

Einladung zum Kolloquium

Mapping Sacred Spaces. Spatial Texts, Religious Cartography and Pilgrimage Practice in Banaras (India)

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(South Asia Institute, Heidelberg University)

Dienstag, den 7. Juni 2016, 12:00 Uhr c.t.

Geo-Campus Lankwitz

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Banaras – also known as Kāśī („City of Light“) or by its official name Varanasi – forms a fascinating confluence of textual and spatial practices. It is one of the most well known North-Indian pilgrimage sites (*tīrtha*) and a centre of brahmanic learning as well as royal patronage. This has led not only to the famous built river front along the Ganges but also to a rich production of spatial texts as well as visual representations of urban space and its complex waterscape in the form of pilgrimage maps. In this talk I will discuss the relation of textual, spatial and cartographic representations of space by presenting examples of painted and printed maps of the 18th and 19th century.