

Jon Keune

Michigan State University | Department of Religious Studies
619 Red Cedar Road, C735 Wells Hall | East Lansing MI 48824
Tel. 517-353-0830 | keunejon@msu.edu

EDUCATION

2011	Columbia University	Ph.D., <i>Religion</i>
2008	Columbia University	M.Phil., <i>Religion</i>
2002	Princeton Theological Seminary	M.Div., <i>Theology</i>
1997	Saint Olaf College	B.A., <i>Religion, Philosophy, Paracollege</i>

POSITIONS

2021-present	Associate Professor, Religious Studies (2015-2020 Assistant Professor) <i>Michigan State University</i>
2013-2015	Sushila & Durga Agrawal Postdoctoral Fellow in India Studies <i>University of Houston</i>
2011-2013	Postdoctoral Fellow in Indian Religions <i>Centre for Modern Indian Studies, University of Göttingen</i>
2010-2011	Visiting Research Associate <i>Institute of Ethnology, Academia Sinica, Taipei</i>

SELECTED AWARDS & HONORS

2023	Research Fellow, Max-Weber-Kolleg, University of Erfurt (\$20,000)
2022	Fulbright Global Scholar Award (\$22,600)
2021	American Institute of Indian Studies Digital Scholarship Grant (\$12,500)
2021	MSU Lilly Fellows Program (\$15,000)
2018	American Library Association Carnegie-Whitney Grant (\$5,000)
2016	MSU Asian Studies Center Koo Faculty Development Fellowship (\$5,000)
2011-12	Whiting Dissertation Writing Fellowship (Columbia University) (<i>declined</i>)
2009-10	Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Fellowship in India
2009-10	American Institute of Indian Studies Dissertation Fellowship (<i>declined</i>)
2006-08	Delores Zohrab Liebmann Fellowship (Columbia University)
1998-99	Fulbright-Institute of International Education Scholarship (India)

SELECTED RECENT PUBLICATIONS

2021	<i>Shared Devotion, Shared Food: Equality and the Bhakti-Caste Question in Western India</i> . (New York: Oxford University Press).
2019	<i>Regional Communities of Devotion in South Asia: Insiders, Outsiders and Interlopers</i> , eds. Gil Ben-Herut, Jon Keune & Anne Monius. (New York: Routledge).
2019	“The Challenge of the Swappable Other: a Framework for Interpreting Otherness in Bhakti Texts,” in <i>Regional Communities of Devotion in South Asia</i> , 101-121.
2019	“Comparative vs. Hagiology: Two Variant Approaches to the Field” in <i>Religions</i> . 10:10/575, doi:10.3390/rel10100575. https://www.mdpi.com/2077-1444/10/10/575 .
2017	“ <i>Sant Eknāth Caritralekhanācī Aitihāsik Mīmāṃsā</i> ,” (“Research on Eknāth Biographies” in Marathi), in <i>Santsāhityāmīmāṃsā (Investigations into Saint Literature, Festschrift for Dr. Satish Badwe)</i> . Ed. Tāher Pathān & N. B. Kadam. (Śrīrāmpūr: Śabdālay), 197-219.
2016	“Pedagogical Otherness: On the Use of Muslims and Untouchables in Some Hindu Devotional Literature” in <i>Journal of the American Academy of Religion</i> 84:3, 727-749.

- 2015 “Conditions for Historicising Religion: Hindu Saints, Social Change, and Regional Identity in Western India (ca. 1600-1900)” in *Historiography and Religion*. Ed. Jörg Rüpke and Susanne Rau. (Berlin: de Gruyter), 227-239.
- 2015 “Emphatically Ignoring the Neighbours: the Selective Geographic Orientation of Marathi Bhakti” in *Journal of Hindu Studies* 8:3, 296-314.
- 2015 “Eknāth in Context: the Literary, Social, and Political Milieus of an Early Modern Poet” in *South Asian History and Culture* 6:1, 70-86.

SELECTED RECENT INVITED LECTURES

- May 2023 “Translating Buddhism and Social Equality: from India to Taiwan, Japan, and Beyond,” Comenius University Bratislava.
- Mar 2023 “Allures of Solidarity: Ambedkarite (Indian), Japanese, and Taiwanese Buddhists,” Indian Religions Research Seminar, University of Cambridge.
- Feb 2023 “Parsing the Question of Social Equality and Bhakti, from Premodern into Modern Terms,” Indology Seminar, University of Oxford.
- Dec 2022 “Buddhism, Migration, and the Quest for Social Equality: Ambedkarite Indians in East Asia,” Global Asia Research Centre, National Taiwan University, Taipei.
- Nov 2022 “Universal Buddhism, Regional Social Equality: Indian Ambedkarites in East Asia,” Sophia University, Tokyo.
- Nov 2022 “Hindu Devotionalism and the Question of Social Equality in Western India,” Institute for Advanced Study on Asia, University of Tokyo.
- Sept 2022 “The Challenge of Defining Ambedkar Buddhism,” Foguang University, Yilan, Taiwan.
- June 2022 “Equality, Liberation, and/or Enlightenment: Transnationalizing Ambedkar Buddhism” New Religious Movements Conference, Erfurt.
- Sept 2021 “Critical Commensality and the Study of Bhakti” Invited lecture, South Asia Center, University of Pennsylvania. (online)
- Oct 2019 “Bhakti, Equality, and Strategic Ambiguity in Western India,” Invited lecture, Columbia University Seminar on South Asia, New York City.
- Oct 2018 “Dhamma, Diversity, and Dalitness” Invited lecture, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, University of Toronto.

SELECTED RECENT PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2020-present Editorial team for *Journal of Global Buddhism*
- 2019-present Member of AAR Comparative Hagiology Seminar steering committee
- 2018-2021 Member of AAR International Connections Committee
- 2014-present co-founder and co-chair of Regional Bhakti Scholars Network
- 2013-present co-chair of Maharashtra Studies Group
- 2013-2016 Member of AAR Religions in South Asia steering committee

LANGUAGES

- English (native)
- Marathi (advanced reading, speaking, listening)
- German (advanced reading, speaking, listening)
- Mandarin Chinese (intermediate reading, speaking, listening)
- Sanskrit (intermediate reading)
- Biblical Greek (intermediate reading)
- Biblical Hebrew (intermediate reading)