cyberhindutva: le nationalisme hindou, la diaspora et le web', colloque international 'Homeland Connections', Cité Nationale de l'Histoire de l'Immigration, Paris, 24 May 2012.

<http://www.csh-delhi.com/pastevents.php?selectedcategory=6&tri=1&idevent=130#reperer>

➤ Ingrid Therwath, 'The Global Sangh Parivar: a Study of Contemporary International Hinduism', conference 'India Beyond India: Debating Communalism and Belonging', Georg-August Universität, Göttingen, 26 May 2012.

<http://www.csh-delhi.com/pastevents.php?selectedcategory=6&tri=1&idevent=131#reperer>

➤ Ingrid Therwath, 'Cyberhindutva: Hindu nationalism, the diaspora and the web', Diasporas: Exploring Critical Issues – 5th Global Conference 2012, Mansfield College, University of Oxford, Oxford, 28 June 2012.

<http://www.csh-delhi.com/pastevents.php?selectedcategory=6&tri=1&idevent=135#reperer>

➤ CSH Urban Workshop Series <http://www.csh-delhi.com/pastevents.php?selectedcategory=6&tri=1&idevent=136#reperer>

#### IFP

➤ Census Data Dissemination workshop held at the IFP on 14 June 2012

<http://www.ifpindia.org/Census-Data-Dissemination-workshop.html>

➤ Ecology series at the Alliance française de Pondichéry held at the IFP on 3 to 5 April 2012

<http://www.ifpindia.org/Ecology-series-at-the-Alliance-francaise-de-Pondichery.html>

Click here for more information on the events held at the IFP: <http://www.ifpindia.org/Seminars-Events-.html>

#### EFEQ

➤ Round table on the Pāṇḍyan cave temples

[http://www.efeo.fr/blogs\\_post.php?bid=14&nid=654&l=EN](http://www.efeo.fr/blogs_post.php?bid=14&nid=654&l=EN)

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➤ Lecture of Victor D'avella on 'Remarks on Citrakāvya and the Devīśānta of Ānandavardhana'

[http://www.efeo.fr/blogs\\_post.php?bid=14&nid=610&l=EN&nc=Lectures](http://www.efeo.fr/blogs_post.php?bid=14&nid=610&l=EN&nc=Lectures)

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➤ Lecture of Emmanuel Francis on 'Supplementing poetry: The additional stanzas to the Tirumurukāṅruppaṭai'

[http://www.efeo.fr/blogs\\_post.php?bid=14&nid=573&l=EN&nc=Lectures&y=2012](http://www.efeo.fr/blogs_post.php?bid=14&nid=573&l=EN&nc=Lectures&y=2012)

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➤ Lecture of Sylvain Brocquet on 'Double Entendre in Literature and Inscriptions: a Few Examples'

[http://www.efeo.fr/blogs\\_post.php?bid=14&nid=576&l=EN&nc=Lectures](http://www.efeo.fr/blogs_post.php?bid=14&nid=576&l=EN&nc=Lectures)

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## WELCOME

### ...at the CSH

**Abhiroop MUKHOPADHYAY** is participating in a CSH project at the London School of Economics from 4 to 7 June 2012.

**Alicia MARGUERIE**, a student at the École Polytechnique - Sc Po Masters joined the CSH from 5 April 2012 for three months.

**Caroline LEGER** joined the CSH on 18 May 2012 as the new webmaster.

**Charlotte CONRAUD**, an M. Phil student in political sciences and sociology at the University of Lyon 2 (France) joined the CSH on 5 March 2012 for a three-month period till the end of May 2012.

**Dipa SINHA** is participating in a CSH project at the London School of Economics from 4 to 7 June 2012

**Dolma TSEWANG** joined the CSH in May 2012 as Administrative Assistant to the Director of the CSH.

**Edouard MONTIER**, a Sc Po Masters of Ecole Polytechnique joined the CSH from 5 April 2012 for three months.

**Hemendra Kumar AHIRWAL** joined the CSH from 1 to 31 May 2012 as a research assistant under Dr. Himanshu in the Economics Department.

**Imdadul HALDER**, M.Phil in Economics from the Centre for International Trade and Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University joined the Economics Department of the CSH on 6 February 2012. He is expected to be with the CSH till 5 October 2012.

**Rakesh KUMAR** joined the CSH from 1 to 31 May 2012 as a research assistant under Dr. Namrata Gulati in the Economics Department.

**Ruchira BHATTACHARYA** is participating in a CSH project at the London School of Economics from 4 to 22 June 2012.

**Sushumna AGARWAL** joined the CSH as a research assistant under Dr. Namrata Gulati from 1 March 2012 to 31 May 2012.

**Sukh Dayal CHADAR** joined the CSH as a research assistant under Dr. Himanshu from 1 April 2012 to 30 June 2012.

**Zénard HUBERT** joined the CSH as an intern on 2 April 2012 in the urban studies department under Marie-Hélène Zérah.

### ...at the EFEO

**Alexis AVDEEFF**, doctoral student at the EHESS, Laureate of Fonds Louis Dumont, arrived at the Pondicherry Centre of the EFEO for a period of 2 months (June – July 2012) to finalise his analysis and translation of the material gathered during his field trips which will be included in his thesis entitled 'Les feuilles de palme et le stylet : savoirs et savoir-faire au sein d'une communauté d'astrologues en Inde du Sud.'

**Dominic GOODALL**, EFEO, will spend 3 months from mid-June at the Pondicherry Centre of the EFEO to continue with his various projects in collaboration with the sanskritists of the Centre and to participate in the 10th Classical Summer Seminar.

**James REICH**, doctoral student of the University of Harvard, arrived at

the Pondicherry Centre of the EFEO on 1 June 2012 for a two-month stay to pursue his research on the links between Sanskrit literature and religion. He will also participate in the Saiva reading sessions conducted by Dominic Goodall.

**Peter PASEDACH**, University of Hamburg and scholar of the EFEO will arrive on 1 July 2012 to spend six months at the Pondicherry Centre of the EFEO to pursue his research on his thesis 'Haravijaya of Ratnākara, a Mahākāvya from 9th century Kashmir'.

### ...at the IFP

**Bastien ROUY**, software engineer, joined the Ecology Department from 16 January 2012 to June 2013, to work in the BVH project, under the supervision of Dr. Cédric GAUCHEREL.

**Mathilde ORLHAC**, student at Montpellier Supagro, France, joined the Ecology Department from 14 February 2012 to 28 July 2012, as a trainee, to work on *Territory understanding and landscape dynamics of an environment facing major ruptures*, under the supervision of Dr. Cédric GAUCHEREL.

**Aurélien PUISEUX**, Master 1 student at the Ecole Normale Supérieure, France, joined the Ecology Department from 14 February 2012 to 23 June 2012, as a trainee, to work on *Modeling a termite hill*, under the supervision of Dr. Cédric GAUCHEREL.

**Roxane de FLORE**, Ph.D student in Urbanism at the LAB'URBA, University of Marne-la-Vallée, France, joined the Social Sciences Department from 19 March 2012 to June 2012, to work on *Micro-logics and networks of private*

agents in the process of making of a major city, under the supervision of Dr. Eric DENIS.

**Charlotte BALSSA**, student in Master 2 of 'Development Economics' from the University Bordeaux 4, France, joined the Social Sciences Department from 7 May to 7 September 2012, as a trainee, to work on *Gender, education, employment and finance* in the framework of the RUME project, and under the supervision of Dr. Eric DENIS.

**Laura BRIANT**, student from the University Bordeaux 4, France, joined the Social Sciences Department from 7 May to 7 September 2012, as a trainee, to work on *Economy and Geography*, in the framework of the Subaltern Urbanisation in India project, and under the supervision of Dr. Eric DENIS.

**Rémi TOURNEBIZE**, student in Agronomy at Montpellier SupAgro, France, joined the Ecology Department from 15 May to 15 September 2012, as a trainee, to work on *Conceptual and epistemological comparison between a grammatical formalization of ecosystems and other theories*, under the supervision of Dr. Cédric GAUCHEREL.

**Virgile BAUDROT**, student at University Montpellier 2, France, joined the Ecology Department from 10 June to 1 September 2012, as a trainee, to work on *Software programming on landscape modelling platform*, in the framework of the REBlodivagrim N° 263 project, and under the supervision of Dr. Cédric GAUCHEREL.

**THIRUKKUMARAN K.**, M.A. Degree holder in Sanskrit, joined the Indology Department in June 2012, for a two-year period, to work on his doctorate

*A critical Study of Saivasiddhanta Philosophy with Special reference to the Svayambhuvagama*, under the supervision of Dr. T. GANESAN.

**Souda COUNARADJOU**, student in Management of Administrations and Businesses at the University Paul Sabatier-Toulouse 3, France, joined the Secretariat General, as a trainee, from 18 June to 6 July 2012, working under the supervision of Eve HERMANN.

**Dr. Pierre GRARD**, PhD., who is a Botanist and a Computer Scientist, with a Doctorate in Population Biology and Ecology, took up his post on 8 June 2012, as the new Director of the IFP.

**Michael BRUCKERT**, Ph.D candidate, joined the Social Sciences Department from 13 June to 7 September 2012, to work on the topic of *Meat production and consumption in Tamil Nadu* in the framework of the 'Food and Nutrition in Indian contexts' project, and under the supervision of Dr. Brigitte SEBASTIA.

**Pierre Yves TROUILLET**, PhD., Research Fellow from the CNRS, Centre for South Asian Studies, Paris, joined the Institute from 19 June to 14 July 2012, to work on *Temple Trusts and the Development of Small Towns in Tamil Nadu, India* as part of post-doctoral fieldwork and in the framework of the ANR Subaltern Urbanisation in India project.

**Anthony GOREAU-PONCEAUD**, Lecturer at the University Montesquieu, Bordeaux 4, France, joined the Indology Department from 20 June to 12 July 2012, to work on the topic of *Sri Lankan Tamils in India*, under the supervision of Mr. KANNAN M.

## GOODBYE

### ...at the CSH

**Dr. Mainak MAJUMDAR**, research fellow, left the CSH in June 2012.

**Malika HANIF**, personal assistant to the Director, left the CSH in April 2012.

**Dr. Namrata GULATI**, research fellow, left the CSH in May 2012.

**Dr. Mainak MAZUMDAR**, Research Fellow in Economics at the CSH for the last three years, has got appointed Assistant Professor of Economics at IIT Jodhpur and **Dr. Namrata Gulati**, Research Fellow at the CSH since February 2012, has got appointed Assistant Professor of Economics at the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research in Mumbai.

### ...at the IFP

**Florence GONTRAND**, Student at UPMC, Paris, France, who had joined the Ecology Department on 21 February 2012, as a trainee, to work on *Conservation recommendations on the basis of endemism and biodiversity in the Western Ghats*, under the supervision of Dr. Cédric GAUCHEREL, left on 9 June 2012.

**Pierre CELLIER**, Student at the University Montpellier II, France, who had joined the Ecology Department on 3 March 2012, as a trainee, to work on *Macroecology of the endemic trees in the Western Ghats*, under the supervision of Dr. Cédric GAUCHEREL, left on 13 June 2012.

## MILESTONES

### CSH

➤ In May 2012 the French Education ministry nominated Dr. Basudeb Chaudhuri, the Director of CSH, as 'chevalier de l'ordre des palmes académiques', which is a decoration for services to French education.

### IFP

➤ **Prof. R. Tatacharya awarded the 'Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur'**

Professor Navalpakkam Ramanuja Tatacharya, associated professor and researcher at the French Institute of Pondicherry (IFP), leading authority in the fields of *shastras* (sciences) that are the *Nyaya*, the *Vyakarana*, the *Mimamsa* and the *Vedanta*, was conferred the prestigious title of 'Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur' from the Government of France in a ceremony which was held at the French Consulate in Pondicherry on 12 July 2012, in the presence of his Excellency, Mr. François RICHIER, Ambassador of France in India.

### EFEO

➤ Jean Deloche was nominated to the National Academy of Sciences, New Delhi, as a Member of the Editorial Board of the *Indian Journal of History of Sciences*.

➤ V. Venkataraja Sarma was honoured for his contribution to Sanskrit as well as for his deep knowledge of Paninian grammar during a National Conference organized by the Department of Sanskrit University of Calicut on 1 and 2 December 2011.

## PUBLICATIONS

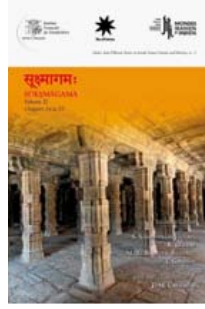
### Others

#### IFP

**Sūksmāgama. Volume II. Chapters 14 to 53.**

*S. Sambandhaśivācārya, B. Dagens, M.-L. Barazer-Billoret and T. Ganesan with the collaboration of J.-M. Creisméas, Steles: Jean Filliozat Series in South Asian Culture and History n° 3, IFP, 2012, clxxiii, 403 p.*

*Language : Sanskrit, English. Rs. 800 (€ 35). ISBN: 978-81-8470-190-6*



This second volume of the *Sūksmāgama* critical edition contains descriptions of a variety of rites and ceremonies concerning divinities and humans, mostly performed in the temple. Many of them are in the form of festivals celebrated in honour of Śiva and the Goddess. Others include anointing the *Liṅga* with a continuous flow of liquids, less well-known ceremonies connected with the Goddess, special rites exclusively performed for the sake of kings, as well as ordeals and an interesting and unusual chapter dealing with the organisation of the temple personnel.

This volume has been prepared and published with the help of Région Île-de-France (Programme ARCUS Île-de-France – Inde)

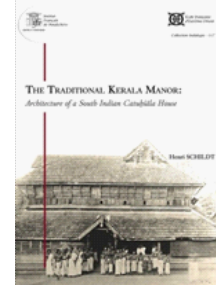
**Keywords:** śaiva, śaivasiddhānta, āgama, ritual

### IFP/EFEO

**The Traditional Kerala Manor: Architecture of a South Indian Catuhśāla House.**

*Henri Schildt, Collection Indologie n° 117, IFP/EFEO, xiv, 473 p., including 176 p. of b&w plates*

*Language: English. Rs. 1400 (€ 60). ISBN (IFP): 978-81-8470-189-0. ISBN (EFEO): 978-2-85539-126-7.*



This work describes the feudal late mediaeval high-caste Kerala house. It lays particular emphasis upon the so-called 'four-house' mansion, called *catuhśāla* in Sanskrit and *nālukeṭtu* in Malayalam, the vernacular of Kerala. This palatial kind of mansion is regarded as ritually 'complete' and, as such, appropriate — according to local Sanskrit treatises on architecture —, to the feudal clergy, royalty and aristocracy. The work describes the architecture of thirty historic houses of this type, highlighting their relation to Sanskrit architectural theory and to brahminical codes of daily life and ritual. It concludes with an attempt to present an overview of the notion of the architectural and ritual space of these houses as a microcosm.

**Keywords:** architecture, palatial house, Kerala

## BOOKS

### CSH

GAYER, LAURENT and JAFFRELOT, CHRISTOPHE (eds), *Muslim in Indian Cities: Trajectories of Marginalisation*. London: Hurst & Company / Columbia University Press, 2012.

## CHAPTERS IN BOOKS

### IFP

#### Indology

GANESAN T., 'Vedantic Saivism : Visistadvaita of Srikantha', in Kutumba Sastry V., Saxena P. and Kaushik P. (eds), *Advaitamanih : Professor Ram Murti Sharma commemorative volume*, Vidyandhi Prakashan, New Delhi, 2012, pp. 90-113.

SUBBARAYALU Y., 'Konerinmai-kondan, the matchless king', in Padigar S. V. and Shivananda V. (eds), *Pratnakirti : recent studies in Indian epigraphy, history, archaeology and art : essays in honour of Prof. Shrinivas Ritti*, Agam Kala Prakashan, New Delhi, 2012, pp. 339-342.

#### Social Sciences

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