



**Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts**

Cordially invites you to the lecture  
by

**Prof. Walter Slaje**

Prof. and Chair in Indology  
Martin-Luther University, Halle-Wittenberg, Germany

on

**Historical Reliability Couched in Rasa Poetry :  
On the Literary Genre of *Rājatarāṅgiṇī***

Lecture will be presided over  
by

**Prof. Gaya Charan Tripathi**

National Fellow, Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla

**Date** : Monday 3rd October, 2011  
**Venue** : Lecture Room, IGNCA,  
11 Mansingh Road  
New Delhi - 110001  
**Time** : 4.00 p.m.

RSVP : 23388438



**इन्दिरा गाँधी राष्ट्रीय कला केन्द्र**

**प्रो. वाल्टर् स्लाये**

आचार्य एवं अध्यक्ष भारतीय विद्या  
मार्टिन-लूथर विश्वविद्यालय, हाले-विटनबर्ग, जर्मनी

के व्याख्यान

**रस काव्य में निहित ऐतिहासिक प्रामाणिकता :  
राजतरङ्गिणियों की साहित्यिक विधा**

पर

आपको सादर आमन्त्रित करता है।

**प्रो. गया चरण त्रिपाठी**

राष्ट्रीय अध्येता, भारतीय उच्च अध्ययन संस्थान, शिमला

व्याख्यान की अध्यक्षता करेंगे।

**तिथि** : सोमवार, ३ अक्टूबर २०११  
**स्थान** : व्याख्यान कक्ष, इन्दिरा गाँधी राष्ट्रीय कला केन्द्र,  
११ मानसिंह मार्ग,  
नई दिल्ली - ११०००१  
**समय** : ४.०० बजे अपराह्न

उत्तरापेक्षी : २३३८८४३८

Kashmir is considered a quite extraordinary case with regard to a continuous written historical record of its political and cultural history. This kind of literature was developed by Kalhaṇa as a unique genre under the name of "*Rājatarāṅgiṇī*" and was continued right into the 19th century by a number of successors. The uninterrupted history of exactly datable rulers and events recorded by them thus spans a period of more than 1000 years.

This lecture intends to address the factual reliability of *Rājatarāṅgiṇī* by the verifiable examples of three accounts given by Jonarāja and Śrīvara. Following in the footsteps of Kalhaṇa's innovative historical poetry, both authors based themselves on ensured authenticity, too, as this was essential to the character of a *Rājatarāṅgiṇī*.

It was meant to evoke the sentiment of equanimity (*śānta rasa*) on the part of the sensitive reader, most effectively achieved when based on past events with definite realism.

**Prof. Dr. Walter Slaje** began his distinguished carrier at the University Library of Graz. In 1983 he received his doctorate from the University of Vienna. Since 1995 he has been Professor of Indology at the University of Halle-Wittenberg. In 2000 he was elected to the Board of Helmuth von Glasenapp-Foundation (Mainz). In 2001 he became an expert of the Commission at the Indological Academy of Sciences and Literature in Mainz, since 2003 Member of the Commission and since Jan.2011 he is its Chairman. He is the director of the decorated Institute at the University Centre for Historiography and Intellectual Culture of Kashmir, the Academy of Sciences and Literature (Mainz). For the term of 2010-11 he became the first Managing Director of the German Oriental Society (DMG) and for the term 2012-14 he is selected as its first Chairman. He served as Division Editor (Indology and Tibetology) of the Journal of the German Oriental Society (ZDMG) from 1998 to 2009.

One of Prof. Slaje's most ambitious efforts has been the Mokṣopāya Project on bringing out the critical edition of the text of Mokṣopāya in which is utilized a commentary by Bhāskaranātha and more than thirty manuscripts in Śāradā, Nāgarī, Grantha and Telugu scripts. The target date for the completion of the Project is 2018. Prof. Slaje has also completed the critical edition and the translation of the *Rājatarāṅgiṇī* written by Jonarāja and Śrīvara. Today's talk is based upon some reflections on that study.

## Historical Reliability Couched in Rasa Poetry : On the Literary Genre of Rājatarāṅgiṇī

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राजतरङ्गिणियों की साहित्यिक विधा

A Special Lecture by

**Prof. Walter Slaje**

University of Halle-Wittenberg

Monday, Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011



इन्दिरा गाँधी राष्ट्रीय कला केन्द्र, नई दिल्ली

INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS, NEW DELHI