



Building Jain Masculinity in Maharashtra Temples



Jain laymen have long participated in donation and temple patronage as a marker of masculine piety. The model of the great patron of Jainism is reflected in religious narratives and prescriptive texts that instruct Jain laymen on their duties. Jain masculinity's close link to financial success and temple building programs provides a fruitful space for examining scholarly assumptions about masculinity and religion. This talk will center on temple building programs and patronage narratives in Maharashtra, India, with particular attention to how Jain men navigate shifts in masculinity under neo-liberalism.

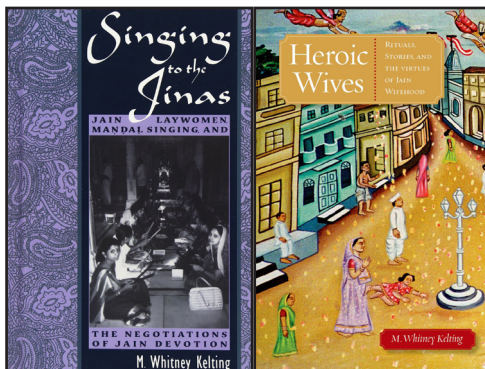
Faculty Host: Brianne Donaldson

Please visit the "Structures of Striving" photo exhibit of Jain temples, history, and ethics on the main floor hallway of Fondren Library, on display through March 29.

Thursday, March 1, 2018 @ 4:00 PM

Fondren Library, Kyle Morrow Room

Reception to follow featuring Gujarati Jain cuisine. Free and open to the public.



M. WHITNEY KELTING

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Professor Kelting's research interests include the religions of South Asia, ritual theory, gender studies, and cultural studies. Dr. Kelting is the author of *Singing to the Jinas: Jain Laywomen, Mandal Singing and the Negotiations of Jain Devotion* (Oxford University Press, 2001) and *Heroic Wives: Rituals, Stories and the Virtues of Jain Wifehood* (Oxford University Press, 2009). Her current research examines the intersection between gender, prestige, and modernity in the Jain community, focusing on temple patronage.

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