

Philosophy Department Colloquium Presents

Dr. Parimal Patil

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Friday – April 10, 2015 at 2:30PM

Sakamaki Hall C-308

Belief, Desire, and Moral Motivation in the Philosopher's Stone



It is unfortunate that metaethics has received relatively little attention by students of Sanskrit philosophy, particularly since ethics itself was not considered a proper part of philosophy by Sanskrit philosophers.

This paper focuses on the New Epistemologist Gaṅgeśa's theory of motivation to the means, his understanding of the sources of normativity, and his broadly Humean account of moral motivation.

Parimal G. Patil is Professor of Religion and Indian Philosophy at Harvard University, where he has been teaching since receiving his PhD from the University of Chicago in 2002. His primary academic interest is in the History of Philosophy in India and its relevance to more contemporary issues in Philosophy, South Asian Studies, and the study of Religion. His first two books, *Against a Hindu God* (Columbia 2009) and *Buddhist Philosophy of Language in India* (Columbia 2010) focused on issues in Buddhist epistemology, philosophy of mind, and philosophy of religion during the final phase of Buddhism in India.

