

The Center For South Asia Studies  
**19th Annual South Asia Conference**  
University of California, Berkeley  
International House  
2229 Piedmont Ave. Berkeley, Ca  
Friday/Saturday, February 13/14, 2004

**Agenda**

**Friday, February 13**

Session 1  
9:00 - 10:30 AM

**Panel 1: Theorizing the South Asian City**

**Chair:** Ananya Roy

*Location: Homeroom*

- "An Outline of Urbanization in South Asia: Conceptualizing the Long Duration"  
James Heitzman, Department of History, Georgia State University
- "Models of the Sacred and the City in South Asia"  
Smriti Srinivas, Department of Anthropology, UC Davis
- "Dislocating Urban Studies"  
Ananya Roy, Department of City and Regional Planning, UC Berkeley

**Panel 2: Complicity and Conflict: Gender, Religion, Aesthetics, and the Indigenous Elite in Colonial South Asia**

**Chair:** Eugene Irschick, Department of History, UC Berkeley

**Discussant:** Santosh Shankar

*Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room*

- "The Politics of Sedition: Colonial Censorship and the Rebel Poet of Bengal"  
Samarpita Mitra, Department of History, Syracuse University
- "The Changing Political Discourse around Child Marriage in Late Colonial India"  
Amrita Banerjee
- "Determining the Religion of India: Hinduism and Colonial Practice in Early Nineteenth Century"  
Varuni Bhatia

Session 2  
10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

**Panel 3: Trying to Hang on and Hold Things Together: Challenges to the Integrity of Pakistan and the Longevity of Its Current Leadership**

**Chair and Discussant:** Charles Kennedy, Wake Forest University

*Location: Homeroom*

- "A Dummy's Guide to Guided Democracy: Musharraf and the Pakistani Military Governance Paradigm"  
Charles H. Kennedy, Wake Forest University
- "Experimenting with Democratic Governance: The Impact of the Local Government Ordinance, 2001 on the Pakistani Bureaucracy"  
Saeed Shafqat, Columbia University
- "The Domestic Politics of Pakistan's Nuclear Policy"  
Peter R. Lavoy, Naval Postgraduate School

**Panel 4: Idealization, Reconfiguration and Exclusion: The Spectrum of Reception of India by Western Thinkers**

**Chair:** Sai Bhatawadekar

**Discussant:** Susmita Sundaram, Ohio State University

*Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room*

- "India in the Russian Silver Age: Konstantin Bal'mont's Reading of India."  
Susmita Sundaram

- "Reconfiguration of India by the West: Interpretations of Indian Religious Concepts in Hegel and Schopenhauer"  
Sai Bhatawadekar
- "On 'Other' Roads : Pushing the Disciplinary Frontiers of Rhetoric."  
Subhasree Chakravarty

Session 3

1:30 - 3:00 PM

**Panel 5: Criminality and the Postcolonial Subject of Order**

**Chair:** Lucinda Ramberg, Department of Anthropology, UC Berkeley

**Discussant:** Donald Moore, Department of Anthropology, UC Berkeley

*Location: Homeroom*

- "Our Crime to Commit: Urban Space and Subjects in Karachi's Democratic Transition"  
Tahir Naqvi, Department of Anthropology, UC Berkeley
- "My Thieving Monkey Heart': Engaging the Criminal Animal"  
Anand Pandian, Department of Anthropology, UC Berkeley
- "The Wrath of the Devi: Contemporary Reform and Devadasi Ethics in Karnataka"  
Lucinda Ramberg, Department of Anthropology, UC Berkeley

**Panel 6: Resisting Tradition in Women's Literature**

**Chair:** Bonnie Zare, Women's Studies Program, University of Wyoming

**Discussant:** Nalini Iyer, English Department, Seattle University

*Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room*

- "Arranged Marriages: Resistance and Tradition in South Asian Diasporic Writing"  
Nalini Iyer, English Department, Seattle University
- "The Role of Pleasure in the Novels of Shashi Deshpande"  
Bonnie Zare, Women's Studies, University of Wyoming
- "Writing the Lines of our Hands "  
Pireeni Sunderlingam and Summi Kaipa, poets
- "Subverting Colonial Inscriptions of Race and Gender"  
V.G. Julie Rajan, Comparative Literature Department, Rutgers University

Session 4

3:15 - 4:45 PM

**Panel 7: Sites of Memory: Practices and Representations of the Muslim Past**

**Chair:** Muzaffar Alam, University of Chicago

**Discussant:** Munis Faruqui, University of Dayton

*Location: Homeroom*

- "Death of Muhammad b. Qasim in History and Memory"  
Manan Ahmed, University of Chicago
- "Shaikh Jalal Mujarrad of Sylhet: Exploration of History and Memory in Sufic Bengal"  
Edward Yazijian, University of Chicago
- "Nostalgia and Political Abjection: Hali's Musaddas and Gupt's Bharat-Bharati"  
Guriqbal Sahota, University of Chicago

**Panel 8: Transnational South Asia**

**Chair & Discussant:** Bakirathi Mani, Department of English Literature, Swarthmore College

*Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room*

- "World-Menace": Nationalism and Public Health in Katherine Mayo's Mother India"  
Asha Nadkarni, Department of English, Brown University
- "Freedoms of Expression in States of Democracy"  
Maya Dodd, Program in Modern Thought & Literature, Stanford University
- "Women, Faith, and Bodily Practice: Pakistani Muslim Women in Toronto"  
Lalaie Ameeriar, Department of Cultural and Social Anthropology, Stanford University

5:00 PM: **Reception**

*Location: Great Hall*

6:30 PM: **Screening of Satyjit Ray's "Aranyer Din Ratri" (Days and Nights in the Forest)**

*Location: Chevron Auditorium*

### **Saturday, February 14**

Session 5:

9:00 - 10:30 AM

#### **Panel 9: Cinema in a changing world: film in the imaginary of the subcontinent, 1920-1955**

**Organizer:** Sharmistha Gooptu, University of Chicago

**Chair:** Vinay Lal, University of California, Los Angeles

**Discussants:** Vinay Lal, University of California, Los Angeles and Poonam Arora, University of Michigan

*Location: Homeroom*

- "Contestations of identity and the reception of silent film in India: 1910-1935"  
Babli Sinha, University of Chicago
- "An appeal beyond aesthetics: an exploration of the iconicity of New Theatres"  
Sharmistha Gooptu, University of Chicago
- "Metaphors and melodrama: Hindi film poetics in the years 1948-1955"  
Bulbul Tiwari, University of Chicago

#### **Panel 10: Replicating the Sainly Life: Communal Reinventions of Hagiographic Narratives in South India**

**Chair:** Archana Ventakesan

**Discussant:** Indira Peterson, Columbia University

*Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room*

- "Who Attended the Wedding? A Paper on the Miraculous Marriage of Antal and Ranganatha as recounted in the Guruparampara-prabhavavam 6000 and the Divyasuricaritam"  
Archana Venkatesan, Department of Religious Studies, St. Lawrence University
- "Poison Icons in Modern Tales of the Deathless Body: Narrative Change and the Commodification of Murugan at Palani"  
Layne Little, The First Year Program, St. Lawrence University

Session 6

10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

#### **Panel 11: In and Out of the Colonial Frame: Histories of Photography in Nineteenth Century South Asia**

**Chair:** Joanna Williams, History of Art, University of California at Berkeley

**Discussant:** Omar A. Khan, Author of From Kashmir to Kabul: The Photographs of Burke and Baker 1860-1900 and founder of Harrapa.com

*Location: Homeroom*

- "Shifting Bodies: Postcards of Nautch Girls from Colonial Ceylon"  
Sujatha Meegama, History of Art, University of California at Berkeley
- "The Living Temple as a Space of Ruins: Documentary Photography in British India"  
Gita Pai, South and Southeast Asian Studies, University of California at Berkeley
- "Lala Deen Dayal's Colonial Carnavalesque: Of Masquerade and Mimicry in Nineteenth Century Indian Photography"  
Sonal Khullar, History of Art, University of California at Berkeley

#### **Panel 12: Diaspora - Space and Identity**

**Organizer:** Reena Mehta, University of California, Berkeley

**Chair:** Mary Hancock, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Barbara

**Discussant:** Akhil Gupta, Department of Anthropology, Stanford University

*Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room*

- "Spaces for a New Public Presence: Temples, Auditoriums and the Streets in Suburban Washington DC."  
Joanne Waghorne, Department of Religion, University of Syracuse
- "Memories of space and place among the Oriya Diaspora of the Bay area"  
Annapurna Pandey, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Cruz

- “A Space for signification: The construction and negotiation of Hindu religious identities in one Diasporic Temple”  
Norris Palmer, Department of Religious Studies, Saint Mary's College of California

Session 7

1:30 - 3:00 PM

**Panel 13: Vexed Bodies: Crises of Embodiment in Modern India**

**Chair:** Parama Roy

**Discussant:** Anjali Arondekar, Depart of Women's Studies, UC Santa Cruz

*Location: Homeroom*

- “Infant body politics, porno-Brahmins: calendar art’s vernacularisation of public and private”  
Kajri Jain, Australian Research Council Postdoctoral Fellow, School of Communication and Creative Arts, Deakin University
- “Anatomies of Aversion”  
Parama Roy, Department of English, University of California, Riverside
- “Experimental Medicine: Gandhi, ‘The Quack Whom We Know’”  
Sandhya Shetty, Department of English, University of New Hampshire

**Panel 14: Ideologies, Identities, and Politics in the Making of Gujarat, c. 1890s-1940s**

**Chair:** Vinayak Chaturvedi, UC Irvine

**Discussant:** Eugene Irschick, UC Berkeley

*Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room*

- “The Mind of Castes: Identity and Agency in Gujarati-speaking Western India”  
Samira Sheikh, Junior Research Fellow, Wolfson College, Oxford University
- “Princely Baroda and the Hindu Imaginary: Exploring the Cartography of Hindu Nationalism in Colonial India”  
Manu Bhagavan, Department of History and Political Science, Manchester College
- “Peasant Discourses on Political Ethics, Gujaratis and Hat-wearers in Colonial India”  
Vinayak Chaturvedi, Department of History, UC Irvine Department of History

Session 8

3:15 - 4:45 PM

**A Screening of the film "Amartya Sen: A Life Reexamined" followed by a discussion with the director, Suman Ghosh**

*Location: Homeroom*

**Panel 16: “Dueling Narratives: Finding Centers for Stories of the Nation”**

**Chair:** Thomas Metcalf

**Discussant:** Anand Yang

*Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room*

- "The Culture of Elections Provides a Key to the Plot"  
David Gilmartin, North Carolina State University
- "Visual Culture Offers the Central Insight"  
Sandria Freitag, University of California-Santa Cruz
- “Social Reform and the National Narrative: Women Define the Narrative Conflict”  
Barbara Metcalf, University of Michigan

Session 9

6:30 PM

**Screening of Goutam Ghose's "Abar Aranye" (In the Forest Again)**

*Location: Wheeler Auditorium*