

Anne Ruth Hansen

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Current Position

Associate Professor of History & Faculty Coordinator of Comparative Study of Religion Program, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee (2006 – present)
Assistant Professor, Department of History, Comparative Study of Religion Program, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee (2001 – 2006)
Assistant Professor, Departments of Anthropology and History, Comparative Study of Religion Program, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee (1999 – 2001)

Education

PhD 1999 Harvard University, Religion
“The Ways of the World: Moral Discernment and Narrative Ethics in a Cambodian Buddhist Text,” Dissertation Advisor: Charles Hallisey
MA 1993 Harvard University, Religion
MDiv 1988 Harvard Divinity School, Theological Studies
BA 1983 St. Olaf College, Philosophy (Phi Beta Kappa)

Forthcoming Book

How to Behave: Buddhism and Modernity in Colonial Cambodia, 1860-1930. (University of Hawaii Press, 2007, in the series *Southeast Asia: Politics, Meaning and Memory*).

Books in Progress

At the Edge of the Forest: Essays in Honor of David Chandler. Edited by Anne Ruth Hansen and Judy Ledgerwood. (Revised manuscript under review at Cornell University Press).

Buddhist Prophetic Histories of Violence in Cambodia. Co-authored inter-disciplinary study and translation of Khmer ethical-millenarian texts with Judy Ledgerwood. (Multi-year NEH-funded project. Translation in progress; ethnographic, textual and historical research nearly completed).

Buddhist Ethics of Love and Attachment in Narrative Art & Literature. Research for new book project on pan-Theravadin ethical expressions of love and attachment begun. Visual and

literary sites that I am examining in this study include Khmer and Thai literary narrative texts, Theravadin monastic funeral biographies and funeral photographs, contemporary installations of Thai artist Montien Boonma, temple murals in southern Vietnam, Burma and Sri Lanka. I will begin writing grant proposals for this project in 2007.

Articles and Presentations in Progress

"Buddhism and Violence," 5000-word survey for *Religion Compass* (Blackwell Press).

"Gaps in the World: Violence, Harm and Suffering in Khmer Ethical Narratives." In *At the Edge of the Forest: Essays in Honor of David Chandler*. Edited by Anne Ruth Hansen and Judy Ledgerwood (revised manuscript currently under submission to Cornell University Press).

"Modernism and Morality in Colonial Cambodia." For *Reconfiguring Religion, Power and Moral Order in Cambodia*, edited by Alexandra Kent and David Chandler. (Stockholm: Nordic Institute of Asian Studies, volume currently under review by NIAS Press).

"Modern Buddhism and Intercultural Collusion in Colonial Cambodia." For *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East* special issue on "Buddhism and Orientalism." (Durham: Duke University Press).

"The Image of an Orphan: Cambodian Narrative Sites for Buddhist Ethical Reflection." Reprinted in *Defining Buddhisms*, edited by Karen Derris and Natalie Gummer. (London: Equinox Press, forthcoming in 2007). Part of the series *Critical Studies in Religion*, edited by Russell McCutcheon.

"Modernist Reform in Khmer Buddhist History," in English and Khmer translation. *Siksacakr* special issue, *Researching Buddhism and Culture in Cambodia, 1930-2005: Essays in Commemoration of the Buddhist Institute's 75th Anniversary*, edited by Penny Edwards. Phnom Penh: Buddhist Institute, forthcoming in 2007.

"Religion in Cambodia." In *The World and Its People*. (London: Brown Reference Group, in press).

Publications

"The Image of an Orphan: Cambodian Narrative Sites for Buddhist Ethical Reflection." *Journal of Asian Studies* 62.3 (August 2003): 811-834.

"Khmer Identity and Theravada Buddhism." In *History, Buddhism, and New Religious Movements in Cambodia*, edited by John Marston and Elizabeth Guthrie, pages 40-62. (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2004).

"Identidad khmer y budismo theravada." In *Budismo Camboyana: Historia y Ethnografía*, edited by John Marston and Elizabeth Guthrie, pages 71-107. (Mexico City: El Colegio de México, 2005).

"The Nature of the World in 19th Century Khmer Buddhist Literature." *Pacific World: Journal of the Institute of Buddhist Studies* 3.5 (Fall 2003): 85-115.

"Story & World: The Ethics of Moral Vision in the *Gatilok* of Ukñ Suttantapr j Ind." *Udaya: Journal of Khmer Studies* 3 (2002): 45-64.

"Narrative, Sub-ethics and the Moral Life: Some Evidence from Theravada Buddhism," with Charles Hallisey. *Journal of Religious Ethics* 24.2 (Fall 1996): 305-328.

"Narrative, Sub-ethics and the Moral Life: Some Evidence from Theravada Buddhism," with Charles Hallisey. Reprinted in *Buddhism: Critical Concepts in Religious Studies*, volume 7, edited by Paul Williams, pages 34-53. (London and New York: Routledge 2005).

"Buddhism in Cambodia." 5000 word synthesis of history and historiography of Cambodian Buddhism. In *Encyclopedia of Religion*, second revised edition, edited by Lindsay Jones, volume 8, pages 5127-5133. (New York: Macmillan 2005).

"Buddhism in Cambodia" and "Vernacular Buddhist Literature in Cambodia." In *Encyclopedia of Buddhism*, edited by Robert E. Buswell, Jr., pages 105-110, 421-423. (New York: Thompson-Gale, 2004).

Presentations

"Reflections on 'Buddhist Modernism': the Case of Colonial Cambodia," invited paper for "Aspects of Buddhist Studies" Conference, International Buddhist College and Than Hsiang Temple, Penang, Malaysia, August 2006.

"Modern Buddhism and Intercultural Collusion in Colonial Cambodia," for the panel "Refiguring Orientalism" at the "Buddhism and Orientalism" conference, University of Toronto, March 2006.

"'A Torch for All the World': Purity, Rationalism and Modern Buddhist Literature in Colonial Cambodia," invited paper for the UCR Center for Ideas & Society, University of California Riverside, May 2006.

"'Asian Values' in Theravadin Ethical Perspective," for 2006 Barnes Symposium "Legitimacy and Western & Non-Western Views of Human Rights" at the University of South Carolina-Columbia and conference volume, Columbia, South Carolina, February 2006.

"Modernism and Morality in Colonial Cambodia," invited paper for "Reconfiguring Religion, Power and Moral Order in Cambodia" conference, Varberg, Sweden, October 2005.

"Print & Modern Genres: Vernacular Buddhist Literature in Colonial Cambodia." International Association for Buddhist Studies Meeting, London, August 2005, for the panel "Vernacular Buddhist Literature in Southeast Asia."

"The Moral Person in History." Presentation for "Contours of the Moral Person" conference at Amherst College, Theravada Buddhist Ethics Working Group, August 2005.

"Modernist Reform in Khmer Buddhist History," invited paper for "Researching Buddhist History" Colloquium, Buddhist Institute, Phnom Penh, June 2005.

- “Prophetic Histories: The *Buddh Damney* and Violence in Cambodia,” Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Chicago, March 2005, for the panel “Buddhist Histories of Violence in Southeast Asia.”
- “Buddhism and the Rise of Print Culture in Colonial Cambodia,” Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, November 2004, for presidential panel on “Sacred Texts in Global Markets and Colonial Encounters.”
- “*Vinaya* Illuminations: The Rise of “Modern *Dhamma*” in Colonial Cambodia,” invited paper for “Global Flows & the Restructuring of Asian Buddhism in an Age of Empires” Conference at Duke University, February 2004.
- “Buddhist Modernism in Colonial Cambodia,” faculty colloquium, Department of History, UWM, March 2004.
- “Violence and its Interpretations in Nineteenth Century Cambodia,” US Institute for Peace/Ohio University conference, “Beyond Violence: Southeast Asia,” Ohio University, September 2003.
- “Translating Theravada Buddhism in Colonial Cambodia,” Institute for Research in the Humanities, University of Wisconsin Madison, April 2003.
- “Monk Travels and the Politics of Textual Production in Colonial Cambodia,” for panel on “Buddhist Modernism and Transnational Circulations” at the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2002.
- “How to be Buddhist: Theravadin Identity and Textual Authority in Cambodian Practical Canons,” for panel entitled “Practical Canons of the Theravada: Describing Local Textual Worlds” at the Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, April 2002.
- “Local Buddhism and the Pali *Imaginaire*: Translating Theravada Buddhism in Colonial Cambodia,” invited paper at the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, University of Michigan, February 2002.
- “Ways of the World: Harm and Suffering in Khmer Ethical Narratives,” paper presented at the Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Chicago, March 2001.
- “Like a Tree Entangled with Creepers: Cosmopolitan Tropes and Local Buddhist Values,” invited paper, Departments of Religion and History, Northwestern University, May 2001.
- “Cambodian Narrative Sites for Buddhist Ethical Reflection,” invited paper, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, University of California Los Angeles, March 2001.
- “The Image of the Orphan: Individuality and Alterity in a Cambodian Buddhist Text,” invited paper, Harvard Buddhist Studies Forum, Harvard University; Faculty Colloquium, Center for 21st Century Studies, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, February 2001.
- “The Cultural Politics of Buddhist Texts in Colonial Cambodia,” invited paper, Southeast Asian Studies Program, Northern Illinois University, March 2000.

"Buddhist Texts and Reform in Colonial Cambodia," invited paper, Southeast Asian Studies Forum, University of Wisconsin Madison, January 2000.

"Buddhism and Colonialism in Turn-of-the-Century Cambodia," invited paper, Buddhism Across Asia Workshop, University of Chicago, April 1998.

"Religion and Identity in Cambodian Buddhism," Association for Asian Studies Conference, March 1998.

"Of Bhikkhus and Buffalo Boys: Suffering and Narrative in Southeast Asian Moral Discourse," Oral History Association Conference, Milwaukee, October 1995.

"Theravadin Ethics: Narrative Perspectives," invited presentation (with Charles Hallisey), Buddhist Studies Workshop, University of Chicago, February 1995.

Fellowships and Awards

Center for Twenty-first Century Studies, UWM, Faculty Fellowship, "The Absence of Autonomy: Buddhist Ethics of Self and Social Cohesion in Colonial Southeast Asia," 2006-2007

Arts and Humanities Travel Grant, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, summer 2005

Institute for Research in the Humanities Fellowship, University of Wisconsin Madison,

"Buddhism, Millenarianism and Social Change in Colonial Cambodia," 2002-2003

National Endowment for the Humanities Collaborative Project Grant, "Suffering and the Prophetic Past and Future in Cambodian Religion and Society: A Study of the *Buddh Damray*," 2000-2003

Harvard University Pluralism Project Grant, 2003-2005

Cultures and Communities Faculty Fellowship, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, 2001-2002

Center for International Education Travel Grant, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, 2001-2002

Undergraduate Teaching and Learning Grant, State of Wisconsin, for Religious Pluralism Project, 2001-2002

Center for Twenty-first Century Studies, UWM, Faculty Fellowship, "Discerning Self and World: Narrative Vision in a Buddhist Ethical Text," 2000-2001

Graduate School Research Committee Fellowship, UWM, for research in Cambodia, 2000-2001

Cultures and Community Faculty Grant, UWM, for Religious Pluralism Project, June 2000-December 2001

Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, dissertation writing, 1997-98

Harvard Whiting Fellowship in the Humanities, dissertation writing, 1997-98

Social Science Research Council Dissertation Fellowship for Area Research, dissertation research in Cambodia, 1997 [declined]

Sheldon Fellowship, Harvard University, archival dissertation research, Paris, 1996-97

Radcliffe Grants for Graduate Women, Harvard University, summer 1995 and spring 1996

Louis and Ida Tatelman Scholarship, Harvard University, 1995-96

Graduate Fellowship, School of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University, 1989-96

Foreign Language Area Scholarship, Khmer language study, summer 1995

Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, fall 1993 and spring 1994

US Department of Education Scholarship, Advanced Summer Thai Program, Chiangmai, 1991

Center for the Study of World Religions Scholarship, Harvard University, Thai language study, Chiangmai University, 1990

Sheldon Fellowship, Harvard University, research and Thai language study, Chiangmai, 1988-1989

Curly Fund Scholarship, Harvard University, Khmer language study, 1986-1988

Foreign Language Area Scholarship, Khmer language study, summers 1986 and 1987

Research and Teaching Interests

History and development of Buddhism in South and Southeast Asia; Southeast Asian vernacular Buddhist literature; religion and colonialism; Buddhist ethics; narrative in religious ethics; reading and writing in manuscript cultures; contemporary religious movements in Southeast Asia; religion and violence; theory and method in the study of religion.

Courses Offered:

Introduction to Buddhist Thought

“Learning True Love”: Buddhist Lives in Historical Perspective (Freshman Seminar; readings on Buddhist figures in India, Japan, Vietnam, and the modern West)

Religious Vision: Autobiography in Modern Global Religions (Freshman Seminar; introduction to Hindu, Buddhist, Muslim, Christian, and Jewish ideas, practices and traditions through religious autobiography)

Colonial Encounters: Religious Perceptions in the Age of Empire (senior research seminar for History & Religion majors utilizing the Archives of the American Geographical Society)

Love and Attachment in Buddhist Narrative (Honors Literature; and as comparative literature course in Master of Liberal Studies Program, South and Southeast Asian literature in translation)

Southeast Asia, 1800-1945: Colonialism and Modernity (19th century Buddhist reform in Siam, Confucianism and Communism in early 20th century Vietnam, and Islamic Modernism and nationalism in mid-20th century Indonesia)

Methods & Theory in the Historical Study of Religion: Reading Buddhism (Buddhist scripture and historiography in/of ancient India and modern Sri Lanka)

Proposed courses and courses in development:

Introduction to Global Religions

Asian Religions

Topics in Global History: Buddhism across Borders

Theravada Buddhism: a Cultural History

Southeast Asia Before 1800: Histories, Chronicles and Prophecies

Design of new core courses for revamped religious studies major at UWM, currently under discussion; will include method & theory courses in the study of religion as well as topical courses listed above. New proposed curriculum will emphasize inter-disciplinary global and border-crossing approaches as well as the study of religious ideas, literature, art, architecture, performance, movements, individuals, and communities as culturally and historically embedded.

Languages

Khmer; Thai; Pali

French (reading knowledge)

Professional Affiliations

American Academy of Religion
 Association for Asian Studies
 International Association of Buddhist Studies

Professional Service

Board of Directors, Association for Asian Studies (2006-2008)
 Chair, Southeast Asia Council, Association for Asian Studies (2006-2008)
 Elected representative to Southeast Asia Council, Association for Asian Studies (2006-2009)
 Association for Asian Studies, Chair of Thai-Lao-Cambodian Studies Group (2001-2004)
 Reviewer, Fulbright Hays, FLAS, US Dept of Education
 International Advisory Board, *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*
 Manuscript Reader, University of Toronto Press; Blackwell Publishing
 Referee, *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*
 Referee, *Journal of Asian Studies*
 Referee, *Religion*
 Book Reviews for *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* and *Crossroads*
 Panel Organizer, "Histories of Violence in Buddhist Southeast Asia," Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, 2005
 Panel Organizer, "Songs at the Edge of the Forest: Narrative and Problems of Meaning in the Work of David Chandler," Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, 2001
 Panel Chair, "Just Feelings: Citizenship, Justice and the Emotions", Center for Twenty-First Century Studies Annual Conference, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, 2001
 Moderator, "Religions of Abraham: Common Roots of Judaism, Christianity and Islam," Comparative Study of Religion Program, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, 2001
 Panel Chair, "Making Human Rights Claims," Conference, Center for International Studies, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, 2000
 Faculty Associate, University of Wisconsin Madison Center for Southeast Asian Studies

University Service

Faculty Coordinator, inter-disciplinary Program in the Comparative Study of Religion, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee (2004-present); currently leading project on re-envisioning religious studies at UWM
 Coordinator, Asian Studies Program, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee (1999-2001)
 Coordinator and Research Associate, Milwaukee Pluralism Project, Harvard University and University of Wisconsin Milwaukee (1999-2003)
 Organizer, Department of History Colloquium on "Visual Culture," (2004-2005)
 Organizer, Comparative Colonialisms Workshop, Center for Twenty-first Century Studies, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee (2003-2005)
 Steering Committee, Program in the Comparative Study of Religion, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee
 Steering Committee, Master of Liberal Studies Program, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee
 Steering Committee, Center for Jewish Studies, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee (beginning 2007)
 Steering Committee, Peace Studies Certificate Program, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee
 Board Member, Southeast Asian Students Advisory Board, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee
 Internal Reviewer, Peck School of the Arts, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee (2006-2007)
 Honors Essay Prize Committee, Honors Program, (2003)
 Faculty Affairs Committee, Department of History, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee

Undergraduate Affairs Committee, Department of History, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee
Search Committees: Modern Jewish History; Immigration and Ethnicity; Islamic History; Modern
Chinese History; African-American History; Sikh Studies

Community Service

Talks for local groups and religious communities; curricular advising on teaching global religions
in the public schools (Milwaukee Public Schools & outreach teacher certification programs
through the Center for International Education at UWM); curriculum projects on Buddhism
and Hinduism designed for: Hartford Elementary School, Woodlands School, St. Robert
School, Plymouth Church, Milwaukee Quakers