

LIN, Chia-Wei

Assistante diplômée

Section de langues et civilisations slaves et de l'Asie du Sud

Université de Lausanne

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Education

- 09.2023 – present 📖 **PhD student, Université de Lausanne**
Dissertation project: *The Buddha's Journey to the West — Barlaam and Josaphat in the Eurasian Linguistic Context*
(Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Ingo Strauch)
- Extra courses in linguistics, digital humanities (Unil) and computer science (EPFL)
- 04.2021 – 09.2023 📖 **MA, Indo-European Linguistics, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena**
MA Thesis title: *The Pahlavi Psalter — Linguistic Commentary with a Synoptic Edition*
(Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Martin J. Kümmel, Dr. Benedikt Peschl)
- Honours Program for Future Researchers 2023
- 09.2021 – 09.2023 📖 **MA, Semitic Philology, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena**
MA Thesis title: *"Plato Before the Door of India!" — Transcriptions and Translations in al-Bīrūnī's Taḥqīq mā li-l-Hind*
- 📖 **Zertifikat: Georgische Sprach- und Kulturstudien, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena**
Completed courses: Georgian I-IV, seminars on Caucasian linguistics
- 09.2017 – 02.2021 📖 **BA, Classical Philology and South Asian Studies, Ruprechts-Karls-Universität Heidelberg**
BA Thesis title: *The *Ārya-vasiṣṭha-sūtra in Raṣīd ad-Dīn's Ġāmi' at-Tawārīḥ: Text, Translation and Commentary*
(Supervisor: Dr. Mudagamuwe Maithrimurthi, Prof. Dr. Michael Radich).
- Extra courses in Semitic Studies, Assyriology, Jewish Studies, and Buddhist Studies
- Certificate in Celtology (Prof. George Broderick), Universität Mannheim
- 📖 **Certificates in machine learning and computer science:**
- Deep Learning Specialization (Deeplearning.ai)
- PyTorch for Deep Learning (Deeplearning.ai)
- Natural Language Processing Specialization (Deeplearning.ai)
- Mathematics for Machine Learning and Data Science Specialization (Deeplearning.ai)
- AI for Medicine Specialization (Deeplearning.ai)
- Algorithms Specialization (Stanford Online)
- Digital Signal Processing (Coursera-EPFL)
- Machine Learning Scientist career track (Datacamp)



Employment

- 09.2023 – present  **Assistante diplômée**, Section de langues et civilisations slaves et de l'Asie du Sud, Université de Lausanne
- 12.2025 – present  **Social Media Manager** (volunteer), *The Digital Orientalist* (digitalorientalist.com)
- 09.2021 – 09.2023  **Research assistant**, DFG-project “Belegwörterbuch der sabäischen Sprache“ (Prof. Dr. Norbert Nebes)
- 09.2019 – 04.2023  **Research assistant**, DFG-project “Intertextuality in the Chinese Buddhist Canon: Computational-Philological Assessment of Sources, Authorship/Translatorship, and Style” (Prof. Dr. Michael Radich)
- 10.2020 – 09.2021  **Research assistant**, DFG-Project “Die Konstruktion japanischer buddhistischer Identitäten in der Begegnung mit Sri Lanka, 1882-1893” (Dr. Stephan Kigensan Licha)
- 02.2018 – 09.2020  **Student assistant**, Professorship for Buddhist Studies, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg (Prof. Dr. Michael Radich)
- 10.2018 – 03.2019  **Student assistant**, Humboldt Research Fellowship “The Ethics of Empty Beliefs” (Dr. Rafal Stepień)

Publications

- Forthcoming  **Lin, Chia-Wei**, Diego Luinetti “Building a Treebank for the Book of Ezra of Old Georgian Oshki Bible.” *Journal of Open Humanities Data*. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18157525>.
- 2026  Ishac, Ephrem Aboud, Christine Roughan, Julius Balski, Nima Jamali, Jeanette Kilicci, **Chia-Wei Lin**, Andrei Macar, et al. 2026. “HTR winter school 2025 - syriac, MS jerusalem, saint mark’s monastery 36.” Zenodo, 5 janvier 2026. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18157525>.
- 2025  **Lin, Chia-Wei**. 2025. ‘The Buddha’s Journey to the West: The Textual Traditions of Barlaam and Josaphat from a Linguistic Perspective’. *Hualin International Journal of Buddhist Studies* 8 (2). <https://doi.org/10.15239/hijbs.o8.o2.o8>.
-  **Lin, Chia-Wei**. 2025. ‘Scriptio Buddhica, Interpretatio Islamica: Buddhist Sūtras and Cultural Translation in Rašīd al-Dīn’s Ġāmi‘ al-Tawārīḥ’. In *Connected Philology*, edited by Korinna Gonschorek, Marco Pouget, Luis Schäfer, et al. Berlin: De Gruyter. <https://doi.org/doi:10.1515/9783111432861-003>.

Teaching and online reading groups

- 2026 spring semester  **Littératures moyen-indiennes (niveau 3)** (together with Prof. Ingo Strauch), Université de Lausanne
-  **Sanskrit intermédiaire : syntaxe et traduction (niveau 2)** (together with Prof. Ingo Strauch), Université de Lausanne

Teaching and online reading groups (continued)

- 2025 autumn semester 📖 **Sanskrit intermédiaire : lectures de textes (niveau 2)**, Université de Lausanne
- 2025 spring semester 📖 **Langues moyen-indiennes : lecture de textes simples (niveau 2)** (together with Prof. Ingo Strauch), Université de Lausanne
- 2024 autumn semester 📖 **Introduction aux langues moyen-indiennes : grammaire (niveau 1)**, Université de Lausanne
- 2023&24 autumn semester 📖 **Introduction au bouddhisme indien** (teaching assistant of Prof. Ingo Strauch), Université de Lausanne
- 7.11.2025-Present 📖 **Tangut Reading Group**, online
- 15.04.2025-Present 📖 **Pali Jataka Reading Group**, online
- 15.02.2025-Present 📖 **Old Georgian Reading Group** (together with Dr. Adam Bremer-McCollum), online
- 30.08.2025-Present 📖 **Syriac Reading Group**, online



Conference presentations & invited talks

- 26–28.03.2026 📖 **LLM-assisted dataset building for ancient low-resource languages: Old Georgian, Tangut, and Pali**
Unil@AI Day
Université de Lausanne
- 18.05.2026 📖 **Towards a typology of orthography of Indic loanwords in Mainland Southeast Asian Languages**
linguistics PhD Day
Conférence universitaire de Suisse occidentale, Université de Genève
- 26–28.03.2026 📖 **Georgian as the Bridge Language: Balavariani and Abukura in the Context of Arabic-Georgian-Greek Translation**
Translating the Past: Transtemporal Mediations of Central Asia
University of Wrocław
- 17.01.2026 📖 **Georgian Oshki Bible Ezra as a translation from Armenian ქართული ოშკის ბიბლია ეზრა როგორც სომხურიდან თარგმანი** (together with Dr. Diego Luinetti)
International Scientific Conference dedicated to Academician Mzekala Shanidze
online
- 8–12.09.2025 📖 **Towards a typology of orthography of Indic loanwords in Mainland Southeast Asian Languages**
35. Deutscher Orientalistentag
Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg
- 📖 **Diagnostic linguistic features of Christian Old Georgian texts translated from Arabic**
35. Deutscher Orientalistentag
Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg
- 📖 **Aramaicograms and Syriac loanwords in the Middle Persian Psalter in light of the world's heterographic traditions**
35. Deutscher Orientalistentag
Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg












Conference presentations & invited talks (continued)

- 11–13.06.2025  ***Pattern replication and Semitic syntax as diagnostic features for identifying medieval Arabic-Georgian translations***
Caucasian Linguistics: Recent Advances and Emerging Topics
Maison Internationale des Langues et des Cultures, Lyon
- 04–06.06.2025  ***Multilingual Encounters in the Buddha Biography in Rašid al-Dīn's Compendium of Chronicles***
Translation and Multilingualism in Mongol and Post-Mongol Eurasia
Universität Münster
- 23.05.2025  Chair of Session III: Tangut in Situ
Tangut and Qiangic in situ
Institute d'études avancées de Paris
- 16.05.2025  ***Diagnostic linguistic features for identifying medieval Georgian translations from Arabic sources***
linguistics PhD Day 2025
Conférence universitaire de Suisse occidentale, Université de Lausanne
- 11.03.2025  ***The Jātaka Stories in the Balavariani***
Atelier de recherche SLAS
Université de Lausanne
- 28.11.2024  ***Syriac and Iranic Influences on Chinese Jingjiao Documents***
Sinology Colloquium
Universität Zürich
- 14–16.11.2024  ***al-Birūnī on Metempsychosis and his Greek and Sanskrit Sources***
La métempsychose en Islam
Aix-Marseille Université
- 17–19.10.2024  ***Translating the Buddha's Life Story into Georgian —Balavariani in the Eurasian linguistic context***
Diverse Lives: Narratives of Śākyamuni Buddha in Text and Image
Musée du Mariemont
- 10–11.10.2024  ***Linguistic features and "Semiticisms" in Arabic-Georgian Translations — with focus on Balavariani***
Approche linguistique des traductions entre langues anciennes: l'exemple des traductions du corpus bouddhiques
Aix-Marseille Université
- 30.08–01.09.2024  ***The Buddha's Journey to the West: The textual tradition of Barlaam and Josaphat***
When Himalaya Meets the Alps: The Past, Present and Future of Asia-Europe
Buddhist and Other Religious Exchanges
University of Cambridge
- 17–26.07.2024  ***The Buddha in Caucasus: Balavariani in the Eurasian Linguistic Context***
7th International Summer School Georgian Manuscript
Korneli Kekelidze National Centre of Manuscripts
- 04.06.2024  ***Le Bouddha au Caucase: Traduire la biographie du Bouddha en géorgien***
Les défis de la relève en linguistique et sciences du langage
CLSL, Université de Lausanne
- 26.03.2024  ***The Buddha's Journey to the West — Barlaam and Josaphat in the Eurasian Linguistic Context***
Les défis de la relève en linguistique et sciences du langage
CLSL, Université de Lausanne



Conference presentations & invited talks (continued)

- 07-08.12.2023  ***Pahlavi Psalter, Psalter Pahlavi – Reconsidering the Aramaeograms in the Pahlavi Psalter***
Conceptualising Sacred Languages and Their Visual Inimitability
SOAS, University of London
- 14-16.06.2023  ***Scriptio buddhica, interpretatio islamica—The *Ārya- vasiṣṭha-sūtra in Rašīd al-Din's Ġāmi' at-Tawāriḥ***
International Conference: Beyond Comparison
IDK Philology, LMU München
- 27.04.2023  ***Scriptio buddhica, interpretatio islamica—The *Ārya- vasiṣṭha-sūtra in Rašīd al-Din's Ġāmi' at-Tawāriḥ***
Colloquium Kalīla wa-Dimna – AnonymClassic
Fachbereich Arabistik, Freie Universität Berlin



Workshops

- 11.12-13.12.2025  **HTR Winter School 2025: Syriac Group**
Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Vienna
- 27.10-01.11.2025  **Doctoral school Current Developments in Research on Middle Chinese and Buddhist Hybrid Chinese**
Presentation: Syriac and Iranian Influences on Chinese Jingjiao Documents
Universiteit Gent
- 21.07-21.08.2025  **Leiden Summer School in Languages and Linguistics**
Courses: An Introduction to Arabic Paleography and Epigraphy; Comparative Semitics
Universiteit Leiden & online
- 21-25.07.2025  **Coptic Summer School**
Advanced Coptic
Facoltà Valdese di Teologia, Rome & online
- 10-19.07.2025  **Université d'été en langues de l'orient**
Égyptien démotique; Métrique arabe ('arūḍ)
Venice International University
- 16-28.06.2025  **Summer School for Ancient Trans-Himalayan Languages**
Tangut, Old Tibetan, Old Chinese, Newar
Trinity College Dublin
- 28-31.01.2025  **Tradurre l'India. Itinerari linguistici, letterari e religiosi nelle varietà del medio indiano**
Aśoka Gandhārī, Pāli, Apabhraṃśa
Università di bologna
- 02-07.09.2024  **6th International Summer School for Indo-European Linguistics**
Anatolian, Avestan, Mycenaean, Italic, Indo-European Mythology and Poetics
Poster:
Università di Pavia
- 19-30.08.2024  **Language and Culture in the Borderlands of the Eastern Silk Road**
Bactrian, Tocharian, Tangut, Gandhari
Universität Wien
- 14-27.02.2024  **Norms of Pāṇini's grammar and Vedic linguistic praxis**
Università degli Studi di Cagliari
- 04.01-02.02.2024  **Lithuanian Language and Culture Winter Course 2024**
Scholarship awarded by Lithuanian government
Kauno fakultetas, Vilnaus Universitetas


Workshops (continued)

- 25-28.09.2023  **Qur'anic manuscripts past and present: Cataloging and digital tools**
BBAW & Staatsbibliothek Berlin
- 24-28.09.2023  **International Summer School: Forms of Heteronomous Texts in Antiquity and Byzantium and Methods of Research**
Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena
- 09-18.08.2023  **TACL Summer School**
Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg
- 24-27.07.2023  **Erste Sommerschule für Syrische Sprache und Literatur**
Goethe Universität Frankfurt
- 18-23.02.2023  **Masterclass Cuneiform Epigraphy**
Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg
- 19-23.07.2023  **Jena Summer School for Indo-European Linguistics**
Classical Armenian
Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena










Languages

- Modern Languages  **Native:** Mandarin Chinese, Taiwanese Minnan
Fluent: English, German, French
Reading: Japanese, Italian
- Philological Languages  **Focus of Research:**
Vedic/Classical/Buddhist Hybrid Sanskrit, Pali & Middle Indic, Middle Persian, Ancient and Medieval Greek, Classical Syriac, Classical Arabic, Old and Middle Georgian, Classical and Middle Armenian
Intermediate:
Classical Latin, Biblical Hebrew, Classical Chinese, Classical Tibetan, Tangut, Coptic, Akkadian, Rabbinic Hebrew & Medieval Aramaic dialects, Classical Ethiopic

Digital skills

-  Microsoft Office, L^AT_EX, HTML, JavaScript, XML-TEI, SQL
C++, Python, PyTorch, Tensorflow (with knowledge of NLP, computer vision, machine learning and deep learning)

Research interests

-  Christian and Buddhist translations on the Silk Road
-  Translations of Greek and Indian sciences into Arabic and Syriac
-  History of linguistics and mathematics (Graeco-Arabic, Indic, Sinitic)
-  Language contact on the Silk Road
-  Language contact between Indic and Southeast Asian languages
-  Languages of Caucasus (esp. Armenian and Georgian)
-  Historical linguistics of Indo-Iranian languages
-  Historical linguistics of Arabic and Aramaic languages
-  Natural language processing (NLP) and computational linguistics for ancient languages

Research interests (continued)

- Optical character recognition (OCR) and handwritten text recognition (HTR) for historical manuscripts