

At the Austrian Academy of Sciences ([OeAW](#)), the largest non-university institution for basic research in Austria, the Institute for the Cultural and Intellectual History of Asia ([IKGA](#)) is seeking to fill a

## POSTDOC POSITION (F/M/X)

(full-time, 40h per week)

within the framework of the Cluster of Excellence „[EurAsian Transformations](#) – Resources of the Past and the Challenge of Diversity“, funded by the Austrian Science Fund FWF for the period of 2023–2028. The Cluster involves more than 30 researchers from four academic institutions (Austrian Academy of Sciences, University of Vienna, Central European University, University of Innsbruck). We explore major problems of current research - diversity, mobility, identity – in historical perspective using original-language sources, and analyse cultural and religious, economic and political connections comparatively. We strive for a fruitful interdisciplinary dialogue and seek cooperation with the regions involved in order to create new academic infrastructures in Austria and internationally and to promote plurilateral research perspectives. EurAsia explores the transformation processes of Eurasia - understood as the entire landmass of both continents, Europe and Asia - from antiquity to the present.

The position is defined for research on South Asian religions in an interdisciplinary context, especially for comparative research with Medieval Studies of Europe. It is based at the IKGA and associated with the dynamic research environment of the Cluster. With its multiple religious traditions relating to distinct social and political formations, South Asia offers a particularly rich field for research on the relationship between religion and identity. This position is to investigate strategies of collective identification and distinction on the basis of original-language sources. The focus can be placed on processes of self-identification and othering between different religious groups, or sub-groups, but also on the use of religious doctrines, practices or symbols for social or political identification and distinction.

### Your tasks:

- Conducting independent research
- engaging in interdisciplinary collaboration and dialogue within the COE, especially in comparative research with Medieval Studies of Europe
- Actively participating in the organization of academic events and joint publications
- Supporting the COE's activities in the domain of knowledge transfer

### Your profile:

- Completed doctoral degree or PhD in Indology, Classical South Asian Studies or a related field
- Excellent knowledge of Sanskrit and other research languages relevant to the outlined project; excellent knowledge of English; knowledge of German is desirable
- Record of international publications and lectures (corresponding to academic age); international network
- Flexibility, strong communication skills, creativity, ability to work in a team
- Openness for interdisciplinary collaboration and dialogue, preferably with a proven track-record

The position is awarded on a fixed-term basis. The annual gross salary is currently calculated at € 66.501,40. The position is offered initially for 2 years with the possibility of an extension until September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2028. The starting date is flexible, the earliest possible date being November 01<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Funding for conference and research travel as well as for the organization of academic events is available.

Application materials including a cover letter, curriculum vitae, list of publications, an outline of current and planned research (2-3 pages) and two reference letters should be emailed as one PDF document and without further attachments to [office.ikga@oeaw.ac.at](mailto:office.ikga@oeaw.ac.at) (subject "Application COE Postdoc IKGA") by **August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024**.

*The Austrian Academy of Sciences (OeAW) pursues a non-discriminatory employment policy and values equal opportunities, as well as diversity. Individuals from underrepresented groups are particularly encouraged to apply.*