

Seminar SAW
**Exploring 19th and 20th centuries historiographies of mathematics in
the ancient world, 2015-2016**

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**Historiography of science, ideologies and identities
(culture, civilisation, communities)**

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Vedic Mathematics and its historiography of «hindu» mathematics

Abstract – « Vedic Mathematics » can be the name of many things. It is the title of a book published posthumously in 1962 by a religious figure, the Śaṅkarācārya of the Puri Maṭh. Here, we will look at the posterity of the book, its enduring commercial and political success since the 1990's, especially analyzing the different meanings these two words came to mean, and the images of India's mathematical past they carried.