The 40th Annual Conference On South Asia

October 20-23, 2011
Conference Information

Conference Registration
All participants and attendees must register. The on-site registration rates are $150 for regular registration and $75 for students.
Staff is available at the registration desk, on the 2nd floor:
- Thursday (5 pm - 8 pm)
- Friday (8 am - 5 pm)
- Saturday (8 am - 3 pm)
- Sunday (8 am - 11 am)

Programs
A hard copy of the program book is provided with each paid registration. Replacements are $15.

Abstracts
Abstracts of all papers presented at the 40th Annual Conference on South Asia are available online.

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** A map of the meeting spaces in the Concourse Hotel can be found inside the back cover. **

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Book Exhibit Room

New Location

Ovations (first floor)
8:30 am - 6:30 pm Friday and Saturday
8:30 am - 12:15 pm Sunday

Each year, an important component of the conference is our exhibit space, which allows university presses and independent publishers a location from which to provide conference participants with high quality resources and the best publications on South Asian topics. Due to increasing attendance in recent years, this year the Annual Conference has expanded the number of rooms available for panel presentations and moved the exhibit space to a new location. This year the exhibit space is located on the ground floor of the Concourse Hotel in the Ovations Room. Please see the map below for directions, or follow the signs posted in the hotel lobby. We hope that you share your feedback about this change with the conference staff.

Exhibitors Attending the Conference
American Institute of Pakistan Studies
Association for Asian Studies
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Council for International Exchange of Scholars (Fulbright Scholar Program)
Duke University Press
Routledge
SAGE Publications
South Asia Books
South Asia Summer Language Institute
The Scholar’s Choice
Tulika Books

SASLI Instructors at the Conference
Friday, October 21 2011, 12:15 pm - 1:45 pm
Solitaire Room (first floor)

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The South Asia Book Award is one of the primary initiatives of SANOC!

The SABA Award has been established by the South Asia National Outreach Consortium to promote awareness about South Asia to librarians, publishers and teachers.

Two awards will be given annually in recognition of published work of fiction, non-fiction, poetry or folklore, published in the previous calendar year: one award will honor the best in children’s books, and another for secondary reading levels. Eligible books must be published in the United States, Canada or United Kingdom, in English (translations into English will also be accepted) which accurately and skillfully portrays South Asia or South Asians in the diasporas, that is the experience of individuals living in South Asia, or of South Asians living in other parts of the world. The culture, people, or heritage of South Asia should be the primary focus of the story.

The deadline for submissions for the 2012 SABA Award is December 31, 2011.

The 2012 winners, honor books and highly commended books will be announced by February 25, 2012. For more information about the SABA award, visit sanoc.org/saba.html. For questions, please contact Rachel Weiss, Award Coordinator, at (608) 262-9224 or rweiss@southasia.wisc.edu.
A Cry for Dignity: Religion, Violence and the Struggle of Dalit Women in India
Mary C. Grey

A Cry for Dignity tackles caste-based violence by focusing on the position of Dalit women in India. Of 200 million Dalits, nearly half are women, often referred to as ‘thrice Dalit’, as they suffer from the triple oppressions of poverty, being female and being female Dalits. Despite this, a new strength now emerges in challenging caste boundaries. A Cry for Dignity focuses on Dalit women’s own movements, leadership and achievements and sets the struggle in an international arena. It suggests forms of action from Church, society and feminist theology to effect social change for Dalit women.

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Preconferences

Thursday, October 20, 2011

“Dissertation into Book” Workshop
(Pre-registration Required)
October 19, 2011, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Senate Room (first floor)
October 20, 2011, 7:45 am - 6:30 pm
Conference Rooms 2, 3, & 4 (second floor)
Organizer: Susan S. Wadley, Syracuse University

Critical Ethnographies: A Feminist Pre-Conference
Wisconsin Ballroom (second floor)
Organizers:
Anjali Arondekar, University of California-Santa Cruz
Raka Ray, University of California-Berkeley

Fifth Annual South Asia Legal Studies
8:30 am - 6:00 pm
Lubar Commons (7200 Law)
University of Wisconsin Law School
Organizers:
Sumudu Atapattu, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Mitra Sharafi, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Meghaduta and Messenger Poems in South Asia
University Room CD (second floor)
Organizer: Charles Hallisey, Harvard University

Mehr Jan: Remembering 1971
9:30 am - 5:30 pm
Senate Room (first floor)
Organizer: Kamran Ali, University of Texas at Austin
This film will also be screened on Friday, October 21 at 10:30 a.m. in Room 638. The screening will be followed by a discussion with the filmmaker, Rubaiyat Hossain.

Sixth Annual Himalayan Policy Research Conference
Capitol Ballroom (second floor)
Organizers:
Alok K. Bohara, University of New Mexico
Jeffrey Drope, Marquette University
Vijaya R. Sharma, University of Colorado, Boulder
Jennifer Thacher, University of New Mexico
Mukti P. Upadhyay, Eastern Illinois University

Rabari woman in Kutch, India with distinctive gold earrings and tattoo decorations.
Association Meetings

Friday, October 21 7:30 am - 9:00 am
South Asia Summer Language Institute (SASLI)Board Meeting (closed)
Solitaire Room (first floor)
Organizer: Laura Hammond

Friday, October 21 12:15 pm - 1:30 pm
South Asian Muslim Studies Association (SAMSA)Board Meeting (closed)
Parlor Room 629 (sixth floor)
Organizer: Irfan A. Omar

Friday, October 21 12:15 pm - 1:45 pm
American Institute of Bangladesh Studies (AIBS) Board of Trustees Meeting (closed)
Parlor Room 607
Organizer: Laura Hammond

Saturday, October 22 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm
American Institute of Sri Lankan Studies (AISLS)Board of Directors Meeting (closed)
Solitaire Room (first floor)
Organizer: Jeffrey Samuels

Saturday, October 22 12:15 pm - 1:45 pm
American Institute of Pakistan Studies (AIPS)Executive Committee Meeting (closed)
Parlor Room 607 (sixth floor)
Organizer: Laura Hammond

Saturday, October 22 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm
American Institute of Pakistan Studies (AIPS)Board of Trustees Meeting (closed)
Senate Room (first floor)
Organizer: Laura Hammond

Saturday, October 22 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
American Institute of Sri Lankan Studies (AISLS)General Meeting (open to all)
University Room C/D (second floor)
Organizer: Jeffrey Samuels

Saturday, October 22 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
American Institute of Pakistan Studies (AIPS)Board of Trustees Meeting (closed)
Senate Room (first floor)
Organizer: Laura Hammond

Saturday, October 22 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
American Institute of Sri Lankan Studies (AISLS)General Meeting (open to all)
University Room C/D (second floor)
Organizer: Jeffrey Samuels

October 22, 2011 10:00 am - 11:30 am
South Asia Book Award Committee Meeting (closed)
Parlor Room 623
Organizer: Rachel Weiss
Film Screenings

Conference Room 5 (second floor)

Friday, October 21

**Roots of Love (26 min.)** 1:45 pm
*In English and Punjabi with English subtitles.*

This screening will be followed by a discussion with filmmaker Harjant Gill.

Told through the stories of six different men ranging in age from fourteen to eighty-six, *Roots of Love* documents the changing significance of hair and the turban among Sikhs in India. The film is a timely and relevant exploration of the inherent conflict between tradition and modernity, between pragmatism and faith. The choice of cutting one’s hair is one that not only concerns the individual and his family, but an entire community.

**Afghan Girls Can Kick (50 min.)**  ~2:30 pm
*In Dari with English subtitles.*

An intimate fly-on-the-wall portrait of teenage girls breaking the stereotypical mould set for them by a conservative society. They become players in Afghanistan’s first ever women’s national football team. *Afghan Girls Can Kick* follows the team during preparations for its first competitive international matches.

**Inshallah, Football (80 min.)** 3:45 pm

This screening will be followed by a discussion with filmmaker Ashvin Kumar.

*Inshallah, football*, initially banned in India, explores the paradigm of being born the son of an ex-militant in one of the most volatile regions of the world: Kashmir. The absurd circumstances of a state ravaged by years of brutal insurgencies and army deployment get explored through the overlapping stories of an ex Hizbul Mujahiddin militant, his 18 years old son- whose dream is that of playing football in the land of legendary Pele, and an Argentinean football coach who trains boys in Kashmir. For more, please visit facebook.com/inshallahfootball.

Saturday, October 22

**The Battle for Pakistan (40 min.)** 10:30 am
*In English and Urdu with English subtitles.*

Investigating the nexus between extremism and Pakistani madrassas, *The Battle for Pakistan* explores the factors behind the mushrooming of madrassas, government attempts at regulation and the socio-political dynamics at play.

**The Way of the Road (60 min.)** ~11:15 am
*In English and Tamang with English subtitles.*

In 2012, a road through Nepal’s Rasuwa District will reconnect an ancient Himalayan trade route with global traffic. The film looks through Tamang villagers’ eyes at the cultural and economic flows through this border land, including a dramatic re-enactment of Tibetan and Nepali armies in conflict.

**The Promised Land (90 min.)** 1:45 pm
*In Bengali with English subtitles.*

A tale of statelessness spanning six decades and three countries, *The Promised Land* is about the 160,000 strong Urdu-speaking community of Bangladesh, living isolated lives in 116 camps across the country. The terms ‘Urdu-speakers’, ‘Non-Bengalis’ and ‘Biharis’ are used interchangeably to refer to the Muslim people, who originally emigrated from India to the newly created East Pakistan in 1947 and afterwards. During the struggle for independence in Bangladesh in 1971, this community became embroiled in conflict.

To find out more about the movies go to:
http://southasiaconference.wisc.edu/events/films.html

**Films are part of the Travelling Film South Asia 2011 series.**
## Schedule

**Friday, October 21, 2011**

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<td>Inventing and Reinventing the Goddess in Local Indian Tradition</td>
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<td>Cities: Defining and Redefining Urban Spaces</td>
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<td>Kabir in Context: Purushottam Agrawal’s New Study</td>
<td>Neoliberal Development and Social Resistance in South Asia</td>
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<td>Intimacy and Sexuality in Muslim Women’s Autobiographical Writing 17th-20th C.</td>
<td>Religious and Legal Pluralism in India</td>
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**Coffee Break — 10:15 am - 10:30 am — Capitol Ballroom B (second floor)**

**Session 2 10:30 am - 12:15 pm**

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**Lunch On Your Own — 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm**
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<td>Aesthetics, Guising, and Bodies in South Indian Performance</td>
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<td>Senate Room A (first floor)</td>
<td>Recent Developments in South Asian Archaeology</td>
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<td>Rethinking Decolonization in a Transnational World: India, Pakistan, and Anticolonial Networks</td>
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<td>Nepali Nationalism at the Crossroad</td>
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<td>Special Effects Ahead: The Poetics and Practice of “Flashy” Poetry in Sanskrit Literary Culture</td>
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<td>Mediating the Movies: Self-Reflexivity in Indian Cinema</td>
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<td>Enacting the Political Within and Against the Market: New Directions in Women’s Activism in India</td>
<td>Practices of Women’s Human Rights in Contemporary India</td>
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<td>Routine Exceptions: Rethinking Emergency Powers in South Asia</td>
<td>Democracy and Violence in South Asia</td>
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Session 1

Religious Politics and Violence in Pakistan
Assembly Room (first floor)

Aminur Rahim, University of Fort Hare (Chair)
*Good Taliban, Bad Taliban: The Roots of Islamism in Pakistan*

Feisal Khan, Hobart and William Smith Colleges
*Islamic Banking and the Struggle to Islamize Pakistan*

Maira Hayat, University of Chicago
*The Swat Conflict, 2007-09: Some Notes on History, (Un)Civil Society and the State*

Maria Khan, Johns Hopkins University
*Mind Your Language: The Theological Roots of the Blasphemy Law in Pakistan*

Regimes of Representation: Theorizing Contemporary Politics
Caucus Room (first floor)

William Mazzarella, University of Chicago (Chair)

Shefali Jha, University of Chicago
*Political Speech and the Making of Community: the Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen of Hyderabad*

Mangalika Weligama de Silva, Netherlands Scientific Research Institute
*Theological Economies and Criminalized Minorities*

Nusrat Chowdhury, University of Chicago
*Photography and the Nationalization of Death in Bangladesh*

Harjant Gill, American University
*On Akshay Kumar’s Beard and the Sentiments of the Sikh Community*

The Indus Civilization and its Neighbors: New Insights into South Asian and West Asian Interactions, Part I
Senate Room A (first floor)

Randall Law, University of Wisconsin-Madison (Chair)

Gregg Jamison, University of Wisconsin-Madison
*Stylistic Analysis of Indus Seals found in Mesopotamia: An Investigation into Production and Trade*

Marta Ameri, Fashion Institute of Technology, New York
*Cultural Contacts of the Ahar-Banas Culture in the 3rd-2nd Millennia BCE: The Evidence of the Seals*

J. Mark Kenoyer, University of Wisconsin-Madison
*Master of Beasts and Beastly Masters: The Indus Tradition and West Asian Comparisons*

Heather O’Conner, University of Wisconsin-Madison (Chair)
*Shell inlay manufacture: An experimental approach to investigating Bronze Age maritime trade in the Persian/Arabian Gulf*

House and Home in 20th Century South Asia, Part I: Ideals of Home
Senate Room B (first floor)

Abigail McGowan, University of Vermont
*Ahmedabad’s Home Remedies: Housing Ideas for an Industrializing City, 1920-1950*

Douglas Haynes, Dartmouth College
*Fracturing the Ideal Home: Advertising Consumer Electrical Appliances in Western India, 1925-40*

Juned Shaikh, University of Washington
*Housing and Slumming: Dalit Literature and its Publics in Mumbai, 1950-81*

Lisa Trivedi, Hamilton College (Chair)
*Discussant*
Session 1 continued

Friday, 8:30 am - 10:15 am

‘Jam-Space’: Urban Infrastructure and the (Traffic) Jam in Urban South Asia
Capitol Ballroom A (second floor)

Sharika Thiranagama, The New School/ Stanford University
_The Traffic of Jaffna: Post War Urbanisation_

Mathangi Krishnamurthy, University of Wisconsin-Madison
_Manic Social Body: Pune Drivers and Traffic Jams_

Atreyee Sen, University of Manchester
_Prostitution, Pee-ing, Policing, Possibilities: Women Documentary Film-Makers and the Traffic Jam_

Lotte Hoek, University of Edinburgh (Chair)
_Dhaka Jammed: Languages of the Jam, Spaces of the City_

Public Femaleness in South Asia: Cinema, Entertainment, Politics
Conference Room 2 (second floor)

Amanda Weidman, Bryn Mawr College (Chair)
_Playback Singers and Public Femaleness in South India_

Madhavi Murty, University of Washington
_Of Bandit Queens, Dalit Queens and Other Unruly Subjects_

Preminda Jacob, University of Maryland, Baltimore County
_Visual Representations of Female Political Authority in Tamil Nadu_

Neepa Majumdar, University of Pittsburgh
_Discussant_

Revolutionary Writing: Political and Literary Imaginations in Pre-Independence India
Conference Room 1 (second floor)

Suvir Kaul, University of Pennsylvania (Chair)

Bilal Hashmi, New York University
_Progressive Criticism and its Afterlives_

Simona Sawhney, University of Minnesota
_The Education of Bhagat Singh_

Ania Loomba, University of Pennsylvania
_The Crooked Line: Left-Wing Women’s Writing and the Lineages of Indian Feminism_

Amardeep Singh, Lehigh University
_From Urban to Rural: Divided Aesthetics in the Hindi Nayi Kahani_

Revisiting the River of Kings: Upstream
Conference Room 3 (second floor)

Chitralekha Zutshi, College of William and Mary (Chair)

Whitney Cox, School of Oriental and African Studies/ University of Chicago
_Literary Register and Historical Consciousness in Kalhana: A Hypothesis_

Daud Ali, University of Pennsylvania
_The Shifting Temporalities of Historical Discourse in Western India, c. 1100-1400_

Lawrence McCrea, Cornell University
_Santarasa in the Rājatarangini: History, Epic and Moral Decay_
Session 1 continued

Arre Taxi!: Taxi Drivers and the Politics of Labor and Work in South Asia and the Diaspora
Conference Room 4 (second floor)

Tarini Bedi, University of Chicago (Chair)
Urban Histories of Place and Labor: The Chilia Taximen of Mumbai

Diditi Mitra, Brookdale Community College
Navigating the Pathways of Race, Class and the American Labor Market: The Punjabi Decision to Become Taxi Drivers

Kabi Sherman, Independent Scholar
Kaali-Peeli ki Kahani

Biju Matthew, Rider University
Discussant

The Unplanned Urban: Fringes and Social Marginality
Conference Room 5 (second floor)

Shruti Majumdar, Brown University (Chair)
In 'Juridical Limbo': A Case Study of Two Squatter Evictions in Calcutta, India

Sumeet Mhaskar, University of Oxford
State Labour and Capital in Neo-Liberal India: Mumbai's Ex-Millworkers' Politics for Rehabilitation

Katherine Young, McGill University
From Paraicheri to Suburb: Religion, Politics, and Economics in Ekangipuram, Chennai

Amita Sinha, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
The Urban Fringe in Lucknow: Eco-cultural Conservation Zone as a Strategy to Control Unplanned Urban

Kabir in Context: Purushottam Agrawal’s New Study
University Room A/B (second floor)

Thomas Trautmann, University of Michigan (Chair)
David N. Lorenzen, El Colegio de Mexico
Kabir in History

Pashaura Singh, University of California, Riverside
Kabir in the Adi Granth

John S. Hawley, Columbia University
New Wine for Old Kabir

Purushottam Agrawal, Union Public Service Commision
Rereading Kabir: Vernacular Modernity and Marginalization

Intimacy and Sexuality in Muslim Women’s Autobiographical Writing 17th-20th C.
University Room C/D (second floor)

Sylvia Vatuk, University of Illinois, Chicago (Chair)
Afshan Bokhari, Suffolk University
Sufistic Modes of Jahan Ara Begam’s (1614-1681) Sexuality

Siobhan Lambert-Hurley, Loughborough University
Writing the Conjugal Act: Intimacy and Sexuality in Muslim Women’s Autobiographical Writing

Andrew Amstutz, Cornell University
‘Islamist’ Femininity: Domesticity and Sexuality in Women’s Autobiographical Literature of Jamaat-e Islamia

Asiya Alam, University of Texas at Austin
Intimacy against Convention: Marriage and Romance in Syeda Bano Ahmed’s Dagar se Hat Kar

Coffee Break
Capitol Ballroom B (second floor)

10:15 am - 10:30 am
Session 2

Friday, 10:30 am - 12:15 pm

Historical Anthropology and Pakistan: Emerging Perspectives
Assembly Room (first floor)

Matthew Cook, North Carolina Central University (Chair)
Julie Flowerday, Truman State University
Sentiments of Deception: A Case of History of Hunza (and Kashmir)
Hafeez Jamali, The University of Texas at Austin
Ghosts of Trade: Engagements with Modernity in a City (to be) in Gwadar, Pakistan
Mubbashir Rizvi, The University of Texas at Austin
What Remains Buried Under Property?
Elizabeth Kolsky, Villanova University
Discussant

Inventing and Reinventing the Goddess in Local Indian Tradition
Caucus Room (first floor)

Sree Padma Holt, Bowdoin College (Chair)
Transcending Boundaries: A Study of the Cult of Sammakka-Sarakka in Andhra Pradesh
Mahalakshmi Ramakrishnan, Jawaharlal Nehru University (in absentia)
Tantric Visions, Local Manifestations: The Cult Centre of Chinnamasta at Rajrappa, Jharkhand
Caleb Simmons, Florida University
The Goddess on the Hill: The (Re)invention of a Local Goddess as Camundi
Anushiya Ramaswamy, Southern Illinois University
The Goddesses in the Tamil Dalit Poems of N.D. Rajkumar

The Indus Civilization and its Neighbors:
New Insights into South Asian and West Asian Interactions, Part II
Senate Room A (first floor)

Gregg Jamison, University of Wisconsin-Madison (Chair)
Randall Law, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Steatite Beads as Markers of Long Distance Contact with the Indus Civilization
Brad Chase, Albion College
Outsiders and Others: Was Gujarat Outside of the Indus?
Teresa Raczek, University of Kennesaw State University
A-B and C: A Geographical Exploration into Interaction between the Ahar-Banas and the Indus Region
Mary Davis, University of Wisconsin-Madison
The Effect of Hydrological Systems on Material Culture and Socio-Political Affiliation in Asia
Richard Meadow, Harvard University
Discussant

House and Home in 20th Century South Asia, Part II: Planning for Housing
Senate Room B (first floor)

Frank Conlon, University of Washington
Co-operative Housing and Community in Colonial Bombay
Nikhil Rao, Wellesley College (Chair)
On Uncertain Ground: Cooperative Housing in Post-Independence Bombay
Faiza Moatasim, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
Topologies of Exceptions in the Planned Modernist City of Islamabad
Abigail McGowan, University of Vermont
Discussant
Session 2 continued

Friday, 10:30 am - 12:15 pm

Capitol Ballroom A (second floor)

Amrita Ghosh, Drew University (Chair)
Samiparna Samanta, Florida State University
*Meat, Vegetarianism and Urban History: The Making and Unmaking of Colonial Calcutta, 1850-1920*
Sayantani Satpathi, University of Oklahoma
*Locating the Post-Colonial Metropolis: Urban Planning, Environmentalism and Public Policy*
Swaralipi Nandi, Kent State University
*Disciplining the City: Neoliberal Urbanism and Spatial Governmentality in Tarun Tejpal’s The Story of My Assassins*

Sohomjit Ray, Kent State University
*Visibility at Any Cost: Selling Same-Sex Desire as a Commodity in the Neoliberal Urban Market*

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**Imagining Kashmir: Power and Resistance in the Borderlands, Part I**
Conference Room 1 (second floor)

Shubh Mathur, Independent Scholar (Chair)
*“The Perfect Enemy”: Maps, Laws and Sacrifice in the Making of Borders*

Mona Bhan, DePauw University
*Mapping the Militarized Landscape: Counterinsurgency, Governance, and Citizenship in Ladakh, India*
Nyla Khan, University of Oklahoma
*Discourses on the Palimpsest of Kashmir*

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**Mourning Revolution in Indian Parallel Cinema**
Conference Room 2 (second floor)

Swarnavel Pillai, Michigan State University (Chair)
*John Abraham’s Amma Ariyan: History, Mother, and Specter*

Hanlon Dennis, Beloit College
*“The World Without, the World Within”: New Spaces of the Political in Mrinal Sen’s ‘Mahaprithibi’*
Sushmita Banerji, University of Iowa
*Inscribing Lost Frames: Ghatak’s ‘Aamar Lenin’ and a Possible Story*

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**Revisiting the River of Kings Downstream**
Conference Room 3 (second floor)

Whitney Cox, School of Oriental and African Studies/University of Chicago (Chair)

Yigal Bronner, University of Chicago
*From Conqueror to Connoisseur: Kalhana’s Account Fashioning of Kashmir as a Kingdom of Learning*

Luther Obrock, University of California-Berkeley
*Running out of History: Srivara’s Zinarajatangini*
Chitrakala Zutshi, College of William and Mary
*Rajatarangini in Kashmir’s Persian Historical Tradition*

David Shulman, Hebrew University
*Discussant*
Strategies for Hope, Strategies for Survival: Gendered Social Networks in India and its Diaspora
Conference Room 4 (second floor)

Susan Wadley, Syracuse University (Chair)
Antoinette DeNapoli, University of Wyoming
Devotional Gathering as Alternative Social Network for Female Hindu Renunciants in Rajasthan
Susan Dewey, University of Wyoming
Cassava and Bitter Mango: Trade-Oriented Social Networks Amongst Indo-Fijan Female Market Vendors
Amy Allocco, Elon University
Earning Respect, Securing Survival: Gender Negotiations in a Tamil Healing Network
Neely Mahapatra, University of Wyoming
South Asian Women and Domestic Violence: Support Networks and Surviving Abuse

Cities: Defining and Redefining Urban Spaces
Conference Room 5 (second floor)

Sanaa Riaz, Arkansas State University (Chair)
Islamizing the Karachi Landscape: Towards an Alternative Reading
Sarwat Viqar, Concordia University
Meanings of Community and the Public in the Gathering Spaces of Old Karachi
Rotem Geva, Princeton University
The City as a Space of Suspicion: Delhi in the Post-Partition Years, Through the Lenses of the CID
Naheed Aftaab, University of Minnesota
Discussant

Neoliberal Development and Social Resistance in South Asia
University Room A/B (second floor)

Monisha Bajaj, Columbia University
Rights and Resistance: The Localization of Human Rights Education in India
Devparna Roy, Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Resistance to Land Acquisition in India: A Comparison of Singur with Sanand
Ajay Panicker, St Cloud State University (Chair)
Neoliberalism, Resistance and the Scalar Question: The Case of Plachimada Movement in Kerala.

Religious and Legal Pluralism in India
University Room C/D (second floor)

Mitra Sharafi, University of Wisconsin-Madison (Chair)
Gopika Solanki, Carleton University
Conceptualizing ‘In-Between’ Processes in State-Society Relations
Narendra Subramanian, McGill University
Remaking the Normative Family: Changes in Hindu Law Since the 1960s
Jeffrey Redding, St. Louis University
The Administration of Islamic Law in Contemporary India: Between State and Society
Katherine Lemons, Smith College
Between Judge and Qazi: Adjudicating Muslim Divorces in Delhi

Break for Lunch
(See list of restaurants, page 2)
Roundtable: Perceived Effects of Militant Extremism in Pakistan: Perspectives from South Asia and the U.S.  
Assembly Room (first floor)  
Zillur R. Khan, University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh (Chair)  
Theodore Wright, State University of New York-Albany  
Farhat Huq, Monmouth College  
Irfan Omar, Marquette University  
Aurangzeb Syed, Northern Michigan University  

Aesthetics, Guising, and Bodies in South Indian Performance  
Caucus Room (first floor)  
Kirin Narayan, University of Wisconsin-Madison (Chair)  
Harshita Mruthinti Kamath, Emory University  
Female Krishnas and Male Satyabhamas: Impersonation in Kuchipudi Classical Dance Performance  
Tulasi Srinivas, Emerson College  
Global Masks and Guising Deities in Contemporary Bangalore  
Joyce Burkhalter Flueckiger, Emory University  
Guising, Recognition, Transformation in Gangamma Traditions of Tirupati  
Velcheru Narayana Rao, Emory University  
Discussant  

Recent Developments in South Asian Archaeology  
Senate Room A (first floor)  
Daniel Michon, Claremont McKenna College  
The Archaeological Geography of the Greater Punjab Plains  
Akinori Uesugi, Independent Scholar  
Mitathal excavations 2010-11 and its implications in the prehistory of the Ghaggar plain.  
Qasid Mallah, Shah Abdul Latif University  
Excavations at Lakhanjo-daro, Sindh: New Discoveries in the Southern Indus  
Benjamin Valentine, University of Florida (co-author)  
Vasant Shinde, Deccan College, Pune (co-author)  
John Krigbaum, University of Florida (co-author)  
Kinship and Copper: The Implications of Marital Residence on the Indus Margins for Indus Civilization Resource Acquisition  

Rethinking Decolonization in a Transnational World: India, Pakistan, and Anticolonial Networks  
Senate Room B (first floor)  
Lucy Chester, University of Colorado at Boulder  
A Phantom Behind Official Chairs: British Fears of Indian Muslim Unrest  
Michele Louro, Salem State University  
From Brussels to Bandung: Nehru, Nationalism, and the World 1927-1955  
Venkat Dhulipala, University of North Carolina at Wilmington  
Creating a New Medina: State Power, Islam and the Quest for Pakistan in Late Colonial North India  
Durba Ghosh, Cornell University (Chair)  
Discussant
Session 3 continued

**Violence and the Shifting Urban Landscape**
Capitol Ballroom A (second floor)

Sahar Shafqat, St. Mary’s College of Maryland (Chair)
*Ethnic Violence in Karachi*

Aman Luthra, Johns Hopkins University
*The Violence of Garbage: The Production of Urban Space by the State, Capital, and the Middle-Class*

Divya Guru Rajan, Duke University
*An Analysis of the Ubiquity of Violence faced by India’s Most Marginalized Groups*

**Nepali Nationalism at the Crossroad**
Conference Room 1 (second floor)

Mahendra Lawoti, Western Michigan University (Chair)
*Mono-Ethnic to Multi-Nation State and Nationalism*

Pramod Mishra, Lewis University
*Mongrel or Multicultural? Nationalism for the Twenty-First Century Post-Monarchy Nepal*

Monika Timsina, Tribhuwan University
*Transformation of Nepali Nationalism*

Pramod Kantha, Wright State University
*Nepal’s Madhesi Uprising of 2007 and the Transitional Regime*

**Roti, Kapda, aur Makaan: The Political Economy of Housing in South Asia, Part I**
Conference Room 2 (second floor)

Sai Balakrishnan, Harvard University (Chair)
*Contested Corridors and the New Hybrid Institutions for Land Allocations in India*

Andrew Nelson, University of Virginia
*The Social Production of Kathmandu’s Housing Boom: Land Pimps, Housing Companies, and the Weak State*

Nausheen Anwar, Institute of Business Administration
*The Politics of Planning & Insurgent Citizenship in Karachi’s Urban Periphery*

Thomas Blom Hansen, Stanford University
Discussant

**Special Effects Ahead: The Poetics and Practice of “Flashy” Poetry in Sanskrit Literary Culture**
Conference Room 3 (second floor)

Isaac Murchie, University of California, Berkeley
*The (Linguistic) Terror of War: On the Fifteenth Sarga of Bharavi’s Kiratarjuniya*

Ilanit Loewy Shacham, University of Chicago
*Can You Hear This Picture? On Sight and Sound in Sanskrit Citra Poetry*

Victor B. D’Avella, University of Chicago (Chair)
*Decoding a Poem: The Commentarial Tradition on the Devishataka of Anandavardhana*

Yigal Bronner, University of Chicago
Discussant

**Mediating the Movies: Self-Reflexivity in Indian Cinema**
Conference Room 4 (second floor)

Anupama Kapse, Queen’s College, City University of New York
*Drama and Documentary in Harischandrachi Factory (2010)*

Neepa Majumdar, University of Pittsburgh (Chair)
*Staging the Screen, Screening the Stage: Hindi Cinema and the Problem of Self-Reflexivity*

Meheli Sen, Rutgers University
*Very Filmi: Industry, Spectators and Desire in 70s and 80s Hindi Cinema*

Anustup Basu, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
*Bollywood and Advertized Modernization*
Enacting the Political Within and Against the Market: New Directions in Women’s Activism in India
University Room A/B (second floor)
Srimati Basu, University of Kentucky
Of Mediation and the Market: Activists and NGOs Negotiate Marriage in Kolkata
Srila Roy, University of Nottingham
Feminist Subjectivities in Neoliberal India
Debarati Sen, Kennesaw State University (Chair)
Fair Trade vs. Swaccha Vyapar: Women’s Activism and Transnational Justice Regimes in Darjeeling
Raka Ray, University of California, Berkeley
Discussant

Routine Exceptions: Rethinking Emergency Powers in South Asia
University Room C/D (second floor)
Sanjay Ruparelia, New School for Social Research (Chair)
Sanjib Baruah, Bard College
Routine Emergencies: India’s Armed Forces Special Powers Act
Thushara Hewage, Columbia University
Reframing the Problem of Protracted Emergency in Sri Lanka
Anil Kalhan, Drexel University
Everything Old Is New Again: India’s Post-2008 Antiterrorism Legislation

Coffee Break
Capitol Ballroom B (second floor)

3:30 pm - 3:45 pm
Bicycle rickshaws wait for the green light at a street in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Session 4

Religion, Law, and Locating Agency in Pakistan
Assembly Room (first floor)

Syed Adnan Hussain, University of Toronto
*Three Transformations: The Evolution of Pakistan’s Blasphemy Law*

Matthew Cook, North Carolina Central University
*Executing Empire: Colonial Violence and Sindh in the 1840s*

Majed Akhter, University of Arizona (Chair)
*The Engineer as Law: Understanding the Contradictions of the Indus Water Treaty of 1960*

Nadia Hasan, York University
*Unscripted Agency: Towards a Discursive Decolonization of Women’s Agency in Pakistan*

Historical Archaeology and Art History of South Asia
Caucus Room (first floor)

Robert Simpkins, San Jose State University (Chair)
*Ancient Cities within Modern Cities: Hyderabad’s Growth and the Loss of Golconda’s Cultural Heritage*

Katherine Kasdorf, Columbia University
*Seeing a City Through Its Temples: Halebid and the Hoysala Capital*

Shahid Rajput, International Islamic University
*Dimensions of Islamic Archaeology in Pakistan: A Case Study of al-Mansurah*

The Poetics of Religious Expression
Senate Room A (first floor)

Anthony Cerulli, Hobart and William Smith Colleges (Chair)
*The Poetics of Practice: Allegory at the Intersection of Social Engagement and Religious Retreat*

Kristin Bloomer, Carleton College
*Tamil Tropes, Modern Selves: The Poetics of Possession in Urban, Christian Tamil Nadu*

Bruce Sullivan, Northern Arizona University
*The Poetics of Performative Speech Acts: Literary Expressions of Truth, Power, and Virtue*

Amy Langenberg, Auburn University
*The Social Uses of Sexual Punning and Scatology in the Buddhist Tale of Nanda*

Topographies of Power, Paradoxes of Identity: Perspectives from India’s Northeastern Borderlands
Senate Room B (first floor)

Yasmin Saikia, Arizona State University (Chair)

Swargajyoti Gohain, Emory University
*The Indigenous and the Foreign: Complicating Boundaries in a Border Town*

Rehanna Kheshgi, University of Chicago
*Performing Topographies of Identity and Paradoxes of Power in Dhemaji District*

Amit Baishya, Ball State University
*‘The Fragile Magic of Being at Home’: ‘Nomadism’ as an Impediment to Storytelling in Siddhartha Deb*
Religious Controversies and Encounters in Nineteenth-Century Bombay
Conference Room 1 (second floor)

J. Barton Scott, Montana State University
Libeled Subjects: Religious Selfhood in the Maharaj Libel Case

Daniel Sheffield, Harvard University
Missionaries, Miracles, and Modernity: Parsi Responses to Protestant Proselytization, 1830-1850

Mitch Numark, California State University, Sacramento (Chair)
Scottish Missionaries, ‘Jainism,’ and the Jains of Colonial Bombay

Mitra Sharafi, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Discussant

Roti, Kapda, aur Makaan: The Political Economy of Housing in South Asia, Part II
Conference Room 2 (second floor)

Ujala Dhaka-Kintgen, Harvard University
Religious Contours of Urban Space: Dilapidated Tenements, Transit Camps, and Localizing Claims

Namita Dharia, Harvard University (Chair)
What Lies Between: Bridging the Gap Between the Skyscraper and Slum

Leilah Vevaina, New School for Social Research
Building Trust: Community and Real Estate in Mumbai

Liza Weinstein, Northeastern University
Discussant

Moving Songs: Identity, Translation, and the Uncharted Travels of the Kirtan Genre
Conference Room 3 (second floor)

Davesh Soneji, McGill University (Chair)
Tukaram in the Tamil Country: Marathi Kirtan and the Cosmopolitan Life of Karnatak Music

Anna Schultz, Stanford University
Making Marathi Kirtan Jewish in Colonial India

Archana Venkatesan, University of California, Davis
Making Saints, Making Communities: The Case of Nayaki Svamikal of Madurai

Indira Viswanathan Peterson, Mount Holyoke College
Discussant

Panic in the City: Morality, Legitimacy and Pleasure in Contemporary Bangalore
Capitol Ballroom A (second floor)

Ashwini Tambe, University of Toronto (Chair)
Sexual Freedom, Economic Liberalization and Vigilantism in Bangalore and Mangalore

Hemangini Gupta, Emory University
Where to go tonight: Consumption, Politics and Protest in Dance and Lounge Bars in Bangalore

Rachel Fleming, University of Colorado at Boulder
Young Women Out at Night: Moral Panic and the Gendered Dimension of Middle-Class Anxiety in Bangalore

Prabha Kotiswaran, School of Oriental and African Studies
Migration, Trafficking and the City: Legal Imaginaries
Session 4 continued

Specters of Nehru: Perspectives on Culture and Ideology
Conference Room 4 (second floor)

Michael Fisher, Oberlin College (Chair)
Rajeswari Sunder Rajan, New York University
Nehru’s Shadow: Memory and Melancholy in Some Post-Independence Indian Novels in English
Anuradha Dingwaney Needham, Oberlin College
The Idea(s) of Nehru in Shyam Benegal’s Films
Rochona Majumdar, University of Chicago
The Cinematic Village: Political Cinema in Nehruvian India
Udaya Kumar, University of Delhi
Personal and Public Histories: Nehru and His Vernacular Successors

Practices of Women’s Human Rights in Contemporary India
University Room A/B (second floor)

James Jaffe, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater (Chair)
Tamara Relis, London School of Economics
Critical Gaps of Context in International Human Rights Discourses: Perspectives from India
Sylvia Vatuk, University of Illinois, Chicago
Islamic Feminism and Human Rights: Muslim Women’s Activism in India Today
Karine Bates, Université de Montreal
Women’s Rights and the Concept of Matrimonial Property: the Legal Process

Democracy and Violence in South Asia
University Room C/D (second floor)

Jason Miklian, Peace Research Institute Oslo (Chair)
Rumela Sen, Cornell University
The Lure of Democracy: Exploring the Transition from Bullets to Ballots
Navine Murshid, Colgate University
Bachelors of Aggression: The Involvement of Students in Electoral Violence
Subhasish Ray, University of Rochester
Foreign-Imposed Democratization and Ethnic War: The Partition Violence in Punjab, August 1947
Paul Staniland, University of Chicago
Democracy, Identity, and Violence on India’s Insurgent Periphery

All-Conference Welcome Reception and Social Hour
Madison Ballroom (second floor)

All-Conference Dinner
Wisconsin Ballroom (second floor)

Friday, 3:45 pm – 5:30 pm

Friday, 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Friday, 6:30 pm - 7:45 pm

A limited number of tickets may still be available at the registration desk. Please inquire. Tickets will be collected as you enter the dining room. Wine service is available upon request.
Afghanistan has been the focus of world attention since the United States entered the country in 2001 and successfully expelled the Taliban, but over the past decade the international community played little heed to the country’s culture and history in attempting restore political stability there. An examination of how some Afghan rulers have successfully established political legitimacy and maintained long periods of peace, while others have failed, still holds valuable lessons—particularly for transitions of political authority in the wake of foreign invasions. Afghan conceptions of what makes a government legitimate, what makes a leader effective, and what a government is expected to accomplish, are fundamental factors that cannot be ignored in bringing peace to this war torn land.

Dr. Thomas Barfield’s research focuses on problems of reconstruction and political development in contemporary Afghanistan, particularly on questions of customary law and its role in conflict resolution.


He is also director of the Institute for the Study of Muslim Societies & Civilization and president of the American Institute for Afghanistan Studies.
Performance

Pashto Folk & Classical Music

Friday, 9:00 pm – 10:00 pm
Capitol Ballroom (second floor)

Ustad Mangal (vocalist)
Painda Mangal, known as Ustad Mangal, was born in Laghman, Afghanistan in 1956. He started his singing career from his college in the early 70s after taking lessons from famous musicians and singers of the time. He is widely known for his folk singing both in Afghanistan and Pakistan. He migrated to Pakistan in the 90s and sang songs for Radio Pakistan and Pakistan Television for a long time. While singing, he often plays baja (harmonium) with it. He came to the US in January 2000 and has been performing across the country since his arrival.

Masood Omari (duprai)
Masood Omari was born in Kabul in 1977. He joined a musical group in Kabul when he was a teenager and learned to play tabla and baja (harmonium). He migrated to Islamabad, Pakistan during the Soviet invasion in Afghanistan and performed across the country with renowned Pashto, Dari and Urdu singers of the country. After performing for 10 years in Pakistan, he came to the US in 2002 and since then he has been playing tabla and baja in the United States.

Tahir Ahmad (rabab)
Tahir Ahmad was born in North West Frontier Province of Pakistan (Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa). From his early childhood, music has been his passion. He started playing and learning Rabab in 1980 and is mostly a self-taught musician. Besides other performances, he also recorded play back music in New York for a Documentary Film ‘Camp Victory Afghanistan’ directed by Carol Dysinger and premiered in the Austin Film Festival in March, 2010.
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<td>Financing India’s “World Cities”: Urban Property Regimes Past and Present</td>
<td>Allahabad, Jaunpur, Lahore - The “Lettered City” in South Asia</td>
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<td>Materiality and Culture: Material Culture and South Asian Society</td>
<td>Outsider Perspectives on Mughal Power</td>
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<td>Senate Room B (first floor)</td>
<td>The Secular Effect: Religion, Politics and Identity in Modern India</td>
<td>State, Law and Governance: From Normativity to Practice</td>
<td>Anxiety and Authority: Critical Histories of Jurisprudence in Colonial and Postcolonial India</td>
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<td>Alternative Orientalisms (Some Views from Early-Modern India)</td>
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<td>Cross Border Negotiations: Moving on from Partition</td>
<td>Stylistic Boundaries at the Intersection of Capitalism: Popular Music in India and Genre Creation</td>
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<td>The Role of Mass-Media in the Definition of South Asian Democracy</td>
<td>Film, Television, and Popular Culture</td>
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<td>Film — The Battle for Pakistan (40 min)</td>
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<td>Conference Room 5 (second floor)</td>
<td>Between Location and Dislocation: Sri Lankan Tamil Subjectivity in Film and Literature</td>
<td>Film — The Way of the Road (60 min) — 11:15 am</td>
<td>Film — The Promised Land (90 min)</td>
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<tr>
<td>University Room A/B (second floor)</td>
<td>Concerns of South Asian in Diaspora</td>
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<td>India’s Maoist Insurgency</td>
<td>Social and Political Transformation in Contemporary West Bengal: Possibilities for Democratic Change</td>
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Coffee Break — 10:15 am - 10:30 am — Capitol Ballroom B (second floor)

Lunch On Your Own — 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm
Session 5

Islam in Colonial and Modern Indian History
Assembly Room (first floor)

SherAli Tareen, Franklin and Marshall College
Knowing the Unknown: Contesting the Limits of Prophetic Knowledge in Colonial Muslim India

Jose Abraham, Concordia University (Chair)
16th Century Mappila Muslims’ Jihad Against the Portuguese: Impact of Tuhfat al-Mujahidin

Fuad Naeem, Georgetown University
The Rationality of Religion and Interreligious Polemic in the Theology of Muhammad Qasim Nanautvi

Relocating Braj: Urban Sites, Self-Fashioning, and Vernacular Choice in Early Modern South Asia
Caucus Room (first floor)

Purnima Dhavan, University of Washington, Seattle (Chair)
Literary Self-Fashioning and the Adhyatmi Jains of Agra

Rahuldeep Gill, California Lutheran University
Locating Braj in Sikh Literature

Heidi Pauwels, University of Washington, Seattle
From the Bowers of Braj to Delhi Salons: Savant Singh of Kishangarh’s Rekhta

Allison Busch, Columbia University
Discussant

Materiality and Culture: Material Culture and South Asian Society
Senate Room A (first floor)

Abigail McGowan, University of Vermont (Chair)

Kathleen Morrison, University of Chicago
Doorways to the Divine: Vijaynagara Irrigation and Rural devotional landscape

Kumkum Chatterjee, Pennsylvania State University
Cards and Cosmopolitanism in Mughal India

Sumit Guha, Rutgers University
Material Culture in Western India Bewteen European and Mughal Influence

Lisa Trivedi, Hamilton College
A Phptography of Working in Ahmedabad City, 1937: The Jyoti Sangh, Pranlal Patel and Women Workers

The Secular Effect: Religion, Politics and Identity in Modern India
Senate Room B (first floor)

Varuni Bhatia, University of Michigan (Chair)

Aseem Hasnain, University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill
Secularism and Its Contradictions: Adjudicating Sectarian Disputes in Colonial Lucknow

Haimanti Roy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Migrants, Infiltrators or Refugees: The Debate on Citizenship in Post-Partition India

Raisur Rahman, Wake Forest University
The Religious and the Progressive: Interrogating Qasbahs in Late Colonial India

Ananya Dasgupta, University of Pennsylvania
Labors of Representation: Debt, Devotion, and Muslim Identity in late Colonial Bengal
Session 5 continued

Saturday, 8:30 am - 10:15 am

The Performative Mahabharata
Capitol Ballroom A (second floor)

James L. Fitzgerald, Brown University (Chair)
David L. Gitomer, DePaul University

The Mahabharata, the Venisamhara, and the Machinery of Dread
Aparna Dharwadker, University of Wisconsin-Madison
From Colonial to Postcolonial: The ‘Yayati’ plays of Michael Madhusudan Dutt and Girish Karnad
Paula Richman, Oberlin College
Disrupting Fixed Identities in Muthal Naidoo
Velcheru Narayana Rao, Emory University

Cross Border Negotiations: Moving on from Partition
Conference Room 1 (second floor)

Delwar Hussain, University of Cambridge
Everyday life at the Coalface: the Coal Trade on the Bangladesh-India Border
Pallavi Raghavan, University of Cambridge
Lost and Found: The Evacuee Property Dispute Between India and Pakistan
Tariq Omar Ali, Harvard University
Jute and Sovereignty: Partition, Postcolonial Nation-States, and Global Commodities, 1947-50
Uditi Sen, Hampshire College (Chair)

The Role of Mass-Media in the Definition of South Asian Democracy
Conference Room 2 (second floor)

Emily Rook-Koepsel, University of Oklahoma
Posing Challenges to Democracy: All India Radio’s National Programme of Talks
Kalzang Bhutia, University of Alabama (co-author)
Amy Holmes-Tagchungdarpa, University of Alabama (co-author)
Creating Unity through Diversity: All India Radio’s Bhutia Language Programming in Sikkim
Ronie Parciack, Tel Aviv University
Islamic Deshbhakti?: VCDs and the Reshaping of Hindutva Discourse in Contemporary India
Victoria Farmer, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London-Geneseo (Chair)

In Search of the Village: The Urban Imagination and the Politics of Space in Indian Development Work
Conference Room 3 (second floor)

Sarasij Majumder, Kennesaw State University
Resistant Peasants vs. the Aspiring Chasi: Rurality and Political Protest in Neoliberal India
Jason Rodriguez, Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Desiring Development in the Land of Buddha’s Enlightenment
Nishita Trisal, University of California, Santa Cruz
Indebted: Financial Inclusion, Economic Sociality, and Rural Politics in Orissa, India
Megan Moodie, University of California, Santa Cruz (Chair)
The Kacchi Basti as Urban Village: Recycling a Reproductive Health Paradigm
Session 5 continued Saturday, 8:30 am - 10:15 am

**Cultural Citizenship and the Built City**
Conference Room 4 (second floor)

Mona Chettri, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London
*Transformation and Crisis in Frontier City – The Case of Siliguri*

Shubhra Gururani, York University (Chair)
*New Urban Frontiers: Flexibly Planning Gurgaon, India*

Harleen Singh, Brandeis University
*Chandigarh: Culture, Citizenship, and City*

**Between Location and Dislocation: Sri Lankan Tamil Subjectivity in Film and Literature**
Conference Room 5 (second floor)

Nalin Jayasena, Miami University of Ohio (Chair)
*From Humanism to Militarism: Gamini Fonseka and the Bookends of the Ethnic Conflict*

Geetha Ganapathy-Doré, Université Paris 13
*Displacement and Identity: Films on the Ethnic Conflict in Sri Lanka*

Paola Brusasco, University of Torino
*Sri Lanka’s IDPs: the Camp Experience in T. Subas Vanni Mouse and Jean Arasanayagam’s Writings*

Sharika Thiranagama, The New School for Social Research
Discussant

**Concerns of South Asians in Diaspora**
University Room A/B (second floor)

Rupa Pillai, University of Oregon (Chair)
*Standing in Sita’s Shadow: Indo-Caribbean Gender Negotiation through Caribbean Hinduism in New York*

Babli Sinha, Kalamazoo College
*Contested Representation: Ram Chandra, The Young Rajah, and the Position of South Asian Migrants*

Mathangi Subramanian, Columbia University
*The Revolution Begins Online: Feminism and Activism in Digital Diaspora*

**India’s Maoist Insurgency**
University Room C/D (second floor)

Paul Staniland, University of Chicago (Chair)

Jennifer Oetken, Indiana University/Carnegie Endowment for Peace
*Tribal Participation in India’s Maoist Insurgency: Examining the Role of Economic Development Policy*

Emmanuel Teitelbaum, George Washington University (co-author)
Ajay Verghese, GWU (co-author)
*Colonialism and Armed Conflict in the Indian Countryside*

Shivaji Mukherjee, Yale University
*Colonial Origins of Maoist Insurgency in India*

Jason Miklian, Peace Research Institute Oslo
Discussant

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Coffee Break
Capitol Ballroom B (second floor)

10:15 am - 10:30 am
Session 6

Financing India’s “World Cities:” Urban Property Regimes Past and Present
Assembly Room (first floor)
Kris Olds, University of Wisconsin-Madison (Chair)
Liza Weinstein, Northeastern University
*Risk, Reward, and Real Estate: Developer Networks, FDI, and Urban Land Markets in Globalizing Mumbai*
Sheetal Chhabria, Columbia University
*Financing the Trust: Bombay’s First Colonial Housing Project*
Michael Levien, University of California-Berkeley
*From Bighas to Square Metres: Special Economic Zones and the Production of Rural Real Estate*
Llerena Searle, Rhode Island School of Design
*Routes of Accumulation: Speculative Discourses and Foreign Investment in Indian Real Estate*

Politics and Development in South Asia
Caucus Room (first floor)
A. Rehman Khan, University of Wisconsin-Madison (Chair)
The US-Afghans Relations: An Analysis of the Historical Accounts
Timor Sharan, University of Exeter
*The Political Economy of Network State: Post-2001 Afghanistan*
Varun Piplani, George Washington University
*The Perils of Democratic Development: Assessing the Impact of Political Fragmentation in India*
Elijiah Lewien, Fulbright/Carter Center
*Devolution of the Kathmandu-centric Nepal: Federalism and the Future*

Outsider Perspectives on Mughal Power
Senate Room A (first floor)
Rajeev Kinra, Northwestern University (Chair)
Roy Fischel, University of Chicago
*Mughal Imperialism, Regional Particularism, and the Deccan Sultanates*
Audrey Truschke, Columbia University
*Multicultural Mughals: Jain Experiences at Akbar’s Court*
A. Azfar Moin, Southern Methodist University
*The Safavid Perspective on Mughal India: A Reassessment*
Ishan Chakrabarti, University of Chicago
*European Encounters with the Mughal World*

A traveling cloth salesman stops to buy samosas at a shop in Shankari Bazar, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
State, Law and Governance: From Normativity to Practice

Senate Room B (first floor)

Indrani Chatterjee, Rutgers University (Chair)
Sanjog Rupakheti, Rutgers University
*Indigenous Innovations in Administrative and Judicial Practices in Nepal, 1760-1870*
Julia Stephens, Harvard University
*Backing Reason with Authority: Adjudicating Taqlid in Colonial India*
Rohit De, Princeton University
*The Constitutional Adventures of a Vegetable Vendor: The Everyday Life of Constitutional Law in India*
David Gilmartin, North Carolina State University
*Discussant*

Alternative Orientalisms (Some Views from Early-Modern India)

Capitol Ballroom A (second floor)

Ananya Chakravarti, University of Chicago
*The Salcete School: Jesuit Orientalism in Early Modern Portuguese India*
Arthur Dudney, Columbia University
*Constructions of Indian Culture in Eighteenth-Century Indo-Persian Literary Criticism*
Hasan Siddiqui, University of Chicago
*Adam, Language, and Ethnography in Early-Modern India*
Manan Ahmed, Freie Universität Berlin (Chair)
*Discussant*

Stylistic Boundaries at the Intersection of Capitalism: Popular Music in India and Genre Creation

Conference Room 1 (second floor)

Bradley Shope, Texas A&M University Corpus Christi (Chair)
*Representing the Exotic: Latin American Popular Music in Jazzy Cabarets and Early Hindi Film Songs*
Nilanjana Bhattacharjya, Colorado College
*The Elusive Song Sequence*
Jayson Beaster-Jones, Texas A&M University Corpus Christi
*Film Song and its Other: Tracing the Boundaries of Indian Music Genres*
Shalini Ayyagari, American University
*Out of Patronage and into the Studio: Manganiyar Music and Record Production in Rajasthan*

Film, Television, and Popular Culture

Conference Room 2 (second floor)

Neha Kamdar, Northwestern University (Chair)
*Beyond Being British: Assimilation, The ‘Layered-ness’ of Identity in British South Asian Cinema*
Sri Nair, Portland State University
*Cheeni Kum: Gender, Class, and the ‘Global’ Indian*
Santanu Chakrabarti, Rutgers University
*The Politics, Economics, and Contradictions of Baba*
Stuti Khanna, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi
*Event, Narrative, Image: Two Cities and their Tales*
Notes on (in) the Vernacular
Conference Room 3 (second floor)
Rajeshwari SunderRajan, New York University (Chair)
Toral Gajarawala, New York University
*What is a World? Indigeneity, Regionalism and the Vernacular in Nagarjun*
Ajay Skaria, University of Minnesota
*Rendering Gandhi*
Benjamin Baer, Princeton University
*War Work: Vernacular Figures in Bengal*
Rashmi Bhatnagar, University of Pittsburgh
Discussant

What’s Love Got To Do With It?
Sex, Romance, and “Modern” Courtship Among Young Sri Lankans
Conference Room 4 (second floor)
Jeanne Marecek, Swarthmore College (Chair)
Tom Widger, Brunel University
*Cousins in Love: Genealogy, Genes and Gender in Massina-Nana Relationships in Sinhalese Sri Lankans*
Mihirini Sirisena, University of Edinburgh
*Being Men and Women in Love: Working with Gendered Expectations of Romantic Relationships*
Sidharthan Maunaguru, International Centre for Ethnic Studies
*Producing Authentic Love: Photographs of Transnational Lankan Tamil Weddings as Visual Documents Politics of Intimacy and Love Among Sri Lankan Urban Youth*

Claiming And Contesting The City: From Colonial Calcutta to Neoliberal Kolkata
University Room A/B (second floor)
Subho Basu, Syracuse University (Chair)
Sandeep Banerjee, Syracuse University
*The Contested Landscape: British and Indian Conceptions of Colonial Calcutta*
Sravani Biswas, Syracuse University
*Disaster and the City: Political Mobilization and the 1978 Calcutta Flood*
Auritro Majumder, Syracuse University
*Cinema and the Urban Revolution: Postcoloniality as Aesthetic Form*
Anirban Acharya, Syracuse University
*Right To (Sell In) The City: Neoliberalism and the Hawkers of Calcutta*

Social and Political Transformation in Contemporary West Bengal: Possibilities for Democratic Change
University Room C/D (second floor)
Poulami Roychowdhury, New York University (Chair)
*National Bodies as Political Resources: Evidence from Campaigns Against Gender Violence in West Bengal*
Nishaant Choksi, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
*Situating Jharkhand Politics in the Jangalmahal Region of West Bengal*
Neelanjan Sircar, Columbia University
*The Evolving Social and Political Independence of Women: A Study of Two Villages in West Bengal*
Mukulika Banerjee, London School of Economics
Discussant

Break for Lunch
(See list of restaurants, page 2)

12:30 pm - 1:30 pm
Allahabad. Jaunpur, Lahore - The “Lettered City” in South Asia
Assembly Room (first floor)
Frances Pritchett, Columbia University (Chair)
Mehr Farooqi, University of Virginia
Askari and Allahabad: English, Urdu, Hindi Remix
Alok Rai, University of Delhi
The Forgotten Frontier or the Cold War in Allahabad
Rashmi Bhatnagar, University of Pittsburgh
Nagar Varnan, Katha, Jaunpur
Rajender Kaur, William Patterson University
Lamenting the Tabled City: Lahore in Amritsar’s Imaginary

Imagining Kashmir: Power and Resistance in the Borderlands, Part II
Caucus Room (first floor)
Haley Duschinski, Ohio University (Chair)
Shopian: Violence, Resistance, and Jurisdictions of Justice in Kashmir
Saiba Varma, Cornell University
Once ‘Terrorist,’ Now, ‘Terrorized’: Medicalization and Militarization in the Kashmir Valley
Huma Dar, University of California-Berkeley
Nudity of Resistance, Nakedness of Power
Mohamad Junaid, City University of New York
Spatial Strategies, Violent Practices: Thinking Military Occupation in Kashmir

Sight and Sound in Indian Inscriptions
Senate Room A (first floor)
Michael Bednar, University of Missouri (Chair)
Matthew D. Milligan, University of Texas
A Study of Inscribed Reliefs within the Context of Donative Inscriptions at Sanchi
Jesca Scaevola, University of Missouri
Candragupta and Kumaradevi: An Evaluation of the Gupta Ties to the Licchavi People
Sarah Hicks, University of Pennsylvania
Vernacular Prosody: Desi Meter in Pre-Kavirajamargam Kannada Inscriptions
Daud Ali, University of Pennsylvania
Discussant

Anxiety and Authority: Critical Histories of Jurisprudence in Colonial and Postcolonial India
Senate Room B (first floor)
Geraldine Forbes, State University of New York Oswego (Chair)
Rochisha Narayan, Rutgers University
Feuding Brothers and Sisters: Gendering Rights in Land in Early Colonial Banaras Region
Durba Mitra, Emory University
Examining the ‘Prostitute’: Name-calling and Sexual Regulation in Colonial Bengal
Rebecca Grapevine, University of Michigan
The Persistence of Coverture in Post-Colonial India
Mrinal Satish, Yale University
Rape Sentencing: A Site for Constitutional Subversion
**Place Making and Territorial Self-Fashioning in Colonial India**

*Conference Room 1 (second floor)*

Anand Yang, University of Washington (Chair)
Anshuman Pandey, University of Michigan
*Making Mithila, Breaking Bihar: The Crisis between Region and Nation in Late Colonial North Bihar*

Aryendra Chakravartty, Pennsylvania State University
*Local Places, National Pasts: Colonial Archeology and the Production of History*

Sugata Ray, University of Minnesota
*The Spatial Techniques of a Modern Hinduism: Temple Building in 19th and 20th-century Braj Bhumi*

Pritipuspa Mishra, Texas A&M University Corpus Christi
*The Cosmopolitan Local: Puri as the Cultural Space of the Nation*

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**Dance, Theater, and Folk Culture in India and Bangladesh**

*Conference Room 2 (second floor)*

Munjulika Rahman, Northwestern University (Chair)
*Folk, Food, and Famine: Bangladeshi ‘Folk’ Dance and the Bengal Famine of 1943*

Leah Lowthorp, University of Pennsylvania
*In Search of an Audience: Kutiyattam, Kerala Kalamandalam, and the Reinvention of Tradition*

Patricia Dold, Memorial University of Newfoundland
*The Goddess Kamakhya According to Women’s Hymns (Nam)*

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**Indian and Pakistani Fiction**

*Conference Room 3 (second floor)*

Ellen Ambrosone, University of Chicago
*Reconsidering Genre: Questioning the First Malayalam Novel*

David Waterman, Universite de La Rochelle (Chair)
*Karachi’s Fragmented Interdependence: Kamila Shamsie’s ‘In the City by the Sea’*

Cara Cilano, University of North Carolina at Wilmington
*Multicultural Nation | Privileged State: Local Tensions in Pakistani Fiction*

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**Sri Lankan Cities in Transition**

*Conference Room 4 (second floor)*

Tissa Jayatilaka, US-Sri Lanka Fulbright Commission (Chair)
Vidyamali Samarasinghe, American University
*Reinvention of Colombo as the Polarized Urbanized Hub of Sri Lanka: The Impact of Economics, Politic*

Nihal Perera, Ball State University
*Simultaneity and Hybridity: The Contemporary Kandyan Landscape*

Melissa Langworthy, Tulane University
*Coping Strategies of Economically Marginalized Women in Urban Sri Lanka*

Neil DeVotta, Wake Forest University
*Urban-Rural Electoral Dynamics and the Implication for Dynastic Politics in Sri Lanka*

Stanley Samarasinghe, Tulane University
*Discussant*

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**Urban Spaces and Emotions**

*University Room A/B (second floor)*

Manan Ahmed, Freie Universität Berlin
*A Note on Some Medieval Representations of Muslim Capital in South Asia*

Margrit Pernau, Max Planck Institute for Human Development (Chair)
*Ethnography and Nostalgia - Longing for pre-1857 Delhi*

Maritta Schleyer, Max Planck Institute for Human Development
*City of Love and Pain: Khwaja Hasan Nizamis Delhi*

Anand Vivek Taneja, Columbia University
*On the Ambivalence of the Suddenly*
The theme of this year’s conference focuses on the effects of dramatic growth and economic transformation of South Asian cities in recent years. Over 70 conference sessions address modern and historical perspectives on the social, economic, and cultural contours of the South Asian city. The plenary session will begin with a brief overview of these sessions. Then plenary speakers Thomas Blom Hansen and Preeti Chopra will address recent developments in urban theory and how these may affect our perspectives on the broad changes in cities and neighborhoods that are reshaping both urban and rural landscapes.
Saturday Evening Events

Reception Honoring Tom Trautmann  
University Room A/B (second floor)
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Dinner in Honor of Professor Joe Elder’s  
50th Anniversary (ticketed event)  
Capitol Ballroom (second floor)
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

This fall, Professor Joe Elder will pass a unique milestone: Joe will be entering his fiftieth year of teaching at UW-Madison.

To celebrate this remarkable anniversary, the Center for South Asia, along with the Department of Sociology and Department of Languages and Cultures of Asia at the University of Wisconsin, has organized a dinner in honor of Joe. This dinner will feature speeches and toasts celebrating Joe Elder's many contributions to the University, South Asian studies, and the world.

There will be an opportunity to record your memories of Joe throughout the years. In addition to doing so at the event itself, you can visit southasia.wisc.edu/elder/ to take part. We hope you will join our celebration of Joe's continued presence in our community.

American Institute of Pakistan Studies (AIPS)  
9:00 pm - 11:00 pm
and Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) Reception (open to public)
Assembly Room
Organizer: Laura Hammond

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9:00 pm - 11:00 pm
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Assembly Room
Organizer: Laura Hammond
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<td>New Interpretations of Tradition in Hinduism and Sikhism</td>
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Session 8

Imagining a Sacred Center: The Construction of Pilgrimage Sites in South Asia
Assembly Room (first floor)
Daud Ali, University of Pennsylvania (Chair)
Matthew R. Sayers, Lebanon Valley College
“The Development of Gaya as Pilgrimage Site: From Stray Reference to Mahatmya”
Abhishek S. Amar, Hamilton College
“Re-inventing Gaya: Shrines, Images and Gayawal Brahmanas”
Travis L. Smith, University of Florida
“The Taming of the Yaksa: the Saiva Reconfiguration of Varanasi in the Skandapurana”
Amy Hyne, University of Texas at Austin
“Baba Kinaram and the (Re)establishment of Varanasi as an Aghor Sacred Center”

Perspectives on Buddha in Sri Lanka
Caucus Room (first floor)
Wijitha Bandara, University of Mary Washington
Ari Ariyaratne, College of DuPage/Heartland Community College (Chair)
“The Rain Retreat as a Privileged Site: a Perspective from Central Sri Lanka”
Sherry Harlacher, Denison University

Telling Tales of the Modern
Senate Room A (first floor)
Aditya Pratap Deo, Emory University
“Of Spirits/States: Gond Pasts in Kanker, Southern Chhattisgarh”
Debajani Bhattacharya, Emory University
“The Ghost in the Name: Probing the Myths around the Naming of Calcutta”
Meera Ashar, City University of Hong Kong
“Showing and Telling: Instruction, Representation and Forms of Narrative in Sarsawatichandra”
Velcheru Narayana Rao, Emory University (Chair)
“Discussant”

Roundtable: From the Dominion to the Republic — Rethinking India’s Founding and its Founders
Senate Room B (first floor)
Vikram Raghavan, Law and Other Things — A Blog on Indian Constitutional Law (Chair)
Arvind Elangovan, University of Chicago
Kriti Kapila, King’s College, London
Santhosh Shankar, University of Syracuse
Kalyani Ramnath, Yale Law School/National Law School of India

Urban Remains: Life, Materiality and Urban Reform in India
Capitol Ballroom A (second floor)
Sangeeta Mediratta, Stanford University (Chair)
Maura Finkelstein, Stanford University
“Industrial Debris: Ruin and Rumor in the Mill Lands of Mumbai”
William Elison, Stanford University
“State, Cult and Bollywood at Work in the Production of Locality”
Nikhil Anand, Haverford College
“Municipal Disconnect: On Abject Water in Mumbai’s Settlements”
Session 8 continued
Sunday, 8:30 am - 10:15 am

Articulating Community in South Asia
Conference Room 1 (second floor)

Walter Hakala, University at Buffalo, The State University of New York (Chair)
*The Missing Third Column: Defining an Intermediate Class in Mughal India*

James Hare, Columbia University
*Concepts of Community in Nabhadas' Bhaktamal*

Christine Marrewa Karwoski, Columbia University
*Instructing Identity: Publications of the Nath Sampraday*

Rich Barnett, University of Virginia
*An Early-Modern Entrepreneurial Community in the Desert: Bahawalpur-Cholistan in the 18th Century*

Education, Politics, and the State in South Asia
Conference Room 2 (second floor)

Ali Riaz, Illinois State University
*Parental Choice of Madrassah Education in Bangladesh: Some Preliminary Observations*

Lars Tore Flåten, University of Oslo
*History Textbooks and Identity Politics: the Bharatiya Janata Party's Educational Reforms*

Kavita Sivaramakrishnan, Columbia University
*Protecting the Compromised Family: Aging, Welfare and Family in a Young Nation (1940-50s)*

Aarti Bhalodia, University of Texas at Austin (Chair)
*Prince Bhagvatsinh and the Use of Education to Build an Enlightened Citizenry*

Labor Markets and Caste
Conference Room 3 (second floor)

Victoria Gross, Columbia University (Chair)
*Centering the Margins: Pallars in Contemporary Tamil Nadu*

Jolie Wood, Asian University for Women
*Caste Aside: The Influence of Class and Religion on Caste-Occupational Mobilization in Varanasi*

Sanchita Saxena, Universary California, Berkeley
*Domestic Policy Networks in the Garments and Textiles Industries in Bangladesh and Sri Lanka*

Social and Political Change in Post-War Sri Lanka
Conference Room 4 (second floor)

Neil DeVotta, Wake Forest University (Chair)
*Amita Shastri, San Francisco State University
At the Cross-roads: Sri Lanka after the Civil War*

Sandya Hewamanne, Wake Forest University
*The War Zone in my Heart: Occupation of Southern Sri Lanka*

Mark P. Whitaker, University of South Carolina, Aiken
*Two Worlds of Politics in a Sri Lankan Tamil Village After the LTTE*

Tissa Jayatilaka, US-Sri Lanka Fullbright Commission
*Discussant*

Tony K. Stewart: Recognition and Reconnaissance
Conference Room 5 (second floor)

John Stratton Hawley, Columbia (Chair)

Thibaut D’Hubert, University of Chicago
*Spreading the Word in the Proper Garb: Courtly Culture and Gauri Vaisnava Literature*

Ayesha Irani, University of Pennsylvania
*Approaching ‘The Prophet’s Lineage’: Tony Stewart and the Literary Culture of Premodern Bengal*

Afsar Mohammad, University of Texas at Austin
*The Saint’s Body as an Alternate Model: Shared Hagiographies and Bodily Practices*

Tony K. Stewart, Vanderbilt University
*Discussant*
Session 8 continued

Maureen Patterson and the History of AIIS
University Room A/B (second floor)
Frank Conlon, University of Washington (Chair)
Ralph Nicholas, University of Chicago
Maureen Patterson and the University of Chicago
Michael Fisher, Oberlin College
An Historian’s Reflections on Maureen Patterson’s A
History of the American Institute of Indian Studies, 1961 to
1998
Lelah Dushkin, Kansas State University
The Unusual Career of Maureen Patterson
Joseph Elder, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Discussant

Annihilating Caste Through Education
University Room C/D (second floor)
Laura Jenkins, University of Cincinnati (Chair)
A College of One’s Own: Historically Dalit Colleges and
the Value of Minority Institutions
Shailaja Paik, University of Cincinnati
‘Educate, Organize, Agitate’: Babsaheb Ambedkar
Philosophy of Education
Balmurli Natrajan, William Paterson University
Narrating Nation, (P)reserving Privilege: Caste, Merit
and ‘Brand India’
Douglas Haynes, Dartmouth College
Discussant

Coffee Break
Capitol Ballroom B (second floor)

Coffee Break 10:15 am - 10:30 am

A massive water buffalo bull and his proud owner, Gir Forest, Gujarat, India.
Session 9
Sunday, 10:30 am - 12:15 pm

Morality, Sexuality, and Performing Masculinity
Assembly Room (first floor)

Nicole Wilson, Syracuse University
'Pudu Ponmu': An Urban Tamil Bride’s ‘Modern’ Imaginations of Morality and Ideal Tamil Womanhood

Aniruddha Dutta, University of Minnesota
Provincializing the Queer Metropole: Non-metropolitan Networks in the Indian GLBT Movement

Megan Hamm, University of Pittsburgh (Chair)
'If We Call Them Prostitutes, They Will Feel Bad': The Role of the Courtesan in Sex Worker Activism

Chloe Coventry, University of California, Los Angeles
Performing Globalized Masculinity: Death Metal Fandom in 21st Century Bangalore

Marginal National and Transnational Religious Minorities
Caucus Room (first floor)

Jeremy Rinker, DePauw University (co-author)
Mona Bhan, DePauw University (co-author)
Alliances and Disjuncture: Marginality and Transnational Buddhism

Juhi Shahin, Tufts University
Ambedkar’s Quest for Equality and the Muslims

Gitanjali Surendran, Harvard University
Anagarika Dharmapala and the Mahabodhi Society: The Making of Modern Buddhism in India, c1891-1956

Sonja Thomas, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey (Chair)
Defining Minorities in India: Article 30 (1) of the Indian Constitution

New Interpretations of Tradition in Hinduism and Sikhism
Senate Room A (first floor)

R. Jeremy Saul, University of Michigan (Chair)
Tracking the Pan-Indian Spread of Devotion to Hanuman at Two Rajasthani Shrines

Janice Protopapas, University of Maryland
Verses of Attack: Namdharî Sikh Services of Hale da divan as Sonic Weapons

Mugdha Yeolekar, Arizona State University

Gender and Finance
Senate Room B (first floor)

Susana Lastarria-Cornhiel, University of Wisconsin-Madison (co-author)
Yasuharu Shimamura, Ritsumeikan University (co-author)
Microfinance and Women’s Self-Help Groups: Evidence of Gender Empowerment?

Gowri Vijayakumar, University of California, Berkeley (Chair)
Mapping Morality in the Knowledge Economy: Small-Town Women and the Rural BPO

Rachel Brule, Stanford University
When Legal Reform Matters: Findings from India on Women’s Benefits from Property Rights Reform
**Session 9 continued**

**Sunday, 10:30 am - 12:15 pm**

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Announcing the 41st Annual Conference on South Asia

The conference will be held October 11-14, 2012 at the Madison Concourse Hotel
1 West Dayton Street
Madison, WI 53703

Make your reservations early!
Annual submission deadline is April 1, 2012.
Special Film Screening

*Mehr Jan* : *Remembering 1971*

Friday, 10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Parlor Room 638 (sixth floor)

Followed by a discussion with filmmaker Rubaiyat Hossain

Set during the war in 1971, *Mehr Jan* raises important and provocative questions about the period. Banned in Bangladesh almost immediately upon its release, the film created a major controversy in the national press. The year 1971 witnessed a unique event that can be described in many ways: as the Bangladesh Liberation War, as the implosion of Pakistan, as the largest genocide in South Asian history, as the first break-up of a postcolonial state, as the triumph of an autonomy movement, as a shift in Cold War alliances, as the next stage in the Partition of India, and so on. Not surprisingly, 1971 continues to reverberate heavily in contemporary politics in South Asia and in the personal lives of millions of people in India, Bangladesh and Pakistan.

A generation later, however, the study of what actually happened in that fateful war remains stunted. There are many reasons for this. In Bangladesh, the Liberation War became enshrined in an intense narrative of the nation that highlights victimhood and emancipation. Memories of 1971 also became a battleground for fierce party politicking at the national level that privileges partisan positions, accusations, and jockeying for the higher moral ground. In Pakistan, on the other hand, the break-away of East Pakistan was generally felt as a painful episode in the epic postcolonial struggle with India, a humiliating military defeat best forgotten.

On the fortieth anniversary of Bangladesh’s independence, the viewing of the film and discussion will encourage exchange and help break down intellectual and social boundaries between researchers from a variety of perspectives and national backgrounds, facilitating a more smooth transition toward future research and even network formation on a theme that continues to reverberate in contemporary South Asia.

Friday, October 21

**PAPER CANCELLATION - SESSION 1**
8:30-10:15 a.m. | Conference Room 5
Shruti Majumdar, Brown University
*In “Juridical Limbo”: A Case Study of Two Squatter Evictions in Calcutta, India*

**PAPER CANCELLATION - SESSION 2**
10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. | Conference Room 5
Sarwat Viqar, Concordia University
*Meanings of Community and the Public in the Gathering Spaces of old Karachi*

**PAPER CANCELLATION - SESSION 3**
1:45-3:30 p.m. | Senate Room A
Heather O’Connor, University of Wisconsin-Madison
*Shell Inlay Manufacture: An Experimental Approach to Investigating Bronze Age Maritime Trade in the Persian/Arabian Gulf*

Saturday, October 22

**PAPER TITLE CORRECTION - SESSION 5**
8:30-10:15 a.m. | Capitol Ballroom A
Aparna Dharwadker, University of Wisconsin-Madison
*From Colonial Sermista to Postcolonial Sharmishtha: The “Yayati” Plays of Michael Madhusudan Dutt and Girish Karnad*

**PAPER CANCELLATION - SESSION 6**
10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. | Assembly Room
Jayson Beaster-Jones, Texas A & M
*Film Song and its Other: Tracing the Boundaries of Indian Music Genres*

Sunday, October 23

**Roundtable Correction - Session 8**
8:30 a.m.-10:15 p.m. | Senate Room B
Kriti Kapila, King’s College, London & Santhosh Shankar, University of Syracuse
have been replaced by Rohit De, Princeton University

**PAPER CANCELLATION - SESSION 9**
10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. | Assembly Room
Chloe Coventry, University of California, Los Angeles
*Performing Globalized Masculinities: Death Metal Fandom in 21st Century Bangalore*
This fall, Professor Joe Elder will pass a unique milestone: Joe will be entering his fiftieth year of teaching at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

To celebrate this remarkable anniversary, the Center for South Asia, along with the Department of Sociology and Department of Languages and Cultures of Asia has organized a dinner in Joe’s honor. Friends of Joe who have not already purchased a ticket can attend free of charge after 8:00 p.m. to join the celebration. Speakers will address Joe’s various contributions to the University of Wisconsin, South Asian Studies, and the world.

University of Wisconsin-Madison Archives and Oral History staff will be on hand from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in Conference Room 2 (second floor) to collect short stories that celebrate Joe Elder’s career at UW-Madison. Your 3-5 minute story will be added to the University Archives’ oral history collections and shared with the Center for South Asia. No need to prepare a speech. Simply stop by the Archives room to be recorded answering a question such as:

- What is your favorite memory of Joe Elder?
- What story first comes to mind when you recall Joe Elder and his contributions?

Archives staff will also provide information on how you may contribute a longer, more comprehensive oral history to the University Archives. In addition, the Center for South Asia is asking people to share their memories of Joe throughout the years online. Please visit southasia.wisc.edu/elder to take part.

Finally, the Center for South Asia is delighted to share that any monetary gifts made in honor of Joe will be used to support graduate students who are studying India. As you know, graduate students need extra funding to help them present at conferences, travel abroad, and advance their research. We hope to establish a new fund in Joe’s name that is dedicated to helping graduate students and the study of India. To make a gift, please pick up a pledge card at the dinner or visit the website, southasia.wisc.edu/elder. Your gift will be directed to the Center via the UW Foundation. Your support is crucial to the next generation of scholars, one of whom may be the next Joe Elder. We hope you will join our celebration of Joe’s continued presence in our community.
Among many memories of the early years of South Asian Studies at the University of Wisconsin, perhaps none are more vivid than recollections of how the Annual Conference on South Asia first began. During the 1970-71 academic year, when I was chair the Department of South Asian Studies and director of the South Asia Center, we were told by Washington, in quite explicit terms, that our three-year Center grant would not be renewed unless we could give evidence showing how South Asian Studies at UW was reaching out to other institutions and providing services to the general public. But how, with our then very meagre resources, were we going to demonstrate that we were, in deed and in fact, reaching out to wider constituencies? That was our challenge.

It was at that time that we devised a shell-in-shell, or box-in-box, paradigm of seven concentric “spheres of outreach” whereby the benefits of understandings of South Asia could be disseminated more widely. Circles, or constituencies, of possible influence were demarcated as: (1) the department; (2) the college; (3) the UW campus; (4) campuses of the state; (5) campuses of the Mid-West; (6) campuses of North America; and (7) campuses of the whole world, especially in South Asia itself, as well as in Europe, Australia, Africa and the Far East. To this end, we decided to hold a major conference in Wisconsin. We contacted executives of Wingspread, the Frank Lloyd-Wright-designed conference center near Racine, Wisconsin, run by the Johnson Foundation. Describing what we wished to do, we asked for their help in hosting a path-breaking event. They replied in the affirmative, indicating that while they could not provide over-night accommodations for conference participants, they would gladly provide such meeting rooms as we needed, together with some food and refreshments. With this generous invitation in hand, we set about organizing panels and sending out invitations – to any and all South Asian scholars wherever they might be located, but especially in the Midwest. We were astounded at the response. Scholars came from near and far. Most South Asianists from Chicago came. So did scholars from Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, and Missouri, as well as from Pennsylvania and UC-Berkeley.

The very first Wisconsin Conference of South Asian Studies took place at Wingspread on the first weekend of November, 1971. At that time, we decided that it would be good for all prospective future participants to easily remember that the event would always be held on the first weekend of November. But such was the constant and coincident advent of snow and bitter weather on that very weekend that, eventually, the date was moved up to mid-October. The event was truly memorable. Among those who participated, revealing his scholarly prowess for the first time, was Velcheru Narayana Rao. His remarkable performance made a considerable impact upon the minds of all who heard him. Among others who were there was the late and noted Sanskritist J. A. B. (“Hans”) Van Buitenen who gave his film production on Vedic Sacrifice in Pune. So also were Susanne and
Lloyd Rudolph, as well as A.K. Ramanujan. Lest there be any invidious omissions, no further attempt is made here at listing names of those who were present at that event. Suffice it to say, there were some eighty to one hundred esteemed colleagues and scholars at that first conference.

The Second Annual Wisconsin Conference on South Asian Studies was held on the UW-Madison campus. This too was a resounding success, attracting many more participants. Then, because South Asia Center at Wisconsin wanted to demonstrate the wish, and fulfill the promise, of “reaching out” beyond the Madison campus, the Third Wisconsin Conference was held on the campus of UW-Oshkosh. While this event, convened and organized by John Richards, was also a success, we quickly realized that, henceforth, future annual conferences should be held on the campus of UW-Madison. There were a number of reasons for this: efficiency and regularity. Slowly conference policies and procedural conventions were evolving so as to assure continuity, and some measure of control over the quality and quantity of panels for each conference. Each year’s event was to be organized by a conference committee in which a blending of old and new members combined a sense of continuity with fresh energy and insights. Over the years, successive refinements of procedures came into being, dealing with various difficulties as these came up and setting precedents for future conferences. Eventually, campus facilities became inadequate, so that in 2001 the venue was moved to the Concourse Hotel, one block from the magnificent Wisconsin State Capitol.

What has astounded all Center for South Asia faculty and staff at UW-Madison, and continues to astonish them to this day, is the reach of the Annual Conference on South Asia. With participants now coming from every continent, and numbering over six hundred each year, the event has obviously fulfilled a need that was felt world-wide. In metaphorical terms: it was as if a match were thrown onto a floor covered with gasoline. Fires that flare up among South Asianists who come to Wisconsin each year have continued to attract more and more onlookers and participants. While there are now many other South Asia Conferences, in different regions of North America and different regions of the world, the Annual Conference on South Asia remains the most well-attended and among the most attractive. Only one other event is comparable. This is the European Conference of Modern South Asian Studies. This wonderful event, just about as old (if not older), takes place every other year, with each being convened in a different European city. This conference is just as popular, but has never attracted quite as many participants; and hence, tends to be more close-knit.

The role of many colleagues in bringing the Wisconsin Conference to its current level of quality and prestige can hardly be exaggerated. Joseph W. Elder and Manindra K. Verma both served on the first organizing committee. During his long tenure as department chair and center director, Manindra patiently and carefully developed the Annual Conference. Joe’s continuing presence, throughout these years, has been ever ubiquitous. During the early years, staff work was done by Judith Paterson. Sharon Dickson, who took her place, also served for many years. Mark Kenoyer, now Director, Lalita du Perron, Associate Director, together with Rachel Weiss, Michael Kruse and other staff, carry on the day-to-day planning and administration. Many others, too many to mention, have faithfully served in bringing this annual event to its current level.