

Daniela Cappello

Ph.D, Heidelberg University (2021)

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CURRENT POSITION

2025 – **Tenure-track researcher (RTT) – L-OR/19**
ASIA-01/D – Modern Languages and Literatures of South Asia
University L’Orientale of Naples

QUALIFICATIONS

2025-2029 **Qualifiée au role de ‘Mâitre de conférences’ (section 15** – Langues, littératures et cultures africaines, asiatiques et d’autres aires linguistiques) – Ministère chargé de l’enseignement supérieur et de la recherche, République française (until 31/12/2029)

PREVIOUS ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

Post-doctoral fellowship ERC ‘The Śivadharma’ Project (GA 803624)
Department Asia, Africa and Mediterranean, University L’Orientale of Naples
02/2023 – 02/2024

Project Coordinator ERC ‘The Śivadharma’ Project (GA 803624)
Ufficio Programmi e Progetti di Ricerca Nazionali e Internazionali, University L’Orientale of Naples
09/2021 – 09/2022

Court Appointed Expert (CTU)
Interpreter for Bengali language
Procura della Repubblica, Napoli
March-April 2024

Proofreader
Editorial contract for the volume *Dizionario hindi-italiano* (Roma-Napoli: Ismeo-Unior)
Istituto per l’Oriente Carlo Alfonso Nallino, Rome
February – August 2021

Research Assistant
Hilfewissenschaftler/in Project “Maritime History”
Cluster Asia and Europe in a Global Context, Heidelberg University
10/2017 – 12/2017

Research Assistant

Hilfewissenschaftler/in Project “Meiner Eltern Welt” (My Parents’ World – Inherited Memories)

Heidelberg University, with Goethe Institut-Dhaka, Max Mueller Bhavan-Kolkata, Centre for Social Sciences Calcutta

03/2016 – 06/2016

Tutoring and Organization of Didactics

Internship, July 2015

Service Centre for the Organization of Didactics (Polo Didattico di Ateneo), L’Orientale University of Naples.

Editorial Contract

Compilation of Index entries (1-7) of “Manuscripts Buddhica” (2014)

Department Asia, Africa and Mediterranean Studies, L’Orientale University of Naples

10/2014 – 12/2014

Book and Translation Coordinator

Memorandum of Understanding

Book Project on the Bengali translation of Antonio Gramsci’s *25th Prison Notebook* (RBU, 2016)

L’Orientale University of Naples, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata

2010-2016

TEACHING

2025–

- In charge of the course ‘Bengali language I’ (9 credits, 54 hours) – University L’Orientale of Naples

2024 – 2025

- Teacher for Special Education Needs (full time)
Secondary school ‘Aldo Manuzio’, IC Viale San Marco, Venezia Mestre
- Project ‘DIVARI’ PNRR – Secondary school ‘Aldo Manuzio’, Venezia Mestre
 - Mentoring and tutoring (20 hours)
 - Potenziamento e competenze di base (enhancing and strengthening basic skills - 20 hours)
- External expert for the Master in ‘Intercultural Mediation’. Lecture on ‘La mediazione culturale e le comunità bengalesi in Italia’ (Cultural mediation and Bengali communities in Italy - 22/03/2025), University L’Orientale of Naples.
- Guest lecturer at the seminar “Usi specialistici della traduzione in Asia meridionale” with the session ‘La traduzione specialistica in ambito scolastico’ – ‘Specialized translation in schools’ (7/5/2025), University L’Orientale of Naples.

2023

- Teacher in the seminar “Bengali language and culture” (L-OR/19) for BA and MA students (12 hours), University ‘L’Orientale’ of Naples
- Co-teacher for the course “Ancient and Medieval History of India” (Storia dell’India antica e medievale, L-OR/17); session on ‘Sources for a Study of the History of Bengal’ (2 hours), University ‘L’Orientale’ of Naples.

2017-2019

- Teacher in the seminar “New Literary Spheres: Voices from Bengal” (20 hours), Südasien-Institut, Heidelberg University.
- Occasional teaching of spoken Bengali with dr. Chaiti Basu (Bengali I, II, III), Südasien-Institut, Heidelberg University.
- Co-lecturer in the course “Grundfragen Textwissenschaften mit Südasienbezug” (Methodologies of Study on Texts in relation with South Asia) with dr. Jürgen Schaflechner, Südasien-Institut, Heidelberg University (2 hours).

Private English Teacher

2013- 2014

2020-2021

Teacher for Italian L2

Ramakrishna Mission Institute and School of Languages, Kolkata

June-December 2011

EDUCATION

2021

- **Ph.D.** in Modern South Asian Languages and Literatures, Faculty of Philosophy, Heidelberg University.
Thesis Title: “Transgression, Sexuality and Masculinity: The Poetry of the Hungry Generation Movement” (in English). Evaluation: *Magna cum laude* (1.0 – very good). Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Hans Harder (Südasien-Institut) and Prof. Dr. Christiane Brosius (Heidelberg Centre for Transcultural Studies).

2013

- **Master of Arts** in “Lingue e civiltà orientali” (Asian languages and civilizations), L’Orientale University of Naples. Major in Hindi, Sanskrit and Bengali.
Thesis title: “Buddhadeva Bose and the issue of national language in his work” (in Italian). Evaluation: *Summa cum laude*.

2011

- **Bachelor of Arts** in “Lingue e culture dell’Asia e dell’Africa” (Asian and African languages and cultures), L’Orientale University of Naples. Major in Hindi and Sanskrit. Thesis title: “Tagore and Kabir: comparing two mystics” (in Italian). Evaluation: *Summa cum laude*.

2007

- **High School Diploma**, Liceo Linguistico Sperimentale Brocca (Foreign Languages) “VIII Istituto Magistrale” of Naples. Score: 98/100. Languages: English, French, Spanish.

PUBLICATIONS

Monography

Transgression in the Bengali Avant-Garde: The Poetry of the Hungry Generation. Heidelberg: Heidelberg Asian Studies Publishing, 2024. ISBN/EAN 978-3-948791-90-2 (Print), 978-3-948791-89-6 (Online-PDF). 308 pages. DOI <https://doi.org/10.11588/hasp.1320>. Data di pubblicazione: 2/7/2024. <https://hasp.uni-heidelberg.de/catalog/book/1320>

Indian edition published by Jadavpur University Press, Kolkata (2025).

Articles

2023

“Bāmlā bhāṣāy purāṇ: unabingśa śataker puthi o chāpā baiyer utpattisthal ebaṃ paddhati” [Bengali Purāṇas: A Methodological Note on 19th Century Manuscript and Print Culture]. In *BHĀBANAGARA: International Journal of Bengal Studies*, Vol. 17, No. 20 (December 2023), pp. 2095-2106. ISSN: 2313-6065. <https://doi.org/10.64242/bijbs.v17i20.2>

2021

“Visions of the Pandemic in the Bengali Science Fiction Webzine *Kalpabiśva*”. In *ContactZone: Rivista dell’Associazione italiana per lo studio della fantascienza e del fantastico – An International Peer-Reviewed E-Journal* (Paolo Loffredo Editore), “Indian Science Fiction: Maps and Myths of the Future” ed. by Esterino Adami and Oriana Palusci (1st May 2021), pp. 84-99. ISSN 2723-8881. DOI: 10.26379/1596.

2020

“Naṣṭa ātmār ṭelibhiśan: Phalgunī rāyer kabitār upare kichu bhāb'nā ebaṃ byākhyā” [Television of a Rotten Soul: Some thoughts and an interpretation of Phalguni Ray’s poems]. In *BHĀBANAGARA: International Journal of Bengal Studies*, Vol. 12, No. 13-14 (June-December 2020), pp. 1489-1502. ISSN 2313-6065. Language: Bengali.

2019

“Comics and Science Fiction in West Bengal”. In *Interdisziplinäre Zeitschrift für Südasiensforschung* Nr. 5 (2019), pp. 1-32. ISSN: 2510-2621. <https://doi.org/10.11588/izsa.2019.5.10442>

2018

“Strategies for Translating Obscenity: Medical Language and Sanitization in Malay Rāyçhoudhurī’s Poetry”. In *SANGLAP: Journal of Literary and Cultural Inquiry*, Vol. 5, No 1 (2018) (Translation Impossible: The Ethics, Politics and Pragmatics of Radical Translation in South Asian Literatures), pp. 22-35. ISSN: 2349-8064

Book chapters

2025

“Traduzione e ricerca linguistica nella poesia di Buddhadeb Basu (1908-1974)”, in Flora, Giuseppe e Anil, Alessandro (eds.), *Movimenti, acque, soliloqui: Poesia bengalese moderna*, pp. 60-73. Roma: Officina Libraria. ISBN: 978-88-3367-291-5.

Review

2018

Review of “Bombay Modern: Arun Kolatkar and Bilingual Literary Culture” by Anjali Nerlekar. In *Oxford Comparative Criticism & Translation Review*. 03/19/2018 - 19:21. ISSN 2753-6157. URL: <http://www.occt.ox.ac.uk/cct-review/bombay-modern-arun-kolatkar-and-bilingual-literary-culture-anjali-nerlekar>

Edited volume

2016

Cappello, Daniela (ed.). *Itihāser prāntasīmāy (Nimnabargīya sāmājik śreṅṅir itihās evaṁ anyānya racanā); Quaderno 25: Ai Margini della Storia. Storia dei gruppi sociali subalterni e altri scritti di Antonio Gramsci*, transl. by Jayasri Chaudhuri and Indrani Das, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata. 123 pages. ISBN: 978-93-82039-19-8. [Bengali translation of Gramsci’s 25th Prison Notebook with parallel Italian text]

Translations

2025 “Tre poesie di Buddhadeb Basu”, in in Flora, Giuseppe e Anil, Alessandro (eds.), *Movimenti, acque, soliloqui: Poesia bengalese moderna*, pp. 76-91. Roma: Officina Libraria. ISBN: 978-88-3367-291-5.

2024 “Eklā chalo re – Cammina da Solo” di R. Tagore, in *Vande Mataram: Poesie della libertà*, a cura di Vas Shenoy, pp. 40-42. Mumbai: Becomesakespeare.com. ISBN 9789362634818.

2012 “Lālon Fakirer gān” (Canti di Lālon Fakir). In *Ritmi Italiani*, Numero Quattro, Kolkata Book Fair, edited by Centre for Italian Studies. Kolkata: Tulip Press, p. 33-35.

Blog articles

2021

“L’India e l’esotico nei romanzi di Frances H. Burnett”, *Caravaggio Editore* Blog. 20 January 2021. URL: <https://www.caravaggioeditore.it/2021/01/20/lindia-e-lesotico-nei-romanzi-di-frances-h-burnett/>.

2020

“My Journey through the Hungry Generation”, *Kahaani Koncerti* Blog. 30 December 2020. URL: <https://kahaanikoncerti.in/blogs/f/my-journey-through-the-hungry-generation>.

Translated in Bengali by Subhankar Das as “Hāmri jenāresāner sāthe āmār path hāmṭā”) and republished in the Bengali magazine *Grāfiti* (May 2022).

To be published

(forth.). CAPPELLO D, et CHAKRAVARTI BAR S. *Une anthologie de la poésie Hungryaliste*. ISBN: 979-10-96596-42-3. Paris: Éditions Banyan. (poetry translation)

(forth.). “Biographies des poètes bengalies modernes” – *Revue Po&sie*, 194-195 (juin 2026), Paris: Belin. (contribution to poetry review)

(under review by Tulika Books, New Delhi). “Gazing at the Avant-Garde: the Hungry Generation, Through My Eyes”, in Bose, Brinda (ed.), *Aesthetics in the Fray: The Avant-Garde in India*, vol. 1-2, New Delhi: SSAF-Tulika Books. (chapter in edited volume)

(under review by Tulika Books, New Delhi). “Malay Raychaudhuri in Conversation with Daniela Cappello”, in Bose, Brinda (ed.), *Aesthetics in the Fray: The Avant-Garde in India*, vol. 1-2, New Delhi: SSAF-Tulika Books. (chapter in edited volume)

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2019

(June-October) **DAAD** doctoral completion grant Stipendien-und-Betreuungsprogramms (**STIBET**), Heidelberg.

2018-2019

(October-March 2019) **Erasmus+ Key Action 107** scholarship for doctoral mobility at Jawaharlal Nehru University, Centre for English Studies (SLLCS), New Delhi.

2015-2018

Doctoral scholarship, Cluster of Excellence Asia and Europe in a Global Context, Graduate Programme for Transcultural Studies (GPTS-7), Ruprecht-Karls University of Heidelberg.

2015

(April-June) Research and travel grant funded by the Department Asia, Africa e Mediterraneo (**DAAM – L’Orientale University of Naples**) to develop doctoral project in Calcutta.

2013

(January-July) **Erasmus Study Programme**, *Inalco* (Institut des langues et civilisations orientales), Paris.

2010-2012

MoU – Memorandum of Understanding – Research and travel grants to participate in the cooperation and exchange programme “The European Renaissance in an intercultural perspective” (University of Naples L’Orientale, University of Rome La Sapienza, Rabindra Bharati University and Jadavpur University of Calcutta), as part of the project of coordination of the Bengali translation of Antonio Gramsci’s *25th Prison Notebook*.

ACADEMIC AWARDS

Research Award from ‘Little Magazine Library and Research Centre’, Kolkata

“Gobeṣak sammānanā puraskār 2021” – Best Researcher Award (June 2021)

MEMBERSHIP OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES

European Association for South Asian Studies (EASAS)

LANGUAGE SKILLS

European languages: Italian (native speaker); English (C2 proficient); French (C1); Spanish (intermediate); German (beginner).

Asian languages: Bengali (advanced); Hindi (advanced); Sanskrit (intermediate).

CONFERENCES AND OTHER PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Webinar lecture

2021 (25th January) “In conversation with Malay: Poetry, Obscenity and the Hungry Generation”. Interview-cum-lecture (organized by Prof. Arka Chattopadhyay) with the poet Malay Raychaudhuri, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Gandhinagar (Gujarat, India).

Panel Convenor

2025

Convenor of the panel “Recasting classics and traditional genres in South Asia: refractions, satirical deviations, adaptations” (panel 53), with Fabio Mangraviti (La Sapienza) and Anirudh Karnick (Pennsylvania University). ECSAS 2025 – *European Conference of South Asian Studies* (1-4 October), Heidelberg.

2018

25th Convenor of the panel “Gauging Comics and Graphic Narrative in South Asia”, with Elizaveta Ilves (SAI, Heidelberg). ECSAS 2018 - *European Conference on South Asian Studies* (24-27 July), Paris.

Conferences & Conventions

2025 (1-4 October) ECSAS – *European Conference of South Asian Studies*, Heidelberg. Convenor of the panel “Recasting classics and traditional genres in South Asia: refractions, satirical deviations, adaptations” (panel 53). Paper on “Upside-Down Purāṇa: A Bengali Mock-Purāṇa from 1927”.

2024 (28-29 June) *Dritte Deutscher Südasiientag*, Leipzig. Paper on “Purāṇas in Colonial Bengal”.

2021 Paper accepted in the panel “Governing and Representing Gender and Sex(uality) in South Asia – (Re-)Negotiating Lakshmanrekha”, *European Conference for South Asian Studies* (ECSAS 2021), Wien. Paper title: “Aggressive Sexuality and Anxious Masculinities in Postcolonial Calcutta: A Reading of the Hungry Generation Poets (1960s-1970s)”.

2019 (15-16 December) Presentation of the paper “Television of a Rotten Soul: A reading of Phalguni Ray’s poetry”, *Colloque international Dui Bangla: Bangladesh and West-Bengal from environmental issues to cultural perspectives*. Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales (Inalco) and the University of Chicago Centre, Paris.

2018 (24-27 July) 2018 (24-27 July) 25th *European Conference on South Asian Studies* (ECSAS), Paris. Convenor of the panel “Gauging Comics and Graphic Narrative in South Asia”. Paper on “Science-fiction in Bengali Comics”.

2017 (20-23 July) Presentation of the paper “How to Translate Obscene Poetry? Some examples from the Hungry Generation” for the round table “Translation Impossible: The Ethics, Politics and Pragmatics of Radical Literary Translation in South Asia”, *International Convention of Asia Scholars* (ICAS) 10, Chiang Mai, Thailand.

2016 (28-30 October) Presentation of the paper “Subverting Genre: Bulletins, Manifesto and Poetry in the Hungry Generation”, *Fourth Conference on Bengal Related Studies for Students and Young Scholars*, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg.

2016 (24-25 June) Presentation of the paper “Radical Aesthetics as Resistance: Reading and Performing the Hungry Generation at University”, *Y-SASM* (Young South Asia Scholars Meet) on the topic “Transformations of the Political”, CeMIS (Centre for Modern Indian Studies), Georg-August-Universität Göttingen.

2016 (3-4 March) Presentation of the paper “Hungry and Obscene: Aesthetics of Death in the Bengali Hungry Generation movement”, *South Asia Graduate Student Conference* (SAGSC XIII) on the topic “Dying in South Asia”, University of Chicago.

2012 (15-17 May) Presentation of the paper “Receiving Gramsci in India: the Bengali translation of the *25th Prison Notebook*” (*La Ricezione di Gramsci in India: Traduzione del*

Quaderno 25 in Bengali), Seminario *Identity, cultures and politics in South Asia: Perspectives for a multidisciplinary study*, University L'Orientale of Naples.

Workshop

2017 (22-24 September) Presentation of one chapter from the doctoral thesis, 2017 *EASAS Doctoral Workshop Program*, Scuola Superiore per l'Alta Formazione PALAZZO DELLA CULTURA - Terra Murata, Procida, Università degli Studi L'Orientale di Napoli.

Book Presentation

2016 (17 April) Presentation of the book *Itihāser prāntosīmāy* (Gramsci's Notebook 25 translated from Italian to Bengali) with the participation of Prof. Nirmalya Narayan Chakraborty (Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata), Prof. Miguel Mellino (L'Orientale) and Prof. Francesco Sferra (L'Orientale), University L'Orientale of Naples.

EVENT ORGANIZATION

2021 – 2022

- "Mobile Texts: Filologie e Digital Humanities" (1/10/2021), in collaboration with Dipartimento di Italianistica, L'Orientale University of Naples.
- "Studies on Dharma in the Himalayan Region" (27-28 April, 2022), L'Orientale University of Naples.
- Tamil Śaivism Late-Summer School (19-30 September, 2022), Scuola di Procida – Centro di Alta Formazione dell'Università L'Orientale di Napoli.
- "Shaiva-Buddhist Encounters in Early Medieval East India" (13-14 October 2022), L'Orientale University of Naples

Naples, 27.10.2025

Le dichiarazioni rese nel presente documento sono da ritenersi rilasciate ai sensi degli artt. 46 e 47 del D.P.R. 445/2000.