CURRICULUM VITAE

Paloma Muñoz Gomez
email: palomamunozgomez2@gmail.com

Areas of Specialisation:

- Religious Studies, Indian Religions, early Hinduism, Mahābhārata Studies, Sanskrit.

Research Interests:

- Sanskrit epics, the formation of Hinduism and Hindu religious concepts and beliefs. My PhD thesis investigated soteriology in the Sanskrit Mahābhārata, with a particular focus on how the depiction of the main character, King Yudhiṣṭhira, serves to redefine the concept of *mokṣa* (liberation from rebirth). My current research aims at understanding the link between ideas of detached action and doctrines of salvation (soteriology) in Sanskrit religious narratives.

Education:

- The University of Queensland, Australia
  2014 – 2020 PhD Religious Studies,
  Thesis: *Yudhiṣṭhira's Life as Religious Vocation: Soteriology in the* Mahābhārata
  Supervisor: Dr Adam Bowles

- Cardiff University, UK
  2009 – 2010 MA Religious Studies (Distinction),
  Thesis: *The Mythology of the Nāṭyaśāstra*
  Supervisor: Professor James Hegarty

- Universidad de Chile, Santiago, Chile
  2000 – 2006 BA(Hons) History (Pass with Distinction),
  Thesis: *El Shivaísmo y el Shaktismo en la Danza y los Templos del Tamilnadu, bajo la dinastía Chola* (translation: *Shaivism and Shaktism in the Dance and Temples of Tamilnadu under the Chola Dynasty*)

Publications:

- Muñoz Gomez, P. (2020). *Yudhiṣṭhira's Life as Religious Vocation: Soteriology in the* Mahābhārata. PhD dissertation. The University of Queensland. Brisbane, Australia.

- Muñoz Gomez, P. (2019). Yudhiṣṭhira and the blending of *mokṣa* into the *puruṣārtha*s: A way of thinking about the dialogue of the Ṣaḍgītā. *The Journal of Hindu Studies*, 12(1): 73–102.

Work in Progress:

- Muñoz Gomez, P. (in preparation). *Firm in Battle: Yudhiṣṭhira, a King's Path to Mokṣa*. Book manuscript to be submitted for review with Brill.

- Muñoz Gomez, P. (in preparation). Śiva's Boons: Reconsidering the Role of Śiva in the Mahābhārata.

- Muñoz Gomez, P. (in preparation). The internal battle motif in the Mahābhārata.

Conferences and Presentations:

- 2017 *Yudhiṣṭhira and the blending of mokṣa into the puruṣārthas: A way of thinking about the dialogue of the Ṣaḍgītā (Mahābhārata 12.161)*. Eighth Dubrovnik International Conference on the Sanskrit Epics and Purāṇas (DICSEP 8), Dubrovnik, Croatia, 11–16 September 2017.

- 2016 *Religious Practices and Soteriological goals in the Mahābhārata*. Workshop at the School of Historical and Philosophical Inquiry, at The University of Queensland, 14 November 2016.

- 2016 Panel member, World Religions Symposium, The University of Queensland, 13 July 2016.

- 2015 *Religious Practices and Soteriological goals in the Mahābhārata*. Confirmation Milestone, School of Historical and Philosophical Inquiry, The University of Queensland, 24 April 2015.

- 2012 *Śiva's Boons: Reconsidering the Role of Śiva in the Mahābhārata*. Paper presented in the Third Australasian Sanskrit Conference (ThirdASC 2012), held at Sydney University, 21–22 July 2012.

Teaching:

- 2016 Semester 2 Academic Tutor: Rituals, Priests & Kings: A History of Hinduism (RELN2300).

- 2016 Semester 2 Online Academic Tutor: Rituals, Priests & Kings: A History of Hinduism (RELN2300).

Research Grants:

- 2015 – 2016 The University of Queensland Research Higher Degree Study Grant, research period in Pune, India. $2,900 (AUD).

- 2014 – 2017 International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (IPRS). The University of Queensland. Tuition fee award. Full cost of tuition fees.

- 2014 – 2017 University of Queensland Centennial Scholarship (UQCent). Living allowance $25,392 (AUD) per annum.

- 2013 Becas Para Estudios de Postgrado en el Extranjero. Programa de Formación de Capital Humano. Comisión Nacional de Investigación Científica y Tecnológica (CONICYT). Full tuition fees and living allowance. *Declined to accept IPRS and UQCent.

Professional Development:

- 2013 – present Sanskrit Sources Reading Group. Held by Dr Adam Bowles. The University of Queensland, Australia. (Currently attending online).

- 2020 Jul – Oct French language training. Diplôme d'Études en Langue Français, DELF B1.

- 2012 – 2013 Sanskrit Reading Group. Held by Dr Mark Allon. University of Sydney, Australia.

- 2015 – 2016 Associate Research Scholar at Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, India, Pune.

- 2015 – 2016 Sanskrit Training at the American Institute of Indian Studies, India, Pune.

Languages:

- Spanish — Native
- English — Fluent
- Sanskrit — Advanced (reading & translation)
- French — Intermediate (reading ability)
- Chinese — Beginning

Referees:
On request.