

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Adjunct Professor, Department of Asian Studies, University of Texas at Austin;
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Rupert Snell has been engaged in South Asian Studies since graduating in Hindi from SOAS, University of London, in 1974. His research interests include both pre-modern (Braj Bhāṣā) and modern Hindi literature. Literary translation (from Hindi into English) has been another focus, as shown in his translation of Harivansh Rai Bachchan's autobiography (1998) and in his current research on the *Satsai* of Bihārīlāl. He also has a commitment to the production of teaching materials: his book *Teach Yourself Hindi* is widely used in university courses, and is one of five productions in his suite of teaching materials published by Hodder Educational in London.

EDUCATION: BA Hons. Hindi (1st class) 1974, SOAS
PhD, 1984, SOAS

EMPLOYMENT: 1975-78 **Research Fellow**, SOAS
1978-90 **Lecturer in Hindi**, SOAS
1990-91 **Senior Lecturer in Hindi**, SOAS
1991-2006 **Reader in Hindi**, SOAS
(Chair, Department of South Asia and of the Languages and Cultures of South Asia, SOAS, 1991-95; and 2002-05)
2006 (Spring & Fall semesters) **Adjunct Professor**, Department of Asian Studies, University of Texas at Austin
2007 – **Adjunct Professor**, Department of Asian Studies, UT;
and **Associate Director**, Hindi-Urdu Flagship Program, South Asia Institute, UT

EDITORSHIPS

Editor, *South Asia Research*, 1998-2002.

Series Editor, 'SOAS South Asian Texts', 1989-1999.

EXAMINERSHIPS

Chief Examiner, London University GCE/GCSE Hindi, 1980-1995.

Principal Examiner, International Baccalaureate, Hindi, 1985-1996.

External Examiner (Hindi), University of Cambridge Oriental Studies Tripos, 1992–2005.

Publications

- 1978 ‘Scriptural literature in the Rādhāvallabha Sampradāya’, *Bulletin of the International Association of the Vrindaban Research Institute*, 4, pp. 22-30.
- 1980 ‘A lesson’ [translation of Yaśpāl’s Hindi short story *Updeś*], *Indian Literature*, XXIII, 3 & 4, pp. 145-150.
- 1980 ‘History versus hagiography in early Hindi literature: the biography of Hita Harivaṃśa’, *Purvadesh*, 1,2, pp. 109-35.
- 1980 ‘Materials for the study of the *Hita Caurās*’ of Hita Harivaṃśa’, in W.M.Callewaert (ed.), *Early Hindi devotional literature in current research* (Leuven: Katholieke Universiteit), pp. 171-80.
- 1980 ‘हितचौरासी और उसका टीका साहित्य’, *रस वृन्दावन* May 1980, pp. 91-98.
- 1981 ‘A catalogue of the V.R.I. manuscripts on microfilm’ (with R.D.Gupta), *I.A.V.R.I. Bulletin* X.
- 1981 ‘Ramlila’ [translation of Premcand’s Hindi short story], *Illustrated Weekly of India*, CII, 31, pp. 55-57.
- 1981 ‘The Hindi poetry of Surdas’, *India Abroad*, 1, 2, pp. 22-23.
- 1981 ‘The street name’ [translation of Upendranāth Aśk’s Hindi short story *Galī kā nām*], *Journal of South Asian Literature*, XVI, 1, pp. 191-95.
- 1982 ‘Naxalite’ [translation of Amrit Ray’s Hindi short story *Naksal*], *Illustrated Weekly of India*, CIV, 6, pp. 49-52.
- 1982 Translation of Nemicandra Jain’s Hindi review article of Phaṅśvarnāth Reṇu’s novel *Mailā cal*, in *Journal of South Asian Literature*, XVII, 2, pp. 131-36.
- 1983 ‘Metrical forms in Braj Bhasa verse: the *Caurasi pada* in performance’, in Monika Thiel-Horstmann (ed.), *Bhakti in current research, 1979-1982* (Berlin: Dietrich Reimer Verlag), pp. 353-83.
- 1985 ‘Hindi’ in C. Shackle (ed.), *South Asian Languages: a handbook* (London: SOAS External Services Division, Occasional Papers X), pp. 27-32.
- 1986 [edited] *Aspects of the culture of South Asia* (London: SOAS External Services Division, Occasional Papers XIII) ‘The early history of India from the Harappa culture to the Gupta empire’, *ibid.*, pp.1-4; ‘Hinduism: basic concepts and history’, *ibid.*, pp.15-18; ‘Hinduism: practice’, *ibid.*, pp.19-22; ‘Hindi literature: the early period’, *ibid.*, pp.38-42; ‘Hindi literature: the modern period’, *ibid.*, pp.43-47.
- 1988 ‘Biharilal: poet of a courtly age’ *Bazaar* 5 (Summer 1988), pp. 8-9.
- 1989 *Hindi* (with S.C.R.Weightman) (London: Hodder & Stoughton; ‘Teach Yourself’ series.).
- 1989 ‘Raskhan the neophyte: Hindu perspectives on a Muslim Vaishnava’ in Christopher Shackle (ed.), *Urdu and Muslim South Asia: studies in honour of Ralph Russell* (London: SOAS), pp. 29-37.
- 1989 ‘Hindi’, in Francis Robinson (ed.), *The Cambridge encyclopaedia of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan and the Maldives* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press), pp. 419-24.
- 1990 (with C. Shackle) *Hindi and Urdu since 1800: a common reader* (‘SOAS South Asian Texts’ I) London: SOAS; Delhi: Heritage).

- 1990 'The hidden hand: English lexis, syntax and idiom as determinants of modern Hindi usage', *South Asia Research* 10, No. 1 (May 1990), pp. 53-68.
- 1990 'Research in South Asian language and literature, 1980-1990: a view from the Hindi-speaking North', *South Asia Research* 10, No. 2 (November 1990), pp. 106-24.
- 1990 'Rural travesties: Shrilal Shukla's *Rāg Darbārī*', *Journal of Commonwealth Literature* XXV, 1 (1990), pp. 156-79.
- 1991 *The eighty-four hymns of Hita Harivaṃśa: an edition of the Caurāsī pada* (Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass and London: SOAS).
- 1991 *The Hindi classical tradition: a Braj Bhāṣā reader* ('SOAS South Asian Texts' II. London: SOAS; Delhi: Heritage)
- 1991 Various articles in John Hinnels (ed.), *Who's who of world religion* (London: Macmillan).
- 1992 (ed. with C. Shackle) *The Indian narrative: perspectives and patterns* (Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz; 'Khoj' Series no. 4).
- 1992 'Devotion rewarded: the *Sudāmā carit* of Narottamdās', in C. Shackle and R. Snell (eds.), *The Indian narrative: perspectives and patterns* (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz), pp. 173-94.
- 1992 'Uncivil lines: themes of discord in the Hindi short stories of Gyanranjan.' *International Journal of Indian Studies* Issue 2, Vol.2, No.1 (January-June 1992), pp. 45-65.
- 1992 'Working in Hindi manuscript libraries: a de-briefing', *IAVRI Bulletin* XV-XVI, pp. 37-42.
- 1993 'Ajñeya translates Ajñeya: the Nīlāmbarī poems', in *India International Centre Quarterly*, vol. 20 no. 4 (Winter 1993), pp. 109-28.
- 1993 'हिन्दी की वर्तमान स्थिति पर ढाई विचार', in *गगनांचल (विश्व-हिन्दी अंक)* vol 16 no.4 (Oct-Dec 1993), pp. 103-108.
- 1993 'Synoptic and sectarian *bhakti* in the poetry of Dhruvdās', R.S.McGregor (ed.), *Devotional Literature in South Asia: Current Research, 1985-8* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press), pp. 247-58.
- 1993 Various articles in *The World Book encyclopaedia* (London: World Book International).
- 1993 'The hidden hand: English lexis, syntax and idiom as determinants of modern Hindi usage', in David Arnold and Peter Robb (eds.), *Institutions and ideologies: a SOAS South Asia reader* (London, Curzon Press 1993), pp. 74-90 [reprinted from *South Asia Research* 10, No. 1 (May 1990) pp. 53-68].
- 1994 '*Barvai* metre in Tulsīdās and Rahīm', in Alan W. Entwistle & Françoise Mallison (eds.), *Studies in South Asian Devotional Literature*, Paris: École Française d'Extrême-Orient, pp. 373-405.
- 1994 '*Bhakti* versus *Rīti*? The *Satsaī* of Bihārīlāl', *Journal of Vaiṣṇava Studies*, vol. 3, no.1 (Winter 1994), pp. 153-70.
- 1994 'भवदीय, एक हिन्दी प्रेमी' *नवभारत टाइम्स*, 5 January.
- 1994 (ed. with Winand M. Callewaert), *According to tradition: hagiographical writing in India* (Wiesbaden, Harrassowitz Verlag; 'Khoj' Series no. 5).
- 1994 'Hindi: from Brij Bhasha to Bridge Bhasha?', in *The Book Review*, XVIII No.4 (April 1994), p. 10.
- 1994 'Studying India in the UK', in *India Link International* (March 1994), pp. 26-27.
- 1994 'Themes in Indian hagiography', in Winand M. Callewaert and R. Snell (eds.), *According to tradition: hagiographical writing in India* (Wiesbaden, Harrassowitz Verlag), pp. 1-13.

- 1996 'Northern and Central India', in S. Weightman (ed.), *Traveller's literary companion to the Indian sub-continent* (Brighton, In Print), pp. 94-153.
- 1997 ब्रजभाषा के आधुनिक दोहे' *जनसत्ता 'रविवारी'* 13.4.97, p. 2.
- 1997 'हिंदी का यह संयुक्त परिवार', *जनसत्ता* 24.4.97, p. 4 (continued in 'भाषा बहता नीर').
- 1997 'भाषा बहता नीर', *जनसत्ता* 29.4.97, p. 4 (conclusion of 'हिंदी का यह संयुक्त परिवार'.)
- 1998 *Harivansh Rai Bachchan: In the Afternoon of Time: an Autobiography* [The four volumes क्या भूलूँ क्या याद करूँ, नीड़ का निर्माण फिर, बसेरे से दूर, 'दशद्वार' से 'सोपान' तक, abridged and translated by Rupert Snell.] (Delhi, Viking Penguin.)
- 1998 (With Marina Chellini) 'The snare of virtue: Jainendra Kumār's *Tyāg-patra* and André Gide's *La porte étroite*', *Journal of South Asian Literature* Vol. XXX, Nos. 1 & 2 (1995), pp. 173-93.
- 1998 Rupert Snell & Ian Raeside (eds.), *Classics of Modern South Asian Literature* (Wiesbaden, Harrassowitz, 1988) .
- 1998 'Introduction' in R.Snell & Ian Raeside (eds.), *Classics of Modern South Asian Literature* (Wiesbaden, Harrassowitz, 1988) pp. 1-12.
- 1998 'Rural travesties: Shrilal Shukla's *Rāg Darbārī*' in R.Snell & Ian Raeside (eds.), *Classics of Modern South Asian Literature* (Wiesbaden, Harrassowitz, 1988) pp. 211-38.
- 1998 'The *nikuñja* as sacred space in poetry of the Rādhāvallabhī tradition', *Journal of Vaiṣṇava Studies* Vol. 7, No. 1 (fall 1998), pp. 63-84.
- 1999 'Humour in the *Satsai* of Bihārīlāl', in *Of Clowns and Gods, Brahmans and Babus: Humour in South Asian Literatures*, ed. Christina Oesterheld and Claus Peter Zoller, Delhi, Manohar, 1999, pp. 63-79.
- 1999 ग्रामीण विडम्बनाएँ : श्रीलाल शुक्ल का राग दरबारी' [Hindi translation by Vandana Mishra of 'Rural travesties: Shrilal Shukla's *Rāg Darbārī*'], *Tadbhava*, 1,1 (March 1999), pp. 138-58.
- 2000 'A Hindi poet from Allahabad: translating Harivansh Rai Bachchan's autobiography', *Modern Asian Studies*, Vol. 34, Part 2, pp. 427-448.
- 2000 'English voices for Hindi verses? Issues in translating pre-colonial poetry.' In *Comparative Criticism* 22, pp. 133-156.
- 2000 *Hindi* (with S.C.R.Weightman); 2nd edition, completely revised [rewritten] by Rupert Snell. (London: Hodder & Stoughton; 'Teach Yourself' series.).
- 2000 *Beginner's Hindi Script*. (London: Hodder & Stoughton; 'Teach Yourself' series.).
- 2001 *Harivansh Rai Bachchan: In the Afternoon of Time: an Autobiography* [paperback edition, Delhi, Penguin; see 1998 for hardback details.]
- 2001 'Nirmala translated: Premchand's Heroine in English Dress' in *Hindi: Language, Discourse, Writing*, Volume 1 nos. 3-4, pp. 307-17.
- 2003 *Beginner's Hindi*. (London: Hodder & Stoughton; 'Teach Yourself' series.).
- 2004 *Hindi dictionary*. (London: Hodder & Stoughton; 'Teach Yourself' series.).
- 2004 'हमारी हिन्दी का कल्याण हो !', in *हंस*, 18:5 (December 2003), pp. 52-54.
- 2005 *Hindi conversation*. (London: Hodder & Stoughton; 'Teach Yourself' series.).
- 2005 [Guest editor of Special Issue of *South Asia Research* on Pre-Modern Hindi Literature; Vol. 25 No.1 (May 2005); 'Introduction: the study of pre-modern Hindi literature', pp. 5-11.]

- 2005 ‘Confessions of a seventeenth-century Jain merchant: the *Ardhakathānak* of Banārasidās’; in *South Asia Research* Vol. 25 No.1 (May 2005), pp. 79-104.
- 2007 (with Gopal Gandhi, trans.) बापू नहीं रहे -- अब क्या होगा ? सेवाग्राम, ३० जनवरी १९४८ के छह हफ्तों बाद / *Gandhi Is Gone: What Now? A Discussion at Sevagram Six Weeks after 30 January 1948.* (Delhi, Permanent Black.)
- 2007 Extract from *In the Afternoon of Time* (1998), in Arvind Krishna Mehrotra. ed., *The Last Bungalow: Writings on Allahabad*, Delhi: Penguin, pp. 134-148.
- 2007 *Hindi para principiantes* [Spanish-medium version of *Beginner’s Hindi* 2003], N.p. Herder, 2007.
- 2008 ‘The Bachchan family’, extract from *In the Afternoon of Time* (1998), in *The Non-Fiction Collection: Twenty Years of Penguin India*, Vol. I, Delhi: Penguin, pp. 64–75.
- 2009 Extract from *In the Afternoon of Time* (1998) in Palash Krishna Mehrotra (ed.), *Recess: the Penguin Book of Schooldays*, Delhi: Penguin, pp. 83-88.
- 2009 Preface to Banarasidas, *Ardhakanathak: a half story*, trans. Rohini Chowdhury, Delhi: Penguin, pp.vii-xxii.
- 2010 ‘Levee lacks levity’, translation of *Levī prāṇ-levī* by Bhāratendu Hariścandra, in Shobna Nijhawan (ed.), *Nationalism in the vernacular: Hindi, Urdu and the literature of Indian freedom*. Delhi: Permanent Black, 2010, pp. 279-282.

FORTHCOMING

- 2010 (ed., with Rita Kothari) *Chutnefying English: the phenomenon of Hindi-English code-switching*. Delhi, Penguin.
- 2010 ‘Hindi: its threatened ecology and natural genius’, in Rupert Snell and Rita Kothari, eds, *Chutnefying English: the phenomenon of Hindi-English code-switching*. Delhi, Penguin. 2010 German edition of *Hindī* [based on 2000 edition, see above]. Berlin, Cornelsen Verlag.
- 2010 ‘Hindi poetry’, in Roland Greene (ed.), *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*.

WEB-BASED TEACHING/LEARNING MATERIALS

Numerous items for Hindi teachers and learners, published in the “Materials” section of the Hindi Urdu Flagship website (<http://www.hindiurduflagship.org/>). The most innovative of these is the “Spoken Thesaurus”, launched October 2010 and available as an ongoing series of podcasts with free subscription through iTunes; this is a growing collection.

Work in hand:

A study and partial translation of the *Satsaī* of Bihārīlāl, court poetry from 17th century Rajasthan.

A revised and substantially expanded second edition of *The Hindi classical tradition: a Braj Bhāṣā reader* (first edition 1991).

A *Rāmcaritmānas* reader, as a sister volume to *The Hindi classical tradition*.

(with Laura Brueck, University of Colorado [UT alumna]), A study of style in modern Hindi literature.

And a work of fiction: *The Reading Stone, a novel of 17th-century Hindustan*.

Awards:

“Abhinandan”, 5th World Hindi Conference, Trinidad, April 1996.

“Hindi Sevi Sammaan”, Hindi Committee UK, London, August 1997.

“Sir George Grierson Hindi Sevi Sammaan”, presented by the President of India at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi, December 1997.

[I also have the honour of being ‘eponymous’ in an award given annually by ऋचायतन, a literary association in Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh, which felicitates scholarship on Braj Bhasha literature with a prize called the “Dr Rupert Snell Braj Bhāṣā Puraskār”.]