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Centre for the Study of Comparative
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Academics

- B.A (Honours) History, Hindu College, University of Delhi, New Delhi.
- M.A, Ancient Indian History, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.
- M. Phil, Ancient Indian History, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.
- Awarded M. Phil Degree for the dissertation: “*The ‘Other’ in the Pāli Nikāyas: A Study of the Early Buddhist Attitudes and Perceptions.*”
- Working for his Doctoral thesis, “*Going into the Tisarasa: In Quest of Identity among the Followers of Buddhādhamma in the Majjhimadeśa: From the Time of the Buddha to Pre-Gupta Period.*”, at the Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Specialisation & Research Interest

- social history of early Buddhism: problem of early Buddhist identity; Buddhism and caste question, Buddhism and gender
- the archaeology of early Buddhism;
- early Buddhist narrative art;
- patterns of early Buddhist onomastics.

Research Papers

- “Assembling the ‘Self’: Buddhist Identity in Early India—Discourses, Narratives and Visual Flux.” Paper presented and published in the proceedings of the UGC sponsored National seminar on *Society, Culture and Ideology: Perspectives form History and Literature*, November, 29th– 30th, 2004: 66-83.
- “Technologies of the ‘Self’: Manners of the Monks- Identity and Difference of the Buddhist Renunciants in Early India.” Paper presented at seminar organised by the Centre for the Comparative Religions & Civilisations, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, 9th March, 2006.
- “Narrating Normative Ethics: Visual Arts in Early Buddhism.” in *Third Frame: Culture, Literature and Society* (Cambridge University Press), vol. 2, no.1 (April-June), 2008: 1-14.
- “Tolerance in Early Buddhism: Ideation, Praxis and Faultlines.” Paper presented at Global Congress on *World’s Religions after September 11—An Asian Perspective*, organised by the Centre for the Comparative Religions & Civilisations, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi & Faculty of Religious Studies, McGill University, Canada, 18-20th January, 2009.
- Review of *The Age of Iron and the Religious Revolution, c.700—c.350 B.C.*, by K.M. Shrimali (Tulika Books, 2007) in *Contemporary Perspectives: History and Sociology of South Asia*, Volume 3, No.1, Jan-June, 2009:163-171. (Cambridge University Press).
- Review Essay: **Buddhist Stupas in South Asia: Recent Archaeological, Art-Historical, and Historical Perspectives**, (edited by Jason Hawkes and Akira Shimada, New Delhi, Oxford University Press, 2009, 346 pp), published in *South Asian History and Culture*, Volume I, Issue I, January 2010:160-164. (Routledge, UK).
- “Negotiating Peace—Buddhism’s Non-violent Moral Stance to Conflicts.” Paper presented at the International Seminar on ‘*Just Peace: A Common Universal Discourse*’, organized by the Iran Culture House, Indo-Iran Society, and Islamic Peace Forum, 11th—12th April, 2010, IIC, New Delhi.
- “Buddhism, Caste and Social Protest?” Paper presented at the *B.R. Ambedkar Memorial Lecture Series*, at Dr K.R. Narayanan Centre for Dalit and Minorities Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, 25th November, 2010.

- “**Visualizing Normative Ethics: Transcribing Ideals and Fortifying Buddhist Identity in Early India.**” Paper presented at the 2nd International Seminar on ‘*Peaceful Co-existence in Religions With Focus on Basics of Ethics in Islam and Indian Religions*’, organized by Al-Mustafa International University (India Branch), New Delhi, 5th -6th March 2011.
- “**Contesting Hierarchies: Buddhism, Caste and Social Protest.**” Paper presented at the Third International Conference, ‘*Rethinking Religion in India III: European Representations and Indian Responses*’, Pardubice, Czech Republic, 11-14 October 2011.
- “**The Vile and the Virtuous: Gendered Discourse on Body in the Early Buddhist Texts.**” Paper presented at a Symposium on “*Religion & Sexuality*” under the UGC Special Assistance Programme, Department of Sociology, University of Hyderabad, 21-22 October 2011.
- **Review of *The Buddha and His Dhamma : A Critical Edition*, (eds.) Aakash Singh Rathore & Ajay Verma, in *Biblio: A Review of Books*, vol. XVI, Nos. 11-12, November-December 2011, pp. 29-30.**
- “**The Sacred Politics of Memory.**” An article published in *Hardnews*, December 2011- January 2012, pp.92-93.
- “**Figurations of the Feminine in Early Buddhist Texts.**” Paper read at the National Seminar, ‘*Comparative Religion: Retrospect and Prospect*’, Centre for the Study of Comparative Religion & Civilizations, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, 1-2 February 2012.