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Religion Scholar to Speak on Satire in Colonial India

March 11, 2010

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – The 11th annual Religion Colloquium at Illinois Wesleyan University will cap off the 2009-2010 year with a special lecture by renowned scholar Paul Courtright.

A professor of religion at Emory University, Courtright will present “Irony and Satire in Colonial India,” at 5 p.m. on Friday, April 9 in Beckman Auditorium of The Ames Library (1 Ames Plaza East, Bloomington).

The event is free and open to the public.

Known for his focus on religions of South Asia, particularly Hinduism and religious change in 19th-century India, Courtright is the author of *Ganesa: Lord of Obstacles, Lord of Beginnings* (Oxford, 1985). He is also the co-editor of *From the Margins of Hindu Marriage: Essays in Gender, Culture and Religion* (Oxford, 1995), and various articles in the *Encyclopedia of Religion* (Macmillan, 1987; second edition, 2005). His talk at Illinois Wesleyan will touch on his current research on the role satire and caricature play in late 18th- and early 19th-century India.

Courtright has received research grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Council of Learned Societies, the American Institute of Indian Studies, the National Humanities Center and The Bill and Carol Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry at Emory University. He is currently completing *The Goddess and the Dreadful Practice* (Oxford, forthcoming).

Before Courtright’s remarks, the presentation of Senior Research Projects will take place in Beckman from 4-5 p.m.

For additional information, contact the Religion Department at (309) 556-3331.

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