

Faculty of Humanities
Department of Culture Studies and Oriental Languages

Home exam
SAS2502 – Religion in South Asia
Spring 2009
11.-14. May 2009

Please write an essay that answers one of the following four questions.
The essay shall be written in English.

1. Discuss the differing concepts of "religious" power in Hinduism as they are analyzed in the articles of Elmore and Urban (uploaded in Fronter under "Archiv") and subject them to a critique.
2. Contrast the two Sanskrit epics as described by Brockington with the folk epic Dhola as described by Wadley with regard to similarities and differences pertaining to contents, functions, social and performative contexts etc.
3. In what ways is Turner's theorizing on Pilgrimages applicable to the case studies given by Fuller and during class, in what ways is his theory not applicable? And what are the major differences of pilgrimages, and other Hindu rituals we dealt with in the course?
4. Please describe the most important rituals Hindus – according to classical Hinduism - performed at home, and those performed "in public". Take these examples as starting point for a discussion of performers, participants, and the relation of belief and practice in this religious tradition.

The length of the exam should be approximately 4-6 pages long (2300 characters per page, not including spaces). The exam must be submitted in Fronter. Together with the take-home exam, students shall submit the Obligatory statement regarding cheating.