

CHAPTER 22

HISTORY

Doctoral Theses

245. SWASTI ALPANA
Social Histoty of family in North India (c. A.D 600-1200).
Supervisor : Dr. B.P. Sahu
Th 15323

Abstract

Studies the evolution of Hindu family in the choronological perspective by examining a number of aspects of the formation of the family in early India, its relationship to caste, class, gender and region and the traditional varient for it. It outlines the processes and phenomena of social change that remains characterstic of the early medieval period. The study concludes that the ideal model of the family system in India since the earliest times has been the joint family and that even when the trends towards individualism were recognized and attempts were being made to harmonize them with the interests of the joint-family, the family constitution was unequivocally declared to be, and maintained as, joint and agnatic during the period under consideration.

Contents

1. Introduction. 2. Stages in the growth of early Indian family. 3. Character and composition of the Indian family. 4. Rituals and family. 5. Institution of marriage. 6. Family and inheritance. 7. Conclusion. Bibliography.

246. NARAYANAN (Subha)
Elites, Ideology and Political Culture under the Adil Shahs of Bijapur (1489 A.D. to 1686 A.D.)
Supervisor : Prof. T.K.V.Subramanian
Th 15322

Abstract

Studies the political and economic conditions that prevailed in

the last quarter of the 15th century to locate the emergence of the Adil Shahi Sultanate, the structure of society, identification of elite groups, their rise to power, the bases of their power and their social and economic background and the ideological issues and their reflection in the political culture. It analyses the processes related to state formation through the elite formation and states that many questions still need to be answered. For instance, Shi'ism at court has been held responsible for the lack of Sufi presence in Bijapur in the first half of 16th century. It has also been held responsible for an intellectual barrenness which arose out of the conservative position of Arab Shi'as.

Contents

1. Introduction. 2. Introduction and context. 3. Elites. 4. Ideology and political culture. Bibliography.

247. SHARMA (Dilli Raj)
Stone Art in Western Nepal
 Supervisor : Prof. Nayanjot Lahiri
 Th 15321

Abstract

The study brings together and describes all the scattered art and architectural objects and also gives an account of the newly discovered monuments, images, inscriptions and artifacts of western Nepal, it also tries to reinterpret the various art objects in a scientific manner. The entire research is based on the field data collection during the field visits conducted between 1993 and 2004, from the tarai to the Himalayan area of the region. Exhaustive charts of architectural examples are included. It concludes that the stone temples, although, they have differences in designs, can be said to have been built in stone of northern styled temple. The inspiration came from Kumaun and Garhwal region. Likewise, sculpture, which have a very close relation with Kumaun and Gerhwal, are mostly of Saivite, Vaisnavite and Shakti goddesses. All the figures show divine, serene, self-disciplined and noble in common character. The artists favoured subdued naturalism in the treatment of animals, birds, human and divine beings. Yet, there is a strong feeling of simplification of forms. The later phase, however, was characterized by bulky faces and imbalance in the treatment of the sculpture. Limited numbers of ornaments were always prescribed, which enhance the beauty of all figures. Many muti-

lated sculptures and structural remains though reflecting a past grandeur now lie scattered every where. These broken pieces suggest that artistic monuments were perhaps destroyed by natural calamities that occurred from time to time in the region.

Contents

1. Introduction. 2. Geographical introduction. 3. Historiography of stone art of Nepal. 4. Bheri zone. 5. Karnali zone. 6. Seti zone. 7. Mahakali zone. 8. Summary and conclusion. Bibliography.

248. KAKKAR (Jaya)
Socio Economic Profile of the Township of Kara.
(Cc. 12th - 18th C.)
 Supervisor : Prof. S.Z.H. Jafri
 Th 15320

Abstract

Studies a small region within the broader context of overall developments in the Mughal sarkars of Kara and Manikpur. The study, profiling the socio-economic developments in the region, represents in all a review of events, and the possible underlying forces thereof, in the twelve and fourteen mahals that together formed the twin regions of the Kara Manikpur towards the close of the sixteenth century. It reveals that the middle class was absent in the period. Everywhere either the elite landowning or official class existed or the low income artisan, etc. continued to eke out a living. Establishes Kara as a classic case study to illustrate the process of de-urbanization under the influence of political, social, and economic interplay of forces.

Contents

1. Introduction. 2. The geographical setting of the region : Kara-Manikpur. 3. The administrative history of the region : Kara-Manikpur. 4. Land controlling classes of the region. 5. Social profile of the region. 6. The archaeological remains of the region : Kara-Manikpur. Summary, conclusion. Bibliography.

249. JAE-EUN SHIN
Dasa Mahavidyas in the Lower Ganga and Brahamaputra Valleys (7th - 15th Centuries)
 Supervisor : Prof. K.M. Shrimali
 Th 15319

Abstract

The study relocates textual evidence along with inscriptional reference to understand the process of making of the ten Mahavidyas in historical phase. It includes the process of increasing agrarian settlements, diffusion of 'brahmanical' influences and formation of caste system in eastern regions. It concludes that the group of mahavidyas, which consisted of ten goddesses, is the most representative and comprehensive Tantric feminine pantheon. Although some goddesses among the Mahavidyas have been known as a distinctive group of goddesses from at least the twelfth century CE in eastern regions, specially in the present Bengal and Assam by tracing and reconstructing the complicated processes in which how the ten goddesses were conglomerated and brought in a cluster.

Contents

1. Introduction. 2. Antecedents of the mahavidyas. 3. The mahavidyas in 'brahmanical' traditions. 4. The mahavidyas in tantric traditions. 5. The making of 'sacred' landscape of the mahavidyas. 6. The mahavidyas in historical process. 7. Conclusion. Bibliography.

250. DEO NARAYAN SINGH
Social and Cultural Role of Sufis in North India during the 18th century
 Supervisor : Dr. M.L. Bhatia
 Th 15318

Abstract

The study explores how Sufis of various social types of the 18th century interacted with the main components of the society in which they lived - viz. the upholders of Islamic orthodoxy, the elite of the court and the non-muslim population. It concludes that the Sufis played a very crucial role in the formulation and development of the composite Indo-Mughal Culture which assumed an important shape during the 18th century and influenced all sections of society in Northern India and beyond during the subsequent period. Also brings out that the Sufis' attitudes towards the Shias, Sunnis and the Hindus changed and the social functions they performed also changed because their affiliation with orders sometimes differentiated Sufis from each other.

1. Introduction. 2. Sufism and cultural syncretism. 3. Sufi silsilas. 4. Prominent sufi saint of North and North-Western India: Kashmir, Punjab, Sind, Multan, Delhi, Bareilly etc. 5. Music in sufi tradition. 6. Sufis and the growth of urdu literature. Conclusion. Bibliography.
251. BHARADWAJ (Radha Madhav)
Vratas and Utsavas in North and Central India- A study of the Literary and Epigraphic sources between the fifth and the twelfth centuries A. D.
 Supervisor : Prof. Nayanjot Lahiri
 Th 15317

Abstract

Studies the literary and epigraphic aspects of Vratas and Utsavas in north and central India between the fifth and the twelfth centuries A.D and examines the literary and epigraphic sources of various types. It finds that there was a gradual expansion in the meaning and nature of the Vratas and Utsavas and that the great concern shown towards this theme in the Puranas of the post-Gupta period is clearly lacking in the early Puuranas. It sums up the main ideas inherent in the religious institution of Vratas and Utsavas on the basis of literary texts like the Narada Smrti, the Visnu Smrti, like the Bhagavata, the Matsya and the Nilamata, the Jyotis text Brhatsamhita, the epic Raghuvansaim, the plays Abhijnana Sakuntalam and Vikramorvasiyam and the long peon Meghadutam by Kalidasa, the play Mudraraksasam by Visakhadatta, the biographical work Harsacaritam by Banabhatta and the inscriptions belonging to the period c.A.D. 400-700 in brief. Historigraphical conclusion have been drawn on the basis of Kunal Chakravarti's Religious Process : The Puranas and the Making of a Regional Tradition deserves some discussion as it has raised some controversial, yet interesting issues.

Contents

1. Introduction. 2. Vratas and utsavas : Understanding their changing meanings. 3. Vratas and utsavas in the literary sources : C. A.d. 400-c. 700 a.d. 4. Vratas and utsavas in the literary sources : C. A.d. 700-c.1200 a.d. 5. Vratas and utsavas in the epigraphic sources : Evidence and analysis. 6. Conclusion. Bibliography.

M.Phil Dissertations

252. GUPTA (Vikas)
World of Education and the Processes of Identity Formation (1870-1940).
Supervisor : Dr Prabhu P. Mohapatra
253. KHONGREIWO (Rammathot)
Megalithism as a Social and Religious Practice in Naga Society : A Case Study of the Tangkhul Nagas of Manipur.
Supervisor : Prof. Nayanjot Lahiri
254. MUKHOPADHYAY (Aparajita)
Railway Labour : Emergence of Paradigmatic Industrial Labour Force, 1850-1900.
Supervisor : Dr. Prabhu Mohapatra
255. NARAYAN (Rochisha)
Women and Patriarchy : A Study of Women's Journals in North India from the 1920s -1940s.
Supervisor : Dr. Dilip Menon
256. SINHA (Shobhana)
State, Sect and Society - The Gaudiya Vallabhite Conflict in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries.
Supervisor : Dr. R. P. Rana