



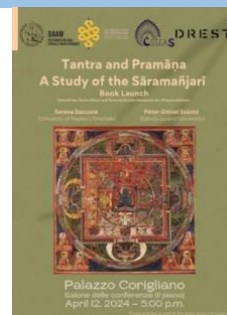
UNIVERSITÀ DI NAPOLI
L'ORIENTALE

CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF SOUTH AND SOUTH-EAST ASIA NEWSLETTER NO. 3

JANUARY-JUNE 2024

Conferences, Lectures and Seminars at UNIOR

Margherita Serena Saccone presented her book on 12 April 2024:
"Tantra and Pramāṇa. A Study of the Sāramañjarī"



Francesco Sferra and Margherita Serena Saccone organised the workshop "Unchanging Seminar - Paramākṣarajñānasiddhi readings", University of Naples L'Orientale, 13-17 May 2024. Giacomella Orofino, Luca Piscopo, Caterina Berliri and Carmen Simioli were among the participants.

Giulia Forgione, Margherita Serena Saccone, Florinda De Simini, Daniela Cappello and Anna Filigenzi participated in the seminar entitled "Giornata di didattica dottorale. Dottorato al futuro: prospettive occupazionali e progetti di ricerca", held at the University of Naples L'Orientale (Department of Asia, Africa and Mediterranean) on 2 May 2024, invited by the curators of the event Prof. **Florinda De Simini** and Prof. **Anna Filigenzi**.



Carmen Simioli has co-organised with **Giacomella Orofino (UNIOR)** and Bayarma Khabtagaeva the Doctoral Seminar "Tibetan and Mongolian Connections" held at "L'Orientale" on 17 April and 8-9 May. Professor Agata Bareja-Starzyńska (University of Warsaw), Dr. Valentina Punzi (CRCAO), Dr. Oyun Erdene Perelli and Dr. Rachel Mikos (Masaryk University) participated in the seminar providing the students with a wide array of interesting research topics ranging from Buddhism and medicine to linguistics and folklore.

Stefania Cavaliere organised a Workshop about the Indian general Elections 2024 "Una festa ogni elezione, un orgoglio per la nazione" Strategie elettorali a confronto e analisi dei media sulle elezioni generali in India 2024 (March-May 2024)

<https://myindia.it/category/digital-india/>

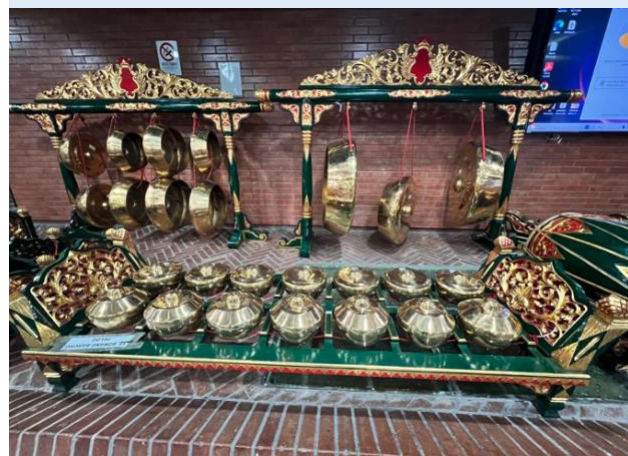


Antonia Soriente organised a series of seminars on “Oral traditions of Indonesia. Preservation, transformation and sustainability” and presented a paper titled “Oral traditions, oral literatures and local wisdom, a legacy to document.” 20-21 May 2024.

The Seminar organized in collaboration with the Indonesian Association for the Study of Oral Traditions (ATL) and ISMEO, included presentations by international scholars on the oral traditions of Java, Sumatra, Sulawesi, Papua, Bali, Flores etc. and some performative parts from Java and Sumatra. In particular, the performative parts that also included a workshop with students,

were the Calung music and the dance Lengger from

Central-West Java were performed, the talempong music and the Randai dance/theatre from West Sumatra were played. A performance of the Chinese-Indonesian theater Wayang Potehi from East Java concluded the event.



Antonia Soriente organised a laboratory titled “Theoretical and practical workshop on Indonesian ethnomusicology. Practice of gamelan music” between 5 March and 31 May 2024. The workshop aimed to introduce an icon of Indonesian culture, the Gamelan orchestra, through theoretical and practical lessons in which each participant was able to practise playing one or more instruments of the Gamelan (metallophones, xylophones, flutes, etc.). The workshop was

held by ethnomusicologist Daniele Zappatore (University of Rome La Sapienza) with musical coordination by Salvatore Morra.

Prof. Minoru Inaba, a CSSEAS Visiting professor from the Kyoto University, gave a series of six lectures throughout the month of May 2024 on the topic "The 'Frontier' Landscape of Historical Afghanistan — On the recent developments on the pre and early Islamic history of the Indo-Iranian borderlands'. Prof. Inaba's invitation was funded by the University and sponsored by the CSSEAS. Event planning and management by **Anna Filigenzi** with the assistance of **Giulia Forgione**.

SUMMARY OF THE LECTURES

Since the break-out of the civil war in Afghanistan in 1979, various research activities carried out by French, Italian, Japanese, British, and American teams had to withdraw from their fields. It was after the fall down of the first Taliban regime in 2001 that several archaeological works could resume. However, the blank period produced by the Civil War gave scholars time to scrutinize, reconsider, and reevaluate the results of scientific missions conducted before the 1980s. Moreover, partly due to the civil war, several significant materials appeared from Afghanistan in the 1990s, such as a bunch of Bactrian documents and big hoards of coins issued by the pre-Islamic rulers of Indo-Iranian borderlands. By integrating the remarkable research achievements in the fields of history, archaeology, numismatics, linguistics, and art history, we can now describe to some extent what happened in the Indo-Iranian borderlands in the first millennium CE. The serial lectures introduced the related materials, and presented the history of the region, though tentatively.

Prof. Minoru Inaba
Kyoto University
Visiting Professor
(8 maggio – 23 maggio)



The "Frontier" Landscape of Historical Afghanistan On the recent developments on the pre- and early-Islamic history of the Indo-Iranian borderlands



Mercoledì 8 maggio 2024, ore 14-16
Aikhanes and their activities in northern India and Afghanistan (5th-7th centuries)
Antisala degli specchi, Palazzo Corigliano

Giovedì 9 maggio 2024, ore 10-12
Emergence of the Kabulshahs in eastern Afghanistan (7th century)
Antisala degli specchi, Palazzo Corigliano

Mercoledì 15 maggio 2024, ore 14-16
Across the Hindukush from the 8th to the 10th centuries
Antisala degli specchi, Palazzo Corigliano

Giovedì 16 maggio 2024, ore 10-12
Emergence of the Frontier Empire/ #1 the Ghaznavids (10th-11th centuries)
Antisala degli specchi, Palazzo Corigliano



Mercoledì 22 maggio 2024, ore 14-16
Emergence of the Frontier Empire/ #2 the Ghaznavids (12th - 13th centuries)
Antisala degli specchi, Palazzo Corigliano

Giovedì 23 maggio 2024, ore 10-12
The trans-frontier travels of Buddhist monks and the history of Central Asia
Salone delle conferenze, Palazzo Corigliano

La frequenza e una relazione finale danno diritto a 2 CFU.
Per informazioni e registrazione: csseas@unina.it
Per seguire il seminario su Zoom scrivere all'indirizzo email indicato per ricevere le credenziali di accesso.



The Survival of Indic Buddhism in Nepal

Lecture Series by the Visiting Professor
Alexander von Rospatt
(University of California, Berkeley)

04/06/2024 - 11:00 - 13:00 - Antisala degli specchi, Palazzo Corigliano
Introduction to Buddhism in Nepal: Historical Overview; Current State of Research, Sources and Resources.

12/06/2024 - 11:00 - 13:00 - Antisala degli specchi, Palazzo Corigliano
Nepalese Buddhist Monasticism, the Domestication of Monkhhood and the Transformation of the pravrajya Ordination into Boyhood Rites of Passage as Documented in Premodern Sources such as the Pāpapaṃsā.

18/06/2024 - 11:00 - 13:00 - Antisala degli specchi, Palazzo Corigliano
The Daily Practices of the Buddhist Laity, and the Life Cycle Rituals that Structure their Life.

20/06/2024 - 11:00 - 13:00 - Antisala degli specchi, Palazzo Corigliano
The Svayambhūcaitya of Kathmandu, its History, including its Periodic Renovations, and its Paradigmatic Treatment in Ritual as a vajradhātu-maṇḍala.

25/06/2024 - 11:00 - 13:00 - Antisala degli specchi, Palazzo Corigliano
Creating Tradition. The Svayambhūpurāṇa and its Depiction in Image.

27/06/2024 - 11:00 - 13:00 - Antisala degli specchi, Palazzo Corigliano
Ritual Icons. The Example of the bhimaratha Old Age Scroll Paintings Dedicated to Umaparvātya.

For information, write at the following e-mail address: gjulietta@gmail.com

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84495340811?pwd=VWV0Nk12bmhMM2doT0pUeU4yY0h0Q090>
Access Code: 603720

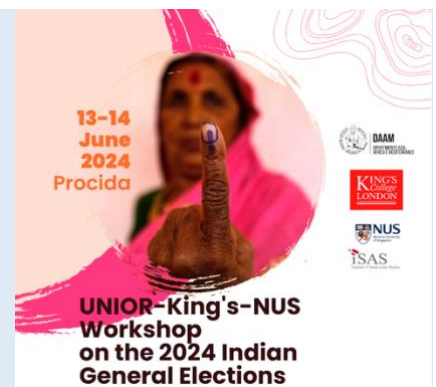
Prof. Alexander von Rospatt, CSSEAS Visiting professor from the University of California, Berkeley, gave a series of six lectures throughout the month of June 2024 on the topic 'The survival of Indic Buddhism in Nepal'. Prof. von Rospatt's invitation was proposed by the CSSEAS and it was funded by the DAAM in the framework of the project 'Department of Excellence'. Event planning and management by **Anna Filigenzi** with the assistance of **Giulia Forgone**.

SUMMARY OF THE LECTURES

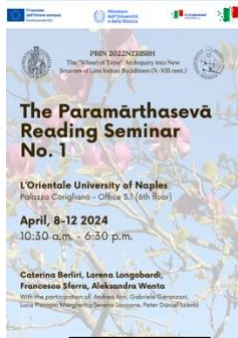
The series of six lectures introduced some of the most conspicuous aspects of the Buddhist tradition of Indian origin that still survives today in the Kathmandu Valley (present-day Nepal). The lectures addressed different topics such as an introduction to Buddhism in

Nepal; the Nepalese Buddhist monasticism; the daily practices of the Buddhist laity; the history and periodic renovations of the Svayambhū caitya of Kathmandu; the Svayambhūpurāṇa and its depiction in image; ritual icons. The topics were addressed through the analysis of textual and visual sources, also based on the results of the intense and continuous field research conducted by the lecturer.

Diego Maiorano organised an international workshop on the Indian General elections 2024 in collaboration with the Institute of South Asian Studies of the National University of Singapore and the India Institute at King's College London. 23 of the best Indian politics specialists from across the world gathered in Procida for 2 intense days of discussion of the results.



Francesco Sferra with **Caterina Berliri**, Lorena Longobardi and Alexandra Wenta organised a seminar titled “The Paramārthasevā Reading Seminar No. 1”, within the ambit of the PRIN Project 2022NZRBRH (The ‘Wheel of Time’: An Inquiry into the New Sources of Late Indian Buddhism (X-XIII cent.)). The seminar was held on 8-12 April 2024. Margherita Serena Saccone and Luca Piscopo were among the participants.



Academic Publications



Margherita Serena Saccone, Pei-Lin Chiou and Hiroko Matsuoka edited a special Issue of *Asiatische Studien/Études Asiatiques*, titled **Kamalaśīla and His Place in the Intellectual History of Buddhism. Special Issue. Asiatische Studien/Études Asiatiques. Volume 77, issue 1. 288 p.** Here is a snapshot of the Issue:

Kamalaśīla (c. 740–795) was a scholar-monk traditionally associated with Śāntarakṣita (c. 725–788) as his disciple and the commentator of his main works. An erudite thinker, well-versed in the doctrines of various Buddhist and non-Buddhist schools of thought, as well as a prolific writer, he is widely recognized as one of the most influential figures in South Asian Buddhism. Moreover, his missionary efforts to

establish South Asian Buddhism in Tibet and his alleged triumph in the Great Debate of Samye against the Chinese Chan Buddhism master, Moheyan (fl. second half of eighth c., 摩訶衍), played a significant role in the development of Tibetan Buddhism. His works span several genres and are doctrinally connected with the two major traditions of Mahāyāna Buddhism—the Madhyamaka and the Vijñānavāda—as well as the Dignāga-Dharmakīrtian tradition of logic and epistemology (pramāṇa). Studies on Kamalaśīla’s ideas have thus far been rather selective and confined to individual works or chapters thereof, notably the *Tattvasaṅgrahapañjikā*, the three *Bhāvanākramas*, and some of his Madhyamaka writings. His scriptural commentaries have remained largely unexamined, and no wider investigation has been undertaken to link Kamalaśīla’s works in terms of their philosophical and soteriological contents and purposes, their style and argumentative strategies, or even their relative chronology. Additionally, research on the Great Debate of Samye (having already been the subject of in-depth studies) could

benefit from comparing the ideas of Kamalaśīla and Moheyan within the context of their respective doctrinal backgrounds.

Margherita Serena Saccone also wrote the Editorial of the Issue (“Editorial” In: Chiou, P.L., Matsuoka, H., Saccone M.S. (eds.) *Kamalaśīla and His Place in the Intellectual History of Buddhism. Special Issue. Asiatische Studien/Études Asiatiques. Volume 77, issue 1*, pp. 1–8) and the following paper: “The Vajracchedikā, the Self and the Path. Logic and Scriptures in Kamalaśīla.” In: Chiou, P.L., Matsuoka, H., Saccone M.S. (eds.) *Kamalaśīla and His Place in the Intellectual History of Buddhism. Special Issue. Asiatische Studien/Études Asiatiques. Volume 77, issue 1*, pp. 89–116.



Anna Filigenzi edited a book titled *Filigenzi, A. with L. Colliva, L.M. Olivieri, with the assistance of Marco Baldi (eds.) Le forme della città: Iran, Gandhāra e Asia Centrale*). Scritti offerti a Pierfrancesco Callieri in occasione del suo 65° compleanno. Serie Orientale Roma n.s. 34. Roma (2023 [2024]). **Anna Filigenzi** also wrote the chapter “Il tempio vishnuita di Barikot: nuovi dati archeologici e qualche riflessione sul paesaggio identitario” in the same volume.

<http://www.scienzelettere.it/book/50426.html>

Members published a number of research articles during the semester, including:

- **Moro, F. & G. Russo** (2024). Family language policy in multilingual Filipino families in Italy (*Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*)
Open Access:
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/01434632.2024.2321389>
- **Forgione, G.** (2023) From Afghanistan to Xinjiang: Notes on some types of Buddhist chapels (6th/7th-8th centuries CE). *Rivista degli Studi Orientali*, Vol. XCVI, Fasc. 2-4 2023 [2024], pp. 69-94 [ISSN 1724-1863; DOI: 10.19272/202303804004].
- **Forgione, G.** (2023) Il progetto iCHerISH: esperimenti di accesso libero ad un sapere attendibile per lo studio e la salvaguardia del patrimonio culturale dell'Asia Meridionale. *Egitto e Vicino Oriente Antico tra passato e futuro. Atti del terzo convegno EVOA, Roma, 30 Giugno - 1 Luglio 2022. Scienze dell'Antichità* 29.3, 2023 [2024], pp. 175-182 [ISSN 1123-5713; ISBN 978-88-5491-453-7; E-ISBN 978-88-5491-468-1; E-ISSN 2284-3280].
- **S. Badalkhan** (2023) “Zahīrōk: A Balochi Melody Type and Song Genre of Homesickness and Nostalgia”, in Gulzār Gichkī (ed), *Zahīrōk: Zahīrōkay alhān o zēmīlay bārahā paṭṭ o pōlī nibīštānk*, Balochi Music Promoters Society, Gwadar. pp. 3-30. ISBN: 9786923571421.
- **Simioli, Carmen**, “Storia fantastica dell’omino di legno e il bambino di legno: Pinocchio nel paese delle Nevi”, In Giovanni Capecchi (a cura di), *Atlante Pinocchio*. Roma, Treccani, 2024, p.113–120.
- **Stefania Cavaliere**, “Translating the Truth of Truths. Cross-analysis of Three Versions of the Prabodhacandrodaya Drama”, and “Some Preliminary Remarks on the Prabodhacandrodaya Natak by Nanddas”, in *Literary Cultures in Early Modern North India*, Edited by Imre Bangha and Danuta Stasik, Oxford

University Press, 2024. <https://global.oup.com/academic/product/literary-cultures-in-early-modern-north-india-9780192889348?cc=it&lang=en&#>

- **Antonia Soriente** (2024) “Cross-cultural Encounters of Italian Travelers in the Malay World. A perspective on the languages spoken by the local populations”. *Wacana* 25(2): 165-188. <https://scholarhub.ui.ac.id/wacana/vol25/iss2/>
- Valeria Saggiomo & **Antonia Soriente** “I partenariati e la nuova cooperazione in Italia.” *JUNCO* (Journal of UNiversities and international development Cooperation) 1/2022: 1-8. <https://ojs.unito.it/index.php/junco/issue/view/781>
- **Francesco Sferra**, in collaboration with Chiara Neri: ‘Preface: Tracing the Path of the Dharma,’ *Teaching Awareness in the Buddhist Tradition. Essays in Honour of Professor Corrado Pensa*, Sheffield UK - Bristol CT, pp. ix–xxiii: Equinox [ISBN 978-1-80050-330-4/978-1-80050-331-1].
- **Francesco Sferra**, ‘Evil According to Buddhism.’ In Chiara Neri and F. Sferra (eds.), *Teaching Awareness in the Buddhist Tradition. Essays in Honour of Professor Corrado Pensa*, Sheffield UK - Bristol CT: Equinox, pp. 144-165 [ISBN 978-1-80050-330-4/ 978-1-80050-331-1].
- **Francesco Sferra**, ‘La meditazione buddhista: pratiche contemplative secondo la tradizione theravāda.’ In Axel Bayer et alii, *I sentieri della meditazione. Vie cristiane, induiste e buddhiste. Prefazione a cura di Matteo Nicolini-Zani*, Magnano: Edizioni Qiqajon, pp. 139–170 [ISBN 978-88-8227-637-9].
- **Francesco Sferra**, ‘Prefazione.’ In Giuseppe Ferraro, *Il buddhismo indiano. Storia di una tradizione filosofica*, Studi Superiori 1437, Roma: Carocci Editore, pp. 13–16 [ISBN 978-88-290-2539-8].
- **Diego Maiorano and Raghav Kattri**, “India in 2023: Towards the General Elections amid Rising Social Tension”, *Asia Maior*, Vol. XXXIV, 2024, <https://www.asiamaior.org/18-asia-maior-vol-xxxiv-2023>

External events

Members of the Centre participated in numerous conferences and workshops during the semester.

On 24 February 2024, **Margherita Serena Saccone** gave a lecture at Stanford University titled "The Refutation of the Self in Kamalaśīla's *Vajracchedikāṭīkā". International Workshop: The Impact of the Thunderbolt: Reading in and around Kamalaśīla's Commentary on the Vajracchedikā Prajñāpāramitā (<https://buddhiststudies.stanford.edu/events/impact-thunderbolt-reading-and-around-kamalasilas-commentary-vajracchedika-prajnaparamita>). **Margherita Serena Saccone and Francesco Sferra** also participated in a workshop at the Rangjung Yeshe Gomde, Austria in the Indo-Tibetan Lexical Resource Retreat (International Project based at Hamburg University), 17-24 March 2024.

Francesca Moro presented a paper titled “Multilingualism in eastern Indonesia: Alorese and the Papuan languages, paper presented at Symposium "Language Contact and Linguistic Adaptation", on May 30-31, 2024, University of Helsinki.

<https://www.helsinki.fi/en/researchgroups/linguistic-adaptation/news/gramadapt-final-symposium-explores-language-contact-and-linguistic-adaptation>

On 22 May 2024, **Giulia Forgiione** participated to the International Colloquium entitled “Gandhāran Artists and Artisan. Representations of an Era of Religious Images”, held in the University of Strasbourg (Interdisciplinary Thematic Institute History, Sociology, Archaeology and Anthropology of Religions - ITI HiSAAR), May 22 – 23, 2024. Title of the contribution: “Pigments and painting techniques of the Buddhist clay sculpture in Afghanistan: some preliminary observations”. **Giulia Forgiione** has also been invited by Dr Luca Colliva to give two online seminars on the Buddhist clay sculpture on 15 and 19 April 2024 for the master’s degree programme in Historical Archaeology of the Indo-Iranian Frontier of Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna. Titles of the seminars: 1) I periodi Huna e Shahi: testimonianze dall’Afghanistan (IV sec. d.C. – VIII/IX sec. d.C.) (15 April 2024). 2) La tradizione scultorea in argilla: materiali, tecniche ed esempi di anastilosi grafica (IV sec. d.C. – VIII/IX sec. d.C.) (19 April 2024).

S. Badal Khan participated in numerous activities during his fieldwork in Pakistan, including the following lectures and seminars. On 16-18 February 2024 he participated in the “9th Mother Languages Literature Festival”, organized by the Indus Cultural Forum, at the Pakistan National Council of Arts in Islamabad and presented a paper on the topic “New trends in the 21st century Balochi literature”. On 19 February 2024, he spoke on the presentation of the encyclopaedic work in 8 volumes on the



history, culture, folklore, art, archaeology, architecture, embroidery, etc. of Balochistan, edited by Naheed Jafari and Hameed Haroo. On 21 February, Badal was at The Press Club of Karachi and organized a seminar on the occasion of World Mother Languages Day. The topic of the talk was “The Issue of Mother-Tongue Education in Pakistan”. On 25 February he gave a talk on “Balochistan: History, Culture, and Literary History” as a Guest Speaker at the Press Club Karachi. On 2 March 2024, he participated in the panel discussion on “Urdu and the Regional Languages of Pakistan”, at Frere Hall, Karachi. On 5 March 2024, Badal gave a keynote lecture on “Culture and Identity”, at the University of Karachi on the occasion of "Baloch Culture Day". On 7 March he gave a talk at the Department of International Relations, University of Karachi on “The 2024 General Elections in Pakistan and its Aftermath: A Testimony from Balochistan”. Upon his return, **S. Badal Khan** presented a paper on “Boat Building Traditions, Fishing Activities, and Maritime Terminology on the Makran Coast”, at the International Conference on Iranian and Non-Iranian Languages and Cultures in Contact from the Past to the Present, The ISMEO, Rome.

Carmen Simioli has participated in the “Second in-Person Workshop of The Khyentse Foundation” Buddhist Lecture Series held at the Northwestern University (Illinois) on



16-18 May 2024. She has presented the outcomes of her research with contribution “Of Poisons and Elixirs: Elements for a History of Tibetan Medical and Alchemical Literature”. She has also participated in the Third Seminar of the Italian Association of Tibetan, Himalayan and Mongolian Studies held at Ca’ Foscari University of Venice on 25-27 March 2024 with the

contribution “Analisi preliminare delle opera mediche extra-canoniche ascritte al deuterio- Nāgārjuna”.



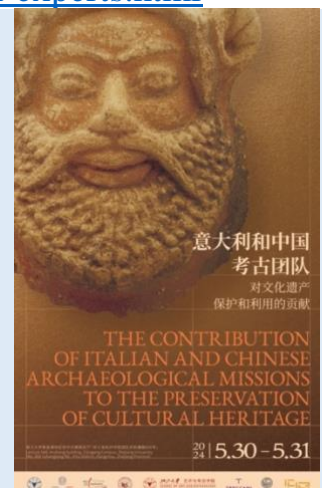
Thuy Hien Le has been invited by Professor Anna Di Toro to give a lecture on May 27th for the 4th edition of the Conference Series on Asian Studies (Asian Community and Europe Project), at the Università per Stranieri di Siena. The lecture was titled “Identità e divisioni nella letteratura contemporanea della diaspora vietnamita”.

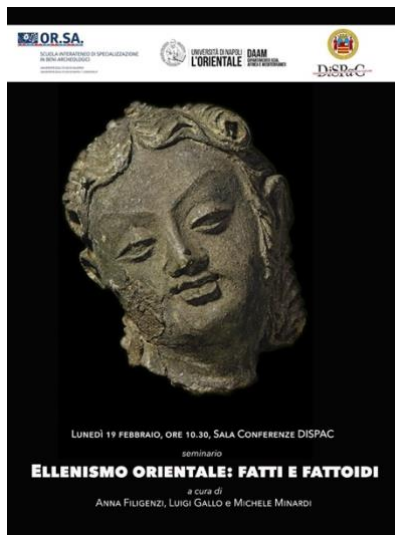
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2fzjR5-931g>

Stefania Cavaliere went on a mission in India and joined the International Seminar ‘Exploring the Frontiers of Research in Medieval Indian History’ Centre of Advanced Study, Department of History, Aligarh Muslim University, 5-7 February 2024. She presented a paper entitled "Ethics of power in the making. Moral tales from sultanate India". <https://www.amu.ac.in/news/2024/2/14/three-day-conference-on-research-in-medieval-indian-history-concludes>. She also gave a lecture Lecture on "Words that connect: Tracing the Literary Thread Between Italy and India via Translation", Department Of Germanic And Romance Studies, University Of Delhi 9th February 2024 at 1:30 pm <http://grs.du.ac.in/news-events/2024/Poster-Words%20that%20Connect.pdf>

Antonia Soriente gave a public lecture on 12 February 2024 at Faculty of Political Sciences at University Diponegoro Semarang: The study of minority languages and interdisciplinarity. Experiences with indigenous people of Kalimantan and Sulawesi <https://www.undip.ac.id/language/en/post/33580/faculty-of-social-and-political-studies-fisip-undip-study-the-minority-languages-development-with-italian-experts.html>

Anna Filigenzi has participated in the international conference "The contribution of the Italian and Chinese Archeological Mission to the Preservation of Cultural Heritage", held at the Zhejiang University, Hangzhou (China), May 30-31 2024, with the contribution "Ask the fragment: Strategies to preserve the earthen heritage of Afghanistan". **Anna Filigenzi** also participated in the seminar "L'ellenismo orientale: fatti e fattoidi"; OrSa - Inter-university School of Specialisation in Archaeological Heritage (University of Salerno – University L'Orientale of Naples); University of Salerno. In a dialogue between different disciplines, the seminar aimed at highlighting how the often abused label of Eastern Hellenism not only conceals complex





phenomena of interaction, selective adoption and semantic adaptation of Western-derived models, but also ends up generating a distorted perception of global cultural history, which creeps dangerously into an art market nourished by illicit excavations and counterfeits.

<https://www.unisa.it/unisa-rescue-page/dettaglio/id/2972/module/615/row/26150/ellenismo-orientale-fatti-e-fattoidi>

Anna Filigenzi participated in the third edition of the Symposium on Cultural Heritage running under the theme “Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage through Past, Present and Future”, held at the University of Bologna, Forlì Campus, 18-19 January 2024, with the contribution

"Rescuing the Cultural Heritage of Afghanistan: Challenges, Hopes, and Actions"

<https://eventi.unibo.it/symposium-cultural-heritage-forli-2024>

Finally, **Prof. Filigenzi** introduced the documentary film "L'Italiano che scoprì il Tibet" by Carlo Alberto Pinelli at the University Suor Orsola Benincasa, April 9 2024. The documentary film is dedicated to the eighth expeditions to Tibet made by the father of modern Tibetan studies, Giuseppe Tucci (1894-1984).

Diego Maiorano participated at the second edition of the EMPESA workshop in Oslo on 6-7 June 2024, gave a lecture on the Indian general elections at the University of Torino on 24 May 2024 and a lecture at the University of Bologna on 17 April 2024 about India's political system since 1947. Finally, he presented the TWAI Report on India to the Ministry of External Affairs at an event hosted by John Cabot University in Rome on 22 April.

Third Mission and Outreach

A number of colleagues (including **Margherita Serena Saccone, Thuy Hien Le, Francesca Moro, Antonia Soriente, Badal Khan and Stefania Cavaliere**) realized a series of video clips for the promotion of the University of Naples L'Orientale within the frame of the project U-SCEM.

Stefania Cavaliere participated at Maggio dei Monumenti (24 May 2024) Readings from classical Indian poetry and organized celebrations of Indian festivals (Holi and Eid) with the UNIOR Academic community in April 2024.

On 4-5 June 2024 she gave a series of lessons for high school students on the topic “Asia oltre gli stereotipi: l'India” (Asia beyond stereotypes: India) at L'Orientale, Palazzo Mediterraneo



Antonia Soriente organized or participated in numerous outreach activities during the semester. These included:

- 20 march 2024 University National Day: meeting with High schools from the Neapolitan territory and interactive activities: Guess the language: on the wide

variety of subjects and languages from Asia, Africa and Mediterranean offered at L'Orientale.

- 21 March 2024 Open Day with High school students at Università di Napoli L'Orientale: Il Sud-est asiatico, crogiolo di lingue e culture in crescita. L'indonesiano e il vietnamita (with **Le Thuy Hien**). Presentation of Study course on Asian and African Languages, introduction on South-East Asia and on the Indonesian and Vietnamese languages.
- 8 May 2024 Presentation of Study course on Asian and African Languages, introduction on South-East Asia and on the Indonesian language for high school students (IV and V grade) of Liceo Linguistico De Filippis Galdi, Cava Dei Tirreni (SA)
- 16 May 2024 Orientalife at Palazzo Reale. Presentation of Study course on Asian and African Languages at the education exhibition organized by the Napoli Mayorality and the Campania Region
- 17 May 2024 Workshop on gamelan and presentation of Orientale gamelan to the Indonesian delegation of the Parliament and some Indonesian state owned companies. Among those there was Pertamina that donated the gamelan set to L'Orientale.
- 27 May 2024 Performance of Indonesian Music and Dance Calung Lengger in the Framework of the Musiche sulle vie della seta program in collaboration with ISMEO and Conservatorio San Pietro a Majella. <https://www.napoliclick.it/new-portal/napoliclick/musica/musiche-sulle-vie-della-seta-3-concerti-a-santa-caterina-da-siena-e-al-conservatorio>
- 4 June 2024 Asia oltre gli stereotipi: Indonesia. (Asia beyond stereotypes ; Indonesia. at Università di Napoli L'Orientale Palazzo Mediterraneo. Lecture with high school students from istituto ISIS from Capua.



In the framework of a project of free distance education, **Anna Filigenzi and Giulia Forgiione** realised the plot of the animated video "Only heads? The mystery of Afghanistan's pre-Islamic sculptures", with voiceover in Dari and English subtitles, dedicated to a large audience, including school-aged children:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ral5iw7P-PI> (published on March 14 2024; on June 15th 2024 18.826 visualisations).

In this video, archaeologists from the Italian Archaeological Mission in Afghanistan will help us to understand why only fragments survive of the ancient Buddhist art of Afghanistan and how we can re-imagine complete forms. Dating approximately from the 2nd to the 9th century CE, most of this work was made of clay, stucco and wood. While artists and architects used these materials to create breath-taking masterpieces, they were fragile and especially vulnerable to erosion and decay.



Diego Maiorano was among the authors of a [report](#) curated by the Torino World Affairs Institute called “Il nuovo ruolo dell’India” for the Italian Ministry of External Affairs.

Upcoming Events at UNIOR

Eleventh Early Hindi / Braj Bhasha Workshop 2024

July 10-20, 2024, the Higher Education School of Procida, University of Naples "L'Orientale".

July 10-20, 2024, the Higher Education School of Procida, University of Naples "L'Orientale".

This international workshop is designed for scholars and students of Early Hindi (mainly brajbhāṣā, avadhī and khaṛibolī) and a variety of Neo Indo-Aryan

languages such as rājasthānī and pañjābī, who meet almost every year in the summer for an intensive language workshop. This year the workshop will focus on the topic of “orality, folklore and memory in the vernacular traditions of Early Modern North India” and include readings from Prithīnāth, Tulsīdās, Nāgarīdās, Rasikbihārī, Kabīr, Kīsnā Āṛhā, Jasvant Simh, Usmān and Kavīndrācārya Sarasvatī. Three sessions will be dedicated to apabhraṃśa and indo-Persian translations.

7-10 October 2024 International workshop "Vajracchedikā Prajñāpāramitā Readings", University of Naples L'Orientale

11 October 2024 international conference "Mahāyāna Sūtras" University of Naples L'Orientale

October-December 2024: Laboratory of Filipino Language

October-December 2024: Laboratory of gamelan music

