

# *South Asia Newsletter*

Centre of South Asian Studies, SOAS

[www.soas.ac.uk/csas](http://www.soas.ac.uk/csas)

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No 59

January 2005

## **Letter from the Chair**

As this newsletter goes to print, Sri Lanka and India, countries that are home to many in the SOAS community, and places where many others have long-term research and personal interests, have been battered by a tsunami. This natural event has caused extreme destruction in both these countries, and tens of thousands have lost their lives. Normal life as people knew it has been severely disrupted, and it might take decades for the full effects of this event to fully unfold. On behalf of the Centre, I extend my solidarity and sympathy with those who have been touched by the power of the tsunami, including staff and students here at SOAS. Beginning early in the term, and occasionally over the rest of it, the Centre will organise and host a number of discussions and open forums on some issues that the tsunami has forced us to confront. In this, the Centre will seek collaboration with other Centres at SOAS, and with governmental and non-governmental agencies outside of it.

Of course, the 'normal life' of the Centre will continue, as it must. Last term, the readings by three new South Asian writers, and other new academic works, drew a lot of interest (if not always a substantial audience!). Seminars will be held in most weeks of this term too, and documentary film screenings when there are no seminars. Do look out for a full list in your emails and pigeon-holes.

It is a pleasure to inform you that Dr Chetan Bhatt, Reader in Sociology at Goldsmiths College, has agreed to deliver the Centre's Annual Lecture in March. Dr Bhatt has written extensively, and to critical acclaim, on Hindu nationalism, minorities, race relations in Britain, majoritarianism, and postcolonial theory. Formal notices and invitations will be issued closer to the event.

**Surbir Sinha**

# ROUTLEDGE SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

## New titles for 2005

### Coalition Politics and Hindu Nationalism

Edited by **Katherine Adeney** and **Lawrence S-ez**

This book examines the emergence of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the ways in which its Hindu nationalist agenda was affected by the constraints of being a dominant member of a coalition government.

*RoutledgeCurzon Advances in South Asian Studies*

April 2005: 234x156: 224pp  
Hb: 0-415-35981-3: **£60.00**

### Governance in India

Culture, Context and Comparative Theory

**Subrata K. Mitra**

This book examines how India has been able to sustain democratic governance while undergoing substantial social, economic and political changes through a neo-institutional rational choice model of governance, bounded by local culture and context.

*RoutledgeCurzon Advances in South Asian Studies*

April 2005: 234x156: 304pp: illus. 7 line drawings and 25 tables

Hb: 0-415-34861-7: **£70.00**

### The Indo-Aryan Controversy

Evidence and Inference in Indian History

Edited by **Laurie L. Patton** and **Edwin Bryant**

For the first time in a single volume, this book presents the various arguments in the Indo-Aryan controversy.

March 2005: 234x156: 496pp: illus. 8 line drawings, 18 maps, 6 b+w photos and 4 tables

Hb: 0-7007-1462-6: **£75.00**

Pb: 0-7007-1463-4: **£25.00**

eB: 0-203-64188-4: **£25.00**

### Representing Calcutta

Modernity, Nationalism and the Colonial Uncanny

**Swatti Chattopadhyay**

This major new postcolonial study addresses the questions of modernity and space that haunt our perception of Calcutta. It explores the politics of representation and the cultural changes that occurred in the city as its residents negotiated the

*Asia's Transformations/Asia's Great Cities*

April 2005: 234x156: 304pp  
Hb: 0-415-34359-3: **£65.00**

### Samkara's Advaita Vedanta

A Way of Teaching

**J.G. Suthren Hirst**

This book provides an introduction to the thought of Samkara, who is the most well-known and most perhaps the most authoritative Hindu thinker of all time.

*RoutledgeCurzon Hindu Studies Series*

March 2005: 234x156: 288pp  
Hb: 0-415-35549-4: **£70.00**

eB: 0-203-00192-3: **£70.00**

### The Tamil Auxiliary Verb System

**Sanford B. Steever**

This book introduces the syntactic process of auxiliary formation and applies it to the grammatical analysis of the indicative, or non-modal, auxiliary verbs of Modern Tamil.

*RoutledgeCurzon Asian Linguistics Series*

April 2005: 234x156: 336pp: illus. 19 line drawings and 9 tables

Hb: 0-415-34672-X: **£55.00**

eB: 0-203-62452-1: **£55.00**

## RoutledgeCurzon Critical Studies in Buddhism Series

Edited by **Charles S. Prebish** and **Damien Keown**

*RoutledgeCurzon Critical Studies in Buddhism* is a comprehensive study of the Buddhist tradition. The series explores this complex and extensive tradition from a variety of perspectives, using a range of different methodologies.

*The Oxford Centre for Buddhist Studies* conducts and promotes rigorous teaching and research into all forms of the Buddhist tradition.

### Buddhism, Conflict and Violence in Modern Sri Lanka

Edited by **Mahinda Deegalle**

This book explores dilemmas that Buddhism faces in relation to the continuing ethnic conflict and violence in contemporary Sri Lanka.

November 2005: 234x156: 160pp

Hb: 0-415-35920-1: **£65.00**

eB: 0-203-00736-0: **£65.00**

### Metaphor and Literalism in Buddhism

*Oxford Centre for Buddhist Studies*

The doctrinal history of Nirvana

**Soon-il Hwang**

This book studies the doctrinal development of the Pali *Nirvana* and subsequent tradition and compares it with the Chinese *Agama* and its traditional interpretation.

July 2005: 216x138: 176pp: illus. 2 line drawings and 10 tables

Hb: 0-415-35550-8: **£55.00**

eB: 0-203-00193-1: **£55.00**

### Mipham's Dialectics and the Debates on Emptiness

*Oxford Centre for Buddhist Studies*

To be, not to be or neither

**Karma Phuntsho**

This book explores a number of themes in connection with the concept of Emptiness, a highly technical but very central notion in Indo-Tibetan Buddhism.

March 2005: 234x156: 336pp: illus. 2 line drawings and 5 b+w photos

Hb: 0-415-35252-5: **£65.00**

eB: 0-203-08591-4: **£65.00**

### Moral Theory in Santideva's Siksasamuccaya

Cultivating the Fruits of Virtue

**Barbra R. Clayton**

This book analyses the moral theory of the seventh century Indian Mahayana master, Santideva.

June 2005: 216x138: 160pp

Hb: 0-415-34696-7: **£45.00**

eB: 0-203-63996-0: **£45.00**

### Remaking Buddhism for Medieval Nepal

*Oxford Centre for Buddhist Studies*

This book establishes the existence, character and causes of a renaissance of Buddhism in the fifteenth century in the Kathmandu Valley of Nepal.

August 2005: 234x156: pp

Hb: 0-415-35919-8: **£65.00**



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# CENTRE OF SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES SEMINARS

**WEDNESDAYS, 5PM, ROOM G52**

- 12 January *A Roundtable Discussion on the Tsunami in South Asia*
- 19 January Shuja al-Haq, SOAS  
*Don Juan Matus: The Spirituality of a Shaman*
- 26 January Documentary Film Screening  
*World Social Forum, Mumbai 2004*
- 2 February Documentary Film Screening
- 9 February Srila Roy, University of Warwick:  
*Gendering the Revolutionary Subject of Naxalbari*
- 23 February Remy Delage, SOAS  
*South Indian Boundaries Redefined by the Sabarimala Pilgrimage*
- 2 March Jonathan Pattenden SOAS  
*Dynamics of Social Transformation in a South Indian Village: The KRRS and the Anti-Capitalist Globalisation Movement*
- 9 March Sankaran Krishna, University of Hawaii  
*Partition, Violence and the Nation-state: Some Reflections on Punjab 1947*
- Monday 14 March,  
5.30pm  
Room B102, Brunei  
Gallery, SOAS.** **Annual Lecture**  
Chetan Bhatt, Goldsmiths College  
*Fundamentalism and the Seductions of Virtue:  
Politics, Absolutism and South Asia*

## **On 1 November 2004 a small research workshop was held at SOAS on The Vegetarian : Non-vegetarian Divide**

Amit Desai (LSE) spoke about the retreat from non-vegetarianism among some Gond sect members. Amit discussed competing narratives of this process, including positive ones (progress, sanskritisation, the benefits of sect membership in terms of protection from sorcery) standing in opposition to discourses of downfall and weakness (caused by e.g. the cessation of blood sacrifice to powerful deities). The essentialisation of identities through dietary practices was another theme, which also crossed several other papers.

Sraddha Chigateri (Warwick) spoke about different Dalit responses to the Indian food hierarchy, based upon fieldwork in three Dalit locations within Bangalore. The cultural loadedness of beef-eating as practice was a central issue here, also mentioned by other presenters. While beef is associated in many locations specifically with Muslim food habits, here it is claimed by some Dalit groups as a necessary cheap nourishment for the poor or as a refutation of the hypocrisy of a high-caste food hierarchy which accepts milk but refuses meat. Sraddha produced interesting data on the political economy of beef eating.

Caroline and Filippo Osella (SOAS, Sussex) promised a future paper on the Kerala situation, where savarna Hindus widely eat beef, and on recent Muslim and Christian reactions to attempts to ban beef. Nayanika Mookherjee (Lancaster) promised a future paper on ‘crossing’, as a Bengali Hindu participating in non-vegetarian Eid celebrations in Bangladesh.

Henrike Donner (LSE) presented material on shifting Bengali middle-class definitions of, manipulations of and negotiations through, different brands of vegetarianism. She showed us some ways in which individualistic food preferences may be asserted and ceded to within a joint family household, and suggested how gender and life-cycle affect the limits of possible food preferences and transgressions.

Lucia Michelutti (LSE) discussed processes of turning to vegetarianism among U.P. Yadavs, and how they articulate with post-independence political developments. Lucia presented material on the enhancement of masculinity through the drinking of milk and through participation in whisky and chicken river-bank parties. A theme which came up in this and several other presentations was the influence of the Arya Samaj and more recent Hindutva political agendas upon Indian food habits.

Mandira Kalra (LSE) stressed the importance of sharing food and most especially meat among a nomadic Rajasthani population. The special status of meat as celebratory, luxury food and its links with alcohol drinking – a theme in several other papers – were brought out here. Mandira mentioned the manipulation of local idioms of food sharing for political ends by RSS activists.

Professor Pat Caplan and Professor Lionel Caplan most helpfully acted as lead discussants throughout the day, and discussions were lively and highly fruitful. Recurring themes included: changing dietary patterns and shifts in the Hindu and Jain food hierarchies; food and cultural identity; globalisation and take-up of processed foods; the articulations and relationships between milk, meat, alcohol, sweets and ghee; sharing and inter-dining; food as vehicle of emotion, especially desire and disgust.

Caroline Osella is in touch with several academics (in India and France) who could not make the workshop but who are working on themes around vegetarianism : non-vegetarianism; she would be very happy to hear from others. There may be another workshop next year and one or more publications are planned. Contact: [co6@soas.ac.uk](mailto:co6@soas.ac.uk).

**FACULTY OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES,  
DEPARTMENT OF THE STUDY OF RELIGIONS,  
CENTRE FOR JAINA STUDIES, SOAS,  
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON  
&  
DEPARTMENT OF INDIC RELIGIONS,  
CENTRE FOR THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES,  
UNIVERSITY OF LUND**

The **7th Jaina Studies Workshop** at the Centre of Jaina Studies at SOAS will be held on 17-18 March 2005 on the issue of 'Jaina Law and the Jaina Community'. It will be opened by the 5th SOAS Annual Lecture in Jaina Studies, which will be delivered by Professor Phyllis Granoff (Yale University). The title of her lecture is: 'Protecting the Faith: Exploring the Concerns of Jain Monastic Rules'. The conference is co-funded by the AHRB project on Jaina Law and Jaina Community at SOAS, and the Department of Indic Religions at the Centre for Theology and Religious Studies at the University of Lund, Sweden. The SOAS workshops have over the years developed into the principal venue for scholars in this field. They are open to anyone who is interested to attend. A large audience is therefore to be expected despite limited space. For inquiries, please contact: Centre of Jaina Studies, Department for the Study of Religions, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG.  
Email: [rw35@soas.ac.uk](mailto:rw35@soas.ac.uk) telephone: 020 7898 4028.

For updates on the conference and further information on the Centre for Jaina Studies see:  
<http://www.soas.ac.uk/centres/centreinfo.cfm?navid=875>

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**JAINA LAW AND THE JAINA COMMUNITY**  
(7<sup>th</sup> JAINA STUDIES WORKSHOP AT SOAS, 17-18 March 2005)

**Thursday 17 March 2005, 6.00-7.30pm**  
The Khalili Lecture Theatre, SOAS

**THE 5TH ANNUAL LECTURE ON JAINISM**

Phyllis Granoff (Yale University)

'Protecting the Faith: Exploring the Concerns of Jain Monastic Rules'

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**Friday 18 March 2005**  
**Room BG05, Brunei Gallery, SOAS**

- 9.00 Welcome
- 9.10 M. A. Dhaky (Delhi), 'The Problems of Jaina History'
- 9.50 Olle Qvarnstrom (Lund), 'Haribhadra on Dharma'
- 10.30 Torkel Brekke (Oslo), 'Dharma and Religion in the Constituent Assembly Debates'
- 11.10 Tea and Coffee
- 11.40 Peter Flugel (SOAS), 'Jainism in the Indian Courts'
- 12.20 Bal Patil (Mumbai), 'Jain Minority Rights and Indian Secularism under the Siege of Hindutva'
- 13.00 Lunch
- 14.00 Werner Menski (SOAS), 'Jaina Law and Custom'
- 14.40 Prakash Jhaveri (Mumbai), 'Recent Court Cases Pertaining to the Jain Community in India'
- 15.20 D.K. Jain (Delhi), 'Concept of Public Worship - Legal Rights and Obligations'
- 16.00 Tea and Coffee
- 16.30 Lekhraj Mehta (Jodhpur), 'Jain Jurisprudence with Special Emphasis on Penology'
- 17.10 Andrea Luithle (Heidelberg), 'The Pilgrimage to Shatrunjaya. Cosmology and Salvation in Practice'
- 17.50 Lynn Foulston (Newport), 'The Caves of Khandagiri and Udayagiri: Jainism in Orissa'
- 18.30 Frank van den Bossche (Gent), 'Jaina Atheism'
- 19.30 Conference Dinner

**Inquiries:** Centre of Jaina Studies, Department for the Study of Religions, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H OXG.

Email: [rw35@soas.ac.uk](mailto:rw35@soas.ac.uk)

Telephone: 020 7898 4028

# MUSIC AND DANCE PERFORMANCE: CROSS-CULTURAL APPROACHES

THE BRITISH FORUM FOR ETHNOMUSICOLOGY  
AND  
THE AHRB RESEARCH CENTRE FOR CROSS-CULTURAL MUSIC AND DANCE PERFORMANCE

**Tuesday 12 April - Friday 15 April 2005**  
**SOAS, University of London**

The AHRB Research Centre for Cross-Cultural Music and Dance Performance, a collaborative initiative of SOAS, the University of Surrey and Roehampton University, is pleased to welcome the 2005 Conference of the British Forum for Ethnomusicology. The conference will take at SOAS (The School of Oriental & African Studies) within the University of London, close to the British Museum and British Library, and many excellent restaurants to suit all budgets. Accommodation has been reserved at the nearby John Adams Hall, 15-23 Endsleigh Street; for those wishing to splash out, we can recommend a number of local hotels.

Our keynote speakers, yet to be confirmed, will most likely come from Australia and the United States. The conference will include a series of workshop sessions, an opening reception and the traditional BFE party. We are also planning a joint session with the AHRB Research Centre for the History and Analysis of Recorded Music on Friday 15 April.

Our theme reflects the fact that ethnomusicologists and dance anthropologists are particularly well placed to conduct 'participant observation', by learning to become performers. Much of the knowledge we seek to document is held by people who demonstrate expertise in performance more than in words, and many researchers now explore the interface of academia and performance, encouraged by the emphasis within governments and government agencies on the creative industries. As we explore this interface, we encourage conference papers that consider connections between music and dance. Running throughout the conference, in addition to more general sessions, will be a series of symposia dedicated to specific sub-themes, each lasting between two and three hours. Five that are already planned are given below, with convenors; these arise from the Research Centre projects, and if you are interested in participating in one of these you are invited in the first instance to contact the convenor.

We encourage you to propose additional topics for paper, panel and workshop sessions which you would like to convene and organise. In addition to the overall theme, papers are invited that report on 'work in progress' in other areas of ethnomusicology and dance research.

## Abstracts for papers, workshop, and performance proposals

...should be submitted *preferably by Email* to Keith Howard ([kh@soas.ac.uk](mailto:kh@soas.ac.uk); or SOAS, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG, UK) by **31 December 2005**. All abstracts should be sent in the following format: NAME OF PRESENTER, SPACE, TITLE, SPACE, TEXT (Maximum length: 200 words).

## Sub-Themes

### 1. Approaches to the analysis of musical performance

The epistemology of musical analysis in the West has developed almost exclusively in the context of written scores that represent models for performance rather than performance itself; what is analysed is normally the score. How far can Western analytical techniques be applied to music for which there is no written score? What other approaches may be possible? How far can an ethnomusicological approach help us to understand the structure of musical performance in relation to its experience and meanings? Convenor: Richard Widdess ([rw4@soas.ac.uk](mailto:rw4@soas.ac.uk)).

### 2. Ritual and Performance

Within this sub-theme, we want to explore the place of ritual music and dance in contemporary society. What is the value of ritual music and dance in local contexts? As ritual is also performed on stage, and as it is recorded by national and international media, how does it adapt to or resist social and cultural change? How can liturgical and para-liturgical performance be integrated into studies of the whole ritual event? When local practices are marketed as entertainment, who debates issues of tradition and preservation? Papers are invited that explore these issues of continuity, preservation and change in the music and dance of ritual. Convenors: Keith Howard ([kh@soas.ac.uk](mailto:kh@soas.ac.uk)) and Stephen Jones ([zhongsidi@hotmail.com](mailto:zhongsidi@hotmail.com)).

### 3. Transformations in African Music and Dance

Scholars have often looked at traditional culture in Africa as if it is entirely the product of communal authorship. By doing so, however, the ongoing creative process that is taking place within many traditions in contemporary Africa is often neglected. Of particular interest is the investigation of transformation, both socially, through discourse with practitioners, and empirically, through transcription and analysis. Papers are invited that investigate aspects of the creative process in contemporary African arts (including, but not exclusively, music and dance). Convenors: Jean Johnson-Jones ([J.Johnson-Jones@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:J.Johnson-Jones@surrey.ac.uk)) and James Burns ([cepafrica@yahoo.com](mailto:cepafrica@yahoo.com)).

### 4. Performing Indonesian dance and music in transnational contexts

Indonesian dance and music are increasingly performed by both Indonesians and non-Indonesians in transnational contexts. Indonesian performers are internationalizing their music and dance, now conceived against a world backdrop, while simultaneously modern digital technology has impacted on the dissemination and reception of Indonesian performance worldwide. Performers of Indonesian origin engage in artistic partnerships, internationally, with non-Indonesians, creating 'traditional' and 'hybrid' work. They take on, sometimes against their own wishes, the role of culture bearer or culture representative in extra-local contexts, embodying Indonesianness, Javaneness or Balineseness. Papers, workshops and short performances—in any combination—are invited to explore the transnationalism of Indonesian dance and music and issues of tradition and hybridity. Convenors: Alessandra Lopez y Royo ([al19@soas.ac.uk](mailto:al19@soas.ac.uk)) and Matthew Cohen ([m.cohen@tfts.arts.gla.ac.uk](mailto:m.cohen@tfts.arts.gla.ac.uk)).

### 5. Postcolonial Identity Construction in South Asian Dance and Music

Issues of tradition and transformation within South Asian dance and music practices inform postcolonial identity formation in the Indian subcontinent and the UK. The various 'texts' of dance and music practices and their contexts allow analysis of different versions of identity. Papers are invited which explore the construction of South Asian identities and the transformation of dance and music practices in relation to aesthetics, technique, political and/or social contexts. Convenors: Andrée Grau ([a.grau@roehampton.ac.uk](mailto:a.grau@roehampton.ac.uk)), Stacey Prickett ([s.prickett@roehampton.ac.uk](mailto:s.prickett@roehampton.ac.uk)) and Janet O'Shea ([J.O'Shea@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:J.O'Shea@surrey.ac.uk)).



# MUSIC AND DANCE PERFORMANCE: CROSS-CULTURAL APPROACHES

THE BRITISH FORUM FOR ETHNOMUSICOLOGY  
AND  
THE AHRB RESEARCH CENTRE FOR CROSS-CULTURAL MUSIC AND DANCE  
PERFORMANCE

## BOOKING FORM

Please tick, as appropriate

### *Conference Fee*

Full conference fee	£60.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduced conference fee (students and UB40s)	£40.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

(includes: Tues-Fri conference attendance, tea/coffee, Tues PM reception, Thurs supper/party)

### OR *Day attendance fee*

Tuesday 12 April	£15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wednesday 13 April	£20.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thursday 14 April	£20.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Friday 15 April	£20.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

### *Accommodation*

Tuesday 12 April	£25.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wednesday 13 April	£25.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thursday 14 April	£25.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Friday 15 April - NB: after end of conference)	£25.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

I would like to arrange my own accommodation. Please send a list of hotels

TOTAL: £\_\_\_\_\_

NAME:

AFFILIATION:

CONTACT DETAILS (Address and Email):

I want to present a paper

Title (attach abstract):

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM, WITH PAYMENT (cheques payable to SOAS), TO:  
Sareata Kelly, AHRB Research Centre for Cross-Cultural Music and Dance Performance, SOAS,  
Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG (musicanddance@soas.ac.uk)

DRS PROGRAMME (PHASE I), DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY,  
JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY, KOLKATA, INDIA

**International Seminar      ‘Situating History of Environment:  
The Territory of Historians of Environment’**

**Thursday, Friday and Saturday 3 – 5 March 2005**

The Department of History, Jadavpur University, is organizing an International Seminar on ‘Situating History of Environment: The Territory of Historians of Environment’ in early March 2005. The study of environmental history has now become important as a natural and inevitable result of a perceived ‘environmental crisis’ in today’s world. This perception has resulted in the development of a broad area called Environmental Studies. However, in view of the important role of the scientists in the emergence of Environmental Studies – and the subsequent contribution of scholars from diverse disciplinary backgrounds to this field – it has remained an open-ended subject. Within the field, ‘environmental history’ remains universally acknowledged as a critically important area of inquiry, but without well-defined disciplinary canons and methodological guidelines. It is strongly felt that only professional historians with the requisite methodological training will be able to (1) develop and define the agenda and disciplinary canons of this field of inquiry, and (2) historicise the present-day concerns and anxieties in the broad area of Environmental Studies. Unfortunately, no Department of History in India has come forward to undertake this task in a concerted and coordinated manner. This is the lacuna that the proposed International Seminar under the DRS project of the Department of History, Jadavpur University, seeks to fill in. This three-day international seminar on the state of art in the environmental history aims to bring together approximately 30 leading scholars sharing a common interest in the environmental history of South Asia and various parts of the world to deliberate on the subject.

Sessions will include (this is subject to change)

1. Inaugural Session, the Keynote Address
2. Defining the Territory of Historians of Environment
3. Historiography
4. Methodology
  - a) Development of Disciplines and Institutions with environmental concerns:  
Botany, Zoology, Geology, Marine Biology, Oceanography Geological Survey of India, Forest Research Institute, Zoological Survey of India, Botanical Survey of India, Horticultural Society of India, Meteorological Survey of India
5. Management of nature: evolving role of state and society through different periods of history
  - a) Forestry, conservation, land-use and water resources
  - b) Disease, sanitation and ecology
  - c) Environment-oriented social movements – case-studies of tribal and other movements
  - d) Environment and development in modern India
  - e) The history of natural calamities and environmental disasters
6. History of environmental ideas in India
  - a) The representations of nature and environment in literature and the arts
  - b) Indigenous and colonial knowledge

- c) The historical evolution of environmental ethics
- d) Women and environment
- e) Human Rights and environment
- 7. Environmentalist Concerns in Plural Societies: A Comparative Study of India and the Wider World
- 8. Globalization and Environment
- 9. Rag Bag

The **title and summary of the paper** may kindly be sent to the following email address positively by **5 February 2005**.

ranchakju@yahoo.co.in

ranjanju@fulbrightweb.org

The full paper including standard end notes should be submitted at the Conference. This is the first circular of this International Conference on ‘Situating History of Environment: The Territory of Historians of Environment’.

The participants, whose papers will be accepted for presentation in the Conference will be offered local hospitality and transportation. However, international travel expenses have to be borne by the scholars themselves. **For further information and registration please contact:** Professor Ranjan Chakrabarti, Department of History, Jadavpur University, Kolkata 700032, India.

Telefax: 91-33-24146962 (O) Email: [ranchakju@yahoo.co.in](mailto:ranchakju@yahoo.co.in) [ranjanju@fulbrightweb.org](mailto:ranjanju@fulbrightweb.org)

### **The University**

Jadavpur University has been accredited the Five Star (the highest) status by the University Grants Commission. It is one of the top five universities in India with an impressive track record since 1955. The university has been also identified as a potential centre of excellence by the University Grants Commission. It is located in Kolkata, the capital of the state of West Bengal. Kolkata is well connected by both railroad and air. The Netaji Subhas Chandra International Airport in Kolkata is well connected with all the major cities of Asia, Europe and the United States. The participants, in most cases, will be accommodated in the University Guest House.

Dr Ranjan Chakrabarti  
Professor of History  
(Formerly Prof. and Head)  
Department of History  
Jadavpur University  
Kolkata, India.

Member, Editorial Board, International Journal of History of Sport (Frankcass,London)  
Fulbright Visiting Scholar at Brown University (1995)  
Charles Wallace Fellow, London University (1997)

SCHOOL OF INTERDISCIPLINARY AREA STUDIES, OXFORD INSTITUTE OF AGEING  
AND ASIAN STUDIES CENTRE, ST ANTONY'S COLLEGE, OXFORD

**WORKSHOP: AGEING IN ASIA**  
**Friday 18 and Saturday 19 February 2005**

**Convenors:** Professor Roger Goodman, Nissan Professor of Modern Japanese Studies  
Dr Sarah Harper, Director, Institute of Ageing  
Professor Vivienne Shue, Leverhulme Professor of Contemporary Chinese Studies

**Venue:** Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies, 27 Winchester Road, Oxford

**FRIDAY 18 FEBRUARY**

9.30 – 9.45 Welcome

*Session 1 The demographic and social setting*

9.45 – 10.30 General Patterns of Ageing in Asia: A Demographic Perspective  
**George Leeson** (Institute of Ageing, Oxford)

10.30 – 11.15 Ageing in Asia: Culture, Generations and Policy  
**Elisabeth Croll** (SOAS)

*Session 2 The experience of old age in Asia*

11.45 – 12.15 Understanding Ageing and Old Age  
**Sarah Harper** (Institute of Ageing, Oxford)

12.15 – 12.45 Experiences in, not of, old age: A South Indian Example  
**Penny Vera Sanso** (Birkbeck College)

1.45 – 2.15 Ageing and Opportunity by Ethnicity and Religion in Indonesia  
**Aris Ananta** (ISEAS, Singapore)

2.15 – 3.30 Panel and general discussion  
**Barbara Harriss-White** (on South Asia)  
**Elisabeth Schroeder-Butterfill** (on South East Asia)

*Session 3 Intergenerational relations in Asia*

4.00 – 4.30 Understanding Intergenerational Relations in the Context of Development  
**Todd Petersen** (HelpAge International)

4.30 – 5.00 Filial Piety in Crisis?: The Impact of Economic Reform on Intergenerational  
Relations in China  
**Charlotte Ikels** (Case Western University)

5.00 – 5.30 Ageing and Daughter Preference: Comparative Perspectives from Indonesia  
**Philip Kreager** (Institute of Ageing, Oxford)

5.30 – 6.45 Panel and general discussion  
**Yoshio Maya** (on Japan)  
**Rachel Murphy** (on China)

## **SATURDAY 19 FEBRUARY**

### *Session 4 The economics and social policy of Ageing in Asia*

9.30 – 10.00 What Do We Mean by the Economics and Social Policy of Ageing?  
**Roddy McKinnon** (International Social Security Association)

10.00 – 10.30 The Economics and Social Policy of Ageing in Japan  
**John Campbell** (University of Michigan)

10.30 – 11.00 The Economic Marginalisation of Post-Soviet Russia's Elderly Population and the Failure of State Ageing Policy: A Case Study of Magadan City  
**John Round** (University of Leicester)

11.30 – 12.45 Panel discussion  
**Chris Davis** (on former USSR)  
**Mark Rebeck** (on Japan)

### *Session 5 Longevity and the culture of old age in Asia*

1.45 – 2.15 Health and Increasing Longevity in Developing Countries  
**Alex Kalachi** (WHO)

2.15 – 2.45 Living Long in Changing Times: Beijing, Yangsheng, 2003  
**Judith Farquhar** (University of Chicago)

2.45 – 3.15 Changing Perceptions of Ageing in Japan  
**Ruth Campbell** (University of Michigan)

3.45 – 5.00 Panel discussion  
**Anna Boermel** (on China)  
**Teresa Smith** (on Japan)

5.00 – 6.00 General discussion

### **Enquiries and registration:**

Jennifer Griffiths, email [asian@sant.ox.ac.uk](mailto:asian@sant.ox.ac.uk) telephone 01865 274559

## TONGUES ON FIRE

# Asian Women's Film Festival 4 March - 30 March 2005

Now in the 7th year Tongues on Fire Film Festival are launching its annual short film competition to seek out new and undiscovered creative filmmakers.

In a joint initiative with B4U Network, the best films will be shown at the 2005 Tongues on Fire Festival running from 4th - 30th March 2005 at the ICA.

The competition is open to media students, school leavers and amateur filmmakers. The best entries will be screened at a special event and a panel of industry luminaries will judge the overall winner. The winning team will get the chance to meet a leading filmmaker and shadow the production team at B4U Network for 2 weeks (at a convenient period for both parties.)

Visit the Tongues on Fire website at <http://www.tonguesonfire.com/> download the form and send it in.

For further details please contact:

Pushpinder Chowdhry (Mrs)  
and Harvinder Nath (Mrs)  
Tongues on Fire Limited  
5 House of Farrell  
St Leonards Road  
London NW10 6NB

Telephone: 020 8965 7578  
Fax: 020 8965 7586

Email: [info@tonguesonfire.com](mailto:info@tonguesonfire.com)  
Web: <http://www.tonguesonfire.com/>

## Contemporary South Asia Seminar

Thursdays 2.15 pm, Small Dining Room, Queen Elizabeth House,  
International Development Centre, 21 St. Giles, Oxford

- 20 January      Imtiaz Ahmed, Dhaka University and Visiting Fellow, Islamic Studies  
Centre, Oxford  
*Images of the Other: India in Bangladesh and Bangladesh in India*
- 27 January      Peggy Froerer, London School of Economics  
*Emphasising Otherness: An Ethnography of Hindu Nationalism in a Central  
Indian Tribal Village*
- 3 February      Glyn Williams, King's College, London  
*Seeing the State: Government and Governmentality in Rural India*
- 10 February     Alistair McMillan, Nuffield College, Oxford  
*Electoral Federalism in India and the 2004 Election*
- 17 February     Kriti Kapila, London School of Economics  
*Telling the Sheep from the Goats: Politics, Pastoralism and the State in the  
Western Himalayas*
- 24 February     Masooda Bano, Queen Elizabeth House and St Antony's College, Oxford  
*Self-interest, Rationality and Cooperative Behaviour: Aid and Problems  
with Cooperation Within Voluntary Groups in Pakistan*
- 3 March          James Staples, School of Oriental and African Studies, London  
*The "leper" and the State in India*
- 10 March        Henrike Donner, London School of Economics  
*Committed Mothers and Well-adjusted Children: Globalisation, Education  
and Motherhood in Middle-class Calcutta*

Convenors: Dr Nandini Gooptu, Professor Barbara Harriss-White, Dr Judith Heyer

## SOUTH ASIA SEMINAR

First Monday of the month, 5pm., Menzies Room, Institute of Commonwealth Studies,  
28 Russell Square, London

- 7 February      Priyath Liyanage (BBC World Service)  
*The Peace Process in Sri Lanka*
- 7 March         Peter Fowler (former UK High Commissioner to Bangladesh)  
Sir Hilary Synnott (former UK High Commissioner to Pakistan)  
*Pakistan and Bangladesh: Prospects for Stability and Progress*

- 4 April Anja Kovacs (University of East Anglia)  
*Gender and Violence, Tradition and Violence: Refashioning Durga in the Service of Hindu Nationalism* (winner BASAS prize 2004)
- 9 May Amanda Perry-Kessaris (Queen Mary, University of London)  
*The Legal System as a Mediator in Investor-state-civil Society Relations in India*

All welcome

Convenor: Dr Lawrence Sáez, London School of Economics  
Enquiries: [L.saez@lse.ac.uk](mailto:L.saez@lse.ac.uk)

Department of Anthropology, London School of Economics & Political Science

**Postgraduate South Asia Seminar Series**

Wednesday 4-6pm, Seligman Library, A607 (sixth floor Old Building)

- 19 January Ashwini Chhatre (Duke)  
*Varieties of Environmentalism*
- 9 February Remy Delage (SOAS)  
*Geographical Discrepancies and Competing Ideologies in and around Sabarimala*
- 23 February Pushpa Arabindoo (LSE)  
*Absent Societies: Contouring Urban Citizenship in Postcolonial Chennai*
- 9 March Sarah Wilkerson (Cambridge)  
*Dalit Discourse and the Formation of a Dalit Public Sphere*

All Welcome

For further information please contact Amit Desai ([a.a.desai@lse.ac.uk](mailto:a.a.desai@lse.ac.uk))



SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES PROGRAMME, ASIAN STUDIES CENTRE  
ST ANTHONY'S COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

**SOUTH ASIAN HISTORY SEMINAR**

Tuesdays, 2.00 pm in the Deakin Room, Founder's Building, St Antony's College, except where otherwise stated

- 18 January Dr Imre Bangha (Oriental Institute)  
*'Gupala and Jan': To What Extent was Muslim Influence on Krishna Literature Accepted in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century?*
- 25 January Dr Kim Wagner (University of Cambridge)  
*"Roguish and Vagabond Communities" – Thuggee and the 'criminal tribes' in Early 19<sup>th</sup> Century India*
- 1 February Professor B R (Tom) Tomlinson (SOAS)  
*Rational Explanations and Irrational Acts: the Partition of India Revisited*
- 8 February Alexander Morrison (All Souls)  
*Indian History from a Russian Perspective: Two Empires in Comparison*
- 15 February Dr Margret Frenz (St Cross)  
*Goans on the Move: Transformations of a Community*
- 22 February PRS Presentations
- 1 March H.E. Lakshman Kadirgamar (Sri Lankan Foreign Minister)  
*Beyond Regional Co-operation to Integration: A Vision for South Asia*  
Please note that this seminar will take place at 5pm. in the Dahrendorf Room and tea will be served at 4.30pm. in the Buttery
- 8 March Dr Nandini Sinha Kapur (Delhi University)  
*Historiography and Regional State Formation in Mewar (Southern Rajasthan): AD 7<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> Centuries*
- Thursday 10 March PRS Presentations

All welcome

Convenor: Dr D. A. Washbrook

Enquiries: e-mail: [asian@sant.ox.ac.uk](mailto:asian@sant.ox.ac.uk)

Telephone: 01865 274559

## **MA DISSERTATIONS AT SOAS**

The following dissertations were submitted by students as part of the **MA South Asian Area Studies** programme 2003-04.

Anuradha Chadha, Social criticism, psychology and philosophy as three aspects in Jainendra Kumar's short stories

Supervisors: Dr Lucy Rosenstein, Dr Rupert Snell

Anjali Fischer, Uday Shankar and Alice Boner: the patron as artistic adviser of the dancer

Supervisors: Dr Atreyee Sen, Dr Caroline Osella

Robin Gloster Wyatt, Anti-terrorist opportunism: religious minority rights in India and Pakistan post-September 11

Supervisors: Dr Werner Menski, Dr Martin Lau

Gauri Gopal, Controlled blindness towards culture: the attempt of the Hindu minority in America to bring culture out of the closet

Supervisors: Dr Werner Menski, Dr Prakash Shah

Annabelle Niebel, A look at Madhva's Dvaita and his conception of liberation

Supervisors: Dr Ulrich Pagel, Dr Peter Flugel

Bahal Niran, How does Kundalini Yoga describe the path to spiritual liberation and what are the implications of this for the seeker of the truth

Supervisors: Brian Black, Paul-Francois Tremlett

Florence Winterburn, Changing conceptions of Nepal: national identity and development

Supervisors: Dr Michael Hutt, Dr Caroline Osella

Rajni Bhatia, Breaking the silence: representations of India's partition through cinema and literature

Supervisors: Dr Rachel Dwyer, Dr William Radice

Ahmad Nayeema, Is Kashmir marching towards peace?

Supervisors: Dr Katherine Adeney, Dr Sudipta Kaviraj

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## ***SOUTH ASIA RESEARCH***

*South Asia Research* is a bi-annual interdisciplinary area journal for the South Asia region, now published by Sage Publications in London and edited by Werner Menski. From Vol. 25 (2005) onwards, it will appear thrice a year. The topics covered include modern and pre-modern history, politics, economics, anthropology, literary and visual culture, language and literature. Its primary aim is to give rapid access to current research work and to provide opportunities for publication to research students as well as to established scholars. In addition to reports of research in progress and book reviews, review articles are welcome. *South Asia Research* also publishes 'thought pieces' and interpretive essays that address issues and problems arising from new research.

### ***South Asia Research* 24.2** was published in November 2004

#### **Articles**

AKRAM A. KHAN and FARHAD SHIRANI BIDABADI

Livestock Revolution in India: Its Impact and Policy Response

NILE GREEN

Emerging Approaches to the Sufi Traditions of South Asia: Between Texts, Territories and the Transcendent

FABRIZIO FERRARI

Shri Dharmeshvara of Varanasi and the Cult of Dharma Thakur of Bengal: Some Analogies and Discrepancies

MAYURIKA CHAKRAVORTY

'Skeletons of History': Fact and Fiction in Rakhaldas Bandyopadhyay's *Sasanka*

RAMINDER KAUR

At the Ragged Edges of Time: The Legend of Tilak and the Normalization of Historical Narratives

#### **Book Reviews**

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*South Asia Research* (ISSN 0262-7080) is published by SAGE Publications (London, Thousand Oaks, CA and New Delhi). Details are available from SAGE Publications (Oliver's Yard, 55 City Road, London EC1Y 1SP, UK; Sage Publications Inc, 2455 Teller Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91320, USA, or Sage Publications India Pvt. Ltd., Post Box 4215, New Delhi 110048, India.  
e-mail: [subscription@sagepub.co.uk](mailto:subscription@sagepub.co.uk) website: <http://www.sagepub.co.uk/home.aspx>  
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For 2005, SAR 25.1 will be a Special Issue on Hindi and 25.2 will again be a general issue, while 25.3 may be a Special Issue again.

The Editorial Assistant, Biswajit Chanda ([bc5@soas.ac.uk](mailto:bc5@soas.ac.uk)) has a large number of books for review and will send a list of them to persons interested to contribute reviews.

**Werner Menski**  
**Editor**

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