

Astrid Zotter



Flowers, Gods and Scholars

The *Puṣpacintāmaṇi*, a Nepalese Digest
on Flowers in Worship

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19 Ethno-Indology

Heidelberg Studies in South Asian Rituals

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ORCID®

Astrid Zotter  <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2594-9242>

The *Puṣpacintāmaṇi* is a 17th-century Nepalese digest (*nibandha*) that compiles authoritative citations on the use of flowers in Hindu worship (*pūjā*). This book provides a critical edition and translation of the Sanskrit text and its Newari rendering, along with botanical identifications of the flowers mentioned. Furthermore, it analyzes the historical and cultural context of the text, including its place in the Nepalese textual tradition and its relationship to other texts of its genre. This is a reworked English version of the thesis “Von Blüten, Göttern und Gelehrten: Die Behandlung von *pūjā*-Blüten im *Puṣpacintāmaṇi*” (<https://nbn-resolving.de/urn:nbn:de:bsz:15-qucosa-102174>)

Bibliographic information published by the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek

The Deutsche Nationalbibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data are available in the Internet at <https://dnb.dnb.de>.



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Published by Heidelberg Asian Studies Publishing (HASP), 2026

Heidelberg University / Heidelberg University Library
Heidelberg Asian Studies Publishing (HASP)
Grabengasse 1, 69117 Heidelberg, Germany
<https://hasp.ub.uni-heidelberg.de>
e-mail: ub@ub.uni-heidelberg.de

The electronic open access version of this work is permanently available on the website of Heidelberg Asian Studies Publishing: <https://hasp.ub.uni-heidelberg.de>
urn: [urn:nbn:de:bsz:16-hasp-1562-2](https://nbn-resolving.de/urn:nbn:de:bsz:16-hasp-1562-2)
doi: <https://doi.org/10.11588/hasp.1562>

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Cover illustration: During the Indrajātrā festival, the mask of Akāśa Bhairava, lavishly decorated with flowers, is displayed and publicly worshipped at the Indra Chowk, a central square in the old city of Kathmandu; photo: 30 September 2007.

ISSN 1860-2053
eISSN 2941-1645

ISBN 978-3-98887-029-2 (Hardcover)
ISBN 978-3-98887-030-8 (PDF)