



# BASAS

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2018

basas

UNIVERSITY OF  
EXETER

## Statement on Harassment

The Annual Conference of the British Association of South Asian Studies aspires to create an atmosphere in which participants may learn, network, and converse with colleagues in an environment of mutual respect. Everyone who attends the conference is entitled to an experience that is free from harassment, bullying, and intimidation directed towards any attendee. Harassment includes, but is not limited to, sexual harassment, such as unwelcome sexual advances, or other verbal or physical contact of a sexual nature. Harassment also pertains to activities/behaviors such as stalking, queer/trans bullying, or hostility or abuse based on age, disability, religion, race or ethnicity. Such conduct is harmful, disrespectful and unprofessional. No attendee should under any circumstance engage in harassment, bullying, or intimidation of other attendees either in person or online. By attending the conference, all participants accept the obligation to uphold the rights of attendees and treat everyone with respect. The conference committee does not seek to limit the areas of inquiry of its members or to curtail robust scholarly debate. Its aim is to promote critical and open inquiry that is free of personal harassment, prejudice and aggression.

## Message from BASAS Chair

I am very pleased to welcome you all to the 2018 BASAS Annual Conference, which is being hosted this year by the Exeter South Asia Centre and the College of Humanities, University of Exeter.

The organisers have laid on a wonderful array of panels and I look forward to a very productive and interesting conference. Aside from the panels, there is the keynote lecture entitled '*Grierson's linguistic survey of India and language identities in South Asia*' which will be given by Javed Majeed, and there are two exhibitions for us to visit: *Patrons and Painters* and *Performance on the Periphery*, the session for Graduate and Early Career delegates, the BASAS prize-giving for the best graduate student paper at the reception hosted by Taylor and Francis (publishers of *South Asian Studies* and *Contemporary South Asia*), and the conference dinner. May I also encourage you to attend the BASAS AGM and to become involved in the organisation of the work of BASAS.

As Chair of BASAS, I want to express my warmest appreciation on behalf of BASAS Council and the membership of BASAS to the Dean of the College of Humanities for extending hospitality to the BASAS conference and warmest thanks the colleagues in Exeter who put in so many hours of hard work into organising the conference.

Patricia Jeffery, Chair of BASAS

Professor Emerita, University of Edinburgh.

## Message from Director of the Institute of Asia and Pacific Studies

Dear South Asianists,

Welcome to the University of Exeter for the annual conference of our professional association, the British Association for South Asian Studies. We are honoured to welcome so many eminent scholars from around the UK and the world to Exeter, to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and the formation of professional friendships which lie at the core of scholarly society.

We are particularly pleased to be able to host the BASAS annual conference in Exeter for the first time, because we have here one of the youngest centres for South Asian studies in the country, the Exeter South Asian Centre. By hosting the annual conference here, we hope to address our common aim, which is to spread and develop specialist centres for the study of all aspects of South Asian societies all around the UK, and to encourage and support established and aspiring South Asianists within and beyond the traditional centres.

We are also delighted that we have such a significant numbers of conference participants, both graduate students and established scholars, whose papers reflect the full disciplinary range that BASAS welcomes. It is particularly rewarding for us to be able to welcome students and scholars from all South Asian countries, because it is by challenging and transcending the unfortunate barriers that have divided the region that we can achieve truly rich and critical understanding of South Asia.

Do enjoy the conference. Please do take the time to visit the two exhibitions that we have put on for you, which will offer some indication of the range of South Asianist research and outreach efforts here at Exeter.

For anything you need, the conference organising committee, and I am at your disposal. Do stay in touch afterwards, too!

Dr Nandini Chatterjee  
Senior Lecturer in History  
Director, Exeter South Asia Centre

## Useful information

Conference Location: Xfi Building & Building: One, Streatham Campus, University of Exeter (Nos. 30 and 81 on the Campus Map)

**Local taxi services:** Apple taxis +44(0)1392 666 666

**La Touche café** in the business school (number 84 on the campus map) is the closest option for coffee/tea and food and will be open from 8:00 until 15:30.

**Places to eat:** The forum (number 3 on the campus map) has a number of options for food (most of them will be closing between 4 and 6pm. These include a small supermarket, COSTA coffee and Pret A Manger.

**Pharmacy:** Boots, 250-251 High St, Exeter EX4 3QD

**Useful contact numbers:**

Receptionist:

UK Emergency services (Ambulance, Fire, Police): 999

Social Media Tag: #BASAS2018

## Wifi information

The University of Exeter provides short term visitors with free access to the UoE\_Guest wireless network.

### How to connect

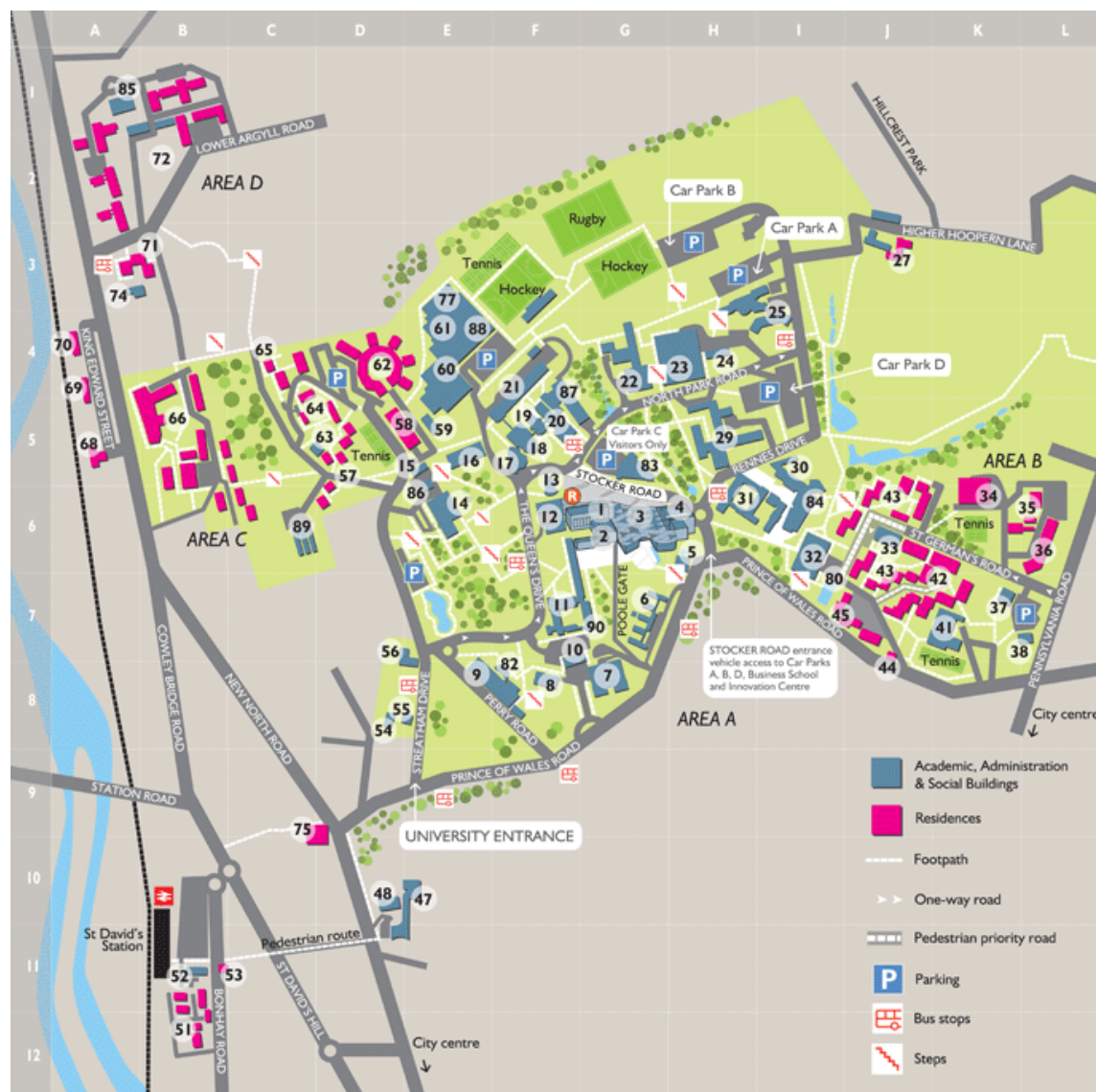
1. Make sure the wireless network adapter is activated on your device
2. If you are in range, your device should automatically connect to the UoE\_Guest network. If not, find 'UoE\_Guest' in the list of wireless connections available and select this network. If it is not listen ou are not within range of the hotspot. Please move the device until you are in range.
3. Open your web browser, then browse any unsecure website such as [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk).
4. The UoE guest wireless login page will appear
5. If you have already created an account, click the link to log in, otherwise follow the on-screen instructions to register for an account.
6. You will be sent two emails: one asking you to confirm your request and another with your username and password. You have 10 minutes grace time to read and confirm your access. If you do not validate your account, then it will be deleted and your device will disconnect once its 10 minutes grace period expires.
7. Once you have confirmed your account, disconnect and reconnect, logging in with your account details. You can log in and use the service for 7 days before you will need to re-register.

A device which is successfully connected to the network will be provided with access to most internet destinations using standard ports e.g. http and https. Please note:

- 'UoE Guest network' is an open network and does not provide encryption for traffic transmitted or received by connected devices.
- Security for connections made using the 'UoE\_Guest network' remains the responsibility of the user and the service is used at your own risk. Please do not enter passwords online when using this network.
- If you do not validate your account within the 10 minutes grace period you will be disconnected and need to re-register.

## Directions to the conference location

Conference Location: Xfi Building & Building: One, Streatham Campus, University of Exeter (Nos. 30 and 84 on the Campus Map)



We recommend that you get a taxi from the station.

However, the H bus does leave from Exeter Central Rail station and St David Station four times per hour (10 minute journey).

### **Note for presenters and chairs**

Please follow the following guidelines to ensure a smooth conference.

#### **Presenters:**

- Please arrive at the room 10-15 minutes prior to the start time of your session.
- Please ensure that your presentation is delivered within the time limit: 15 minutes max for panels with 4 papers, 20 minutes max for panels with three papers.
- If using a slideshow, please ensure you upload the necessary film to the main computer in the room
- Please arrive at the room at least 10-15 minutes prior to the start time of your session.
- Prior to the start of the session, please ensure that the presenters have uploaded their slideshows onto the room's main computer. Ensure that the presenters are aware of the order of their presentations.
- Please ensure the panel starts (and finishes) on time; do not wait for late arrivals.
- Please briefly introduce each presenter.
- Please ensure that presenters strictly keep to time.
- Please ensure sufficient time (at least 30 minutes) for questions and discussion.
- All questions and discussion should follow the conclusion of the final paper, rather than remarks in between each paper.
- Please end the session at the allocated time to ensure the conference schedule runs on time.
- Conference volunteers will be present at the start of the session to provide any assistance required.

### **Recording and Photography Notice**

The Association will be recording video and audio podcasts during this event.

Agreement has already been sought from those who will feature prominently in these recordings. All edited video and audio material will be available at [www.basas.org.uk](http://www.basas.org.uk) and its purpose will be to allow those who could not be present at the conference to learn about some of the papers presented and discussions which took place at the event.

In addition, please be aware that conference delegates may be recorded or photographed in a non-intrusive manner by a roving camera filming long distance shots during tea breaks, receptions, prize-giving ceremonies, or networking sessions.

If you have any concerns relating to the recording and photography please contact the BASAS Assistant Secretary at: [basas@basas.org.uk](mailto:basas@basas.org.uk)

## About Exeter

### Things to do

#### Exeter Cathedral

Exeter Cathedral is one of the oldest and most beautiful Cathedrals in England. Located in the centre of the city, there has been a Cathedral on the present site for nearly one thousand years. Admission: £7.50

#### Exeter Quay

Exeter's Historic Quayside is one of the most attractive areas of the city, popular with locals and visitors alike for its fascinating history, interesting architecture and lively pubs and restaurants. *EX2 4AP*

#### Royal Albert Memorial Museum

Open Tuesday to Sunday, 10am - 5pm

### Places to eat and drink

#### The Hour Glass

Inventive food in old-fashioned local, friendly service, and good choice of real ales and wines.

*21 Melbourne St, Exeter EX2 4AU*

#### Harry's restaurant

A smart, long-established family-run restaurant with a wide-ranging menu for all pockets and tastes.

*86 Longbrook St, Exeter EX4 6AP*

#### On the Waterfront

Bar and pizza restaurant set under the brick arches of a 19<sup>th</sup>-century warehouse on Exeter Quay.

*Southern Warehouse, 4-9 The Quay, Exeter EX2 4AP*

#### The Ship Inn

This intimate, oak-beamed Tudor Inn with a nautical heritage serves real ales and bistro-style food

*1-3 Martins Lane, Exeter EX1 1EY*

## Places to visit near Exeter

### Topsham

About Once a thriving port and shipbuilding centre, **Topsham** still retains a strong maritime flavour. The quaint historic town has a cosmopolitan atmosphere with an eclectic cluster of specialist shops and fine restaurants along with beautiful views of the estuary. Topsham easy to get to on the train from Exeter.

### Exmouth

One of the oldest and most picturesque seaside towns in Devon and is easy to get to on the train from Exeter.

### Dawlish

A traditional seaside town, with a wonderful golden sand beach on its doorstep. The town offers a range of amusements and is centred around The Lawn and Brook, which is home to the famous black swans. Again, Dawlish easy to get to on the train from Exeter.

### Dartmoor National Park

Wild, open moorlands and deep river valleys, with a rich history and rare wildlife, Dartmoor is a unique place. Dartmoor is a 30-minute drive from Exeter.

## Panel Schedule

*Conference Location: Xfi Building & Building: One, Streatham Campus, University of Exeter (Nos. 30 and 84 on the Campus Map)*

### Wednesday, 18th April

	2.00 pm – 3.30 pm	4.00 pm – 5.30 pm
<i>Pearson Room</i>	Challenging Nuclear South Asia/s	Contemporary Dalit Mobilisation
<i>Constantine Leventis Room</i>	Technologies of Governance	‘Bloody Frenchmen’: Franco-British Rivalries in Colonial South Asia and the Indian Ocean World, c. 1899-1940
<i>Seminar Room A</i>	Traversing and Policing National Borders	Constructing Rural Dominance
<i>Seminar Room B</i>	Surviving Urban Spaces	China – South Asia Relations
<i>Seminar Room C</i>	Colonial and Post-Colonial Travel Writing	Citizenship and Education

### 7.00 pm – 8.00 pm

Wine reception, The Forum (No. 3 on the Campus Map)

Exhibitions: ‘Patrons and Painters: Eighteenth-Century Indian Nature Drawings from the Richard Cresswell and John Fleming Collections’ & ‘Performance on the Periphery: Urur-Olcott Kuppam Vizha, Chennai and Maha Shivaratri, Bengaluru, 2018’

Thursday, 19th April

*Morning and Lunchtime Sessions*

	9.00 am – 10.30 am	11.00 am – 12.30 pm
<i>Pearson Room</i>	Everyday Politics	Spectres of Violence in the Colonialist and Revolutionary Imagination
<i>Constantine Leventis Room</i>	Mobilities, Histories, Trade and Travel: Colonial Encounters and Inter-Cultural Transmissions	Film and Photography
<i>Seminar Room A</i>	Colonial Science and Medicine	Hindutva and Hindu Nationalism
<i>Seminar Room B</i>	Contemporary Performance	Indian Art and Literary Culture
<i>Seminar Room C</i>	Migration and Displacement I	Migration and Displacement II
<i>Conference Room 1</i>	Feminist Activisms	Gender and Belonging in the North East

**12.30 pm – 13.00 pm**

BASAS General Meeting, Henderson Lecture Theatre, Xfi Building.

**13.00 pm – 14.30 pm**

Graduate and Early Career Event, Henderson Lecture Theatre, Xfi Building.

## Afternoon and Evening Sessions

	14.30 pm – 16.00 pm	16.15 pm – 17.45 pm
<i>Pearson Room</i>	Bodies at Work: Ethnographies of Materiality and Affect	Circuits of Knowledge from Bengal to Bombay to Britain in the Late Eighteenth Century
<i>Constantine Leventis Room</i>	Writing Violence Beyond the Balance Sheet of Empire	Paradoxes of Agendas and Plans: Ethnographic Accounts of Infrastructure Projects in South Asia
<i>Seminar Room A</i>	Cultures of Care by and beyond the State	Contested Spaces: The City and the Public Sphere in Colonial and Post-Colonial India
<i>Seminar Room B</i>	Religion and Politics	Party Politics in Bangladesh in Local Perspectives: Public Performances and Everyday Experiences
<i>Seminar Room C</i>	Silence, Space and Autonomy	The State and NGOs in International Global Health
<i>Conference Room 1</i>	Spaces of Capital and Citizenship	Crossing Boundaries: Studying Buddhist Expressions in Jaipur District (India) and Malakand District (Pakistan)
<i>Conference Room 2</i>	Music, Mobility and Patronage: The Politics of Cultural Performance in South Asia	

## 18.00 pm – 19.00 pm

**Keynote Lecture** – Javed Majeed (King's College London), 'Grierson's Linguistic Survey of India and language identities in South Asia'.

## 19.00 pm – 20.00 pm

Reception and Announcement of the BASAS Paper Prize Winner, Reed Hall (No. 14 on

the Campus Map). The reception is sponsored by Taylor and Francis, the publisher of *South Asian Studies* and *Contemporary South Asia*.

## 20.00 pm

Conference Dinner, Reed Hall (No. 14 on the Campus Map)

## Friday, 20th April

	9.00 am – 10.30 am	11.00 am – 12.30 pm
<i>Pearson Room</i>	Ecologies I	Ecologies II
<i>Constantine Leventis Room</i>	Partition and Partition Stories I	Partition and Partition Stories II
<i>Seminar Room A</i>	Women's Voices and Public Spheres	Popular Imperial Culture
<i>Seminar Room B</i>	Sites of Conflict, Sites of Negotiation: Discursive Production in Colonial India (1850-1950)	Professionalizing Politics
<i>Seminar Room C</i>	Pedagogy, Language and Identity	South Asian Military Experiences
<i>Conference Room 1</i>	Political Cultures in Bengal	Urban Cultures
<i>Conference Room 2</i>	Murder, Crime and Corruption in Sri Lanka	Social Mobilities and Social Exclusion

## Full Schedule

*Conference Location: Xfi Building & Building: One, Streatham Campus, University of Exeter (Nos. 30 and 81 on the Campus Map)*

### Wednesday, 18th April

#### 12.00 pm – 1.45 pm

Registration and Coffee, Xfi Building.

#### 1.45 pm – 2.00 pm

Conference Welcome to Delegates

#### 2.00 pm - 3.30pm

##### 1. Challenging Nuclear South Asia/s

Dibyaduti Roy  
*Indian Institute of  
Management, Indore*

Making the Atomic Subaltern Speak: From Nuclear Nationalism to Nucliteracy

Michaela Henry  
*FLAME University*

Contemporary Nuclear Thrillers: The Utopic and Dystopic Extremes of Nuclear South Asia

Varigonda Kesava  
Chandra  
*National University of  
Singapore*

Social Movements and the State: The Impact of Anti-Nuclear Movements on India's Civil Nuclear Energy Policy

##### 2. Technologies of Governance

Devyani Gupta  
*University of Leeds*

The Post Office of British India in a Global Context

Medha Kudaisya <i>National University of Singapore</i>	Envisioning India's future: Economists in the Making of the Bombay Plan, 1944
Rohan Sengupta <i>Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta</i>	The Consumption of Sport in Kolkata

### 3. Traversing and Policing National Borders

Adnan Khan <i>University of Malakand</i>	Migration, Traditions and Transformation among the Pakhtuns of Pakistan
Azmat Ullah <i>Government College University, Faisalabad</i>	Stability in Afghanistan and the Future Prospects for Peace in the Region
Saeed Ahmad Rid <i>University of Oxford</i>	<i>Aman ki Asha</i> (A Desire for Peace): A Case Study of a People-to-People Networking Initiative between India and Pakistan
Soumi Banerjee <i>Lund University</i>	Religion over Rationality: Hindu Nationalism and Ontological security

### 4. Surviving Urban Spaces

Aditya Mohanty <i>University of Aberdeen</i>	Southern Theory and the Conceits of Planetary Urbanization: Lessons from a Neighborhood Association in the Global South
Anindita Chatterjee <i>Jawaharlal Nehru University</i>	Language of Aspiration: English Language as a Medium of Social Mobility among the Migrant Workers in Delhi
Aparna Agarwal <i>Jawaharlal Nehru University</i>	Politics of Waste: A Study of Waste Governance and Waste Pickers in Delhi
Sredeep <i>Shiv Nadar University</i>	Afterlife of Things in the Liminal Debris of Consumer Culture

## 5. Colonial and Post-Colonial Travel Writing

Aparajita Mukhopadhyay <i>Goldsmiths, University of London</i>	From Grand Tour to Deshbhraman: Global Genealogies of Railway Journeys in Colonial India
Chase Caldwell Smith <i>University of Oxford</i>	Fruits, Fidalgos, and Fortresses: South Asia through the Eyes of a Luso-Malay Cosmographer, c. 1563-1623
Mou Banerjee <i>Harvard University</i>	Frontier Dreams: Afghanistan in the Colonial Indian Literary Imagination

### 3.30 pm - 4.00 pm

Coffee Break, Xfi Building.

### 4.00 pm – 5.30 pm

#### 1. Contemporary Dalit Mobilisation

Mustafa Ahmed Khan <i>SOAS, University of London</i>	We Are Dalit, But We Are Also Pakistani: The Dalit Movement in Pakistan
Diego Maiorano <i>University of Nottingham</i>	Between Contestation and Acceptance of the Social Order: The Politics of Poor Dalits in Rural South India
Hugo Gorringe and Suryakant Waghmore <i>University of Edinburgh &amp; Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai</i>	‘Go Write on the Walls that You Are the Rulers of this Nation’: Dalit Mobilisation and the BJP
Annapurna Waughray <i>Manchester Metropolitan University</i>	Caste in the UK

## 6. Bloody Frenchmen': Franco-British Rivalries in Colonial South Asia and the Indian Ocean World, c. 1899-1940

Guillemette Crouzet <i>University of Warwick</i>	A Second Fashoda? The Coal Depot Affair and Franco-British Imperial Rivalries in Oman at the End of the 19th Century
Mark Condos <i>Queen Mary, University of London</i>	Anarchists, Revolutionaries, and Franco-British Policing in French Chandernagore, 1905-1930

## 7. Constructing Rural Dominance

Lloyd Price <i>Cardiff University</i>	Sacred Cows, Wandering Bulls and Labouring Bullocks: Breeding a National Herd in Early Twentieth Century North India
Mazhar Abbas <i>Shanghai University</i>	The Long Term Existence of the Landed Class in the Legislative and Administrative Framework of Pakistan and its Role in Legislation in the National Assembly (1972—77): A Case Study of Elected Landed Aristocrats from Sindh
Praveen Verma <i>University of Delhi</i>	Un-farming Land, Cultivating Dominance: Jats in Northern India

## 8. China – South Asia Relations

Iram Naseer Ahmed <i>University of the Punjab</i>	CPEC: Regional Opportunities for South Asian Countries
Murad Ali <i>Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE)</i>	Monitoring and Evaluating South-South Cooperation: The Case of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor in Pakistan
Passang Dorji <i>City University of Hong Kong</i>	Diplomacy of Silence: Bhutan's Response to the China-Indian Border Standoff
Priyadarsini Sahu <i>Jawaharlal Nehru University</i>	Soft Power Game: A Study of India's Soft Power Strategy in South Asia

## 9. Citizenship and Education

Aly Jafferani <i>University College London / The Institute of Ismaili Studies</i>	How Does the Education System of Pakistan Construct Certain Notions of National Identity and What are its Implications for Framing an Attitude towards the 'Other'?
Saba Sharma <i>University of Cambridge</i>	By the Ballot: Constructing Citizens through Elections in Assam
Vanessa Pattharwala <i>University College London / The Institute of Ismaili Studies</i>	How Do the Political Parties of Pakistan and India Influence Educational Systems and Policies to Foster their Own Ideologies?

**7.00 pm – 8.00 pm**

Wine reception, The Forum (No. 3 on the Campus Map)

**Thursday, 19th April**

**9.00 am – 10.30 am**

### 1. Everyday Politics

Radhika Govinda <i>University of Edinburgh</i>	Towards a Renewal of Feminist Politics in Millennial India?
Andrew Wyatt <i>University of Bristol</i>	South Asia's Entrepreneurial Politicians
Rashmi Singh <i>University of Cambridge</i>	Narratives of Corruption and Careers in Party Politics: Municipal Politics in New Delhi
Saraya Natarajan <i>King's College London</i>	Kelasa and Its Limits: A Picture of Brokerage in an Urban Slum

## 2. Mobilities, Histories, Trade and Travel: Colonial Encounters and Inter-Cultural Transmissions

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| Anjana Sharma<br><i>University of Delhi</i>                                   | Networks of Empire and the Story of Opium: British Romanticism, Orientalism and Ghosh's Ibis Trilogy |
| Gopa Sabharwal<br><i>Lady Shri Ram College for Women, University of Delhi</i> | A Social History of Tea in India : From Unfamiliar To Universal Beverage                             |
| Kathinka Sinha Kerkhoff<br><i>International Institute of Social History</i>   | Modernisation in Eastern India: The Social Diffusion of Tobacco                                      |
| Bhaswati Bhattacharya<br><i>University of Göttingen</i>                       | Marketing and Consumption of Coffee in India, 1900-1958  |

## 3. Colonial Science and Medicine

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| Archit Guha<br><i>University of Chicago</i>  | The Law of the Storms and a History of the Anthropocene from Nineteenth Century South Asia                                  |
| Sarda Singh<br><i>Jawaharlal Nehru University</i>                                  | Measuring the Psychiatric Space for the European Lunatics in Colonial India through the Autobiography of Owen Berkeley Hill |
| Sayantan Bose<br><i>Visva Bharati University</i>                                   | "Maelstrom of Death": Cholera, Water and the Social Discourses of Health in Nineteenth Century Bengal                       |
| Shilpi Rajpal<br><i>Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Mohali</i> | Healing Traditions: Psychotherapy in Hindi Medical Literature, 1900-1940s   |

## 4. Contemporary Performance

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| Aparna Mahiyaria<br><i>University of Exeter</i> | Street Theatre Competitions at Delhi University |
|---|---|

Jerri Daboo <i>University of Exeter</i>	Contesting Traditions: Designing a New Approach to Teaching and Notating for the Tabla Drums
Julia Szivak <i>Birmingham City University</i>	Birmingham Bhangra 2018
Swati Arora <i>University of Exeter</i>	Mallika Taneja Performs <i>A Little Carefully</i> : Feminist Theatre, Violence and Urban Space in Delhi

## 5. Migration and Displacement I

Devdutta Kakati <i>Jawaharlal Nehru University</i>	Bengal's Two Coastal Sub-Regions and the Indian Ocean World(600-1300 CE)
Uma Dhupelia-Mesthrie <i>University of the Western Cape</i>	South Africa to India: A Century of Repatriation (1871 to 1975)
Sundar Vadlamudi <i>American University of Sharjah</i>	Child Slaves and Maritime Labor on Indian Ships in the Bay of Bengal, 1790-1840

## 6. Feminist Activisms

Nazia Hussain <i>Birmingham City University</i>	A Cosmopolitan Approach to Studying 'New Women' of Bangladesh in Multiple Spaces
Seema Srivastava <i>Independent Scholar</i>	Dynamics of Constitutional Feminist Activism during Famines in the United Provinces
Tehmina Pirzada <i>Lahore School of Economics</i>	Agent of Change: The Girl Figure in Pakistani Graphic Narratives

**10.30 am - 11.00 am**

Coffee Break, Xfi Building.

**11.00 am – 12.30 pm**

### 1. Spectres of Violence in the Colonialist and Revolutionary Imagination

Benjamin Zachariah <i>University of Trier</i>	The Pros of Counter-Insurgency
Jesús F. Cháirez-Garza <i>University of Leeds</i>	From Wardha to Chapingo: Pandurang Khankhoje and the Quest for Revolution in the Global South
Gabriel Polley <i>University of Exeter</i>	"The Beam that Shines from Zion's hill" – Palestine, India and Colonial Control in the Nineteenth Century

### 2. Film and Photography

Amit Kajotra <i>Jawaharlal Nehru University</i>	Erosion of Issues in the Process of 'Otherness': The Question of Muslims in Bollywood
Mallika Leuzinger <i>University College London</i>	What Shall I Do without My Camera?" - Amateur Photography in and beyond Twentieth-Century India
Sudha Tiwari <i>Jawaharlal Nehru University</i>	Courtroom as Landscape of Power and Resistance: History, Media, and the Subaltern Silence
Vishal Chauhan <i>Birmingham City University</i>	From <i>Sujata</i> to <i>Kachara</i> : Decoding Dalit Representation in Popular Hindi Cinema

### 3. Hindutva and Hindu Nationalism

Ketan Alder <i>Lancaster University</i>	Rethinking Hindu Nationalism with India's Margins: Bioethics, Dissent and Embodiment
Prateek Khobragade <i>Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar</i>	What Appears as Post-Truth: Media, Technology and the Public in the Indian General Elections of 2014 and US Presidential Elections of 2016.
Sahil Kureshi <i>University of Oxford</i>	Rise of Hindu Nationalism: The <i>Navnirman</i> Agitation

#### 4. Indian Art and Literary Culture

Ankan Purkait <i>University of Calcutta</i>	Understanding the Socio-Cultural Changes of 18 <sup>th</sup> Century India through Murshidabad and Company School of Painting
Neeraja Poddar <i>The City Palace Museum, Udaipur</i>	Visuality and Materiality in Mewar's Earliest Illustrated <i>Bhāgavata</i>
Rohit Dutta Roy <i>University of Cambridge</i>	Writing Histories in Early Twentieth Century Bengal : Analyzing the Craft of Sivanath Sastri
Sayan Chattopadhyay <i>Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur</i>	Burying the Weathervane: Networks of Violence, Dispossession, and Charity in Anuradha Roy's <i>Sleeping in Jupiter</i>

#### 5. Migration and Displacement II

Saheli Roy Choudhury <i>Bengal Institute of Technology and Management</i>	The Jahaz In-Between: The Transformation of the Self in India's 'Counter' Diaspora
Ria Kapoor <i>University of Oxford</i>	Political Solutions, Humanitarian Appeal: India and the 1971 Refugee Crisis
Rabia Latif Khan <i>SOAS, University of London</i>	Belonging as the 'Other': Afghan Hazara Diasporic Relations with the Homeland

#### 6. Gender and Belonging in the North East

Bitopi Datta <i>Dublin City University</i>	A Framework for the Gender Analysis of Development Induced Displacement: The Case of Tribal Societies in North East India
Rakesh S. Khwairakpam and Dominic Shilshi <i>Tata Institute of Social Sciences</i>	Traditional Meetei Marriage in India and Myanmar: A Comparative Study between Mandalay and Sekmai Regions

**12.30 pm – 14.30 pm**

Lunch Break

**12.30 pm – 13.00 pm**

BASAS General Meeting, Henderson Lecture Theatre, Xfi Building.

**13.00 pm – 14.30 pm**

Graduate and Early Career Event, Henderson Lecture Theatre, Xfi Building.

**14.30 pm – 16.00 pm – Session 5**

**1. Bodies at Work: Ethnographies of Materiality and Affect**

Lily Shapiro                      Factory Work and Everyday Violence

*University of Washington*

Asiya Islam                      The Managed Body at Work

*University of Cambridge*

Garima Jaju                      Materiality and Consumption of Work

*University of Oxford*

**2. Writing Violence Beyond the Balance Sheet of Empire**

Kim Wagner                      *Roundtable Discussion*

*Queen Mary, University of  
London*

Gavin Rand                      *Roundtable Discussion*

*University of Greenwich*

Gajendra Singh                      *Roundtable Discussion*

*University of Exeter*

### 3. Cultures of Care by and beyond the State

Deepa Kozhisseri <i>Indian Institute of Technology, Madras</i>	Herbal Potions and Subaltern Politics: Staking Knowledge in the Attappady Hills, South India
Kaushiki Das <i>Jawaharlal Nehru University</i>	The Pilfering of the Global South's Green Gold: Implications of Bioprospecting and Patenting for Indigenous Bioresources and Medicinal Knowledge
Pratichi Majumdar <i>Jawaharlal Nehru University</i>	When Religion, Market and Nationalism Meet: A Case Study of Patanjali Ayurved

### 4. Religion and Politics

Sabah Khan <i>Jawaharlal Nehru University</i>	Religious Identity, Exclusion and Violence: A Study of Muslims in India
Taniya Roy <i>National University of Singapore</i>	Of the Religious 'Other' in Buddhism: Investigating the Buddhist Textual Traditions
Zafar Mohyuddin <i>University of Sargodha</i>	Makhdum-i Jahaniyan's Mediatonal Role in Sufi Traditions of Premodern India

### 5. Silence, Space and Autonomy

Amitava Chatterjee <i>Kazi Nazrul University</i>	Gendering Sport: A Narrative of Silence in the Women Sporting Culture in Colonial Bengal
Darakhshan Khan <i>University of Pennsylvania</i>	An Income of Her Own: Female Financial Autonomy in Colonial North India
Saba Hussain <i>University of Warwick</i>	Constructing a Cosmopolitan 'Self' in Educational Spaces: Muslim Girls in Assam

## 6. Spaces of Capital and Citizenship I

Muhammad Azfar Nisar

*Lahore University of  
Management Sciences*

Ayesha Masood

*Information Technology  
University*

Ankita Pandey

*University of Oxford*

Contesting Governmental Facts: Investigative Fact-Finding in Civil Rights Activism 1975-1980

S. Shakthi

*University of  
Cambridge*

‘This Was the Fantasy, I.T. Was a Fantasy’: Examining Workers’ Rights Activism in the Indian Information Technology Industry

## 7. Music, Mobility and Patronage: The Politics of Cultural Performance in South Asia

Georgie Pope

*King’s College London*

Staging the Sattria: Travel and Translation of Vaishnava Dance from Assam

Mukesh Kulriya

*Royal Holloway,  
University of London*

Persecution, Rescue and Stigma – Partition on the Margins

Kanav Gupta

*King’s College London*

*A Passage from India*: Hindustani Music in America c.1960-Present

Radha Kapuria

*King’s College London*

Singing the Praises of Freedom: Punjabi Musicians and India’s Partition

**16.00 pm - 16.15 pm**

Coffee Break, Xfi Building.

**16.15 pm – 17.45 pm – Session 6**

## 1. 'Circuits of Knowledge from Bengal to Bombay to Britain in the Late Eighteenth Century

Nandini Chatterjee <i>University of Exeter</i>	A Lot's in a Name: The Transcription of Personal Names and Honorific Titles in Eighteenth-Century Bengal
Onni Gust <i>University of Nottingham</i>	Respectable Pillars of the British Empire: The Origins of the Bombay Literary Society in 1804
Andrew Rudd <i>University of Exeter</i>	Asiatic Society Circle's Early Investigations in Indian Flora and Fauna
Jayanta Sengupta <i>Victoria Memorial House, Kolkata</i>	Currying Colonialism: Class, Culture and Cuisine in Bengal in the Late-Eighteenth and Early-Nineteenth Centuries
Javed Majeed <i>King's College London</i>	<i>Discussant</i>

## 2. Paradoxes of Agendas and Plans: Ethnographic Accounts of Infrastructure Projects in South Asia

Deborah Menezes <i>University of Edinburgh</i>	The Politics of Inclusion and Exclusion in the Planning of Infrastructure Projects in Post War Sri Lanka: The <i>Megapolis</i> Case
Edward Simpson <i>SOAS, University of London</i>	Politics Takes a Toll: New Geographies of Money and Infrastructural Governance in India
Srinivas Chokkakula <i>SOAS, University of London</i>	Roads for Rural Development: Cultures of Road Building and Convergence of Ideas in India

## 3. Contested Spaces: The City and the Public Sphere in Colonial and Post-Colonial India

Purba Hossain <i>University of Leeds</i>	Debates about Indenture and the Calcutta Public Sphere, 1836-42
Emily Webb <i>University of Leeds</i>	Imperially-Minded Domesticity: Politicisation of Domestic Space in Nineteenth-Century Colonial Calcutta

Jesús F. Cháirez-Garza      *Chair*  
*University of Leeds*

#### 4. Party Politics in Bangladesh in Local Perspectives: Public Performances and Everyday Experiences

Mascha Schulz      Piety during Ramadan, Bengali Nationalism in February and Morning during August: Some Explorations of the (Ir)Relevance of Ideology for Party Politics in Bangladesh  
*University of Zurich*

Julian Kuttig      Party Politics in Bangladesh: Posters and Hoardings as Complex Political Performances  
*Ghent University*

Ashraf Hoque      The Heroic Self-Made Man: The Figure of the ‘*Mastan*’ in Bangladeshi Politics  
*University College London*

Arild Engelson Ruud      *Chair*  
*University of Oslo*

#### 5. The State and NGOs in International Global Health

Reiko (Meg) Kanazawa      Ford Foundation and the Promise of the Indian NGO Sector in the Era of AIDS  
*University of Exeter*

Raghav Kishore      Between Global Politics and Nationalist Designs: Imagining the World Health Organisation’s ‘South East Asia Region’ (SEARO), 1946-48  
*SOAS, University of London*

#### 6. Crossing Boundaries: Studying Buddhist Expressions in Jaipur District (India) and Malakand District (Pakistan)

Meenakshi Vashisth      The Saga and the Soil: An Archaeological Study of Ancient Bairat  
*Independent Scholar*

Shumaila Firdos      The influences of Greek classics on Indian culture in pre historic times  
*Nanjing University*

Muhammad Waqar      Recent Discoveries of Buddhist complexes in District Malakand  
Mushtaq

*Quaid i Azam University*

Muhammad Adnan Khan      Recent Discoveries of Rock Art in District Malakand

*Quaid i Azam University*

Yu Wenjie      *Chair and Discussant*

*Nanjing University*

### **18.00 pm – 19.00 pm**

**Keynote Lecture** – Javed Majeed (King's College London), 'Grierson's Linguistic Survey of India and language identities in South Asia'.

### **19.00 pm – 20.00 pm**

Reception and Announcement of the BASAS Paper Prize Winner, Reed Hall (No. 14 on the Campus Map). The reception is sponsored by Taylor and Francis, the publisher of *South Asian Studies* and *Contemporary South Asia*.

### **20.00 pm**

Conference Dinner, Reed Hall (No. 14 on the Campus Map)

## **Friday, 20th April**

### **9.00 am – 10.30 am – Session 7**

#### **1. Ecologies I**

Andrea Butcher  
*University of Exeter*

Microbial Relations and Precarious Situations: The Art of Aquaculture in Bangladesh

Navpreet Kaur and  
Amanpreet Kaur

Land, Irrigation and Asset Accumulation: A Study of Gang Canal Region

*Jawaharlal Nehru  
University*

## 2. Partition and Partition Stories I

Daniela Vitolo <i>University of Naples "L'Orientale"</i>	Home, City, Nation: Defining Identity and Belonging within <i>Five Queen's Road Spaces</i>
Gyanesh Kudaisya <i>National University of Singapore</i>	How Partition Shaped the Polity: Institutions and Governance in India, c.1947-1962

## 3. Women's Voices and Public Spheres

Annie Devenish <i>University of KwaZulu-Natal</i>	The Indian Woman as Global Citizen: Vijayalakshmi Pandit, Hansa Mehta and the United Nations
Katherine Twamley and Juhi Siddharth <i>University College London</i>	Negotiating Respectability: Comparing the Experiences of Poor and Middle Class Young Urban Women in India
Madhuladna Halder <i>Jawaharlal Nehru University</i>	<i>Tracing the Everyday: Women's Voices from Indian Prisons 1967-77</i>
Rosalind Parr <i>University of Edinburgh</i>	'We Constitute One-Fifth of the World's Women': Indian Women, Citizenship, and Civil Society in Geneva, 1933-1939

## 4. Sites of Conflict, Sites of Negotiation: Discursive Production in Colonial India (1850-1950)

Vinita Rav <i>University of Delhi</i>	Food Distribution and Politics in Chotanagpur, 1910-1950
Blessy Chinnu Abraham <i>University of Delhi</i>	Examining the Discourse on Indian Tariff Policies within the Commercial Sphere of the British Empire during the Interwar Period (1918-1940)
Nabojeet Sen <i>Ambedkar University Delhi</i>	Punishment, Reform and Labour Regime in the Colonial Prison, India, 1860s-1920s
Somak Biswas <i>University of Warwick</i>	British Indophiles and the Politics of Indentured Labour in Colonial India, 1904-1945

## 5. Pedagogy, Language and Identity

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Niharika Jaiswal<br><i>Jawaharlal Nehru University</i>                            | Sociology in Public and Private Universities in India                     |
| Pankaj Tiwari and C. Bhavya<br><i>Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar</i> | Experiential-Based Pedagogic Approach in the South Asian Education System |
| Rehnuma Sazzad<br><i>Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London</i>  | Language and Nationalism in Modern South Asia                             |
| Kobra Masoomi<br><i>Jawaharlal Nehru University</i>                               | The Impact of Iranian Language and Culture on Sikhism                     |

## 6. Political Cultures in Bengal

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Dhariti Bhattacharjee<br><i>Sewanee: The University of the South</i> | Fazlul Huq and the Contingent World of Provincial Autonomy, 1937-1943   |
| Ghazi Muhammad Abdullah<br><i>University of the Punjab</i>           | Calcutta & Dhaka: A Socio-Economic Context to the Bengali Political Leadership during the Pakistan Movement     |
| Sudipto Mitra<br><i>Royal Holloway, University of London</i>         | Overcoming the Mahatma: The Life and Murder of Professor Gopal Chandra Sen                                      |
| Bipasha Rosy Lakra<br><i>Jawaharlal Nehru University</i>             | Perspectives from the Periphery: Examining Adivasi Narratives of the Naxalbari Movement in West Bengal, 1967-72 |

## 7. Murder, Crime and Corruption in Sri Lanka

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Ajin K. Thomas | Enforced Disappearances and State Responses in Sri Lanka: Perspectives from International Law |
|----------------|---|

*Indian Institute of  
Technology, Gandhinagar*

Ankita Dubey  
*Jawaharlal Nehru  
University*

Writing Violence, Writing Identity: Fictional Representation of War-Torn  
Sri Lanka as Real Dystopia

R. Ramesh and T.  
Vinayagathan  
*University of Peradeniya*

Corruption, Rule of Law and Government Effectiveness: A Co-Integration  
Approach to Sri Lanka

### **10.30 am - 11.00 am**

Coffee Break, Xfi Building.

### **11.00 am – 12.30 pm – Session 8**

#### **1. Ecologies II**

Papreen Nahar  
*Durham University*

Antibiotic Resistance in Bangladesh: Exploring the Social Life of Medicines

Preeti  
*University of Sussex*

‘Modernising’ Agriculture in Bihar, 1880- 1930

Rajmakal Singh Mann  
*Oxford Brookes University*

Exploring Change in the Net Food Status of South Asian Countries: 1961-  
2013

#### **2. Partition and Partition Stories II**

Rajit Mazumder  
*DePaul University*

Criminal Intimates: Legal Ramifications of Fratricide during the Partition  
of India, 1947-1950

Rana Muhammad Abrar  
Ahmad  
*University of the Punjab*

Partition of Punjab 1947: First Hand Accounts of the Stories of Happiness

Shruti Amar  
*King's College London*

Voices from Within: Women Social Workers and the Partition of India

### 3. Popular Imperial Culture

Devjani Ray <i>Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi</i>	'Around the Globe' in Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century Bengali Juvenile Periodicals
Maryam Sikander <i>SOAS, University of London</i>	"Upstart Punches" and "Petty Libellers": <i>Oudh Punch</i> (1877-1936) and Satire in the Contact Zone

### 4. Professionalizing Politics

Amogh Dhar Sharma <i>University of Oxford</i>	Professionals in Politics: Middle Class Citizens and Political Consultancy Firms in India
Mansoor Ahmed <i>École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS)</i>	Governmentality in Pakistan: A Controlled Islam through the Council of Islamic Ideology
Taisha Grace Antony <i>National University of Singapore</i>	The Impact of Political Market Imperfections on the Incentives for the Provision of Social Services in India: A Case Study of Kerala and Uttar Pradesh

### 5. South Asian Military Experiences

Ghee Bowman <i>University of Exeter</i>	Indians at Dunkirk: Unravelling the Real Story
Reeti Basu <i>Jawaharlal Nehru University</i>	Boisterous Soldiers and 'Gentle' Society: American Soldiers in Second World War Bengal
Saiful Islam <i>University of Buner</i>	Preventing Military Political Intervention: An Assessment of Article 6 of the 1973 Constitution of Pakistan
Vipul Datta <i>Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati</i>	An Empire of Uniforms: Borders and Boundaries in Colonial India's Military Imagination, c.1900-1930

## 6. Urban Cultures

Aditi Das <i>University of Delhi</i>	Imperial Encounters and the Making of Contemporary Urban Culinary Culture in Kolkata
Arunima Ghoshal <i>University of Delhi</i>	The Internationalization of Kolkata's Cultural Heritage and Reflections on the Postcolonial Urban Landscape
Fakhar Bilal <i>Royal Holloway, University of London</i>	Making of Urban Multan, 1849-1947

## 7. Social Mobilities and Social Exclusion

Amrita Chattopadhyay <i>Jawaharlal Nehru University</i>	Locating Mughal India through its Perfumery Culture
Mriganka Mukhopadhyay <i>University of Amsterdam</i>	The Esoteric Pillar of the Raj: Studying Freemasonry in the Context of Imperialism in India
Sandhya I. Fuchs <i>London School of Economics and Political Science</i>	'We Cannot Find Your Kind of Proof': A Quest for Legal Evidence amongst the Meghvals of Rajasthan
Rajat Roy <i>Presidency University, Kolkata</i>	Postcolonial Irony and Dalit Literature: A Study of Namasudras of West Bengal

