

Curriculum vitae

- Name: Christina Oesterheld
- Address: South Asia Institute, University of Heidelberg, Im Neuenheimer Feld 330, D-69120 Heidelberg
- Qualifications: - M.A. in Indology (with Urdu as the first language, Hindi and Sanskrit) from Humboldt University Berlin, School of Asian and African Studies, in 1975
- Ph.D. in Urdu literature from Humboldt University in 1986 (Ph.D. thesis on „The novels *Mere bhi sanamkhane*, *Ag ka darya* and *Akhir-i-shab ke hamsafar* by Qurratulain Hyder: a study in literary method“ (written in German)
- Present
Appointment: Senior Lecturer in Urdu, South Asia Institute, University of Heidelberg, Dept. of Modern Indology (Modern South Asian Languages and Literatures)
- Teaching
- Experience:
 - beginners' courses in Urdu and Hindi
 - intensive courses in Urdu (summer schools)
 - advanced courses in Urdu (prose and poetry readings; translation exercises)
 - courses on various aspects of Urdu literature, such as:
 - the history of Urdu literature from the Dakini period to the 20th century,
 - innovation and tradition in modern Urdu poetry,
 - feminine sensibility in Urdu poetry,
 - the development of the Urdu novel,
 - Urdu novels and short stories on partition,
 - Urdu novels on Muslims in India (dealing with the novels of Qurratulain Hyder and Abdussamad),
 - the Urdu drama,
 - narrative techniques and strategies in modern Urdu fiction etc.
 - *adab*-literature for Muslim women
 - Ghalib – his ghazals in the context of film (Indian TV serial by Gulzar)
 - *Umrao Jan Ada*: novel and film(s)

Participation in Conferences:

- 12th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th European Conferences on Modern South Asian Studies (Berlin 1992, Kopenhagen 1996, Prague 1998, Edinburgh 2000, Heidelberg 2002, Lund 2004, Leiden 2006, Manchester 2008)
- 7th International Conference on Early Literature in New Indo-Aryan Languages, Venice, 1997
- Workshop on “Literary Histories for 19th Century India” at Berkeley, September 1999
- International Symposium on “Agenda for Urdu Education in 21st Century India” at New Delhi, February 2001
- “Urdu Scholarship in Transnational Perspective” (Conference in honour of Prof. C.M. Naim), South Asian Institute, Columbia University, September 2001
- International conference “New Perspectives on Pakistan: Contexts, Realities, and Visions for the Future”, April 2003, Columbia University, New York

- Seventh Sustainable Development Conference (SDC) “Troubled Times. Sustainable Development and Governance in the Age of Extremes”, Islamabad 2004
- International Urdu Conference, Islamabad, March 2005
- conference on “Islam and Satire”, Hamburg, February 2007
- International Conference “Bridging the Distances: Urdu Across Borders”, Mumbai, March 2007
- International Seminar on Muhammad Iqbal, Hongkong, November 2007
- International conference “Revisioning Iqbal”, Heidelberg, November 2007

**Organisation of the Urdu Workshop „Between State Ideology and Popular Culture:
Urdu Literature and Urdu Media in Contemporary Pakistan” Heidelberg, 20.-22.
Juli 2006**

Publications:

Research articles:

- articles on Urdu writers (Quli Qutb Shah, Mulla Vajhi, Vali Dakhini, Sauda, Ghalib, Nazir Ahmad, Sharar, Sarshar, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, Manto, Bedi, Ismat Chughtai, Rashid Jahan, Qurratulain Hyder, Ahmad Nadim Qasmi, Faiz, N.M. Rashed, Mira Ji, Intizar Husain, and many others) in several lexicons of foreign writers (in German)
- 'Voices from the inner courtyard' (On early women poets of Urdu), in *Tender Ironies. Festschrift für Lothar Lutze*. New Delhi: Manohar, 1994.
- 'Die Begegnung mit dem Westen als kulturelle Herausforderung: *Ibnul Vaqt* von Nazir Ahmad' (The East-West encounter as a cultural challenge. *Ibnul Vaqt* by Nazir Ahmad), in *Festschrift für Hermann Berger*, Köln 1996.
- 'Kein Platz für Muslime in Indien?' (No place for Muslims in India?; based on Urdu novels by Qurratulain Hyder, Abdussamad and Altaf Fatima), in *Religion - Macht - Gewalt. Religiöser 'Fundamentalismus' und Hindu-Moslem-Konflikte in Südasien*. Frankfurt/M.: IKO, 1997.
- 'Deconstructing a "Deconstructionist" Urdu Story: *Ek kahani ganga jamni* by Kaiser Tamkeen'. *Annual of Urdu Studies* 11 (1996): 209-219.
- '*Qissa-i Mehrafroz-o-Dilbar.*' *Annual of Urdu Studies* 14 (1999): 103-117.
- 'Nazir Ahmad and the Urdu Novel: Some Observations.' *Annual of Urdu Studies* 16 (2001): 27-42.
- 'Das exemplarische Leben einer Muslimin: Die *Fasana-i Nadir Jahan*', in: Dirk Lönne (ed.), *Tohfa-e-Dil. Festschrift für Helmut Nespital*. Reinbek: Dr. Inge Wezler Verlag 2001, 373-390.
- 'Das Wort des Dichters hat Gewicht: Zum Stellenwert von Lyrik in Pakistan', in: *Weltmission heute: Länderheft Pakistan*, Hamburg: EMW, 2002: 229-241.
- 'Entertainment and Reform: Urdu Narrative Genres in the Nineteenth Century', in: Stuart Blackburn, Vasudha Dalmis (eds.), *India's Literary History. Essays on the Nineteenth Century*. New Delhi: permanent black, 2004: 167-212.
- 'Urdu and Muslim women', in: Daniela Bredi (ed.), *Islam in South Asia* (monographic number of *Oriente Modern*, No.1, 2004): 217-243.
- review articles on *Allahs indischer Garten* by Ursula Rothen-Dubs, *Wörterbuch Deutsch-Urdu* by Iqbal Siddiqi, *The Seventh Door and other Stories* by Intizar Husain

- (ed. by Muhammad Umar Memon), *An Evening of Caged Beasts*, ed. by Asif Farrakhi, tr. by Frances Pritchett and Asif Farrukhi, and *Mera bacpan* by Azra Abbas.
- 'Urdu Literature in Pakistan: A Site for Alternative Visions and Dissent' in *Annual of Urdu Studies* #20 (2005): 79-98.
 - „Bombay: Literarische Bilder einer Großstadt.“ In: Ravi Ahuja / Christiane Brosius (Hg.) *Mumbai - Delhi - Kolkata. Annäherungen an die Megastädte Indiens*. Heidelberg: Draupadi Verlag, 2006: 81-98.
 - 'Visions and values: Some recent Urdu novels', in: *Troubled Times. Sustainable Development and Governance in the Age of Extremes*. Islamabad: SDPI/Sama, 2006: 619-629.
 - 'Deputy Nazir Ahmad and the Delhi College', in: Margrit Pernau (ed.), *The Delhi College. Traditional Elites, the Colonial State, and Education before 1857*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2006: 299-324.
 - "A Foreigner's Reflections on the Status of Urdu and Urdu Education in India", in: Ather Farouqui (ed.), *Redefining Urdu Politics in India*. Delhi [u.a.]: OUP, 2006: 193-204.
 - "Quälende Erinnerungen. Die Ereignisse von 1947 und 1971 in der Urdu-Literatur", in: *Südasiens*, 26/2-3 (2006): 21-23.
 - "The Frustrated Hero", in Brückner, Heidrun, Hugh van Skyhawk and Claus Peter Zoller (eds.), *The Concept of Hero in Indian Culture*. New Delhi: Manohar, 2007: 121-132.
 - "Urdu Literature in Pakistan: A Site for Alternative Visions and Dissent" (unabridged version), in Saeed Shafiqat (ed.), *New Perspectives on Pakistan. Visions for the Future*. Karachi: OUP, 2007: 152-175.
 - "Pakistan in den Augen eines Bestseller-Autors: Der Roman *Rakh* (Asche) von Mustansar Husain Tarar, in Saeed Chaudhry, Hermann Kreutzmann, Paul Lehrieder und Norbert Pintsch (eds.), *60 Jahre Pakistan. Aufbruch, Errungenschaften und Herausforderungen*. Deutsch-Pakistanisches Forum Bonn-Berlin: 2007: 038-048.
 - „Islam und Satire. Ein Tagungsbericht.“ in *Südasiens* Nr. 2/2007: 101-104.
 - "The Frustrated Hero. The Image of the Hero in Contemporary Urdu Stories", in Heidrun Brückner, Hugh van Skzhawk and Claus Peter Zoller (eds.), *The Concept of Hero in Indian Culture*. New Delhi: Manohar, 2007: 121-132.
 - Okzidentalismus oder das Wissen vom Westen. Bilder des Westens in zeitgenössischer Urdu-Literatur aus Pakistan und Deutschland. online-Publikation, Februar 2008, URL: <http://orient.ruf.uni-freiburg.de/dotpub/oesterheld.pdf>, ISSN 1866-2943

- „Qurratulain Hyder. Tod einer literarischen Ikone.“ in: *Südasien* Nr. 4/2007-1/2008: 10-13.
- „In Pursuit of Qurratulain Hyder – (Partly) a Detective Story“, in *Annual of Urdu Studies* #23 (2008): 196-201.

Translations into German of following authors and works:

- excerpts from the novels *Ag ka darya*, *Gardish-i rang-i caman* and *Chandni begam* by Qurratulain Hyder
- short stories by Ismat Cughtai, Jeelani Bano, Intizar Husain, Enver Sajjad, Sajid Rashid, Salam bin Razzaq, Surendra Prakash, Azra Abbas, Anwer Khan, and Khalida Husain
- poems by Balraj Komal, Nida Fazli, Jamiluddin Aali, Iftikhar Arif, Kishwar Naheed, Fahmida Riaz, Ahmad Faraz, Wazir Agha, Azra Abbas, Parveen Shakir, Zeeshan Sahil and others
- Anand Sangeet, 'Der Umschlag', in: Ulrike Stark (Hg.), *Mauern und Fenster. Neue Erzählungen aus Indien*. Heidelberg: Draupadi Verlag, 2006: 125-134.
- Saadat Hasan Manto, *Schwarze Notizen*. (Selected and translated from the Urdu by Christina Oesterheld). Frankfurt a.M.: Suhrkamp, 2006.
- Kishwar Naheed, "Die Geschichte einer schlechten Frau" (extracts from *Burī 'aurat kī kathā*), in *Südasien* Nr. 3/2007: 4-8.

Co-author:

- Wörterbuch Hindi-Deutsch (Hindi-German dictionary) (contributor). Hamburg: Hermann Buske Verlag, 2002.

Edited works:

- *Erkundungen. 23 Erzählungen aus Indien*. (Explorations. 23 stories from India, ed. by P. Hörder, H. Lötze, Ch. Oesterheld and H.J. Volkert, Berlin: Volk und Welt, 1990.
- *Gesteht! Die Dichter des Orients sind größer: Urdu-Literatur*. (Selections from contemporary Urdu literature), Berlin: Das Arabische Buch, 1991.
- *Of Clowns and Gods, Brahmans and Babus. Humour in South Asian Literatures*. ed. by Christina Oesterheld and Claus Peter Zoller. New Delhi: Manohar 1999.

Forthcoming:

- 'Looking beyond *Gul-o-bulbul*: Observations on *marsiyas* by Fazlī and Saudā'