

KANNADA SUMMER SCHOOL 2013

Language and Culture of Karnataka (South India)

The Kannada Summer School Language and Culture of Karnataka (South India), organized by the Chair of Indology, Würzburg (Karnataka Study Centre), will take place in Würzburg, Germany, from September 2 - 14 2013.

In the modern state of **Karnataka**, ancient but still vibrant cultural and religious traditions, significant historical sites and modernity exist side by side. The state's capital, Bangalore, is a globalized IT-Boomtown and sometimes called the „Silicon Valley of India“. The UNICCO World Heritage site Hampi hosts the impressive remains of the late medieval Hindu kingdom of Vijayanagara („City of Victory“). **Kannada** – the Dravidian language of the South Indian union state of Karnataka – is spoken by more than 60 million people today. It is recognized as a classical language of the subcontinent and boasts a rich literary history.

The course provides an introduction to the modern Kannada language through an intensive program combining spoken Kannada with reading, writing and grammar skills. Students acquire basic contemporary Kannada with a focus on practical language skills and their application in realistic everyday situations. The course offers insights into the history and composite culture of the Kannada speaking regions of the subcontinent through lectures on literature, history, religious traditions, and performing arts. Additional programs include script and grammar tutorial sessions, films and social events.

Course level: Beginners without previous knowledge.

Cost: The Summer School is free of cost. Students need to make a small contribution towards the cost of teaching materials.

Accommodation: Can be arranged upon request. Students need to pay for their accommodation.

The course is taught by experts in Kannada language and culture: Prof. Dr. Viveka Rai and Dr. Katrin Binder. This will be the third time they teach this course together.

B.A. Viveka Rai is retired Professor of Kannada Literature and Folklore at the University of Mangalore. From 2010 to 2012, he was Guest Professor at the Chair of Indology, University of Würzburg, teaching Kannada as well as courses on the culture of Karnataka.

Katrin Binder is an Indologist and professional performer of Yakshagana (a traditional theatre of Karnataka). She is currently working on a post-doctoral project on modern Kannada drama while teaching Kannada, Urdu and courses on Indian theatre and dance at the Chair of Indology, University of Würzburg.

Sarah Merkle is currently working on her doctoral thesis on folk religion and (trans-)gender identity at the Chair of Indology, University of Würzburg.

Please register until: July 28, 2013

Contact for registration:

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For further information on the course content also contact:

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