

East Meets West: Ancient Roman Contacts with South Asia

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From 200 BCE to about 400 CE the Roman Republic and later the Roman Empire maintained trade contacts with the kingdoms of South Asia, including South India and Sri Lanka. The Romans traded high quality wine and precious metals for gemstones, textiles, ivory, aromatic woods and spices. These commercial contacts matured into diplomatic and cultural relations. Describing this little-known story, Dr. Suresh will take us along the Roman route to South Asia and show us the beautiful goods and coins they left behind.

Dr. Suresh has received many international prizes, awards and fellowships for his research in archaeology and art history of South Asia. He holds one PhD in Classical Archaeology from Jawaharlal Nehru University and another in Medieval Indian Art from the University of Mysore. He has served as a visiting lecturer at the Sorbonne and lectured in Europe, the US, Southeast Asia, India and Sri Lanka, and worked with the US National Trust for Historic Preservation. In India he has filled many responsible positions, published several books, and is currently Research Coordinator for the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage in Tamilnadu. His permanent residence is in Chennai.

Thursday, Dec. 3 Pugh Hall 170 5:30 pm <http://campusmap.ufl.edu/#/index>

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