



CARITA AND PRABANDHA: JAIN GENRES OF HISTORY & BIOGRAPHY

In the world of *carita* and *prabandha* literature, the family and kin relations take center stage in propelling everything from regular acts of everyday life to monumental displays of piety. Men preparing to renounce the world are confronted by their wives, childless merchants sustain kingdoms with their generous patronage, and mothers set sons from rival sects on the right path. Such common themes and tropes form a recognizable texture for historical and biographical representation in the second-millennium Jain Sanskrit genres of *carita* and *prabandha*. This course will examine the conventions of these genres and how this intersects with the historically specific content of these texts. In this course, students will read selections from Rājaśekharaśūri's *Prabandhakośa* (1349 CE), Sarvāṇanda's *Jagaḍūcarita* (late-14th/early-15th c.), and Hemacandra's *Sthavirāvalīcarita* or *Parīśiṣṭaparvan* (1089-1172 CE).

Readings in Sanskrit Literature

SKRT 1000/6000

Williams Hall 805 | MF 2:00-3:29

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