

The Center For South Asia Studies
20th Annual South Asia Conference
University of California, Berkeley
International House
2229 Piedmont Ave. Berkeley, Ca
Friday/Saturday, February 11/12, 2005

Agenda

Friday, February 11

Session 1
9:00 - 10:30 AM

Panel 1: Speculum of the Other Nation: Space, Place and Gender in Indian Film and Literature

Chair: Sudipto Chatterjee

Discussant: Lawrence Cohen, Department of Anthropology, UC Berkeley

Location: Homeroom

- “Cinema and the Disjuncture of Modernity: Shantaram’s ‘Aadmi’”
Anupama Prabhala Kapse, Department of Film Studies, UC Berkeley
- “How Maps Lie: A Reading of ‘The Shadow Lines’”
Rani Neutill, Department of Ethnic Studies, UC Berkeley
- “Bombay Cinema and the Production of the Transnational Family”
Monika Mehta, Department of Radio, Television, and Film, University of Texas at Austin

Panel 2: Colonial Knowledge and the Interpretation of Identities in South Asia

Chair: Aparna Balachandran

Discussant: Ishita Pande, Department of History, Princeton University

Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room

- “Negotiating Christianity, Caste and Colonialism: Vedanayaka Sastriar’s Critique of Christian Mission in Tamil Nadu”
Aparna Balachandran, Department of History, Columbia University
- “Managing Sex for ‘Public Health’: Colonial Medicine and Racial Identities in Colonial Bengal, 1860s to 1890s”
Ishita Pande, Department of History, Princeton University
- “Parsi Identity, Intermarriage and the Law: From Ghandy v. Wadia (1903) to Dinbal v. Erachshaw D. Todyvala (1916)”
Mitra Sharafi, Department of History, Princeton University

Session 2
10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

Panel 3: Religion and Political Culture in Modern South Asia

Chair: Cassie Adcock

Discussant: Raka Ray, Department of Sociology, UC Berkeley

Location: Homeroom

- “Constituting ‘Freedom’: Strategies of Religious Controversy in Colonial North India”
Cassie Adcock, Department of Religion, University of Chicago
- “Sab ka malik ek? Mandirs and the Production of Locality on Mumbai’s Streets”
Will Elison, Department of Religion, University of Chicago
- “Contentious Duties: On the Origins of Militancy in Gujarat”
Arafat A. Valiani, Department of Sociology, Columbia University

Panel 4: The Princely States of South India: From the Agrarian Perspectives

Chair: Y. H. Nayakwadi

Discussant: K. S. Shivanna

Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room

- “British Intervention in Hyderabad State: The Changes in Agrarian Socio-Economic Structure”
Y. H. Nayakwadi, Department of History, University of Mysore

- “Expansion of Wet Agriculture and the Rise of Vokkaligas in the Princely State of Mysore”
A. Somashekara, Department of History, Karnataka State Open University
- “Plantation Agriculture and its Socio-Economic Impact in the Princely State of Mysore”
D. C. Rajappa, Tirumal Trust, Davangere Karnataka

Session 3

1:30 - 3:00 PM

Panel 5: Trends in Computing for Human Development in India

Chair: Sergiu Nedevschi

Discussant: Richa Kumar, Program in Science, Technology and Society, MIT

Location: Homeroom

- “Akshaya: India's First District-wide E-literacy Infrastructure”
Sergiu Nedevschi, Department of Computer Science, UC Berkeley
Rabin Patra, Department of Computer Science, UC Berkeley
- “Bringing Devices to the Masses: A Comparative Study of the Brazilian Computador Popular and the Indian Simputer”
Rodrigo Fronseca, Department of Computer Science, UC Berkeley
Joyojeet Pal, Department of City and Regional Planning, UC Berkeley
- “Traders and Farmers in a Site of Contested Power: India's eChoupals”
Richa Kumar, Program in Science, Technology and Society, MIT

Panel 6: Crossing Over: Literary Transformations of Historical Narratives in Medieval Texts

Chair: Michael Bednar

Discussant: Ramya Sreenivasan, History, University of Buffalo

Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room

- “Indic Buddhist Textual Practice and History: The Composition of Mahayana Texts in Medieval Khotan”
Warner Belanger, Harvard University
- “What is Rajput? The Muslim as Exemplary Rajput in Three Fifteenth-Century Texts”
Michael Bednar, University of Texas at Austin

Session 4

3:15 - 4:45 PM

Panel 7: Experts and the History of Science and Technology in India

Chair: Sudhir Mahadevan

Discussant: Kavita Philip, Women Studies Program, UC Irvine

Location: Homeroom

- “Amateurs, Professionals and Itinerants: The Consolidation of the Photographic Business in Colonial India”
Sudhir Mahadevan, Department of Cinema Studies, New York University
- “The Professional Authority of a Chemist: William Popplewell Bloxam at Dalsingserai and the University of Leeds, 1902-1908”
Prakash Kumar, Department of History, Yale University
- “Translating Expertise Across Disciplines and Institutions: An Analysis of Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Research in India”
Amit Prasad, School of Public Administration, University of New Mexico

Panel 8: (Re)Defining Boundaries: Power, Resistance and the Nation in Public Space

Chair: Anu Sabhlok

Discussant: Jennifer Fluri, Department of Geography, Pennsylvania State University

Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room

- “(Re)Imagining the Nation: Women's Organizations in Gujarat, India”
Anu Sabhlok, Department of Women's Studies, Pennsylvania State University
- “Memorializing the Partition in Punjab: Landscapes of Contentious Memory”
Jitesh Malik, Department of Landscape Architecture, Pennsylvania State University
- “Indigenous Philanthropy, Citizenship, and the Public Sphere in Colonial Western India”
Uma Asher, Department of History, Pennsylvania State University

5:00 PM: **Reception**

Location: Great Hall

6:30 PM: **Keynote Lecture**

Location: Chevron Auditorium

Saturday, February 12

Session 5:

9:00 - 10:30 AM

Panel 9: Mourning Becomes the Nation? Death, Loss, Spectrality, and (Im) Possible Narratives of Nationhood

Chair: Sukanya Banerjee

Discussant: Parama Roy, Department of Women's Studies, San Francisco State University

Location: Homeroom

- “Recovering Masculinity: Mourning, Melancholia, and Scripts of Nation”
Sukanya Banerjee, Department of English, University of Wisconsin
- “Mourn the Living’: Anglo-Indians in *Midnight's Children*”
Deepika Bahri, Department of English, Emory University
- “Plantation Women Speak Trauma/History: Tea, Starvation and 'India Shining'”
Piya Chatterjee, Department of Women's Studies, University of California, Riverside

Panel 10: Colonial Knowledge and Empire

Discussant: Vasudha Dalmia, UC Berkeley

Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room

- “Knowledge, Tradition and Modernity in Hali's *Musaddas*”
Abhishek Kaiker, University of British Columbia
- “Reformulating Indian Religion: Missionaries and Indian Religions in Nineteenth-Century Bombay”
Mitchell Numark, University of California, Los Angeles

Session 6

10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

Panel 11: Writing History, Creating Pasts

Chair: Ronald Inden

Discussant: Ronald Inden, University of Chicago

Location: Homeroom

- “Imagined Sindh: Orientalist, Nationalist and post-Nationalist Constructions of Sindhi Nation”
Manan Ahmed, University of Chicago
- “We have here a new country and a new people...’: Colonial History in India and the English National Interest”
Jason Freitag, Ithaca College
- “India: An Ancient Hindu Civilization of Aryan Races. French Histories of India in the 19th Century”
Jyothi Mohan, University of Maryland

Panel 12: Home, Hometown, Homeland: The Narratives of Belonging

Chair: Jyoti Puri

Discussant: Priya Joshi, Department of English, UC Berkeley

Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room

- “Where Are You From? Networks of Affinity in 'Local' and 'Global'”
S. Charusheela, Department of Women's Studies, University of Hawaii at Manoa
- “Hometown and Homeland: The Contingent Nature of Affiliations”
Jyoti Puri, Department of Sociology and Women's Studies, Simmons College
- “A Topography of Hometown”
Kazi K. Ashraf, School of Architecture, University of Hawaii at Manoa

Session 7
1:30 - 3:00 PM

Panel 13: Talking Back: Meditations and Modifications of Bollywood in the Diaspora

Chair: Nandini Bhattacharya

Discussant: Amit Rai, Florida State University

Location: Homeroom

- “Relocating the 'Family' in the Diaspora: The Politics of Social Hierarchies in post-Golbalization Bollywood”
Rini Bhattacharya-Mehta, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- “Bollywood Cosmoplastics”
Bhaskar Sarkar, UC Santa Barbara

Panel 14: Framing Tamil-ness: Studies in Self-Identification

Chair: Eugene Irschick, Department of History, UC Berkeley

Discussant: Padma Rangarajan, Department of English, UC Berkeley

Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room

- “Transformation of Politics and Linguistic Culture in Modern Tamil Nadu”
Geetha Murali, Department of South and Southeast Asian Studies, UC Berkeley
- “The INs and OUTs of Political Theory: On Comparing Tamil and Greek Sources”
Matt Baxter, Department of Political Science, UC Berkeley
- “Interpreting the Flawless Story: The Commentarial Tradition in Tamil Literary History”
Jennifer Claire, Department of South and Southeast Asian Studies, UC Berkeley

Session 8
3:15 - 4:45 PM

Panel 15: Who is Muslim? Religion and Politics in Pakistan Fifty Years after the Munir Report (1954)

Chair: Tariq Rahman, National Institute of Pakistan Studies, Quaid-i-Azam - UC Berkeley

Discussant: Erik Jensen, Co-Director, Rule of Law Program, Stanford Law School

Location: Homeroom

- “Making Muslims: Madrasas and the Meaning of a 'Modern' Education in Pakistan”
Matt J. Nelson, Department of Political Science, Bates College
- “Of Momins and Kafirs: Legislative Exorcism and the Deoband Anti-Ahmediyya Movement”
Najeeb Jan, Department of History, University of Michigan
- “Narrating Tragedy: The Politics of Sufism in Pakistan”
Robert Rozehnal, Department of Religious Studies, Lehigh University

Panel 16: Gendered Violence: Notes from the Postcolonial Present

Chair: Lubna Nazir Chaudhry

Discussant: Lubna Nazir Chaudhry, State University of New York at Binghamton

Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room

- “Remembering Gujarat”
Kamala Visweswaran, University of Texas at Austin
- “Scripting Violence, Manufacturing Order: Hindu/Muslim Conflict in Kerala”
Usha Zacharias, Westfield State College
- “The Biopolitics of Hindu Nationalism”
Angana Chatterji, Social and Cultural Anthropology Program, California Institute of Integral Studies