

Julius Lipner, *The History of Indian Philosophy and the Periodization of Vedānta*

In the first part of the paper, certain methodological questions crucial to the study of periodization are taken up, since periodization is a form of classification and classification implies a mechanism of control. Periodization is then considered in terms of two possible regulating images. From this we arrive at the nature of periodization in terms of one image and the role of historical influence in the process. The nature of the criteria of periodization is then considered. Frauwallner's case is reviewed as an example violating the purpose and role of periodization.

The second part of the paper deals with the periodization of Vedānta in the light of the methodological issues raised in the first part, since we now have a means of proceeding. The meanings of Vedānta; Vedānta as a "philosophy" and its conceptual parameters with reference to the main concerns of the Upanishads are then dealt with. Various criteria for the periodizing Vedānta and its denominations are also considered.