

STEVEN M. VOSE

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EDUCATION

- 2006-2013 **University of Pennsylvania** Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Ph.D., South Asia Studies
 - Fields of Specialization: Religious Studies, History
 - Dissertation (awarded with Distinction): “The Making of a Medieval Jain Monk: Language, Power, and Authority in the Works of Jinaprabhasuri (1261-1333)”
 - Advisor: Daud Ali • Committee: Michael W. Meister, Deven Patel
 - Certificate in College and University Teaching
- 2004-2006 **Harvard Divinity School** Cambridge, Massachusetts
- Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.), World Religions
- 1997-2001 **St. Lawrence University** Canton, New York
- B.A., *summa cum laude*
 - Major: Religious Studies (Honors) • Minor: Asian Studies
 - Phi Beta Kappa, Theta Alpha Kappa (Religious Studies), Phi Alpha Theta (History), Excellence in Religious Studies Award, Samuel B. Johnson Prize

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- 2014-Present **Bhagwan Mahavir Assistant Professor of Jain Studies, and
Director of the Jain Studies Program**
Florida International University, Department of Religious Studies
- Faculty Advisor for Theta Alpha Kappa (TAK), Religious Studies Honor Society
 - Faculty Advisor for Preksha Meditation Club (2016-)
 - Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
- 2014 (Spring) **Assistant Professor**
Florida International University, Department of Religious Studies
- Faculty Advisor for Theta Alpha Kappa (TAK), Religious Studies Honor Society
 - Co-coordinator of Jain Studies Program (with Dr. Nathan Katz)
- 2013 **Instructor**
Florida International University, Department of Religious Studies
- 2012 **Instructor**
University of Pennsylvania, College of Liberal and Professional Studies

- 2006-2008 **Research Assistant**
 University of Pennsylvania, Department of South Asia Studies
- Cataloguer, Mary B. Wheeler Image Archive, for Dr. Michael W. Meister
- Teaching Assistant**
 University of Pennsylvania, Department of South Asia Studies
- “Introduction to Indian Literature,” for Dr. Deven Patel
 - “The City in South Asia,” for Dr. Lisa Mitchell
 - “Introduction to Premodern South Asian History,” for Dr. Ramnarayan Rawat
- 2006 **Editorial Board, *Cult/ure: The Graduate Journal of Harvard Divinity School***
- Graduate student journal founded at Harvard Divinity School in 2004, on review board for first issue, published Spring 2006.
 - Reviewed articles pertaining to South Asian religions in the subfields of anthropology, literary criticism, gender studies, history, and legal studies.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Courses:

- Religions of India (REL 3330, FIU)
- Karma and Ethics in Indian Philosophy and Religion (REL 4937, Sp. Topics, FIU)
- Sacred Image, Sacred Space in Indian Religions (REL 3307, FIU)
- Capstone: Theory and Methods in Religious Studies (REL 4030, FIU)
- Studies in World Religions (REL 3308, FIU, *Global Learning and Gordon Writing Rule*)
- Introduction to Hinduism (RELS 163/SASSt 140, U. Penn.)
- History, Culture, and Religion of Early India (RELS 164/SASSt 003/HIST 086, U. Penn.)
- Sanskrit I, II, III, IV (SRK 2100, SRK 2101, SRK 3202, SRK 3203, FIU)

Graduate Courses:

- Religions of India (RLG 5331, FIU)
- Karma and Ethics in Indian Philosophy and Religion (RLG 5937, Sp. Topics, FIU)
- Sacred Image, Sacred Space in Indian Religions (RLG 5937, Sp. Topics, FIU)
- Modern Analysis of Religion (RLG 6013, FIU)
- Seminar in Sacred Sources (RLG 6935, FIU)
- Sanskrit I, II (SRK 5001, SRK 5002, FIU)
- Prakrit I: Introduction to the Prakrit Languages (SRK 5004, FIU)
- Directed Study in Jain Narrative Literature (FIU)

Master’s Theses Supervised:

- Komal Ashok Kumar, “The Transformations and Challenges of a Jain Religious Aspirant from Layperson to Ascetic: An Anthropological Study of Shvetambar Terapanthi Female Mumukshus” (2016)
- John Cibotti, “Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale: The Social, Religious and Psychological Foundations of His Authority” (Spring 2017)
- Grisel d’Elena, “The Gender Problem of Buddhist Nationalism in Myanmar: The 969 Movement and Theravāda Nuns” (2016)
- Joshua Falcon, “Psychedelic Transcendentalism in American Subcultures” (Summer 2017)
- Darbee Hagerty, “A Feminist Perspective on the Lack of Full Ordination for Burmese Buddhist Nuns” (2016) – Winner of the 2015-16 Christine Gudorf Award for Best MA Thesis in Religious Studies, FIU

- Venu Mehta, “An Ethnographic Study of Sectarian Negotiations among Diaspora Jains in the USA” (Spring 2017)
- Anthony Paz, “The Tensions of Karma and Ahimsa: Jain Ethics, Capitalism, and Slow Violence” (2016)
- David St. John, “Non-ownership Principles as Understood by Lay Practitioners of Jainism and Quakerism” (Spring 2017)

PUBLICATIONS

In Progress:

Essay, “A Kharatara Gaccha *Muni* in the Tapā Gaccha Imaginaire: Tapā Gaccha Biographies of Jinaprabhasuri” for an edited volume on Jain Hagiography and Biography. Peter Flügel, ed. Routledge.

Article, “Jain Memory of the Tughluq Sultans” for a special issue of the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*. Luthor Obrock, ed.

Article, “Rājacandra, the Modern Jain: Locating Modernity and Tradition in the Biographies and Works of a Jain Renegade.”

Entry, *Brill Encyclopedia of Jainism*, s.v. “Śvetāmbara Jain History, 1000-1850” (Section heading, 10,000 words). John E. Cort, Paul Dundas and Kristi Wiley, eds.

Book Chapters, Jainism for Third Edition of *Sources of Indian Tradition*, Vol. I. Rachel Fell McDermott, ed., Columbia University Press.

Book Chapter, “Teaching Medieval Jain History” for proposed AAR/Oxford U.P. volume, *Teaching Jainism*. Christian Haskett, ed.

Entry, *Jainpedia: The Jain Universe Online*, s.v. “Jinaprabha-suri.” Nalini Balbir, ed.

Entry, *Jainpedia: The Jain Universe Online*, s.v. “Medieval Jain Intellectual Practices.” Nalini Balbir, ed.

Forthcoming:

Brill Encyclopedia of Islam, 3rd ed., s.v. “Jains; Jainism.” Abdurraouf Oueslati, ed.

Articles and Translations:

Vose, Steven M. 2016. “Jain Uses of *Citra-Kāvya* and Multiple-Language Hymns in Late Medieval India: Situating the *Laghu-Kāvya* Hymns of Jinaprabhasuri.” *International Journal of Hindu Studies* 20(3) (December). (Published online 26 January 2017: DOI: [10.1007/s11407-016-9199-0](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11407-016-9199-0)) Open access [link](#).

Merusundargani. 2008. “Narmadāsundarī Kathā.” Translated by Steven M. Vose. *Sandhi* 2 (6): 34-63.

- Translation of a sixteenth-century Old Gujarati Jain didactic narrative.

Vose, Steven M. 2006. The Violence of Devotion: *Bhakti*, Jains and the *Periyapurānam* in Telling Early Medieval Tamil History. *Culture: The Graduate Journal of Harvard Divinity School* 1: 103-126.

Thapa, S. 2000. “The Avenue.” In *Poems of the Century*. Edited by Abhi Subedhi. Translated by Steven M. Vose. Kathmandu: Rai.

Reviews and Booknotes:

Dialogue in Early South Asian Religions: Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain Traditions edited by Brian Black and Laurie Patton. *Religious Studies Review* 42(3): 222. 2016.

It's a City-Showman's Show! Transcendental Songs of Ānandghan translated by Imre Bangha and R.C.C. Fynes. *Religious Studies Review* 41(4): 208. 2015.

Carving Devotion in the Jain Caves at Ellora by Lisa N. Owen. *Religious Studies Review* 40(1): 58. 2014.

Framing the Jina: Narratives of Icons and Idols in Jain History by John E. Cort. *Religious Studies Review* 39 (2): 127. 2013.

Heroic Wives: Rituals, Stories, and the Virtues of Jain Wifhood by M. Whitney Kelting. *Religious Studies Review* 38 (4): 256-257. 2012.

Victorious Ones: Jain Images of Perfection, edited by Phyllis Granoff. *Biblio: A Review of Books XV* (5&6): 32-33. 2010.

CONFERENCES AND INVITED LECTURES

Conferences Organized:

International Conference: “Acharya Tulsi and the Making of Modern Jainism,” Florida International University, Nov. 1-2, 2014. (See “Conference Papers” below for paper delivered.)

- Hosted 12 Speakers from India, UK, Canada, and US universities
- Coordinated with JERF Board of Directors and local Jain community for conference events and volunteers

International Conference: “*Rāhē najāt* (The path of salvation): Religious and social dynamics amongst mercantile communities of the western Indian Ocean,” Florida International University, Nov. 12-13, 2015.

- Co-organizer with Dr. Iqbal Akhtar, FIU.

Conference Panels Organized:

“Modes and Meanings of Temple Patronage in Jain Traditions,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Diego, CA, Nov. 22, 2014. (See “Conference Papers” below for paper delivered.)

Conference, Workshop, and Invited Papers:

“Qualifying *Ahimsa*: On Hemacandra’s Ambivalence toward War in the *Triṣaṣṭīśalākāpuruṣacaritra*,” Symposium: “Spiritual Warriors: (Non)Violence in the Sikh and Jain Traditions,” Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA, Feb. 23-24, 2017.

“Rājacandra, the Modern Jain: Locating ‘Modernity’ and ‘Tradition’ in the Biography and Works of a Late Nineteenth-Century Jain Renegade,” Roop Lal Jain Memorial Lecture, University of Toronto Centre for South Asian Studies, Feb. 16, 2017.

“Rājacandra, the Modern Jain: Locating the Forces of ‘Modernity’ and ‘Tradition’ in a Late Nineteenth-Century Jain Renegade,” Symposium for Research and Pedagogy in South Asia and Global Hindu Traditions for Faculty and Graduate Students in Florida, University of Florida, Gainesville, Jan. 21, 2017.

Panelist respondent for documentary film screening session, *Santhara: A Challenge to Indian Secularism?* Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, TX, Nov. 21, 2016.

“A Less Fated *Kali Yuga*: The Politics of Time in a Fourteenth-Century Jain Pilgrimage Text,” Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, Oct. 21, 2016.

“Remembering the Tughluq Sultans in Early Modern Śvetāmbara Jain Literature,” pre-conference workshop “Sanskrit in Persianate India,” Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, Oct. 22, 2015.

“Jain Language Use in Early Modern Western India: Examining the Trajectory of Tellings of the *Narmadāsundarī Satī Kathā*,” 12th International Conference on Early Modern Languages of North India (ICEMLNI), Lausanne, Switzerland, July 18, 2015.

- “To Build a Temple: Caste Affiliation with Jain Mendicant Orders in Medieval Western India,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Diego, CA, Nov. 22, 2014. (Organized panel)
- “Gandhi and Rajacandra: Reading a Modern Friendship,” International Conference: “Acharya Tulsi and the Making of Modern Jainism,” Florida International University, Nov. 2, 2014. (Organized conference)
- “Jain Narratives of Encounter with the Tughluq Sultans: A Historiographical Reconsideration,” Invited Paper presented at the Department of History, University of Delhi, Aug. 2, and at the Centre for Comparative Religions and Civilizations, Jamia Millia Islamia University, Aug. 1, 2014.
- “A Kharatara Gaccha Monk in the Tapā Gaccha Imaginaire: Tapā Gaccha Re-tellings of the Life of Jinaprabhasūri,” 16th Annual Jain Studies Workshop, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, March 21, 2014.
- “The Poet with a Goddess on His Shoulder: The Nexus of *Kāvya* and *Bhakti* in the *Stotras* of Jinaprabhasūri,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Baltimore, MD, Nov. 25, 2013.
- “Jain Encounters with the Delhi Sultanate in the Early Fourteenth Century: Jinaprabhasūri in the Court of Sultan Muhammad bin Tughluq,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Chicago, IL, Nov. 17, 2012.
- “The Re-Imagining of Jain Pilgrimage in the Delhi Sultanate (14th c.),” Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, Oct. 14, 2012.
- “Tantra, Alchemy, and Goddess Worship in the Medieval Kharatara Gaccha Encounter with the Delhi Sultanate State in Gujarat (14th c.),” South Asia Studies Colloquium, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, Jan. 26, 2012.
- “Jinaprabhasuri: A Kharatara Gaccha Monk in the Court of Sultan Muhammad bin Tughluq,” Invited Paper presented at the First Acharya Sushil Kumarji Memorial Conference on Ahimsa, Anekantavad and Moksha, Siddhachalam Jain Tirth, Blairstown, NJ, June 11, 2011.
- “Genres of Power: The Nexus of Politics and Devotion in the Oeuvre of Jinaprabhasūri,” Association for Asian Studies/ICAS Conference, Honolulu, HI, April 1, 2011.
- Travel grant provided by the Jain Academic Foundation of North America (JAFNA).
- “Reflections on the Historiography of the Jains in Medieval Western India: The Oeuvre of Jinaprabha Suri,” International Conference: “Jainism through the Ages,” Mysore, Karnataka, India, Oct. 8, 2010.
- “Prospects for the Future of Jain Studies—Graduate Student Perspectives,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion (AAR), Montreal, Québec, Canada, October 15, 2009.
- Presented at the inaugural panel of the Jain Studies Consultation (now, Group).
- “Gandhi and Rajacandra: Reading a Friendship Born of Modernity,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Chicago, IL, Nov. 1, 2008.
- “Pilgrimage and Identity in Medieval Gujarat: Jinaprabhasuri’s Negotiations with Sultan Muhammad bin Tughluq,” Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, Oct. 28, 2006.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

South Asian Religious Traditions: Primarily in Jainism, secondarily in Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, and Islam. Within and between these traditions I focus on the history of community formation, mendicant-lay interactions, pre-modern concepts and practices of identity formation, and interactions between religious communities and the state. I am also interested in public religious expressions of devotion, such as pilgrimage and temple ritual; and the place of tantra and alchemy in medieval South Asian society. My work engages material culture – inscriptions, religious images, iconography, architecture, etc. – as historical evidence. I also work on the development of the Old Gujarati (Maru-Gurjara) regional literary tradition and the interactions

between Sanskrit, Prakrit, and regional languages, and with Persianate and Islamicate literary and courtly practices. More broadly, I am interested in historiography in the study of religion, literary theory and religious reading practices, modern and pre-modern religious identity politics, the circulation of religious practices, religious- and ethno-nationalism, conflict, violence and non-violence.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2013 **Briton Martin, Jr. Dissertation Completion Fellowship**
South Asia Studies Department, University of Pennsylvania.
- 2010 **Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Fellowship**
To conduct field and archival research on the history of Jainism in western India in the Delhi Sultanate era; based in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- 2006-09, 11-12 **Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania**
Full tuition, fees, and stipend fellowship awarded for five years' of doctoral studies in South Asia Studies in the School of Arts and Sciences.
- 2009 **Department of South Asia Studies Summer Grant, University of Pennsylvania**
Awarded at Department discretion. For study at Prakrit Summer School in Würzburg, Germany.
- 2007 **Dean's Summer Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania**
Awarded at Department discretion. Funds used to study Prakrit on AIIS Summer Language Program in Pune, Maharashtra.
- 2006 **American Institute of Indian Studies (AIIS) Fellowship**
Summer fellowship awarded for study of Intermediate Gujarati in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- 2005 **Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS, Title VI)**
Summer fellowship awarded by the University of Pennsylvania for study of Elementary Gujarati at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, South Asia Summer Language Institute (SASLI).
- 2004-06 **Full Scholarship, Harvard Divinity School**
Tuition and fees for two years of study at Harvard Divinity School for completion of Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) degree.
- 1999-2000 **Tanner Fellowship, St. Lawrence University**
Fellowship awarded for independent research on Hindu ritual practices while on University of Wisconsin College Year in Nepal program.
- Office of International Studies and Programs Travel Grant, U. Wisconsin**
Competitive grant for travel abroad on College Year in Nepal program.

LANGUAGES

- Sanskrit: Advanced reading competency.
- Prakrit: Advanced reading competency in all dialects including Apabhramsa.
- Gujarati: Advanced reading, writing and speaking competency.
- Old Gujarati: Advanced reading competency.

Nepali: Reading competency; speaking at Intermediate-Advanced level.
Hindi: Reading knowledge.
French: Reading competency.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND SERVICE

American Academy of Religion, 2002-Present

- Co-Chair, Jain Studies Group, 2015-Present
- Steering Committee, Jain Studies Group, 2014-2015
- Steering Committee, Religion in South Asia Group, 2015-Present

Working-Class Studies Association (formerly, Association of Working-Class Academics), 2012-Present

Judge panelist, “DK Award for the outstanding doctoral thesis on Sanskrit,” awarded by the International Association of Sanskrit Studies (IASS) and DK Printworld, 2016.

REFERENCES

Available upon request