



॥ श्रीरामचरितमानस-सर ॥



Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts

'नाथ कृतार्थ भयडै मैं तव दरसन खगराज।
आयसु देहु सा कहै अब प्रभु आयहु कहै काज ॥

cordially invites you to the Lecture

“Diving Into the Lake: On the Necessity, Joy, and Anxiety of (Re) Translating Tulsidas' Rāmcaritmānas”

by

Professor Philip Lutgendorf

Professor of Hindi and Modern Indian Studies, University of Iowa

Chair: Professor Purushottam Agrawal

Malaviya Chair Professor, Banaras Hindu University

Date: Thursday, 16th July, 2015

Time: 4:30 pm

Venue: Lecture Hall, Building Number 5

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पश्चिम-दिशा

'विश्वनाथ मम नाथ पुरारी। त्रिभुवन महिमा बिदित तुम्हारी ॥
इत्यादि। दोहा (१०७।७) से।

श्रीशिव-पार्वती-संवाद

ज्ञानकाण्डघाट (मा० पं०, मा० प्र०, मा० तं०, रा० पं० पं० प्र०)

(रा० पं० प्र०)

(प्रवाची-घाट (मा० पं०))

(मा० पं०, मा० प्र०, मा० तं०, रा० पं० पं० प्र०)

[प्रथम-घाट (पौ०)]

(गजघाट-मा० प्र०)

दैन्यघाट (रा० पं० पं० प्र०, मा० पं०, मा० प्र०, मा० तं० वि०)

श्रीतुलसी-संत-संवाद

* (१।३५) इत्यादि।

पूर्व-दिशा

'कहै कथा सोइ सुखद सुहाई। सादर सुनहु सुजन मन लाई ॥
(१।३५) इत्यादि।

॥ शिवा-दिशा ॥

Diving Into the Lake: On the Necessity, Joy, and Anxiety of (Re) Translating Tulsidas' Rāmcaritmānas

The epic retelling of the *Rāmāyana* composed in ca. 1574 AD by the poet Tulsidas, in the dialect of Hindi known as Avadhi, has long been considered one of the most sacred and beloved texts of the North Indian Hindu tradition. It has also, through nine complete English renderings, become one of the most translated works of pre-modern Indian vernacular literature. In this presentation, I will first briefly introduce the epic and some of its notable features as a work in the larger “*Ramayana* tradition.” I will then reflect on some of the difficulties that it presents for the translator into English, discuss why I am undertaking a new translation at this time, and share some examples of my approach.

Philip Lutgendorf is Professor of Hindi and Modern Indian Studies in the University of Iowa's Department of Asian and Slavic Languages and Literature. His book on the performance of the *Rāmcaritmānas*, the Hindi version of the Ramayana, *The Life of a Text* (University of California Press, 1991) won the A. K. Coomaraswamy Prize of the Association for Asian Studies. He received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2002-03 for his research on the Hindu “monkey-god” Hanuman, which has appeared as *Hanuman's Tale: The Messages of a Divine Monkey* (Oxford University Press, 2007). In 2010, he started working on a planned seven-volume, dual-language edition and translation of the *Rāmcaritmānas* for the Murty Classical Library of India/Harvard University Press. The first two volumes (comprising *Bālkāṇḍ*) are due to appear in 2016. He also serves as President of the American Institute of Indian Studies.

Purushottam Agrawal is a distinguished scholar and cultural historian. Formerly a professor at JNU, member of UPSC and Senior Visiting Fellow at CSDS, Professor Agrawal is currently the Malviya Chair Professor at BHU. He has been a Visiting Professor at Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Cambridge and at El Colegio de Mexico. His book *Akath Kahani Prem Ki: Kabir Ki Kavita aur Unka Samay* (2009) has created a stir in Hindi literary circles and beyond. His other publications include *Shivdan Singh Chauhan*, a monograph in ‘Makers of Indian Literature’ series (Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, 2006), and *Vichar ka Ananta*, a collection of theoretical and cultural essays (Rajkamal Prakashan, 2000). He has recently turned to fiction writing and has already published six short-stories in leading literary journals.