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University of London



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Centre of South Asian Studies



ANNUAL REVIEW ISSUE 77: September 2012 - August 2013



SOAS is a college of the University of London and the only Higher Education institution in the UK specialising in the study of Asia, Africa and the Near and Middle East.

SOAS is a remarkable institution. Uniquely combining language scholarship, disciplinary expertise and regional focus, it has the largest concentration in Europe of academic staff concerned with Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

On the one hand, this means that SOAS remains a guardian of specialised knowledge in languages and periods and regions not available anywhere else in the UK. On the other hand, it means that SOAS scholars grapple with pressing issues - democracy, development, human rights, identity, legal systems, poverty, religion, social change - confronting two-thirds of humankind.



This makes SOAS synonymous with intellectual enquiry and achievement. It is a global academic base and a crucial resource for London. We live in a world of shrinking borders and of economic and technological simultaneity. Yet it is also a world in which difference and regionalism present themselves acutely. It is a world that SOAS is distinctively positioned to analyse, understand and explain.

STUDYING AT SOAS

The international environment and cosmopolitan character of the School make student life a challenging, rewarding and exciting experience. We welcome students from more than 160 countries, and 38% of them are from outside the UK.

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SOAS is consistently ranked among the top higher education institutions in the UK and the world. In 2006 SOAS joined the top 20 European universities in the Times Higher Education Supplement rankings, and in 2007 the Guardian listed it again among the top dozen UK universities, which include other University of London colleges (UCL, LSE and King's College) as well as Oxford and Cambridge.

The SOAS Library has more than 1.5 million items and extensive electronic resources. It is the national library the study of Africa, Asia and the Middle East and attracts scholars all over the world.

SOAS offers a friendly, vibrant environment right in the buzzing heart of London with the capital's rich cultural and social life on its doorstep.

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CONTACT US

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to this 2013 annual review of the Centre of South Asian Studies. I would like to begin by thanking Professor Lawrence Saez, my predecessor as Centre Chair, for his leadership over the past three years. Like him, I too have benefited greatly from the excellent support provided by the Centres and Programmes Office at SOAS since I took up this role in January of this year. None of our activities would have been possible without Jane Savory, Rahima Begum and Dorinne Tin Ming Kaw. I am also grateful to Dr Shabnum Tejani, Dr Simona Vittorini and Prof David Arnold for serving as members of the Centre's Advisory Committee this year.

During the academic year 2012-13 the Centre hosted more than 30 talks and seminars, many of which are reported on in the following pages. They included seven presentations by our Research Associate Kavita Ramdya in the 'Themes in the Literature of the Indian Subcontinent' series, the launch of four different books, a roundtable on human rights in Nepal with a Supreme Court justice, a screening of the controversial film 'Jai Bhim Comrade' and a Q&A session with its director, a packed discussion with the famous Indian film actor Shabana Azmi, a range of seminars given by visiting speakers on various aspects of South Asian politics and culture, a seminar and workshop on indigenous Indian theatre, a two-day workshop on the Bhutanese refugee resettlement experience (funded by the Open Society), and a very well-attended talk by Arshia Sattar on translating the Ramayana. I am very grateful to the many Centre members who helped to organise such a rich and varied programme.

We were also very glad to host this year's Charles Wallace Trust Pakistan fellow, Dr Najeeba Arif, who contributed a seminar during the spring term on South Asian Muslims' narratives of travel to the West, and the Charles Wallace Trust India fellow, Dr Milin Awad, who spoke on the topic of the structure and content of Dalit writing. We wish them the very best for the future and hope to see them at SOAS again one day.

I am also delighted to report that research students working on Muslim South Asia have created a new Research Forum, which was launched on 9 May and will hold its first graduate conference in October 2013. The Centre is very happy to lend its support to this initiative.

So much for the past year; let us now look ahead to the future. Next year SOAS will establish two new Institutes, dedicated to the study of China on the one hand and South Asia on the other. The South Asia Institute will replace the Centre of South Asian Studies in January 2014, when I will

take up the position of Director. We will be advertising for an administrator and a Deputy Director very shortly.

I would like to take this opportunity to share my own thoughts on the importance and value of this initiative.

There is a perception in some quarters that Area Studies is a field of scholarly endeavour whose time has passed. The academic regionalisation of the world has been criticised for being driven by political and external concerns emanating from the Euro-American world; for drawing arbitrary lines on the map in an imperious neo-colonial way; and for creating conceptual empires that are thought of as homogenous and self contained, when in fact they are neither. And I agree that we should be wary of statements such as 'South Asia is a region of great cultural diversity'. Why would it not be? This is only a consequence of where we drew the lines.

However, I believe there are at least two very good reasons for maintaining an Area Studies framework for much of what we do at SOAS, which was after all founded as an Area Studies institution, and for continuing to replicate ourselves in this mould for generations to come.

The first reason for doing so is that every question has an appropriate scale. For instance, research on globalisation may often have to take place at a level beyond that of regional frameworks. Of course we must not fetishize the local. But the greater the scale of the question the broader and more superficial the answers will be, and if these are not moored in the granular detail of grounded empirical research a project's findings will be questionable.

For instance, do we need to understand the impact of global economic and cultural flows on Indian society and the extent to which India also serves as the origin of globalising forces? I believe so, for all sorts of reasons. Can we do so without conducting research in India itself? I think not. Should we produce scholars with the linguistic and cultural fluencies and disciplinary expertise needed for this? Well, if we do not then we will simply have to consume the fruits of research conducted by others and resign ourselves to second rank status.

The second reason is that it is very beneficial to view 'other places' positively as societies that have contributions to make to global society, rather than merely as locations of problems and threats. Area Studies scholars have the capacity to engage with the intellectual and cultural production of their



region of study and forge and strengthen academic connections at both individual and institutional levels. The societies and cultures we study are not passive recipients of our gaze. Their perspectives and theoretical orientations enrich global conversations. Institutional structures that facilitate interaction and exchange with scholars from the regions we study are essential.

Why a 'South Asia' Institute at a time when other British universities are creating units and programmes that focus on India? Area studies have been said to resemble the mandalas of old: they are powerful and well defined at the centre but vague and contested at the edges (van Schendel 2002). Some area studies have a strong central court: most South Asia scholars work on India, and mostly on north India at that. But the other countries of South Asia are interesting and important too, and a national frame - reducing the area down to its central court - also constrains the scope of studies and research, which can very usefully trace continuities and interactions across political borders. Hence our decision to create an Institute whose focus will be regional rather than national.

The South Asia Institute will be one of the first major initiatives to reverse the drift away from regionally-focused studies at SOAS for many years. It is therefore an opportunity we should seize. We need to make our existence as the premier UK institution for the multi-disciplinary study of South Asia much more visible worldwide. We need more fellowships, scholarships and posts, more research funding, and more effective marketing of courses. However, we should not be under any illusion that the UK government will provide much if any of this. We will have to seek and secure the support of others who believe in and value what we do. I trust that the Institute will be able to draw upon the same wellsprings of goodwill and positive energy that have sustained the Centre of South Asian Studies over the last few decades. Let us look forward to the challenges that lie ahead.

Professor Michael Hutt

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Rochana BAJPAI

Rochana Bajpai presented papers on India's constitutional settlement and minority rights at Bergen in November 2012, King's College, London in February 2013 and SOAS in July 2013. She also gave talks on liberalism in India at a workshop on Liberal Multiplicities at King's College, London in November 2013 to discuss the implications of Prof. Chris Bayly's book *Recovering Liberties* and at a conference on Liberalism and Diversity at the University of Nottingham in July 2013. In May 2013, Rochana joined the editorial board of Oxford Development Studies. In June 2013, with colleagues in the Comparative Political Thought Research Group, Rochana organized an international workshop that brought together colleagues from California-Riverside, Leiden, Notre Dame, Oxford, Sussex, Westminster, UCL, LSE and SOAS to discuss methodologies appropriate to the definition of this emerging field. Prof. Fred Dallmayr delivered the inaugural lecture 'Brave New Horizons: Why comparative political theory now', chaired by Lord Bhikhu Parekh. In August 2012 and January 2013, Rochana conducted field-work in Delhi for her new project on minority representation and democracy in India. She was delighted to receive a Leverhulme Fellowship for this project and will be on research leave in 2013-14.

PUBLICATIONS

'South Asian and Southeast Asian Ideologies' (with Dr Carlo Bonura) in the *Oxford Handbook of Political Ideologies* edited by Michael Freedman, Lyman Tower Sargent, and Marc Stears, August 2013.



James CARON

LECTURES/CONFERENCES

In addition to SOAS-internal seminars, James Caron participated in a conference in Baragali, Pakistan on 24 June, whose theme was "The Dynamics of Change in Conflict Societies", and was co-organized by the University of Peshawar and the Hanns Seidel Stiftung. His paper, on the globalization of historical memory of ethnic conflict and mass atrocities in Afghanistan, was titled "Dasht-i Layli: A Global Consensus of Conflict...and Dreams of an Everyday Future".

James also presented on Pashtun Sufi networks and literary mediation at a conference on "Pilgrims and Politics in Pakistan: Sufism in an Age of Transition" on 21 May at the Institut d'études avancées de Paris; and he spoke on self-told histories of Afghanistan to the Intercultural Studies program at Bocconi University, Milan, on 15 May. He presented at the Oxford University History Seminar in June 2013, on the "Politics and Poetics of Anonymity, the Interregional Everyday, and Empire in 19th and 20th c. Afghanistan".

In addition to academic events, James participated in a public panel discussion with Zuzanna Olszewska (LSE) on Afghan war literature chaired by Kenan Malik, on 15 April at the Alchemy Festival, Southbank Centre, London. He also organized a conversation with acclaimed Afghan short story author Abdul Wakil Sulamal Shinwari as part of a reading group, "The Word and the World", hosted by the P21 Gallery in London on 24 April. Finally, in December he appeared in a Pashto-language cultural program called Dranawi on Afghan National Television while conducting fieldwork in Afghanistan. This episode was organized in honor of the career of veteran scholar Abdullah Bakhtani.

TRAVEL/AWARDS

James Caron was a John F. Richards Fellow of the American Institute of Afghanistan Studies in 2012. This grant allowed him to travel to Kabul, Afghanistan in December to finalize research on his forthcoming monograph, "A History of Pashto Literature; or, Afghan Histories of the World". James was fortunate to be able to work in a number of archives and libraries, as well as access staff in the Ministry for Information and Culture, Radio-Television Afghanistan, and the Afghanistan Academy of Sciences, and interview a number of historical and literary personalities.



Philippe CULLET

Philippe Cullet organised a two-day workshop on 2-3 May 2012, 'Realising the Right to Sanitation – International and Comparative Perspectives', bringing together experts from India and elsewhere to discuss the different dimensions of the right to sanitation, ranging from conceptual aspects to manual scavenging, environmental and health dimensions.

Further information available at www.soas.ac.uk/ledc/events

PUBLICATIONS

Cullet, P. 'Right to Water in India – Plugging Conceptual and Practical Gaps', 17/1 *International Journal of Human Rights* (2013), p. 56-78.

Cullet, P., 'The Groundwater Model Bill – Rethinking Regulation for the Primary Source of Water', 47/45 *Economic & Political Weekly* (2012), p. 40-7.

Cullet, P. et al., *Water Conflicts in India – Towards a New Legal and Institutional Framework* (Pune: Forum for Policy Dialogue on Water Conflicts in India, 2012), 118p.



Rachel DWYER

Rachel Dwyer was on sabbatical in Terms 1 and 2. She was visiting Professor at the University of St Gallen; she spent a week at Brown University, RI, as part of their India Initiative; she gave the 2013 India-Canada Association Lecture at the University of Toronto; she spoke at the Jaipur Literary Festival including an 'in conversation' with Javed Akhtar. She attended conferences at JNU and the University of Oslo, and spoke about elephants and cinema at the National Centre for Biological Science, Bangalore, University of Cambridge, and Kings College London. Prof Dwyer spent most of Term 2 in India where she visited many wild and captive elephants for research on her book on the Indian elephant.



PUBLICATIONS

Rachel completed work on several articles and submitted a book for publication: *Bollywood's India: Hindi cinema as a guide to modern India*. London and Chicago: Reaktion Books

She continued work on two edited volumes:

- [2014c] Routledge Major Works Collection: *Bollywood*. (Four Volumes). London: Routledge
- The Co-edited [2013a] *Keywords in modern Indian studies*. Edited volume with Gita Dharampal-Frick, Monika Kirloskar-Steinbach and Jahnvi Phalkey. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Prof Dwyer wrote several articles for the Indian media, including *India Today*, *Indian Express*, *Livemint*, and *NatGeo India Traveller*.



Jonathan GOODHAND

PUBLICATIONS

Goodhand, J (2013) 'Sri Lanka in 2012. Securing the State, Enforcing the 'Peace' *Asian Survey* vol 53, no 1, pp 64-72.

Goodhand, J (2012) 'Sri Lanka in 2011. Consolidation and Militarization of the Post War Regime' *Asian Survey* vol 52, no 1, pp. 130-137



Almut HINTZE

PUBLICATIONS

Hintze, Almut. *Change and Continuity in the Zoroastrian Tradition*. An Inaugural Lecture Delivered on 22 February 2012 at the School of Oriental and African Studies. London: SOAS 2013, 43pp.



Michael HUTT

Mike Hutt travelled to the USA in March to serve first as a paper discussant at a conference on 'Everyday Religion and Sustainable Environments in the Himalaya' at the China-India Institute of the New School in New York (7-8 March 2013) and then to give a presentation on 'Visual and Literary Representations' at the Himalayan Connections conference at Yale University, 9-10 March 2013.

He chaired the opening panel of the Britain-Nepal Academic Council's annual 'Nepal Study Daze' at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh on 18 April.

He then made two visits to Scandinavia: first to deliver a lecture on 'The Political Transition in Nepal' to the SASNET South Asia symposium at Lund University on 24 April, and second to deliver a keynote lecture entitled 'Political and sociocultural developments in Bhutan since 1990' at the Aalborg University conference on 'Development Challenges in Bhutan' in Copenhagen on 29 May.

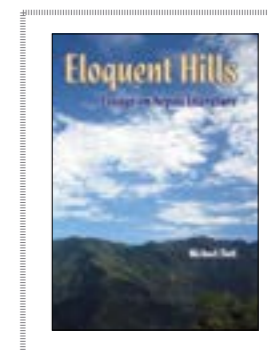
In between these two trips, he convened a very successful two-day international workshop on 'The Bhutanese Refugee Resettlement Experience' at SOAS on 22-23 May.

On 24 July he delivered a keynote lecture on 'Five Nepali novels' at the annual international conference on Himalayan Studies in Kathmandu, 24 July.

PUBLICATIONS

Hutt, Michael. *Eloquent Hills: Essays on Nepali Literature*. Kathmandu: Martin Chautari, 2012.

Hutt, Michael. 'Reading Nepali Maoist Memoirs' in *Studies in Nepali History and Society* 17(1) [2012]: 107-42





Jens LERCHE

During 2012-2013, Jens Lerche was Principal Investigator on the research project 'Labour Conditions and the Working Poor in China and India'. The project runs from 2011 to end-2013. It examines labour conditions at firm level in Shanghai and Delhi. The research focuses on the garment and construction sectors, the core sectors for the working poor outside agriculture. The objective is to examine underlying reasons for labour conditions and labour unrest.

The project investigates how characteristics of labour contracting and labour use affect the working poor. The focus is on firm-level determinants such as orientation of production (towards export/domestic markets), the degree of subcontracting and casual labour, and the type of ownership. It also seeks to identify how labour activism and public policy on labour regulations and social protection affect labour conditions, and the role played by regional variations of such policies.

Through one year of intensive fieldwork in 2012-13 the project has aimed to map and understand trends within the sectors, their firms and labour forces.

The research project is funded by the 'ESRC-DFID joint fund for poverty alleviation research' and includes five co-researchers: Dr Alessandra Mezzadri, Dr Dae-Oup Chand and Professor Terry McKinley, all SOAS, University of London; Professor Ravi Srivastava, JNU, Delhi and Professor Pun Ngai, Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

Jens is also co-investigator on a 'Programme of Research on Inequality and Poverty in India', focussing on dalits and adivasi. It is led by Dr Alpa Shah, LSE. This year funding was secured from the European Research Council and ESRC. The research will commence in January 2014.

PUBLICATIONS

Shah, Alpa, Jens Lerche and Barbara Harriss-White (eds), 2013: 'Agrarian Transitions and Left Politics in India', Special issue, *Journal of Agrarian Change* 13(3), 2013.

Lerche, Jens, 2013: 'The Agrarian Question in Neoliberal India: Agrarian Transition bypassed?', *Journal of Agrarian Change* 13(3): 382-404



Werner MENSKI

Werner Menski was on sabbatical but maintained a busy schedule of conference participation, PhD supervision and advisory functions. He completed his advisory role in the FP7 RELIGARE Programme at the University of Leuven (www.religareproject.eu) and submitted a funding application under the EU Comenius Lifelong Learning Programme on Ethnic Diversity and Culture Awareness for Teacher Educators (EDICATE). He participated as key speaker in a Doctoral Congress at the Catholic University of Leuven in Belgium (8-12 March 2013) and chaired a two day Symposium 'Network of Transnational Doctoral Research on Multiculturalism and Law' (19-20 April 2013) together with the Department of Law at the University of Luzerne, which was held in the Doctoral School at SOAS. He undertook research for forthcoming publications and continues to be the editor of *South Asia Research* (SAGE, New Delhi).

PUBLICATIONS

'Governance and governability in South Asian family laws and in diaspora'. In Holden, Livia (ed.) *Non-state law and governance in South Asia and in the diasporas*. (Special Issue) *Journal of Legal Pluralism*, 45(1) (April 2013): 1-16.

'Law as a kite: Managing legal pluralism in the context of Islamic finance'. In Cattelan, Valentino (ed.) *Islamic finance*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar 2013, pp. 15-31.

'Author and subject index to IANL Vol 26 (2012). *Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Law*, 27.1 (February 2013), pp. 58-92. [ISSN 0269-5774] [with Maria Jones].

(ed. with Rubya Mehdi and Jørgen S. Nielsen) *Interpreting divorce laws in Islam*. Copenhagen: DJ&F Publishing.

'Jürgen Habermas: Post-conflict reconstruction, non-hegemonic modernity, discourse about spaces and the role of religion'. In Pradip Basu (ed.) *Modern social thinkers*. Kolkata: Setu Prakashani, 2012, pp. 180-198.

'The uniform civil code debate in Indian law: New developments and changing agenda'. In Malcolm McLaren (ed.) *The many faces of India. Law and politics of the subcontinent*. New Delhi: Samskriti, 2012, pp. 136-82.

'Islamic law in British courts: Do we not know or do we not want to know?'. *Journal of Minority Studies*, Center for Minority Studies, Kansai University, Osaka, Vol. 6 (2012): 27-49 [in Japanese] [ISSN 1883-7735].



Peter MOLLINGA

PUBLICATION

Mollinga, Peter P. (2013 article in press) Canal irrigation and the hydrosocial cycle. The morphogenesis of contested water control in the Tungabhadra Left Bank Canal, South India. *Geoforum*



Eleanor NEWBIGIN

Eleanor Newbigin has had a busy but productive year on the conference front! In December 2012, with colleague Dr Shabnum Tejani, she organised a one-day workshop on urban history in late colonial South Asia. Profs. Will Glover and Nikhil Rao, leading figures in the field of South Asian urban history, joined us from the U.S., speaking alongside our own final year history PhD students. The event will take many of the discussion points forward as we begin to form an international network of scholars working on urban South Asia.

As well as this, Eleanor presented papers at a workshop to celebrate Prof Christopher Bayly's most recent publication *Recovering Liberties*, held at Kings College London; at a conference on 'Recovering Law in Asia', organised by the Centre of History and Economics, Cambridge; at the two-day interdisciplinary conference entitled 'Border Crossings: New Directions in the Study of Gender at SOAS' and also took part in a plenary discussion on inequalities in China and India', organised at Manchester University as part of the AHRC-funded Inequality, Social Science and History Research Network. In April 2013, she was invited to speak at an international conference on 'South Asian Histories and the Legal Archive' that took place in the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi and was hosted jointly by staff of the history departments at JNU, Delhi University and Princeton University.

PUBLICATION

The Hindu Family and the Emergence of Modern India: Law, Citizenship and Community. Cambridge University Press.



Tina OTTEN

Tina Otten has been conducting fieldwork in Bisipada, Kandhamal, Odisha during this academic year. The research draws on data and narratives first described and analyzed by F.G. Bailey in the 1950s. Tina has been working on how to translate the conclusions of Bailey's work into the present situation in Odisha. A major aspect of Bailey's monographs was social and economic change. F.G. Bailey and Tina have been engaged in lively discussions about new research findings. These data will be complemented by social activities not described by F.G. Bailey in detail. The social impact of rituals like annual festivals, lifecycle rituals will be analyzed and their moral and economic evaluation against a changed social, political and ecological environment in which the "administrative frontier" with its governmental schemes, e.g. employment guarantee, agricultural uplifts, medical support, empowerment of self-help groups, and post-colonial political structures have found a way into the village.



Rahul RAO

Rahul Rao delivered a keynote lecture entitled 'Queer Questions', exploring resonances and dissonances between the 19th century 'Woman Question' and ongoing controversies around queer sexualities, at the 2nd annual conference of the *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, Sussex, May 2013.

PUBLICATIONS

Rao, Rahul, 'Listening to the avant-garde', review of Lea Ypi, *Global Justice and Avant-Garde Political Agency*, in *Ethics & Global Politics* 6:2 (2013), 101-07.

Rao, Rahul, 'Review Essay: Revisiting Cartographic Anxiety', *Osgoode Hall Law Journal* 49:3 (2012), 575-92.

Rao, Rahul, 'Postcolonial cosmopolitanism: making place for nationalism', in *The Democratic Predicament: Cultural Diversity in Europe and India*, eds. Jyotirmaya Tripathy & Sudarshan Padmanabhan (New Delhi: Routledge, 2012), 165-87.

Rao, Rahul, 'Cosmopolitanism', in *International Relations: Perspectives for the Global South*, eds. Bhupinder S. Chimni & Siddharth Mallavarapu (Delhi: Pearson, 2012), 195-209.

BLOGS

Sour Lips: A Review', <http://thedisorderofthings.com/2013/02/08/sour-lips-a-review/> (February 2013).

How Many Buddhists Are There in Northern Ireland?', <http://thedisorderofthings.com/2012/08/09/how-many-buddhists-are-there-in-northern-ireland/> (Aug 2012).

Researching Sexuality in "Difficult" Contexts', <http://thedisorderofthings.com/2012/04/24/what-we-talked-about-at-isa-researching-sexuality-in-difficult-contexts/> (April 2012).

On "gay conditionality", imperial power and queer liberation', <http://kafila.org/2012/01/01/on-gay-conditionality-imperial-power-and-queer-liberation-rahul-rao/#more-11088> (Jan 2012).



Lawrence SAEZ

Lawrence Saez was on research leave at the Institute of Political Science at Academia Sinica in Taipei, Taiwan. There he conducted research on hybrid models of capitalism and the development of a welfare state in Asia.

He delivered lectures on this topic at the Academia Sinica and at the University of Nottingham's campus in Ningbo, China.

Lawrence also conducted fieldwork research for a book manuscript at the International Energy Forum (IEF) in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

In October 2012, he spoke at the United Nations Geneva to comment on the UN's universal periodic review of human rights in India.

In November 2012, he attended the World Economic Forum's global agenda council summit in Dubai.

In June 2013, he organised an international workshop on the topic of the political economy of energy security. He also chaired a workshop about the results of the general elections in Pakistan at SciencePo Aix.

In July 2013, he was the keynote speaker at the conference on rising global powers held at the University of Nottingham.



Tommaso SBRICCOLI

In 2012-2013 Tommaso Sbriccoli has mainly been doing fieldwork in India within the ESRC-funded project "Rural change and anthropological knowledge in post-colonial India: A comparative 'restudy' of F.G. Bailey, Adrian C. Mayer and David Pocock", coordinated by Dr Edward Simpson (SOAS). He lived for 11 months in the village in Madhya Pradesh previously studied by anthropologist and SOAS Emeritus Professor Adrian C. Mayer, who also visited for a few days. This was an exciting and extremely productive experience, triggering reflections on place memory, inter-generational studies (and the potential use of anthropological field notes as historical sources), changing theoretical paradigms and issues related to the place that affections and inter-subjective relationships in the field occupy, or might occupy, in our discipline.

While living in India, Tommaso participated in two project meetings together with the other project members, and attended a workshop convened by the Anthropological Survey of India in Bhopal, where issues related to village restudies have been discussed.

PUBLICATIONS

Sbriccoli, Tommaso & Jacoviello, Stefano (eds), *Shifting Borders: European Perspectives on Creolisation*, Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2012.

Sbriccoli, Tommaso & Jacoviello, Stefano, "The voice in C. The creole attitude of a Bangladeshi refugee in Italy", in Sbriccoli, T. & Jacoviello S. (eds), *Shifting Borders. European Perspectives on Creolisation*, Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing: 83-109, 2012.

Sbriccoli, Tommaso, "Legal Pluralism in discourse: justice, politics and marginality in rural Rajasthan", *Journal of Legal Pluralism*, 45 (1): 143-164, 2013.



Pasquale SCARAMOZZINO

This study examines the relationship between federal transfers and fiscal deficits in India. The system of federal transfers has been criticized on the grounds that it distorts the incentives for states to promote fiscal discipline. We analyze the relationship between transfers, state domestic product, and fiscal deficit for a panel of states during the period 1990-2010. The paper finds a positive long-run relationship and bi-directional causality between primary/gross fiscal deficits and non-plan transfers. Further, a negative long-run relationship and one-way causality between state domestic product and transfers is observed, with causality going from state product to transfers. These results are confirmed by multi-variate cointegration analysis, which finds a long-run relationship between fiscal transfers, state product per capita and the primary deficit of the states. The evidence in the paper is consistent with the system of fiscal transfers being "gap-filling."

PUBLICATIONS

Bhatt, Antra, and Scaramozzino, Pasquale. *Federal Transfers and Fiscal Discipline in India: An Empirical Evaluation*. Manila, Philippines: Asian Development Bank, Economics Working Paper Series No. 343, March 2013.

<http://www.adb.org/publications/federal-transfers-and-fiscal-discipline-india-empirical-evaluation>



Amrita SHODHAN

Amrita presented a paper entitled 'Panchayats and Caste in East India Company Governance' in a panel on 'The Law, the State, and India's Panchayats: Past and Present' at the Law and Society Association Annual Conference, Boston, 2013.



Edward SIMPSON

Edward Simpson and Marloes Janson hosted a day-long workshop at SOAS: Roads, culture and history: interdisciplinary crossroads. This event took place on Saturday 2nd of February 2013 with generous Seed Funding from the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at SOAS. Those invited to participate in the event were anthropologists, geographers, historians and economists. We also invited road-builders and engineers. The result of this unusual mix was lively and interesting discussion throughout the day. We hope that the workshop will mark the start of a greater programme of research on the global cultures of infrastructure development in South Asia and Africa.

Throughout the academic year, Edward Simpson has continued as Principal Investigator on a major ESRC project: 'Rural change and anthropological knowledge in post-colonial India: A comparative 'restudy' of F.G. Bailey, Adrian C. Mayer and David Pocock'. The project hosted a double panel at the European Association of South Asian Studies in Lisbon in July 2012. Emeritus Professor Adrian Mayer demonstrated that he can still captivate an audience. The post-doctoral researchers on the project, Alice Tilche, Tommaso Sbriccoli and Tina Otten, are coming to the end of their twelve-month research stints in villages in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha (India). In January of 2013, all members of the research team travelled across India to visit the three fieldsites. The project is planning a packed year ahead of events, film screenings and publications.

Emeritus Professor Adrian Mayer returned to his work on 'Indo-Fijians' some sixty years after he first started the research. He published an account of this revisit as 'Rip Van Winkle in Fiji' in the *Australian Humanities Review* (52, 2012). This piece appears more than fifty years after his classic monograph: *Peasants in the Pacific* (1961).



Gurharpal SINGH

In December Gurharpal Singh was selected as a panellist for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees sponsored debate on 'Dialogue and Protection Challenges'. The sub-panel focused on the contribution of faith-based organisations to the new protections challenges facing refugees in the developed and developing countries. This event was followed by participation in a conference hosted by Geneva for Human Rights (GHR) 'Expert Seminar on Freedom of Religions and Belief' attended by the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Religious Freedom. In this conference he participated in a roundtable discussion on the perspectives of religious organisations on religious freedom.

This year, Gurharpal has had to cancel a number of high profile events owing to the pressure of work. He is however delighted to report that as result of working with colleagues in the CSAS, we were able to establish the SOAS South Asia Institute.

PUBLICATIONS

Singh, Gurharpal, 'Religious Transnationalism, Development and the Construction of Religious Boundaries: the Case of the Dera Sachkhand Ballan and the Ravidass Dharm', *Global Networks* 13:2, (April 2013) 183-199.

Singh, Gurharpal, 'Sikhs and Partition Violence: a Re-evaluation', in Ian Talbot ed., *The Independence of India and Pakistan: New Approaches and Reflections* (Karachi: Oxford University Press, 2013).

Singh, Gurharpal, 'Religion, Politics and Governance in India, Pakistan, Nigeria and Tanzania: An Overview', in Surinder S. Jodhka ed. *Interrogating India's Modernity: Democracy, identity, and Citizenship* (New Delhi: Oxford University Press, July 2013).



Alice TILCHE

From April 2012 through to March 2013 Alice Tilche has been conducting fieldwork, as part of the ESRC project: 'Rural change and anthropological knowledge in post-colonial India: A comparative 'restudy' of F.G. Bailey, Adrian C. Mayer and David Pocock'. Alice worked among the Patidar community of central Gujarat, in the same village where David Pocock conducted fieldwork sixty years ago. Working on the footsteps of an 'ancestor' opened up unique dialogues on intergenerational memory, and on the changing life of the village today. During her research, Alice explored the key themes of marriage, identity, and international migration. As in the 1950's, a 'good marriage' continues to be a crucial aspect of 'being Patidar' in rural Gujarat. The criteria for selecting brides and grooms have however changed, in relation to demographic shifts, new values of education, the devaluing of agriculture, and the compulsion to have a 'job' and to migrate abroad. Besides participating in routine and special events (marriages, festivals, the agrarian cycles, the elections), Alice worked on updating genealogical information dating from the 1950's through life stories and in depth interviews. Through interviews with members of the Patidar diaspora, and with Patidar cultural, economic, educational and religious organisation, Alice also explored the wider connections that link the village (and the Patidar community in particular) to the region and the wider world. Alice also worked on a documentary film that reflects on the most salient themes of her research - the unsuccessful struggles of a village boy to find a bride and migrate abroad.



Simona VITTORINI

On May 10, Simona Vittorini and David Harris (University of Bradford) presented a paper titled: 'What does development cooperation mean? Perceptions from India and Africa', at Oxford's Annual South Asia Day. www.southasia.ox.ac.uk/initial-chapter-presentations-16-may-2013

On April 4 and 5, she delivered a lecture and acted as panellist for the IndiaAfrica Shared Future collaborative workshop that was held in Delhi at the Young India Fellowship Campus and India Habitat Centre www.indiafrica.in/PEIndiaCollaborativeWorkshop04-05April-13-IndiaHabitatCenter.html

In March-April 2013 Simona and Dr David Harris (University of Bradford) went to India to carry out some fieldwork for their collaborative research project on India-Africa relations. The project aims to analyse the rapidly growing Indian interest and resulting trends in Africa and contribute to the scholarship on India-Africa engagements.

MEMBERS NEWS



Burzine WAGHMAR

Burzine Waghmar co-organised a seminar on Indo-Hellenic Cultural Transactions which was convened at Bombay's K. R. Cama Oriental Institute, 19-20 Jan., 2013. This gathering brought both foreign and Indian academics, Classicists and Orientalists, to examine and assess a field which has hitherto attracted limited attention. Therein he read a paper on 'Between Hind and Hellas: the Bactrian Bridgehead' (in press). He was also invited on Feb. 24, 2013, by The Hague-based Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO) to deliver an assessment about the on-going insurgency in Balochistan (published). He has been interviewed regularly through the year for BBC Breakfast (Nawaz Sharif's electoral victory); Voice of America (Rimsha Masih blasphemy case); and BBC World Service (Bangladesh war crimes' tribunal).

PUBLICATIONS

Waghmar, Burzine. 'Yet another Stan? Talibanisation and Islamic Radicalism in Balochistan and Southwest Asia.' *What Future for Balochistan? Global and Regional Challenges*. The Hague, The Netherlands: Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO), 2013, pp. 25-27. See <http://eprints.soas.ac.uk/16749/>



Amina YAQIN

Amina Yaqin received Faculty strategic funding in 2012 for a seed corn project on 'Multicultural Textualities'. MT consists of a research group of inter-collegiate UK literary scholars. The project is a new development in the study of contemporary literature since it brings to bear the hermeneutic and theoretical methodologies of literary studies - materialism, psychoanalysis, semiotics etc. - but also seeks to include insights and approaches from sociology, social psychology, and media and communication studies. Our major presentation this year was a panel entitled 'Multicultural Textualities: A Panel of Position Papers on the Textual Politics of Multiculturalism, Secularism and World Literature' at the 'Crafts of World Literature' conference at the University of Oxford in September 2012. In the Spring term, a round table discussion was held with Professor Paul Gilroy at SOAS on the 24th of April 2013 to discuss in particular his ideas of convivial cultures, planetarity and cosmopolitics. We are working toward a major grant proposal.

Amina is a major collaborator for the Muslims, Trust and Cultural Dialogue project funded by the RCUK. The Principal investigator is Professor Peter Morey at the University of East London and the award is £341,000. The new project builds on the success of the Framing Muslims AHRC Research Network. Muslims, Trust and Cultural Dialogue (2012-2015) and will analyse the conditions of trust and mistrust in three overlapping areas of modern life: politics and society; business and finance; and art and culture. Our first major conference was held in June this year on 'Muslims, Multiculturalism and Trust: New Directions' at SOAS which included keynote lectures by Professor Tariq Modood and Lord Bhikhu Parekh.

CONFERENCES

Amina participated in the 'The Worlding of a Lyric Poet: Contemporary Urdu Poetry and the English Novel', World Literature, Networks of Circulation conference, CCLPS, SOAS in December and gave a position paper on 'Memoir Writing and Multicultural Representation of Muslim Women's Sexualities' in Multicultural Textualities Panel at the Crafts of World Literature conference, Faculty of English, University of Oxford in September. She was a key organiser of the 'Multicultural Memoirs: Cosmopolitan and translocal Muslim narratives of Social trust', Muslims, Multiculturalism and Trust: New Directions conference, SOAS in June.

PUBLICATIONS

Yaqin, A. (ed) Special issue: *Faiz Ahmad Faiz, Pakistaniaat: a journal of Pakistan Studies*, Volume 5, No. 1, 2013. Includes Essay - 'Cosmopolitan ventures in times of crisis: a postcolonial reading of Faiz Ahmed Faiz's "Dasht-e tanhai" and Nadeem Aslam's Maps for Lost Lovers'

Yaqin, A. 'Autobiography and Muslim Women's Lives', *Journal of Women's History*, Volume 25, No. 2, 2013.

Ahmed R, Morey P, Yaqin A (eds) *Culture, Diaspora and Modernity in Muslim Writing*, New York: Routledge, 2012. Includes Essay - 'Muslims as Multicultural Misfits in Nadeem Aslam's Maps for Lost Lovers'

Review Essay 'The Poetics and Politics of Memoir Writing' Fawzia Afzal-Khan's *Lahore with Love: Growing up with girlfriends, Pakistani style*, *Wasafiri*, 69, Spring 2012.

SOUTH ASIA SOAS LIBRARY

SOAS Library is one of the world's most important academic libraries for the study of Africa, Asia and the Middle East, which attracts scholars from all over the world to conduct research. The Library houses over 1.2 million volumes at the SOAS campus at Russell Square in central London, together with significant archival holdings, special collections and a growing network of electronic resources.



If you would like more information, either on the collections or this guide please contact the Subject Librarian for South Asia: Mrs Farzana Whitfield

www.soas.ac.uk/library/subjects/southasia/



NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

SOAS Library has actively built up research collections relating to South Asia (covering present-day India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan and Sri Lanka) and, to a lesser extent, on the South Asian diaspora. These include publications on and from South Asia, in the languages and cultures, arts and humanities, and law and social sciences.

The Library has especially strong collections of films from India, while a strong part of the collection is Indian documentary film-making and Bollywood cinema.

Substantial research collections have been developed in a range of South Asian languages, ancient and modern. These include Sanskrit and Pali, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Malayalam, Marathi, Nepali, Punjabi, Sinhala, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu.

Significant among a number of subscriptions, SOAS Library subscribes to the Bibliography of Asian Studies, a specialised bibliographic database that is a valuable tool for teaching and research. We also subscribe to the Times of India, this includes The Bombay Times and Journal of Commerce (1839-1859), The Bombay Times and Standard (1860-1861) and Times of India (1839-2003)

The Library's Archives and Special Collections carries some important oral material relating to British India and the Raj. This consists of a collection of cassette copies and transcripts of 82 interviews on which the BBC series Plain Tales from the Raj was based. The interviews were conducted in both Britain and India between 1972 and 1974.

The photographic archive of Christoph von Fürer-Haimendorf (1909-1995), held in the Library's Archives and Special Collections, includes photographs, cine-film and written materials. Reflecting his fifty years of scholarship, the collection is widely recognised as the world's most comprehensive study and visual documentation of tribal cultures in South Asia and the Himalayas in the mid 20th century.

Farzana Whitfield (Subject Librarian for South Asia and Development Studies)

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Political economy of the capacity of India to become a major power set in a comparative and global frame. This rests on its (a) structural economic transformation to boost growth and development and (b) strategic alliances with nations/regions within and beyond Asia to enhance influence through studies of (i) India-Africa and (ii) India-EU exchange
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Dr Sunil SHARMA
Indo-Persian literature



Maha HOSAIN AZIZ

Maha Hosain Aziz worked on projects across varied industries and disciplines in 2012-13. As a part-time professor at NYU, she taught self-designed, interdisciplinary courses on political risk & prediction and political opinion writing in the MA Politics Program; she also advised students on MA theses and independent studies focused on the Middle East and Asia, while conducting her own research.

As a global politics columnist for Businessweek.com, she offered opinions on protests in Afghanistan and the Middle East as well as violence in Mali and Myanmar.

As a senior analyst at geopolitical consultancy Wikistrat, she helped map out the political futures of countries and regions for corporate and government clients; she also began developing a new analytical product focused on political risk.

As a cartoonist, she started work on The Global Kid, a comic book trilogy on global politics for young readers; over \$10,000 was raised on crowdfunding site Indiegogo to cover production costs; 50% of comic book sales will go to education projects in Sudan, Pakistan, and Afghanistan via non-profit OneCoin Foundation (OCF).

She was an active board member at the OCF and the New Silk Road Generation, the first e-mentoring program for Afghan universities.



Kavita RAMDYA

Kavita Ramdya's experience teaching a monthly lecture series "Literature of the Indian Subcontinent" has been an inspiring one - all due to her "students", a diverse group of alumni, current students, members of the community and lovers of India and its culture.

The series was not a required course and is ungraded, yet every month the same familiar faces and a few new ones join the discussion, all motivated to meet like-minded individuals and discuss the country and literature they love. Needless to say, teaching at SOAS has been one of the most rewarding experiences she had in an academic setting.



Francesca RECCHIA

Francesca Recchia has spent most of the period comprised between September 2012 and August 2013 conducting research in Kabul for her forthcoming book on daily life of contemporary cultural practitioners in the capital of Afghanistan. The book, titled *The Little Book of Kabul*, is expected to be published by the end of 2013 by Foxhead Publishers (USA).

She has been invited as a Visiting Lecturer (MA) in Intercultural Studies, Department of Policy Analysis and Public Management, Università Bocconi, Milan (April-June 2013). Her course looked at multiple geographies of conflict and war, and examined the role that cultural practices play in terms of reinforcement and resistance, oppression and counter-narrative.

In May 2013 Francesca gave a public lecture at the Università Bocconi, Milan on the musealisation of trauma and the use of museum displays for identity formation in countries in conflict. In early June, she was invited to the University of Turin where she gave a lecture on the rhetoric of tourism in countries in conflict. A paper on art practices in countries in conflict has been selected for the forthcoming RGS conference.

She is currently coordinating the 4th Afghan Contemporary Art Prize, an educational programme for young Afghan artists promoted by Turquoise Mountain, a British Charity engaged in revitalisation of Afghan craft and urban regeneration.

In the last year she has continued her collaboration with Domus, a design and architecture journal, writing several articles including a long feature on the impact of militarisation on urban planning in Kashmir.



Sumit ROY

Sumit Roy presented the followings talks:

- 'India, a 'Rising Power' and Africa: challenges,' Seminar, CSAS, SOAS, 16th January 2013;
- 'India, a 'Rising Power,' myth and reality,' Seminar, QEH, University of Oxford, 28th February 2013;
- 'Why we need China-India comparative studies,' Keynote Lecture in international workshop 'Juxtapose: Challenges of comparative research in contemporary China and India,' Wolfson College, 27th April, 2013

PUBLICATIONS
Roy, Sumit, 'Global governance, the EU and India: challenges,' special issue on India-EU relationship, *Foreign Policy Research Centre Journal*, January 2013, Delhi, India

Roy, Sumit. 'Facets of global governance in a changing world,' *West Bengal Political Science Review*, Winter 2013, Kolkata, India



Sunil SHARMA

Sunil Sharma was a Research Associate in the Centre of South Asian Studies from 6 March until 12 April 2013. During this time, he mainly conducted research at the SOAS library and The British Library.

On 14 March 2013, he presented a talk entitled "The Errant Eye" and Mughal Pastoral Poetry" on his current area of research. As a result of this, Sunil met with several individuals at SOAS, including students, to discuss various subjects of academic interest. He also attended a couple of seminars. He used the SOAS library extensively, where he found several books and journals that were not available elsewhere.

Along with Dr Francesca Orsini and Dr Roy Fischel, Sunil organized a two workshop-like sessions where they read and discussed an eighteenth-century Indo-Persian text. All in all, Sunil's time at SOAS was very fruitful and allowed him to make considerable progress on his new project.



Yuthika SHARMA

Yuthika Sharma presented a paper entitled, "Pageantry, Performance, or Place-making? The Processional panoramas of Akbar II in British Delhi 1806-37" in a panel on "Ceremonial and the City" at the 39th Annual Conference of Association of Art Historians, Reading, UK held April 11-13, 2013.

MSc Comparative Political Thought

Starting September 2013

Duration: One calendar year (full-time); Two or three years (part-time, daytime only)

Who is this programme for?:

The programme is designed for graduate students who wish to learn about the diverse strands of political thinking in Asia, Africa and the Middle East, and the different approaches to comparison in political thought. It is highly relevant to students who wish to embark on doctoral studies in the area of non-Western political thought. It is also relevant for practitioners working in or intending to work in governments, international organizations, think tanks and advocacy groups who wish to acquire deeper knowledge of ideas and values that inform political practices in Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

The MSc in Comparative Political Thought builds on SOAS's wealth of regional expertise to offer a new approach to cross-regional comparison of political thinking. It reframes the study of political thought in Africa, Asia and the Middle East as a study of political ideas and political practices. The programme introduces students to the key approaches, debates, and questions in the emerging sub-discipline of comparative political thought. Covering a range of thinkers, traditions and texts, in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, it provides learning opportunities for students to compare ideas and values across regions and historical periods. The MSc in Comparative Political Thought will enable graduate students to undertake further advanced study and research in political thought, as well as enhance skills suitable for employment in multicultural and international professional contexts.

For more information and application procedures visit:
www.soas.ac.uk/politics/programmes/msc-comparative-political-thought/

ACADEMIC EVENTS SEP 2012 - AUG 2013

seminar
conference
film screening
workshop
book reading
lecture
discussion

EVENT REPORTS

SEMINAR SERIES

15 October 2012
Frances Harrison (Author)
The Untold War

16 November 2012
Dr Alix Philippon (Post-doctoral researcher, Institute of Political Studies CHERPA/IREMAM)
The Sufi factor in Pakistani Islamism

16 January 2013
Dr Sumit Roy (School of International Relations and Strategic Studies, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, India)
India, a 'Rising Power' and Africa: Challenges

21 January 2013
Dr Shihan Desilva (Institute of Commonwealth Studies)
Encounters, Cultural Flows and Hybridity in the Indian Ocean

Laetitia Zecchini (Research Fellow at CNRS in Paris)
4 February 2013
Arun Kolatkar and modernism in India I: The 'Bombay scene' in the 60s
5 February 2013
Arun Kolatkar and modernism in India II: The 'many cycles of give-and-take' set in motion between language

21 February 2013
Bhaskar Mukhopadhyay (Goldsmiths College)
That Obscure Object of Desire': Desi Porn in the Age of World Wide Web

5 March 2013
Somnath Batabyal
Creating a middle class audience and bourgeoisie environmentalism

12 March 2013
Rashmi Varma
Beyond the Politics of Representation: the Adivasi in Literature

14 March 2013
Sunil Sharma
The Errant Eye' and Mughal Pastoral Poetry

21 March 2013
Pratyoush Onta (Martin Chautari, Kathmandu)
The Political Economy of Research and Research Institutions in Nepali History

Dr Audrey Truschke (Cambridge)
Charting Frontiers: Sanskrit Literary and Intellectual Cultures at the Mughal Court
17 April 2013
Sanskrit Textual Production for the Mughal Elite
26 April 2013
Imperial Indo-Persian Treatments of Sanskrit Stories and Knowledge Systems

8 May 2013
Dr Devendra Sharma (California State University)
Claiming back indigenous theater: the Saangit, Bhagat and Nautanki traditions of North India

24 May 2013
Arshia Sattar (Independent Scholar)
Translating Ramayana

27 June 2013
Milind Awad (Charles Wallace India Trust Visiting Fellow 2012-2013)
Structure and Content of Dalit Writing

Book Talk Series

With Kavita Ramdya (SOAS, Research Associate)

8 October 2012
Rohinton Mistry's "Tales from Firozsha Baag"

12 November 2012
Amitav Ghosh's "The Shadow Lines" (1988)

10 December 2012
Vikram Seth's "A Suitable Boy" (Part I) (1993)

14 January 2013
Hanif Kureishi's "The Black Album" (1995)

11 February 2013
Arundhati Roy's "The God of Small Things" (1997)

11 March 2013
Jhumpa Lahiri's "Interpreter of Maladies" (1999)

8 April 2013
Anita Desai's "Fasting, Feasting" (2000)

EVENT LISTING

18 October 2012
Film Screening
Play Like a Lion
Joshua Mellars (Director)

22 November 2012
Cohosted with Britain-Nepal Academic Council (BNAC)
Round Table
Human rights and human wrongs during Nepal's political transition
Chair: Professor Michael Hutt (SOAS)
Speakers included: Honourable Mr Justice Kalyan Shrestha (Supreme Court of Nepal), Dr Mara Malagodi (London School of Economics), Ingrid Massag (Amnesty International), Professor Surya Subedi (University of Leeds)

31 January 2013
Book Launch
Prajwal Parajuly's debut book, The Gurkha's Daughter: Stories

22 February 2013
Film Screening and Discussion
"We're Indian and African": Sidis of India
Dr Shihan Desilva (Senior Fellow, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London and Member of the Scientific Committee of the UNESCO Slave Route Project)

23 February 2013
Cohosted with the SOAS Department of Anthropology and Sociology and the Centre for Media and Film Studies at SOAS
Film Screening
Jai Bhim Comrad
Anand Patwardhan (Director)

6 March 2013
Discussion
Can Film be used as an instrument for Social Change?
Javed Akhtar (Actress)

11 May 2013
Workshop
Nautanki
Dr Devendra Sharma (California State University)

22-23 May 2013
Workshop
The Bhutanese Refugee Re-settlement Experience
Speakers included: Susan Banki, Ajay Thapa, Ellie Ott, Gopal Guragain, Heather Hindman, Ilse Griek, Joseph Stadler, Liana Chase, Loknath Sharma, Mani Thapa, Nicole Hoellerer, Sreeja Chokkath Theyanda, Danielle Grigsby

FILM SCREENING

Play Like a Lion
Joshua Mellars (Director)

18 October 2012



On the evening of 18 October the Centre hosted a film screening of the acclaimed film, Play Like a Lion. The audience were fortunate to have the Director, Joshua Mellars answer questions at the end. The discussion was chaired by Richard Widdess (SOAS).

Play Like a Lion is the sarodist Maestro Ali Akbar Khan seen through his son Alam's eyes. As Alam assumes the mantle of his father's musical legacy, he is learning that his ends are in his beginnings and that he must come to terms with playing an enduring old music in a disposable new age.

Play Like a Lion illuminates the Khan legacy featuring interviews with Carlos Santana, The Grateful Dead's Mickey Hart, blues slide guitarist Derek Trucks, sarodist Ustad Aashish Khan, tabla masters Pandit Swapan Chaudhuri and Ustad Zakir Hussain. The documentary was shot in Kolkata, Mumbai, Rajasthan and the San Francisco Bay Area to a soundtrack of Ali Akbar Khan's music.



From left: Richard Widdess with Joshua Mellars

PRESENTATION

The Continent of Asia: Areas of Interest
Royal Society for Asian Affairs/ SOAS

21 November 2012

The annual day of presentations about Asia for sixth form students organized by the Royal Society for Asian Affairs (RSAA) and SOAS, London University was held on 21 November 2012 in the Logan Lecture Theatre, The Institute of Education, London University. The venue had had to be changed at very short notice due to political agitation over current events in Gaza and the SOAS staff are to be congratulated on this achievement. There were present 216 people of whom 204 were school students, the majority studying for A2 or AS exams but also some GCSE and mature students and some teachers. The others present were members of the RSAA. A notable delight was the attendance of girls from the Nanyang Girls High School Singapore who were on a tour of England and came for the day. The day was chaired by Mr Adrian Steger, member of Council of the RSAA who welcomed those attending on behalf of the RSAA and SOAS and described the functions and activities of both and the advantages of studying at SOAS.

The first speaker was Mark Tokola, Minister-Counselor for Political Affairs at the American Embassy who talked to the title of: "America and Asia." Mr Tokola was recently Deputy Chief of mission in Seoul and has had postings in Mongolia, the E.U and London, Iraq and Bosnia. In his presentation he discussed the connections between America and various Asian States with particular reference to the development of democracy and abolition of or reduction in poverty. Mr Tokola then discussed very frankly various questions and points from the audience.

The next section was the very popular "language taster". Because of the change of venue it was only possible to have one language tutorial, Mandarin, taken by Lik Suen of SOAS. She managed to keep the whole audience happily occupied for an hour learning Mandarin by getting them to play various language games. She placed a girl from the Singapore school (all therefore having a good knowledge of Mandarin) with each group of four or five English students to act as tutors thus ensuring good mixing.

After this Professor Jon Sidel spoke about: "Indonesia and Islam". Jon is Professor of International Studies at the London School of Economics and has written extensively about the Philippines, Indonesia and South East Asia. He introduced the audience to the history and geography of Indonesia, the fourth largest country and the largest Islamic democracy, 87% of the population being Muslim. His discourse brilliantly drew many themes together with pertinent illustrations and provided the basis for thoughtful questions and discussion.

The first speaker after lunch was Natalia Lechmanova. She is a Country risk analyzer for Standard Chartered Bank having previously worked for the OECD and as financial economist in New York. She started by surprising everyone by saying that despite the current economic crisis the long term trend for Asian trade and business was strong. Her comprehensive delivery and clear, understandable graphs and charts meant the audience followed her theme closely and questioned her accordingly.

Lou Connelly then spoke about "Serving in Afghanistan." He is an Officer with the Gurkhas and studying at King's College London and has served twice in Afghanistan. To explain the history of Afghanistan, recent political events, the nature of the Country before Russian involvement, then the Taliban and through post 9/11 to now, why there is military mission there and what it does is a tall order. He succeeded in doing this and put in perspective what British soldiers were trying and indeed achieving at a local level. His youth, sincerity, enthusiasm and clarity were clearly communicated to the audience and questions and discussion were aimed at further understanding rather than being combative.

The last speaker of the day was Phuntsog Wangyal who talked about "Tibet Today." He started by asking the audience if anyone present had met a Tibetan; answer no one! This immediately caught the audience's attention. He discussed in a very level way the political problems concerning Tibet, the Chinese view and the Dalai Lama's approach, emphasizing that with time both were changing.

Each of the days' talks was followed by lively, informal and well informed discussion between audience and speaker. The day finished with Mr. Steger thanking the speakers, those who had participated in discussion and the staff of SOAS for their help, in particular Jane Savory and Rahima Begum. Standard Chartered Bank provided sponsorship for the day.

EVENT REPORTS

ROUNDTABLE

Human rights and human wrongs during Nepal's political transition

22 November 2012

On 22 November Professor Michael Hutt hosted the roundtable discussion on Human rights and human wrongs during Nepal's political transition. Organised by the Britain-Nepal Academic Council the roundtable discussion included Justice Mr. Kalyan Shrestha, who has been continuously serving as a Justice of the Supreme Court in Nepal since 2005.



Dr Mara Malagodi (London School of Economics), Ingrid Massage (Amnesty International), Professor Surya Subedi (University of Leeds)

Chair: Professor Michael Hutt (SOAS)

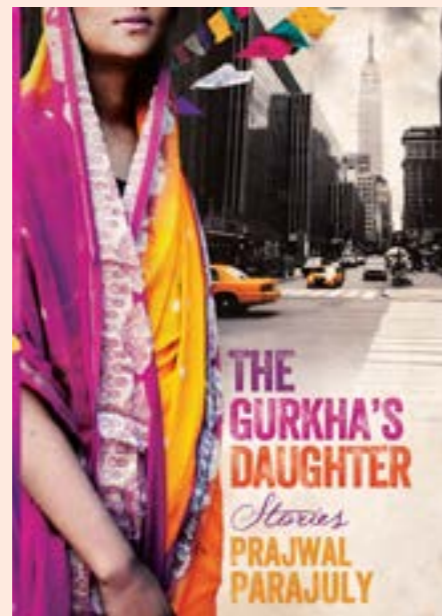
BOOK LAUNCH

The Gurkha's Daughter: Stories

Prajwal Parajuly (Author)

31 January 2013

This collection of short stories by a new author from Sikkim has been widely and positively reviewed in the Guardian, Times of India etc., and the Centre was delighted to host its launch in the UK.



Michael Hutt, who chaired the event, said that he had read most of the stories in the collection and had very much enjoyed meeting their central characters, especially Kaali the servant girl with her Bollywood dreams, Munnu the Muslim Kalimpong shopkeeper and his lightfingered young customer, Supriya and her father Prabin as they negotiate their relationship in Gangtok, Rajiv and his ungrateful Dasain guests in Darjeeling, Anamika as she looks to a life beyond a Bhutanese refugee camp, the Gurkhas' daughters and their differing fortunes in Kathmandu, and Rakesh's mother and her dalliance with Mr Bhattarai next door.

Prajwal Parajuly read two extracts from his book, and Mona Chettri, a SOAS research student from Sikkim who studied at the same college as the author, led off on the Q&A session. After this the floor was opened for a lively and interesting discussion.

The event attracted an audience of approximately 90 people, and ended with a drinks reception provided by Quercus, the book's publisher.

BOOK LAUNCH

Return of a King - The Battle for Afghanistan

William Dalrymple (Princeton)

5 February 2013

On the afternoon of 5 February guests had the opportunity to meet the author and buy signed copies of his book. William Dalrymple is the bestselling author of In Xanadu, City of Djinns, From the Holy Mountain, The Age of Kali, White Mughals, The Last Mughal and, most recently, Nine Lives. He has won the Thomas Cook Travel Book Award, the Sunday Times Young British Writer of the Year Award, the French Prix d'Astrolabe, the Wolfson Prize for History, the Scottish Book of the Year Award, the Duff Cooper Memorial Prize, the Asia House Award for Asian Literature, the Vodafone Crossword Award and has three times been longlisted for the Samuel Johnson Prize. In 2012 he was appointed Whitney J. Oates Visiting Fellow in Humanities at Princeton University.



Return of a King is a history which resonates with contemporary politics and reads like a richly drawn novel. Using previously undiscovered Afghan sources, here for the first time is the full picture of Britain's disastrous adventure in Afghanistan, which asks: have we learnt anything from history? With a driving narrative and a complex cast of characters- shahs, amirs, sepoy, British generals, Russian ambassadors- Return of a King is the must-read history of 2013.

The book launch attracted a crowd of over 150 guests and was hosted by Dr James Caron (SOAS).

FILM SCREENING & LECTURE

"We're Indian and African": Sidis of India

Shihan de Silva (Institute of Commonwealth Studies)

22 February 2013

A lecture by Dr Shihan de Silva (Institute of Commonwealth Studies) on the historical presence of African migrants, the pushes and pulls of migration, their geographical distribution throughout India in the past and today, their diversity, their achievements, their cultural continuities and their varied status were among the issues addressed.



Still from the film 'Voices of the Sidis: Ancestral Links' produced by Beheroze Shroff (University of California, Irvine, USA).

The lecture was followed by two documentary films produced by Beheroze Shroff (University of California, Irvine, USA). The first film, "We're Indian and African": Voices of the Sidis - explores the lives of the Afro-Indian Sidis of Bava Gor village in Gujarat. Sidi men and women relate the challenges of their work as caretakers of the shrine of their ancestral saint Bava Gor. The Sidis also discuss their sacred Goma-Dharmal dance as it is performed for devotees and for spectators. The film also gives a glimpse into the spiritual legacy of the Sidis through the Parsi devotees of Bava Gor in Bombay.

The second film Voices of the Sidis: Ancestral Links is an engaging portrait of an urban Sidi family in Bombay (Maharashtra). Babubhai traces his ancestry to Zanzibar and reminisces about his work as a stuntman in Bollywood films. Babubhai's wife, Fatimaben, narrates her grandmother's work in a Hindu royal court. Their daughter, Heena, speaks about issues of identity in contemporary India.

The event, chaired by Dr David Taylor (Institute of Commonwealth Studies and SOAS), concluded with a lively discussion following a Question and Answer session.

Shihan de Silva (Institute of Commonwealth Studies)

FILM SCREENING WITH DIRECTORS Q&A

Jai Bhim Comrade

Anand Patwardhan (Director)

23 February 2013

Hosted jointly by the Department of Anthropology and Sociology, the Centre for South Asian Studies and the Centre for Media and Film Studies at SOAS, University of London the event comprised an introduction by the Director, Anand Patwardhan, followed by the screening of the film and Director's Q&A.

For thousands of years India's Dalits were abhorred as "untouchables" denied education and treated as bonded labour. By 1923 Bhimrao Ambedkar broke the taboo, won doctorates abroad and fought for the emancipation of his people. He drafted India's Constitution, led his followers to discard Hinduism for Buddhism. His legend still spreads through poetry and song. In 1997 a statue of Dr Ambedkar in a Dalit colony in Mumbai was desecrated with footwear. As angry residents gathered, police opened fire killing 10. Vilas Ghogre, a leftist poet, hung himself in protest.

'Jai Bhim Comrade' shot over 14 years, follows the poetry and music of people like Vilas and marks a subaltern tradition of reason that from the days of the Buddha, has fought superstition and religious bigotry.

Anand Patwardhan has been making political documentaries for nearly three decades pursuing diverse and controversial issues that are at the crux of social and political life in India. Many of his films were at one time or another banned by state television channels in India and became the subject of litigation by Patwardhan who successfully challenged the censorship rulings in court.



DISCUSSION

Can Film be used as an instrument for Social Change?

Shabana Azmi

6 March 2013

On the afternoon of 6 March the Centre hosted a lively discussion with distinguished guest Shabana Azmi and hosted by Rachel Dwyer.

In a career spanning 35 years Shabana Azmi has acted in more than 140 films and in the words of world renowned film maker Satyajit Ray "is India's finest dramatic actress"



Shabana is the recipient of the Gandhi International Peace Prize 2006, the first Indian to receive this prestigious award at the House of Commons in London. She received the prestigious Crystal Award at the World Economic Forum - Davos 2006 for achieving outstanding excellence in the field of culture and having used art to reach out to other cultures. She is the recipient of the International Human Rights award presented by President Mitterand in Paris in 1989 along with Mother Theresa.



Due to a busy schedule the discussion lasted only 1 hour, and by the time the famous actress arrived the lecture theatre was full. Many guests had travelled across London to catch a glimpse of Shabana.

EVENT REPORTS

SEMINAR SERIES

Charting Frontiers: Sanskrit Literary and Intellectual Cultures at the Mughal Court

Dr Audrey Truschke

16, 17 & 26 April 2013

Sanskrit intellectuals and texts were an integral part of Mughal court culture and informed imperial ambitions from roughly 1560 through 1650. Over the course of nearly 100 years, the Mughals actively supported Sanskrit textual production, participated in Sanskrit cultural life, and produced Persian translations of Sanskrit literature. For their part, both Jain and Brahmanical intellectuals composed Sanskrit literary works for Mughal consumption and wrote extensively about their imperial experiences. Yet the social, political, and literary dynamics of Sanskrit at the Mughal court remain a largely untold story in modern scholarship.

Audrey used a variety of Sanskrit and Persian texts to reconstruct these largely forgotten cross-cultural interactions. She argued that imperial engagements with the Sanskrit tradition are critical to understanding the construction of power in the Mughal Empire and the cultural and literary dynamics of early modern India. More broadly, she aimed to contribute to the active rethinking in many fields concerning how to analyze cross-cultural phenomena, the internal dynamics of literary traditions, and multicultural empires.



Audrey is currently a postdoctoral research fellow in History and Asian & Middle Eastern Studies at Gonville and Caius College, University of Cambridge. She received my Ph.D. from Columbia University in the Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies (MESAAS) department in May 2012.

WORKSHOP

The Bhutanese Refugee Resettlement Experience

22-23 May 2013

In the early 1990s, approximately 100,000 ethnic Nepalis left their homes in southern Bhutan and migrated to UNHCR-administered refugee camps in Nepal. 20 years later, none had been repatriated to Bhutan but more than half had accepted offers of resettlement in third countries. The process of third country resettlement is now well advanced, with 63,000 resettled in a large number of scattered locations across the USA and smaller numbers in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, the Netherlands, Denmark, Norway and the UK.

Research among resettled Bhutanese refugees is in its infancy and most researchers are working in isolation. The purpose of this workshop was to provide them with an opportunity to share their understandings and perspectives, and for the convenors to identify themes and topics that would lend themselves to an international research project.

A seedcorn grant from the Faculty of Languages and Cultures and the generous financial support received from the Foundation Open Society Institute enabled us to invite contributors to this workshop from Nepal, Canada, Australia, the USA and the Netherlands, and also to invite representatives of the UK resettled community in Manchester to share their perspectives with us.

Many of the papers focused on various aspects of the phenomenon of Bhutanese refugee resettlement in different locations, including Richmond (Sreeja Balarajan), Erie (Joe Stadler), Pittsburgh (Eleanor Ott), Austin (Heather

Hindman) and Manchester (Mani Thapa, Loknath Bajgai, Ramesh Ghimire, Ajay Thapa, Til Sharma, Roz Evans), while others cast a critical gaze on resettlement policy in the USA (Dani Grigsby) and the UK (Nicole Hoellerer). Gopal Guragain described relations between local Nepalis and those Bhutanese refugees who remain in the camps in Nepal, Liana Chase discussed



Workshop participants gather on the steps of the Brunei Gallery, SOAS

resilience among refugees in the USA against the backdrop of an alarmingly high incidence of suicides, Susan Banki raised questions about the likely persistence of homeland activism among resettled refugees in Australia and elsewhere, and Ilse Griek described the impact of resettlement upon social practices such as marriage. Questions of cultural and political identity and generational change loomed large in many of our discussions, and we hope that these and other topics will become the focus for further research among resettled Bhutanese refugees in the years to come.

I would like to thank my research student Mona Chettri for shouldering the administrative burden of this workshop so cheerfully, and Jane, Rahima and Dorinne in the Centres and Programmes office for their kind and efficient support.

Mike Hutt

SMALL GRANTS

The CSAS is sometimes in a position to support staff and doctoral students with their research through a small grants scheme. The first round of this scheme was introduced in 2013 to support a research project or part thereof; or to disseminate research at a conference; to finish and publish research; or for seed funding to test out the viability of a larger project.

www.soas.ac.uk/southasianstudies/research/csasawards/

RECIPIENTS

Richard AXELBY
Senior Teaching Fellow, Department of Sociology and Anthropology
Mobility and the Road to Modernity in the Himalayan region of Lahoul
24 July to 21 August 2013
Awarded: £400

Morgan DAVIES
PhD Student - Music
Musical Knowledge Of The Langas And Manganiyars
The proposed project involves two distinct and fully documented field trips to Rajasthan:
1) 5 October - 10 December 2013
2) 8 February - 21 March 2014.
Awarded: £400

Francesca FUOLI
PhD Student - History
Changing State-Society Relations in Late Nineteenth-Century Afghanistan: State Building and Group Identities Reconsidered Through the Categories of British Colonial Knowledge, 1879-1900. Research costs:
24 June - 28 June/2013
Awarded: £400

Najia MUKHTAR
PhD Student
Conference Paper Presentation – 7th Global Conference Multiculturalism, Conflict and Belonging, 1-3 September 2013
Awarded: £400

Narash SHARMA
Senior Lecturer in Hindi and Urdu
Attendance at the 13th International Pragmatics Conference (New Delhi, 8-13 September 2013)
Awarded: £400

Amrita SHODHAN
Senior Teaching Fellow
Panchayats and Caste in East India Company Governance, 30 May - 2 June 2013
Awarded: £400

Simona VITTORINI
Senior Teaching Fellow
Research project titled: 'Small but Steady like the Elephant: India's Exceptionalism and its Involvement in Africa', 16 March 2013 to 7 April 2013.
Awarded: £400



North India, Kashmir, early 19th century. Ink and gouache on paper with cloth binding. Donated by R.S. Reid, Esq. (D.D. Dickson Bequest).

From the Objects of Instruction: Treasures of SOAS in the new Foyle Special Collections Gallery of the Brunei Gallery, SOAS

South Asia Research is an interdisciplinary area journal for the South Asia region, now published by Sage Publications in London and edited by Werner MENSKI. The topics covered include modern and pre-modern history, politics, economics, anthropology, literary and visual culture, language and literature. Its primary aim is to give rapid access to current research work and to provide opportunities for publication to research students as well as to established scholars. In addition to reports of research in progress and book reviews, review articles are also welcome. South Asia Research also publishes 'thought pieces' and interpretative essays that address issues and problems arising from new research.

SAR now appears three times a year and is available electronically through SAGE, which has led to a much larger readership for the journal, as access figures demonstrate.



SAR is available online at

<http://sar.sagepub.com/>

Free access to table of contents and abstracts.

Site-wide access to the full texts for members of subscribing institutions

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Alamgir Muhammad Serajuddin, Muslim Family Law, Secular Courts and Muslim Women of South Asia

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Daniel P. Marston and Chandar S. Sundaram (eds.) A Military History of India and South Asia: From the East India Company to the Nuclear Era

HANNE-RUTH THOMPSON

Kalpana Bardhan (ed.) The Oxford Indian Anthology of Bengali Literature, Volume II, 1941 – 1991

PREETHA MANI

Vasudha Dalmia (ed.) Hindi Modernism: Rethinking Agyeya and His Times.

RIZWAN LATIF

Ligaya Lindio-McGovern and Isidor Walliman (eds.) Globalization and Third World Women: Exploitation, Coping and Resistance

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MARIA JONES

Alex Strick van Linschoten and Felix Kuehn (Eds), Poetry of the Taliban

OBITUARY FOR PROFESSOR J.D.M. DERRETT

(By Professor Werner Menski, SOAS, University of London)

Professor John Duncan Martin Derrett, DCL, PhD, LL.D (30.8.1922-21.10.2012), a barrister and for a long time the major global expert in the Western world on Hindu law and the laws of India, passed away at the age of 90 in the idyllic village of Blockley in the Cotswolds.

As a textual analyst and a student both of early Christian and Hebrew literature, and also of the Buddhist and ancient Hindu religious texts, he was working in a field known only to theologians and scholars of comparative religion. He published some forty-four books. He had a mastery not only of classical Latin, Greek and Hebrew, and hence a knowledge of Aramaic. He also had a fluent understanding of Sanskrit, and thus of early Hindi, Pali and no doubt of Tamil.

Duncan Derrett, as he was known locally, was an active President of the Antiquarian Society and even published several collections of local historical manuscripts, which can be found on the internet. After his retirement from SOAS, University of London, where he was Professor of Oriental Laws from 1965-1982, he became engaged in intensive research on complex, often controversial questions of theology and comparative religion. His critical scholarly analysis upset quite a few scholars through his significant findings that Christian religious traditions were to some extent influenced by Buddhist and early Hindu concepts.

What is described by those around him as 'the other side of Duncan's scholarship' will particularly interest people at SOAS, for Professor Derrett had a long-standing connection with the Kerala Law Times, a leading Indian law journal, until I took over from him. In 1982, we were both on the Editorial Committee. That year he published the last of his articles at pp. 31-33 of the KLT Journal Section on 'Nullity of marriage and change of religion'. This is item 397 in a list of books and articles prepared as part of Indology and Law. Studies in Honour of Professor J. Duncan M. Derrett, edited by Günther-Dietz Sontheimer and Parameswara Kota Aithal (Wiesbaden: Franz Steiner Verlag 1982), which speaks volumes about this great scholar's life work. He continued to publish some further articles also on Hindu law, even in the early years of the new Millennium. However, after his retirement from SOAS, where he had started working in the late 1940s after some difficult army engagements in India until 1945, his attention clearly shifted to New Testament

Studies and related topics.

The Preface in Derrett's Festschrift highlights that he 'never follows any of those "schools of thought" or short-lived academic fashions which sometimes reflect more on the state of these disciplines in the country of their origin than on the true India' (italics in the original, p. v). He laid to rest Sir Henry Maine's rather superficial remarks about the development of traditional Indian legal culture. Above all, he deeply engaged with Indian judicial decisions and produced several major books on Indian family law, prominently An Introduction to Modern Hindu Law (Oxford: OUP 1963), A Critique of Modern Hindu Law (Bombay: Tripathi 1970), and The Death of a Marriage Law (New Delhi: Vikas 1978). These may be outdated today, but inform researchers reliably about earlier stages of development and the difficulties in finding the 'right law' in one of the world's most important jurisdictions.

His collected works in four volumes, Essays in Classical and Modern Hindu Law (Leiden: Brill 1976-78), are further testimony of towering achievements. Religion, Law and the State in India (London: Faber & Faber 1968) has probably most lasting relevance as a historical study and was reprinted in India in 1998.

Indian judges, in particular, appreciated his enthusiasm for understanding legal decision making processes in the intensely plural and messy context of a massive hybrid legal system.

Having ended the long wait at the doors of the crematorium, as he once wrote to me, Professor Derrett will be remembered forever, specifically in India, as the major British scholar of Hindu law in the world. His legacy lives on in his innumerable publications, in my work, and in the many young people who are not too blinded by modernity to discover today that in bygone times there was a great scholar of Indian laws in London, a true rishi on the banks of the Thames, as it was once put.

In January 2009, a special panel of the first LASSNET Conference in New Delhi celebrated the contributions of this great scholar to the study of South Asian Comparative Laws and Social Change. An internet search under 'Duncan Derrett' yields enormous evidence of the continuing impact of this true polymath and his wide-ranging scholarship. His

CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF PAKISTAN

2012-2013 saw the Centre for the Study of Pakistan continue to build its profile as a Research Centre with an Annual lecture, seminar series, film screenings, and graduate student activity. We also raised some funds for our Annual lecture by collaborations with the Pakistan High Commission and the Rangoonwala Foundation. The Centre was also part of a successful collaborative funding bid to the RCUK. The Centre's first Annual Lecture was delivered by Professor Ayesha Jalal, of Tufts University, who spoke on the renowned



From left: Anees Razzak, Amina Yaqin, Ian Talbot, Ayesha Jalal, James Caron, Paaras Abbas

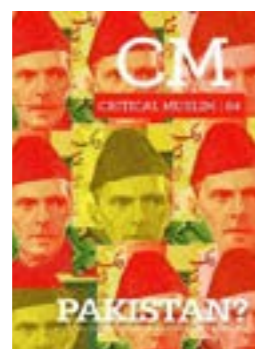
Urdu writer, Saadat Hasan Manto drawing on a biographical focus to develop her central argument of "The Pity of Partition". This was a timely intervention in a centennial year for Manto and was drawn from Professor Jalal's biography of Manto subsequently published by Princeton University Press in 2013. Professor Jalal also engaged in an open conversation with graduate students and faculty at SOAS working in the field of South Asian Studies. Manto continues to inspire a new generation of SOAS students and a theatrical production of "Tales of 1947", directed by one of our undergraduate students Marta Schmidt with moving live music brought a creative and artistic dimension to the Centre's fold.

Our seminar series included talks by Dr Humeira Iqtidar (King's College) on 'Secularising Islamists', Dr Ammara Maqsood (University of Oxford) on 'Religious consumption and emerging middle class culture in Lahore', Dr Matthew Nelson debating whether democracy means different things in India, Pakistan and the UK, 'nineteenth-century Muslim travel narratives' by Dr Najeeba Arif (Charles Wallace Trust Pakistan Visiting Fellow), Dr Robert Ivermee on 'Islamic education in late nineteenth century Punjab', Dr James Caron on 'Informality, Islam and public opinion on the interperipheries of South Asia' and Dr Abu Bakar Ali on 'Romance, Agency and the Play of Imagination' in Qaisra Shahraz's writings. The writer Alice Albinia spoke with Victoria Schofield on the

theme of the Indus drawn from her novel and William Dalrymple delivered a lecture on "The Battle for Afghanistan" based on his recent book. We also hosted a Roundtable Discussion with Professor Akbar S Ahmad of American University, Washington D.C. on the documentary film "Journey into America" directed by Craig Coinsidine and themed around Professor Ahmad's book. Sabiya Sumar's award winning film Khamosh Pani and Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy's oscar winning documentary Saving Face were screened as part of the Centre's

collaboration with the Asian Women Tongues on Fire Film Festival in London. The latter included a public conversation with the plastic surgeon Dr Mohammad Ali Jawad. The journal Critical Muslim launched its Special issue on Pakistan at the Centre. Ziauddin Sardar, along with Samia Rahman and Avaes Mohammad, poet, playwright and

performer, read excerpts from the magazine, including Taymiya Zaman's account of her fear of talking about Pakistan and Taimur Khan's musings of Karachi. Professor Ian Talbot's book Pakistan: a new history was



launched at the Centre with a lively panel discussion featuring the author, Dr Sarah Ansari and members of the Centre. The session highlighted key elements from the book including governance, education, minorities and future challenges for Pakistan.

Dr Yaqin on behalf of CSP was successful in a collaborative funding bid made to the RCUK with Principal Investigator, Professor Peter Morey on the theme of Muslims, Trust and Cultural Dialogue. This project will run for 3 years and has been awarded a sum of £ 341,000. In the first year of the project we have held 2 Roundtable discussions and an open seminar with the Dialogue society on the themes of Trust in politics, business and finance and the arts and community. Our first major conference took place in June this year and was on the theme of "Muslims, Multiculturalism and Trust: New Directions".

The conference included keynote addresses by Professor Tariq Modood and Lord Bhikhu Parekh. It brought together leading experts from across the social science/humanities divide to examine the intersections and tensions between different approaches to questions of multiculturalism and trust, and to explore the possibility of developing mutually informative interdisciplinary approaches to shed new light on this topic. We will be hosting a second conference in 2014 on the theme of Trust and Islamophobia, a series of occasional seminars, public lectures, and a photography exhibition. There are also plans for a documentary film.



CSP is also a proud supporter of a new graduate student initiative MUSA (Muslim South Asia) by three well deserving SOAS PhD students working on South Asia including Pakistan: Johann Chacko, Francesca Fuoli and Najia Mukhtar. We look forward to their first graduate conference in October 2013.

The Centre welcomes new Research Associates, Professor Aamer Hussein and Professor Imran Ali. We are also delighted to have signed an MoU with LUMS and look forward to working closely with our colleagues in Pakistan.

I am very grateful to members of the Centre's steering committee for their support and contribution throughout the year and to our administrative team in the Centres and Programmes office without whom none of our activities would be possible. I wish to extend my appreciation to Nick Butler for his timely support this year. A special mention goes to Evan Hancock and his team in the Careers office for working tirelessly on the internships programme for students on the MA in the Study of Contemporary Pakistan.

The Centre is unique in the UK and at SOAS we have a depth of scholars working on the region across disciplines. We are developing a resource pool in the Centre that is of significance to colleagues, the wider academic world and local communities. I have learned a lot from colleagues, both internal to SOAS and external and I am encouraged by their support for the Centre. Our challenge for the immediate future is to continue building our collaborations, partnerships and bids for new projects that will sustain the Centre in future years and take us toward new directions.

Amina Yaqin

SEMINARS

4 October 2012
Dr Umbreen Javaid (Punjab University, Lahore)
Rising Religious Militancy in Pakistan: Genesis and Consequences

11 October 2012
Dr Humeira Iqtidar (King's College London) in conversation with Dr Asad Ali (Harvard University)
Secularising Islamists?

6 December 2012
Alice Albinia (Writer) in conversation with Victoria Schofield (MA, Senior member, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford. Associate, Pakistan Security Research Unit, University of Bradford)
Empires of the Indus: The Story of a River

17 January 2013
Ammara Maqsood (University of Oxford)
Consuming Modernity: Religious Consumption, the West and Emerging Middle-Class Culture in Lahore, Pakistan

24 January 2013
Dr Matthew Nelson (SOAS, University of London)
Does 'Democracy' Mean Different Things in Pakistan, India, and the UK?

5 February 2013
William Dalrymple (Author / Princeton University)
Return of a King - The Battle for Afghanistan

7 February 2013
Dr James Caron (SOAS, University of London)
Informality, Islam, and Public Opinion on the Inter-Peripheries of South Asia

7 March 2013
Dr Abu-Bakar Ali
'Without him life loomed like a void' - Romance, Agency and the Play of Imagination in Qaisra Shahraz's The Holy Woman

14 March 2013
Robert Ivermee
State and community revisited: Islamic education in later nineteenth century Punjab

EVENT LISTING

31 October 2012
Launch of Critical Muslim 04: Pakistan?

15 November 2012
Critical forum with SOAS research and taught postgraduates
Professor Ayesha Jalal (TUFTS)

15 November 2012
Sponsored by Pakistan High Commission
Centre of the Study of Pakistan
Annual Lecture
Professor Ayesha Jalal (TUFTS)
The Pity of Partition, Manto's Life, Times and Work across the India-Pakistan Divide

23 November 2012
Sponsored by Hurst Publishers
Round Table
Pakistan: Past Perspectives, Future Challenges
Professor Ian Talbot (Southampton University), Professor Anatol Lieven (Kings College London), Dr Sarah Ansari and Dr James Caron (SOAS).
Chair: Professor Gurharpal Singh (SOAS)

9 March 2013
Cohosted with Tongues on Fire
Film Screening & Q&A
Saving Face
Mohammad Ali Jawad (Consultant Plastic Surgeon)

13 March 2013
Cohosted with Tongues on Fire
Film Screening & Q&A
Khamosh Pani
Sabia Samar (Director)

21 March 2013
Cohosted with the Muslims, Trust and Cultural Dialogue
Panel Discussion
Muslims, Trust and Cultural Dialogue - a collaboration with the Dialogue Society, SOAS and UEL
Speakers included: Abbey (Semitic Art London), Anwar Akhtar (Director, Samosa), Kristiane Backer (Writer and Television Presenter) and Makhdum Chishty (Commander, London Metropolitan Police)

1-2 June 2013
Cohosted with the Muslims, Trust and Cultural Dialogue
Conference
Muslims, Multiculturalism and Trust: New Directions
Participants include: Rehana Ahmed, Valerie Amiaux, Claire Chambers, Sohail Daulatzai, Romy Hasan, Salah Hassan, Tony Laden, Alana Lentin, Nasar Meer, Tariq Modood, Anshuman Mondal, Peter Morey, Stephen Morton, Jorgen Nielsen, Lord Bhikhu Parekh, Amina Yaqin



PROFESSORIAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

Professor Imran ALI
History, political economy, agricultural development and business strategy
ia10@soas.ac.uk

Professor Aamer HUSSEIN
Karachi School for Business & Leadership
Development of narrative traditions in modern Urdu, with a particular focus on mid-20th century Pakistani fiction and women's writings from South Asia

Professor Ayesha JALAL
TUFTS University
aj17@soas.ac.uk

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Dr Matthew MCCARTNEY
Oxford University
Economics, development economics, political economy of India and Pakistan since 1947; the state and late industrialisation, the fundamental and proximate determinants of economic growth
matthew.mccartney@area.ox.ac.uk

CHARLES WALLACE TRUST FELLOWSHIPS

End of Fellowship Report

Charles Wallace Pakistan Fellowship 2012-2013

Dr Najeeba Arif
(International Islamic University, Islamabad)

Applying for the Charles Wallace Fellowship? Why? What for? The other set of questions: Going to London? In this busiest period of the year? Who will take your classes? Have you thought about your research students? Do you have enough leave balance? You will have to suffer a few set-backs! Beware! The last blow: Mama...? Going alone? Not fair...!!!

Against all these odds, I reached London on 29th December 2012, when it was all closed for the Christmas! (I got a better airfare deal).

London was and remained wet, cold, windy, snowy and unpredictable but never hostile and disappointing. SOAS, my host institution had the warmest faces of Jane Savory and Rahima Begum... always there to help, guide and facilitate. Michael Hutt, the new Chair, center of South Asian Studies and James Caron, Lecturer in Islamic South Asia, further alleviated my stay and research. References to the books, addresses of the senior scholars, registration of the libraries, coffee, lunch and chit-chat, everything was delicious, tasteful and enlightening. Francesca Orsini proved to be such a blessing, she introduced me to Richard Harris and gave a successful clue to one of the rare manuscripts, I was looking for since long. Amina Yaqin and Naresh Sharma were a relief to my exhausted tongue...I loved speaking Urdu and Punjabi with them respectively. And of course, sharing their experiences, knowledge and insight added meaning to our conversation.

But the best part of my visit, for which I owe a lot of gratitude to the Charles Wallace Trust and the British Council Pakistan, is my access to thousands of rare books, manuscripts, records, documents, maps and photos. It was such a unique experience that enabled me to re-live the past, while sitting in the Special Collections and Archives Reading Rooms of the Bodleian Library, SOAS, British library, National Library of Scotland and the Library of the University of Edinburgh.

The topic of my research was: The West in South Asian Muslim Discourse: A Study of Urdu Travelogues, Notes and Letters (1757-1857).

It was like diving the Desert Rivers of Oblivion and Memory simultaneously, forgetting where I was and being where I never have been. I travelled to London

from Calcutta with all of them, embarking upon Morse, Europa, Isabella and what not. Suffering the sea-sickness, watching the flying fish, wandering through St. Helena and the Cape of Good Hope, reaching the shores of England and finally getting lost in the curiosities and wonders of Vilayat..... My problem was two-fold. I had to identify myself with the view and the viewer both. I was looking at London with the eyes of our upper and middle class South Asian Muslims of the eighteenth and nineteenth century. But also was observing these 'exotic Indians' as viewed by the nationals of the greatest political and economic power of the age. I had to go through an immense shock and an amused awe. I was dissecting myself.... My collective, national, religious and historical self!

The formal requirement for the fellowship was a seminar at SOAS but informally, the CW Fellow is expected to get exposure to the western scholarship through meeting people, interacting with the scholars, academics and researchers and becoming a part of a plural academic and social life in Britain. I tried my best to avail the opportunity to the maximum by giving five formal talks at multiple universities and organizations including SOAS, the University of Edinburgh, the University of Heidelberg, the University of Rome and the Yorkshire Literary forum, addressing and reciting poetry at an auspicious gathering of Bazm i Urdu (Urdu Society) in Edinburgh, presiding the Women's Day Mushaira at Leeds and meeting the renowned Urdu poets and writers of London.

During these seminars and talks, I felt myself privileged of addressing learned and cognizant audience, eager for giving thought-provoking feedback, raising intricate questions and encouraging generously. Heidelberg was glowing in the warm hospitality of Christina Oesterheld and Amtul Manan Tahir. In the University of Edinburgh, I was welcomed and facilitated by Prof. Crispin Bates, Prof. Patricia Jeffery and Prof. Marilyn Booth, with whom I discussed my research interests, future plans and prospects of any possible academic collaboration. At the seminar in the University of Rome, the ambassador of Pakistan in Italy, Her Excellency Tehmani Janjua took the initiative and graced the occasion along with the Defense attaché and other staff. But the most memorable part of the trip was discovering the tender heart of a friend behind the official



formalities of a Professor and a Scholar. Daniela Bredi is more than a professional contact now. Tim Buchard, Secretary Charles Wallace Trust took time to attend the seminar at SOAS and encouraged me with his kind and comforting remarks. During my stay at SOAS, I attended capacity building workshops, lectures and seminars in different departments, talked to students and faculty members and particularly met Prof. Christopher Shackle and Prof. Javed Majeed. It all added to my information, knowledge and insight.

This visit also gave me a wonderful opportunity to observe closely the South Asian Diaspora in Europe and to get familiar with the literary themes and devices being adopted by the Urdu writers and poets living in the western societies. Interaction with the renowned literary figures in London, Bradford, Dewsbury and Edinburgh was a treat and I cherish all these events.

All of this and much more is a part of a whole collective experience, a collage made up of the glimpses of the city, far-fetched voices of dhol and tabla from the music room, a sudden soft and cool touch of snowflakes at the forehead, the quietness in the reading rooms, the exotic odor of the centuries-old manuscripts and books, the sweet bitterness of hot coffee, the hustle and bustle at the underground stations and the grey stone-floors of the narrow streets, letting us walk through the corridors of history. It was a tremendous encounter of the yesterday and today, the margin and the center and the East and the west. It has enriched my soul, enlightened my mind and delighted my heart.

I am leaving London when it is enjoying the Easter holidays. The weather is still the same, windy, snowy and unpredictable but London has its own warmth and passion. I have packed a part of it in my luggage. Thanks to Arif, my husband, who has joined me in the last two weeks of my stay and managed to celebrate our 21st wedding anniversary together. Excess luggage is not a problem anymore. I have bags full of books, manuscripts, notes and memories, sufficient enough to keep me engaged for years.



End of Fellowship Report

Charles Wallace India Fellowship 2012-2013

Dr Milind Eknath Awad
(Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Iwould like to pay my gratitude to the Charles Wallace India Fellowships (CWIT) at SOAS, London for awarding me the prestigious fellowship for the year 2012-13. For me as a Charles Wallace fellow for 2012-13 at SOAS, London, has been both intellectually and culturally most empowering experience. The stay, which filled me immensely with intellectually rewarding experience, sadly lasted only for two months (May to July). The intellectually exciting stay showered me with a warm and lovely weather that made London one of the most exciting cities in the United Kingdom. During my short-lived stay I visited various places of immense reputation such as the British Museum, Science Museum, Victoria and Albert Museum, the London film Museum, National Gallery, the Saatchi Gallery, the British Parliament,



The Queen Elizabeth II Great Court, in the British Museum, is the largest covered public square in Europe

and the London Eye. I truly believe this experience has enriched my academic growth as well as cultural life. While walking on the London Roads particularly in central London seeing 'London plaques' and revisiting cultural heritage of London city, I could see spontaneous street artist, exploring glorious markets and various boutique shops and restaurants. This enriching experience made me realize that London is truly an international city that nestles with rich and diversified cultures representing various parts of the world.



The two months stay which I believe is very short to explore the truly vibrant and cosmopolitan city of London which is intellectually as well as academically stimulating city. During my stay I used the British Library and SOAS library regularly. One of the most notable things that I found in the British Library was its preservation of old manuscripts, historically significant documents, Shakespeare's own first folio and immense collection of books. I also went through the rich collection of various books and reports maintained and preserved painstakingly by the section 'India Office records' which introduced me to the vast collection on contemporary colonial administration and its conception of rules and regulation in the context of contemporary India. I got access to various manuscripts and policy documents as well as private papers which helped me to understand the recognition of various social groups through administrative categories in India.

During this period I participated in many interesting seminars and conferences in SOAS, University College of London (UCL), and London School of Economics (LSE) which helped me to extend my academic and intellectual interest in larger contexts. One of such examples could be the seminar titled 'Negotiating Gender & Caste in higher education' in University College of London on 27 June and my presentation in the Annual General Meeting of the Dalit Solidarity Network at a Methodist church, London on 2 July 2013. Events like these presented me with many opportunities that facilitated my interactions with members of London-based-civil-society groups, parliamentarians and academicians. These engagements have immensely enriched my academic and intellectual pursuits.

During my stay I did not confine myself to the surrounding environment, I visited the universities of great repute of the UK such as Oxford, Cambridge, Bristol and Essex. These visits helped me to understand not only the university life, but also the cultural life to which these cities exposed me. Along with this, I would also like to write a few words about my interactions with academics of SOAS, particularly with Prof. David Mosse. I had heard a lot about Prof. Mosse before I saw him in London, but seeing him in person and interacting with him was a very enriching and rewarding experience. Prof. Mosse' contribution to the Anthropology in India is not only widely recognized but also seminal which clearly reflected from his interactions with us. Dialogue with Prof. Michael Hutt was also intellectually encouraging. I am really thankful of the Center and the Programmes Office at SOAS. Ms Jane Savory has been of immense help; ever ready to answer my



clarifications and queries. Thank you Ms Jane Savory! Thanks are also due to the staff members of Ms. Jane's office for facilitating CWIT process.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr. Richard Aflord, Secretary, Charles Wallace India Trust, who has been of a very great support during my stay. I was amazed at the amount of the information, interest, engagement, that Mr. Richard Aflord invests in fellows. I had the pleasure of many warm interactions with Mr. Aflord during my visits and he always looked out for me with care.

MUSLIM SOUTH ASIA RESEARCH FORUM

The Muslim South Asia Research Forum (MUSA) is a PhD-led initiative founded in March 2013 and currently run by three SOAS PhD students: Najia Mukhtar (Politics), Francesca Fuoli (History) and Johann Chacko (Politics).

The aim of the MUSA is to provide an international networking and research-exchange platform for research students and



From left: Francesca Fuoli, Johann Chacko and Najia Mukhtar

early career researchers working on Muslim societies in South Asia. The focus of the forum is interdisciplinary and encompasses work that transcends communal and national boundaries (e.g. culture, language, external changes and interventions), or focuses on their intersections (e.g. on both Muslim and non-Muslim minorities and the relationship with the majority). Geographically it comprises Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, the Maldives, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bhutan, including their diasporic communities around the world.

MUSA held its Launch Event and first networking event at SOAS on 9 May 2013. The evening reported an excellent turnout, with around 50-60 PhD students and academics coming from SOAS, LSE, King's College and other major London universities. Professor Werner Menski introduced the event by giving an inspiring address about the importance of researching Muslim law in South Asia. The MUSA Launch Event was funded by the SOAS Doctoral School and the CSAS.



Werner Menski second from left

Currently, the MUSA committee is organizing the 'First Muslim South Asia Annual Graduate Conference', to be hosted at SOAS on 28 October 2013. The conference aims to bring together at SOAS young scholars and academics to showcase fresh research and thinking in this field and contributing towards making SOAS a centre for vibrant and innovative research.

CONTACT DETAILS

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/MusaResarchForum



RESEARCH STUDENTS SEP 2012- AUG 2013

Sanaa ALIMIA

Afghans in Pakistan: Reworking Citizenship and Sources of Political Power, 1978-2009
Supervisor: Dr Matthew NELSON

Sandhya BALASUBRAHMANYAM

Rent Creation, Political Clientelism and the Indian Telecom Sector
Supervisor: Professor Mushtaq KHAN

Priyanka BASU

Title TBC
Supervisor: Professor Francesca Orsini, Dr Nick GRAY and Professor Rachel DWYER

Adam BENKATO

The Manichaen - Sogdian Parable book. Text edition and literary analysis
Supervisor: Professor Almut HINTZE

Nagasena BHIKKHU

The Significance of the Sima (Monastic Boundary) in Burmese and Bangladeshi Buddhism
Supervisor: Dr Kate CROSBY

Rupa CHAKRABORTY

Sylheti: A comparison between Standard Bangla and one of its major regional forms
Supervisor: Dr William RADICE

Mayurika CHAKRAVORTY

Enchantment and the politics of subversion: a study of fantasy fiction in Bengali
Supervisor: Dr William RADICE

Mona CHETTRI

Identity Politics in the Eastern Himalayas
Supervisor: Professor Michael HUTT

Debojyoti DAS

Contested Development: Problems and Dilemmas in Sustainable Jhum Redevelopment in Nagaland
Supervisor: Professor David MOSSE

Tara Desjardins

Studies on Mughal Glass
Supervisor: Professor Anna CONTADINI

Jean-Philippe DEQUEN

Pluralism or plurality: An assessment of the legal strategies regarding Muslim succession law in contemporary India
Supervisor: Professor Werner F MENSKI

Pragya DHITAL

Paper Chains: An Investigation of Translingual Commerce in North Indian Print Media
Supervisor: Dr Rochana BAJPAI

Ahmet Riza EMIROGLU

The Exploration of the Idea of Emanation through the Comparison between the Islamic and Indian Philosophies with Special Reference to Ibn Sinā and Abhinavagupta
Supervisor: Dr Jan-Peter HARTUNG and Dr Whitney COX

Anaís da FONSECA

The Exploration of the Idea of Emanation through the Comparison between the Islamic and Indian Philosophies with Special Reference to Ibn Sinā and Abhinavagupta
Supervisor: Dr Jan-Peter HARTUNG and Dr Whitney COX

Aruna Gauri PANDEY

The Challenge of 'Anomie': Issues of Identity for Christian Converts from Islam in Pakistan
Supervisor: Dr Subir Sinha

Timothy GREEN

Institutional Models to Resolve Conflicts over Natural resource governance in India: The Role of Solidarity Economy
Supervisor: Dr Kate ZEBIRI and Dr Jan-Peter HARTUNG

Syed Asif HAIDER

Muslim modernities on the Hindi Screen
Supervisor: Professor Rachel DWYER

Eleanor HALSELL

German Orientalism, Indian Occidentalism: cinematic collaboration up to 1939
Supervisor: Professor Rachel DWYER

Kendel HANNS BJOERN

The role of Anti-Terrorism legislation- The case study of recent Indian experience
Supervisor: Dr A FISCHER

Wei-Lun HUANG

The two-level games of policy network and regional institutions: a network analysis of India's foreign economic policy, 1991-2011
Supervisor: Professor Lawrence SAEZ

Dhivya JANARTHANAN

Anthropology of Space and Dominance in Southern India
Supervisor: Professor David MOSSE

Hannah Katie JENKIN

Organizing Transnational Yoga: Institutionalization, Globalization and Complexity
Supervisor: Dr Peter FLUGEL

Akhil KATYAL

Same-Sex Desire and Ideas of the Self in Modern India
Supervisor: Dr Amina YAQIN

Adeeba KHAN

Democracy in the context of clientelism: the impact of electoral laws in Bangladesh
Supervisor: Dr A Fischer

Masum KHAN

D. H. Lawrence and the post-Tagore writers of Bengali literature
Supervisor: Dr William RADICE

Mehrbod KHANIZADEH

The Avesta and Pahlavi versions of the Hom Yasht
Supervisor: Professor Almut HINTZE

Preeti KHOSLA

A Study of the Visual Language of the Indigenous Styles of Book Painting in North India during the Sultanate period (1414-1525 AD)
Supervisors: Professor Doris Behrens ABOUSEIF

Sujith KOONAN

Realising the Right to Sanitation in India: A Study of Conceptual Framework and Implementation Challenges
Supervisors: Professor P. CULLETT

Priya KUMAR

Wireless Platforms and Borderless Grievances: An Analysis of Transnational Diaspora Linkages
Supervisors: Fiona ADAMSON and Rahul RAO

Lidia Jolanta LEWANDOWSKA-NAYAR

Place and role of Narottama Dasa Thakura in the development of Bengali Vaishnavism (draft title)
Supervisor: Dr William RADICE

Zaad MAHMOOD

Determinants of labour reform in India
Supervisor: Professor Lawrence SAEZ

Emma Martin

Charles Bell: A Collector in Tibet
Supervisor: Dr Crispin Branfoot

RESEARCH STUDENTS SEP 2012- AUG 2013

Rastin MEHRI

The Zoroastrians of British Columbia
Supervisor: Professor Almut HINTZE

Farah MIHLAR

Islamic Fundamentalism amongst
the Muslims of Sri Lanka
Supervisor: Dr Jan-Peter HARTUNG

Leena MITFORD

19th century Urdu literature
Supervisor: Professor
Christopher SHACKLE

Neda MOHTASHAMI

Studies in the Pahlavi version of the Yasna
Supervisor: Professor Almut HINTZE

Najia MUKHTAR

Discourses of Resistance? Examining Spaces
of Religious Tolerance in Contemporary
Pakistani Society
Supervisor: Dr Matthew NELSON

Sruthi MURALEEDHARAN

Symbolic Encounters: Identity, performance
and democratic subjectivity in India
Supervisors: Dr Rochana BAJPAI and Dr
Rahul RAO

Samani Pratibha Pragya

Prekṣā Dhyāna: History and Practice
Supervisor: Dr Peter FLÜGEL

Usman QADIR

The Political Economy of Technol-
ogy Acquisition in Pakistan: Policy and
Constraints in the Automobile Industry
Supervisor: Professor Mushtaq KHAN

Shamraiz QAYYUM

Muslim skilled socio-legal
navigation in Britain
Supervisor: Professor Werner F MENSKI

Ayaz A QURESHI

Pakistan's response towards HIV/AIDS;
Institutional complexity and the
politics of policy
Supervisor: Dr Caroline OSELLA

Lucas ROBINSON

New Cities, New Phones, New Politics:
Accounting for Political Leadership among
Transnational Afghans and Somalis
Supervisor: Professor Matthew NELSON

Rashi ROHATGI

Abhimanyu Unnuth and the World of
Mauritian Hindi Poetry
Supervisor: Dr Francesca ORSINI
and Dr Kai EASTON

Pallavi ROY

Competitive Clientelism and its effects
on Learning-A Case Study of Tamil Nadu
and Gujarat in India
Supervisor: Mushtaq KHAN

Jaspreet SANGHERA

Hindu, Urdu and Punjabi literature written by
women on Post – Partition Delhi, UP, Punjab
and Lahore, 1949-1959
Supervisor: Dr Francesca ORSINI

Patricia SAUTHOFF

Open secrets and the retention of power in
10th to 13th century Kashmir Śaivism
Supervisor: Dr Francesca ORSINI

Shamaila SARWAR

The life and works of the twentieth
century Pakistani Islamic mystic,
Sufi Abu Anees Barkat Ali (d. 1997),
and the origins and development of
the khānaqah of Dār Ul Ehsān
Supervisor: Dr Jan-Peter HARTUNG

Sunari SENARATNE

Reconfiguring Aspiration: Post Tsunami
Reconstruction in Coastal Sri Lanka
Supervisor: Professor David MOSSE

Sohini SENGUPTA

Being hungry and Becoming free:
Marginality, Identity and Livelihoods
in Rural Western Orissa
Supervisor: Professor David MOSSE

Soofia SIDDIQUE

Remembering the Revolt of 1857
Supervisor: Dr Francesca ORSINI

Priyadarshini SINGH

Title TBC
Supervisor: Dr Matthew NELSON
and Dr Rochana BAJPAI

Chinmay SHARMA

The Mahabharata re-constructions from
South Asia: Mapping the field of cultural
reproduction of an epic
Supervisor: Professor Francesca Orsini, Dr Nick GRAY
and Professor Rachel DWYER

Federica SONA

In the shadow of uniformity:
Muslim marriages in Europe
Supervisor: Professor Werner F MENSKI

Alice TILCHE

Struggling with culture in an Adivasi
Museum of western India
Supervisor: Professor David MOSSE

Krishna Prasad UPADHYAYA

International Humanitarian Law and
Vulnerability: the Tharu experience
of Nepal's internal conflict
Supervisor: Professor Michael HUTT

Manpreet VIRDI

Contesting and constructing
legal consciousness in multicultural
contexts: immigrant sikh women
in Canada
Supervisor: Professor Werner F MENSKI

Sahil WARSII

Cultivating Hambastagi and Hamdardi:
Personhood and Relatedness among
Afghans in India
Supervisor: Dr Magnus MARSDEN

Bryony WHITMARSHI

The Narayanhi Palace Museum: Memory,
Power and National Identity
Supervisor: Professor Michael HUTT

Arash ZEINI

The Pahlavi version of the
Yasna Haptanghaiti
Supervisor: Professor Almut HINTZE

CSAS

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CENTRE OF SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

About Us

The Centre of South Asian Studies (CSAS) is the forum for South Asian-related research activities at SOAS, University of London. The principal role of the Centre is to promote, coordinate and disseminate information relating to, the academic study of South Asia across the disciplines and to act as a resource for academic, governmental, non-governmental and business constituencies with an interest in South Asia.

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The CSAS hosts a comprehensive programme of high quality and well respected interdisciplinary activities including the weekly public seminars, international conferences, performances, film screenings, closed working groups, workshops and receptions.

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CSAS Annual Review

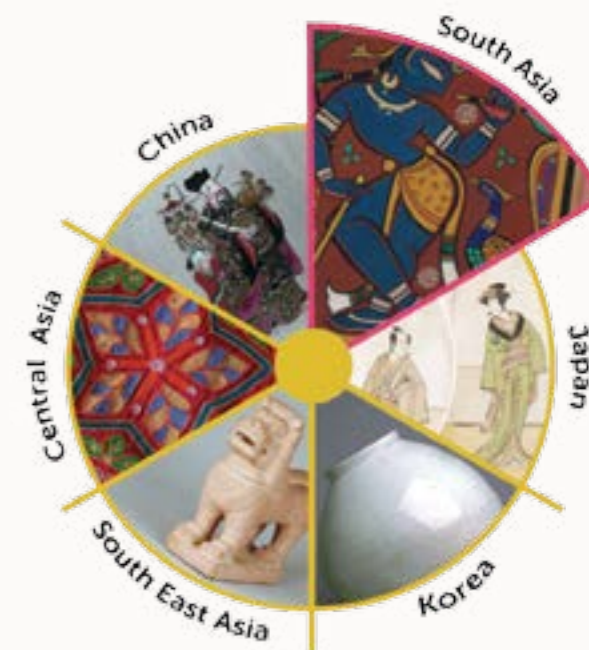
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Editorial: Jane Savory
Produced by: Centres and Programmes Office, SOAS
Printed by: SOAS Print Room

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