

Neue Hallesche Berichte

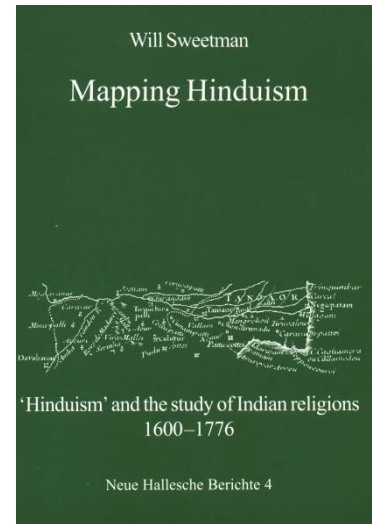
Quellen und Studien zur Geschichte und Gegenwart Südindiens

Herausgegeben von Michael Bergunder und Helmut Obst

Band 4

Will Sweetman: Mapping Hinduism. ›Hinduism‹ and the study of Indian religions, 1600–1776. Halle 2003 (Neue Hallesche Berichte, 4).

187 S., 1 Karte, € 9,80; ISBN 978-3-447-06317-3



The process by which Hinduism came to be constituted as an object of European study is often taken to be the most egregious example of the invention of a religion through the reification of disparate traditions of belief and practice and the projection of theological preconceptions or imperial ambitions. In this work Will Sweetman offers both a theoretical reconsideration of the status of the term Hinduism and an alternative historical account of its emergence in the eighteenth century based on consideration of early Dutch, English, French and German sources, demonstrating that its scope owes more to Indian ideas of religious affiliation and the time of its emergence more to the evolving modern concept of India as a geographical entity than either does to theological preconceptions or imperial ambitions.