

Dezső Csaba

Senior Lecturer

- **Department:** Department of Indo-European Studies, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest
- **Academic Title:** PhD (2004)
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- **Phone:** +36 (1) 411-6500, ext. 5368
- **List of Publications:** [MTMT](#)

Research Interests

- Sanskrit philology
- Classical Indian literature (drama, Kālidāsa's poetry, Sanskrit prose)
- Indian epigraphy



Selected Publications

- *Dāmodaraguptaviracitaṃ Kuṭṭanīmatam. The Bawd's Counsel.* Ed. & transl. Csaba Dezső & Dominic Goodall. Egbert Forsten Publishing, Groningen 2012. (Groningen Oriental Series 23.)
- *The Quartet of Causeries by Shyāmilaka, Vararuchi, Shūdraka & Īshvaradatta.* Ed. and transl. Csaba Dezső & Somadeva Vasudeva. Clay Sanskrit Library – New York University Press & JJC Foundation, 2009.
- *Jayanta Bhaṭṭa. Much Ado About Religion.* Ed. and transl. Csaba Dezső. Clay Sanskrit Library – New York University Press & JJC Foundation, 2005.
- “Inspired Poetry. Śāntākaragupta's Play About the Legend of Prince Sudhana and the Kinnarī”, *Indo-Iranian Journal* LVII (2014) 73–104.
- “The Apocryphal Conclusion of the Kuttanimata”, *Journal of the Nepal Research Centre* XIV (2012) 27–35.
- “The Story of the Irascible Yakṣa and the King Who Nearly Beheaded Himself in Dhanapāla's Tilakamañjarī”, *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, Series 3, 22, 1 (2012), 73–91.
- „Encounters with Vetālas: Studies on Fabulous Creatures I”, *Acta Orientalia Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae* 63:4 (2010), pp. 391-426.
- „A Curious Play (kim api rūpakam): Bhaṭṭa Jayanta's Āgamaḍambara in the Light of Classical Indian Dramaturgy”, in *Indian Languages and Texts Through the Ages. Essays of Hungarian Indologists in Honour of Prof. Csaba Tóttösy.* Ed. Csaba Dezső, Manohar, New Delhi 2007.

University Studies

- 1998-2004: DPhil studies, Balliol College, University of Oxford | supervisor: Prof. Alexis Sanderson (All Souls College); title of DPhil Thesis: ‘*Much Ado About Religion.*’ *A critical edition and annotated translation of the Āgamaḍambara, a satirical play by the 9th century Kashmirian philosopher, Bhaṭṭa Jayanta.*

- 1991-1998 MA in Indology, MA in Latin Philology (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest)

Teaching Experience

- 2012: lectures at the Abteilung für Kultur und Geschichte Indiens und Tibets, Universität Hamburg (Erasmus Exchange Program, reading selections from the Harṣacarita)
- since 2010: supervising PhD students in the Doctoral Program of Classical Studies, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest (At present I am the supervisor of three PhD candidates.)
- January – June 2010: Departmental Lecturer in Sanskrit, Oriental Institute, University of Oxford
- 2005, 2007, 2013: teaching at the Institut für Südasiens-, Tibet- und Buddhismuskunde, Universität Wien (Erasmus Exchange Program) (reading selections from the Rājataranṅinī and the Kuṭṭanīmata, giving a course on “Portraits of Holy Men in Classical Indian Literature”)
- 2004: tutorial work at the Erasmus College (Budapest)
- since 2002: teaching Sanskrit language and literature and classical Indian culture to BA and MA students of Indology at the Department of Indo-European Studies, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest (12–15 hours per week)
- 1999-2000 Reading class on Jayanta Bhaṭṭa’s Āgamaḍambara, Faculty of Oriental Studies, Oxford University

Classes Offered

- text reading courses: Bhagavadgītā, Kumārasambhava, Raghuvamṣa, Ratnāvalī, Svapnavāsavadatta, Mattavilāsaprahasana, Kiraṇatantra, Śābarabhāṣya, Tarkabhāṣā, Yājñavalkyasmṛti, Harṣacarita, etc.
- lectures on the history of classical Indian literature
- introduction to philology
- introduction to the cultural history of India, etc.

Research work

- Since 2012: Kālidāsa’s oeuvre (critical edition of Vallabhadeva’s commentary on the Raghuvamṣa, the intertextuality of Kālidāsa’s works, the structure of the Raghuvamṣa, etc.)
- 2009-2012: research project supported by the Hungarian Scientific Research Fund, entitled “Fabulous Creatures in Early Mediaeval Indian Literature”
- 2003–2012: working on a critical edition and annotated translation of Dāmodaragupta’s Kuṭṭanīmata, in collaboration with Dr. Dominic Goodall.
- 2002–2010: participating in the work of the Clay Sanskrit Library, editing and translating Sanskrit literary works.
- 2002-2006: participating in the project supported by the Hungarian Scientific Research Fund, entitled “Critical Edition of Sanskrit and Hindi Texts”

Talks Given

- 15–16 April, 2013: “Vallabhadeva’s Commentary on the Raghuvamśa: ‘We do not fully understand the poet’s intention in not composing a twentieth canto’” at the ‘Empires of Faith’ Workshop, CERES, Ruhr-Universität, Bochum
- 4–13 January, 2013: reading Canto XIX of the Raghuvamśa at the Eight International Intensive Sanskrit Retreat, Angkor, Cambodia
- April 2008: talk on the Kuṭṭanīmata of Dāmodara Gupta given at Columbia University, New York
- 16 November 2007: “Why Did Rāma Forsake Sītā? The Story of the Uttarakāṇḍa in Classical Indian Dramas” at the Institut für Südasien-, Tibet- und Buddhismuskunde, Vienna Univeristy
- 24 September 2005: talk given at the conference “Foreigners and Community” (EMTE University, Csíkszereda)
- 6 March 2004: talk given at the international conference “The South Asian Legacy of Sir Aurel Stein” (Leicester, UK)
- 2003: talk given at the Day of Orientalists (Budapest)
- 2002: talk given at the Society for the Study of the Ancient World (Budapest)
- 2 June 2001: ‘The Transmission of the Vedas’. Talk given at a Colloquium on the Transmission of Religious Traditions, University College, Oxford University.
- Since 1995 I have given several talks in the lecture-series organised at the Indian Embassy, Budapest.

Study Tours

- July 2010: attending in the Third International Workshop on Early Tantra (Hamburg)
- July-August 2009: attending in the Second International Workshop on Early Tantra (EFEO, Pondicherry) and participating in the Classical Tamil Summer Seminar (EFEO, Pondicherry)
- 2005, 2006: research work and study tour in Pondicherry (EFEO) and Tamil Nadu (India)
- Between 2002 and 2012 I organized and attended seven International Intensive Sanskrit (Summer) Retreats (Csíkszereda, Murzasichle, Pondicherry, Kőszeg, Angkor)
- 2001: collecting copies of Sanskrit manuscripts with the support of the Max Müller Fund, Oxford in Pondicherry, Tanjavur, Mysore; purchasing scholarly publications for the Department of Indo-European Studies, Budapest with the support of the ICCR
- 2000: collecting copies of Sanskrit manuscripts in the National Archives, Kathmandu, Nepal (with the support of the Max Müller Fund, Oxford)
- 1999: collecting copies of Sanskrit manuscripts in Gujarat and Pune (with the support of the Max Müller Fund, Oxford)

Scholarships

- Since 2012: Bolyai Scholarship of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences
- October-December 2001: research grant of the Boden Fund, Oxford University
- 1999, 2000, 2001: reserach grant of the Max Müller Fund, Oxford University
- 1998-2001: Scatcherd European Scholarship, Oxford University
- 1998-2000: Soros Scholarship
- 1995-1996: Scholarship of the Hungarian Republic
- 1994-1995: Research Scholarship of the Eotvos Lorand University, Budapest

List of Publications

- Books
 - *Dāmodaraguptaviracitaṃ Kuṭṭanīmatam, The Bawd's Counsel*, ed. and transl. Csaba Dezső & Dominic Goodall, Groningen Oriental Series XXIII, Egbert Forsten Publishing, Groningen, 2012.
 - *The Quartet of Causeries by Shyāmilaka, Vararuchi, Shūdraka & Īshvaradatta*, ed. and transl. Csaba Dezső & Somadeva Vasudeva, Clay Sanskrit Library, New York University Press & JJC Foundation, 2009.
 - *Jayanta Bhaṭṭa: Much Ado About Religion*, ed. and transl. Csaba Dezső, Clay Sanskrit Library, New York University Press & JJC Foundation, 2005.
- Edited volume
 - *Indian Languages and Texts Through the Ages. Essays of Hungarian Indologists in Honour of Prof. Csaba Tóttössy*, ed. Csaba Dezső, Manohar, New Delhi 2007.
- Articles
 - “Inspired Poetry. Śāntākaragupta’s Play About the Legend of Prince Sudhana and the Kinnarī” in *Indo-Iranian Journal* 57 (2014) 73–104.
 - “The Apocryphal Conclusion of the Kuttanimata” in *Journal of the Nepal Research Centre* XIV (2012), pp. 27-35.
 - “The Story of the Irascible Yakṣa and the King Who Nearly Beheaded Himself in Dhanapāla’s Tilakamanjarī” in *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, Series 3*, 22, 1 (2012), pp. 73–91.
 - „Encounters with Vetālas: Studies on Fabulous Creatures I” in *Acta Orientalia Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae* 63:4 (2010), pp. 391-426.
 - „A Curious Play (kim api rūpakam): Bhaṭṭa Jayanta’s Āgamaḍambara in the Light of Classical Indian Dramaturgy” in *Indian Languages and Texts Through the Ages*.
 - *Essays of Hungarian Indologists in Honour of Prof. Csaba Tóttössy*, ed. Csaba Dezső, Manohar, New Delhi 2007.
 - „Parallel Edition of the Nepalese and South Indian Recensions of the First Act of the Kundamālā” Part I in: *Newsletter of the NGMCP* 3 (January-February 2007), Part II in *Newsletter of the NGMCP* 4 (May-June 2007)
 - „Sundarasena: Critical Edition of a Sanskrit Play Preserved in a Fourteenth-Century Nepalese Manuscript” in *Acta Ant. Hung.* 45, 2005.
 - „A Kuṭṭanīmata kritikai kiadásának szükségessége és lehetősége” [The Necessity and Feasibility of a Critical Edition of the Kuṭṭanimata] in: *Abhivādana*.
 - *Tanulmányok a hatvanéves Wojtilla Gyula tiszteletére*, szerk. Felföldi Szabolcs, Szeged, 2005, pp. 125-130.
 - „Az ókori India” in: *Szemelvények az ókori kelet jogforrásaiból. Válogatás az ókori Irán, India és Kína jogemlékeiből*. Szerk. Jany János, Pázmány Péter Katolikus Egyetem, Bölcsészettudományi Kar, Piliscsaba, 2003, pp. 51-98. [Hungarian translation of Manusmṛti, book 9 and portions of books 8 and 10]
 - „Vallási tolerancia Kasmírban a 10. század fordulóján” [Religious Tolerance in Kashmir at the Turn of the Tenth Century] in: *Orientalista Nap 2003*. Szerk. Birtalan Ágnes és Yamaji Masanori, MTA Orientalisztikai Bizottság, ELTE Orientalisztikai Intézet, Budapest, 2003, pp. 23-33.

- Reviews
 - Dr. Zhu Xintian, *Les etres fantastiques de l'Inde ancienne, Vol. I, de 2500 av. J.-C. au VIeme siecle*, Mumbai, Edition Franco-Indian Research, 2012, *Bulletin de l'École française d'Extreme-Orient* (forthcoming)
 - Gyula Wojtilla, *History of Kṛṣiśāstra. A History of Indian Literature on Traditional Agriculture*. Beiträge zur Kenntnis südasiatischer Sprachen und Literaturen 14, Wiesbaden, 2006, in: *Acta Orient. Hung.* 60, 2007.
 - Brian Black, *The Character of the Self in Ancient India: Priests, Kings, and Women in the Early Upaniṣads*. SUNY Press 2007, in: *Acta Orient. Hung.* 62, 2009.
- I have also published Hungarian translations of various Hindi and Urdu short stories.