

## **HistoryFirst Workshop 3.0**

Jointly organised by  
Institute of Historical Analysis  
Madan Puraskar Pustakalaya  
Southasia Institute for History and Philosophy

### **Historical Sources**

With

**Yogesh Raj**

16 January – 17 February 2025

#### **Theme**

This reading workshop is for you if you are interested in knowing about the long-term processes in the collective construction of the past and present of the individual and social selves and of their material and metaphysical foundations. Specifically, the workshop will make you comprehend a variety of source materials, strategies to engage with them, and develop a critique of the existing approaches in writing about Nepali history in particular and histories of Southasian communities and traditions in general. Designed as part-workshop and part-discussion, in each session of this workshop, you will examine a source specimen critically and then discuss readings that have been constructed out of such specimens.

#### **Duration**

120 mins, Mondays and Thursdays, for 5 weeks

#### **Course Registration Fees**

NRs. 8000

(Inclusive of the course pack and light refreshment)

#### **Course Registration Deadline**

7 January 2025

#### **Course Details**

Syllabus is available on

[www.madanpuraskar.org/historyfirst-2025/](http://www.madanpuraskar.org/historyfirst-2025/)

You may also want to discuss the scope and significance of the reading workshop. Please call or write to us to fix an appointment for consultation.

For registration, please contact:

Selesha Shrestha

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For course consultation, please contact:

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## HistoryFirst Workshop 3.0

### Syllabus

*Note on the Selected Readings:* The course pack consists of the following readings (except the audios). It will be available in advance to each registered participant. Each class will have two sessions: the first session (1 hour) will see a close engagement with the primary readings, including strategies to examine, read, and analyse the given source specimen. It is important to note that the participants are *not* expected to go through the primary readings in advance of the class. The second session, following the first and a short break, will see an intense discussion on the secondary readings. Since the discussion will focus on developing critiques of the existing historiography of the medieval Nepal, participants *are* expected to thoroughly read and think through the secondary readings before coming to the class. Languages of the readings are Sanskrit, Nepali, Newari, Maithili and the Rai and Limbu, and English. While a working knowledge of the languages other than Nepali and English will be an advantage, such familiarity is not necessary to enrol and take part in the reading seminar. The diacritics have been left out in the following citation for ease.

### Class 1 Inscriptions

#### Primary Readings:

Copy of the Jayavarma Inscription.

Nayanatha Paudela. 2078 VS. Licchavi Lipi. Kathmandu: Pramila Paudela. Pp. 435-454.

#### Secondary Readings:

Angela Andrea Di Castro and Riccardo Garbini. 1996. An Inscribed Statue of Year 207 from Maligaon, Kathmandu. *East and West* 46(3/4):299-317

Kashinath Tamot and Ian Alsop. 1996. A Kushan-period Sculpture. <https://www.asianart.com/articles/jaya/index.html>

Tarananda Mishra. 2000. Dated Figure of King Jayavarma: The Tradition of Figure Making and the Historical Importance of this Discovery. *Ancient Nepal* 146: 1-23.

### Class 2 Colophons

#### Primary Readings:

Copy of the CUDL MS ADD 1643, with text. Cambridge University Library.

<https://cudl.lib.cam.ac.uk/view/MS-ADD-01643/446-447>

#### Secondary readings:

Luciano Petech. 1984. *Medieval History of Nepal, c. 750-1482*. Pp. 35-39. Roma: Istituto Italiano Per Il Medio Ed Estremo Oriente.

D R Regmi. 1965. *Medieval Nepal, Part 1*. Calcutta: Firma K. L. Mukhyapadhyay. Pp. 118-119.

Dineshraj Pant. 2030 vs. Raja Nirbhayadeva, Rudradeva, Bhojadeva, Laksmikamadeva. *Purnima* 30:116-131.

### Class 3 Documents

#### Primary Readings

Copy of the Ukubaha Palmleaf NS 235

Reading of the Text

#### Secondary Readings:

K P Malla. 1990. The Earliest Dated Document in Newari: The Palmleaf from Uku Bahah NS 235/AD 1114. *Kailash* XVI (1-2):15-25.

Kolver, B. and H. Shakya. 1985. Introduction. *Documents from Rudravarna-Mahavihar, Patan. Part 1: Sales and Mortgages*. Pp. 13-100. Sankt Augustin: VGH Wissenschaftsverlag

### Class 4 Articulations

#### Primary Readings:

Kurtis Schaffer. 2004. *Himalayan Hermitess*. Pp. 131-145. Oxford: Oxford University Press.  
Secondary Readings:  
Kurtis Schaffer. 2004. *Himalayan Hermitess*. Pp. 45-103. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 45-103.

#### Class 5 **Rituals**

Primary Readings:

Vairagi Kainla (ed/tr) Phool Jagaaune. *Tansin Takmaa Mundhum*. Pp. 121-167. Kathmandu: Nepal Academy.

Secondary Readings:

Zotter, Astrid. 2021. "Who Kills the Buffalo? Authority and Agency in the Ritual Logistics of the Nepalese Dasaī Festival." In *Nine Nights of Power: Durgā, Dolls and Darbārs*, edited by Ute Hüsken, Vasudha Narayanan, and Astrid Zotter, 193–220. Albany: State University of New York Press.

#### Class 6 **Objects**

Primary Readings:

Visva KC (Pokharela). 2071 VS. *Kirtikhamba*. Kathmandu: Avant-Co-ventures. Pp. 45-78.

Secondary Readings:

Maskarinec, Gregory G. 2069 VS. *Ratrika Nirdeva* (tr. Shilu Ghimire). Pp. 173-219.

#### Class 7 **Language**

Primary Readings:

Aaley, U. R., & Bodt, T. A. (2019, August 26). *Kusunda 250 Word List Audio Files (1.1)*. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3377537>

Secondary Readings:

Mark Donohue and Bhojraj Gautam. Deixis in Kusunda. *Nepalese Linguistics* 29: 152-157.

#### Class 8 **Histories**

Primary Readings

Copy of one page of NGMPP G176/9.

Secondary Readings

Yogesa Raja. Chata Ra.a. G176/9. Unpublished Draft.

Chittaranjana Nepali. Ranabhadur Saha: Vyaktitva Ra Sasanakala. Kathmandau: Ratna Pustaka Bhandara, pp. 20-49.