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# Einladung zum Vortrag

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## Physiognomic Omens in the Gārgīyajyotiṣa

**Freitag, 7. Dezember 15h c.t.**

Seminarraum 1,  
Institut für Südasien-, Tibet- und Buddhismuskunde,  
AAKH, Spitalgasse 2, Hof 2.7  
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This lecture seeks to present an overview of the physiognomic material from a single chapter, divided into two sections, corresponding to the *strīlakṣaṇa*, “marks of women,” and the *puruṣalakṣaṇa*, “marks of men.” The chapter begins with the latter, followed by the former, without a clear separation between the two and occurs rather late in the Jyotiṣa-compilation, called the *Gārgīyajyotiṣa*, which is not to be confused with the late purāṇic *Gargasamhitā*. The work is found only in manuscripts, so investigation is still at its infancy. Nevertheless, Pingree (based on Mitchiner) claims it to be the earliest extant Jyotiṣa-compilation, dating from around the 1<sup>st</sup> cent. C.E. He further speculates that it could well contain elements that connect it with similar types of systems of divination and their literature coming from the Greek-speaking world, such as does the *Yavanaajātaka* of Sphujidhvaja. Therefore, this lecture will also pay attention to possible similarities to older and more-western forms of physiognomy found in ancient Mesopotamia and ancient Greece.