

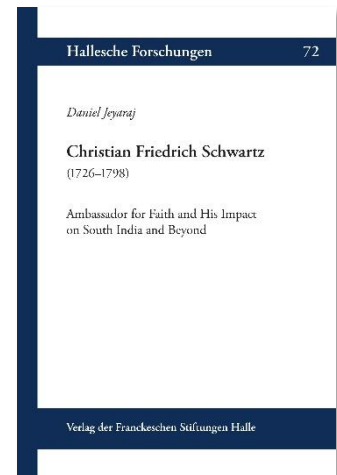


## Hallesche Forschungen

Im Auftrag der Franckeschen Stiftungen zu Halle herausgegeben von  
Veronika Albrecht-Birkner, Thomas Müller-Bahlke und Udo Sträter

Band 72

**Daniel Jeyaraj: Christian Friedrich Schwartz (1726–1798).** Ambassador for Faith and His Impact on South India and Beyond. Halle 2025 (Hallesche Forschungen, 72).  
XIX, 527 S., 3 Abb., € 89,00; ISBN 978-3-447-12407-2, eISBN 978-3-447-39699-8



Christian Friedrich Schwartz (1726–1798), a German Lutheran Pietist, was a towering figure in South Indian history. Educated at the Francke Foundations in Halle, he became a distinguished missionary and served the Tamils for 48 years during the turbulent era of the Company Raj. His diplomatic efforts with Hyder Ali (1721–1782) and his commitment to interfaith understanding set a profound precedent. He served as a confidant of Hindu King Tulaji (1738–1787) and guardian to his son, King Serfoji II (1777–1832), thereby ensuring the continuation of their lineage in Tanjore. Beyond that, his humanitarian works remain relevant to this day. He translated his theological convictions into practical reforms that uplifted communities. He advocated farmers' rights, designed a civil court of justice, and introduced smallpox vaccination. His influence also extended to finding a cure for rabies and snakebites. His Tamil and English-medium schools and churches continue to flourish, keeping his legacy alive.

This biography focuses on Schwartz's service to Indians, not British or German interests. Based on extensive archival sources in Tamil, German and English, it offers new insights into the remarkable life and works of a missionary whose contributions resonate vividly in and beyond South India.