

**החוג ללימודי מזרח אסיה באוניברסיטת תל אביב  
מתכבד להזמין אתכם לסמינר המחלקתי**

The Department of East Asian Studies at Tel Aviv University  
Cordially invite you to the Departmental Colloquium

**8/4**

**ד"ר רועי פישל**  
**SOAS University of London**

**הסדרה רטורית של מרחב סבוך:  
יחסים בין-דתיים  
בדקאן הטרומ-מודרני**

**יו"ר: ד"ר אילנית לוי שחם**

יום ב', 12:00-14:00, גילמן 278

Mon., 12:00-14:00, Gilman 278



Since colonial times, Indian historiography marked religion as a central factor in shaping politics and society. This notion has been supported by the language of early modern sources, which often employed hostile idioms to describe the religious 'Other'. In the Deccan, such reading lead to imagining a strict boundary dividing Muslim- and Hindu-ruled polities. Recent studies suggest that the boundary was in fact permeable, and the violent language was mere rhetoric. This view by itself, however, ignores the diversity within the sources. In this paper, I examine the ways in which early modern historiography composed in the Deccan Sultanates discuss their Hindu neighbours in Vijayanagara. Focusing on early seventeenth-century Persian chronicles, I argue that Vijayanagara emerges not only as 'Other', but also as a source of inspiration and imitation. As such, Muslim rulers employed these chronicles to resist Vijayanagara simultaneously with incorporating it into their political language of legitimacy.

