Contents

Istvan Keul Banāras Revisited: Introduction
Travis L. Smith Vārāṇasī Envisioned: Approaches to the Purāṇic Māhātmyas
Heinz Werner Wessler The Grammar of Assī: Kashinath Singh and globalizing Banāras
Mari Korpela Strong Vibes in Banāras: The views of Western sojourners on the Holy City
Mathieu Claveyrolas The Orthodox Banāras or the Purification of Hinduism
Rana P. B. Singh Banāras: Encountering the experiences and expositions of the spirit of place
Annette Wilke Banāras – City of Sound: Reflections on the aesthetics of religion and spaces of cultural perception
Irina Glushkova Banāras, the Concept of Tristhaļī(-yātrā) and the Inflow of the Marathas: An alternative view
Savitri Jalais Walking the Ghāṭs: A measured approach to the Banāras riverfront
Vasudha Dalmia Storming Citadels

6 Contents

Hillary Rodrigues	
Guides to Śiva's Beloveds:	
Teachers, friends, and helpers at the sacred threshold of Banāras	. 159
Xenia Zeiler	
Ethno-Indology Expanded:	
Researching mediatized religions in South Asia	. 173
Marc J. Katz	
Moments of Discovery in the City of Light:	
Proud tribals, Viśvanāth plays Holī, and the Potter's Taziya	. 191
Reinhold Schein	
Enchantment and Repulsion: Two Austrian littérateurs in Banāras	207
Nita Kumar	
Academic Pilgrimages: What I learnt on studying Banāras	219
Mikael Aktor	
'God Has Many Hands': Unauthorised informants and informative	
relationships during fieldwork in Banāras	233
Paul Younger	
Experiencing Banāras in the 1950s: Colonial ghosts and village tradition	247
István Keul	
Formative Encounters? Field notes of Banāras	259
Contributors	275
Index	