

**ECSAS 2021  
JULY 26–29  
VIENNA**

**26th European Conference on South Asian Studies**

Organised by the University of Vienna in cooperation  
with the Austrian Academy of Sciences  
with the support of the European Association for South Asian Studies

## WELCOME ADDRESSES

Dear Colleagues,

As Conveners and on behalf of the Organising Committee, we are pleased to welcome all participants to the 26th European Conference on South Asian Studies in Vienna, to ECSAS 2021. Due to the global SARS-CoV2-pandemic and its multiple effects, this conference is a first in several respects. Never before has the ECSAS had to be postponed. This is the first time in the history of the EASAS - and its regular meetings since 1968 - that there has been a three-year gap, instead of the regular two. For the first time the ECSAS is being held as a hybrid event. Most panels will take place online, and only a few will combine on-site and online presentations. A conference of this scale in this form is something absolutely new even for the experienced staff of the University Event Management. We hope for smooth operations in spite of the technical and practical difficulties involved. Perhaps this will alter the face of ECSAS for the time to come, and perhaps the greater inclusivity that online conferences offer will prove to be a positive outcome in the end.

It is also the first time in the history of EASAS that the conference is taking place in Austria; we are delighted that Vienna now has the opportunity to host this event, even if for the most part only virtually. The field of South Asian Studies has a long history here, where it was initially under the umbrella of Indology as a discipline modelled after the study of Classical antiquity. Sanskrit began to be taught at the University of Vienna already in 1845, by Anton Boller who later became Professor of Comparative Linguistics and Sanskrit as well as a member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences. Georg Bühler – one of the most renowned Indologists of the 19th century – was also elected as member of the Academy. In 1880, Bühler became Professor of Indian philology and archaeology at the University. Today both the University and the Academy can look back on strong traditions in Indology that have emphasized the study of religion and philosophy and also opened new lines of investigation such as, at the University, the study of Indian medical traditions. Tibetan and Buddhist Studies have enlarged and complemented the scope of Indology since a professorship was created in 1973 that

became the core of a separate department. The current Department of South Asian, Tibetan and Buddhist Studies was founded through a merger in 2000, soon after the two departments had moved to their present location in the University Campus. The scope of South Asian Studies at the University expanded to encompass Modern South Asian Studies in 2007, when a new professorship was created. Since then, Nepal has become a special focus area in teaching and research. The appointment of a specialist in South Asian and Tibetan art history at the art history department in 1996 also created opportunities for further expansion, culminating in larger-scale interdisciplinary research efforts on the cultural history and anthropology of the Himalayan region. In 2015 the Center for Interdisciplinary Research and Documentation of Inner and South Asian Cultural History (CIRDIS) was established as a full-fledged research center. At the Academy's Institute for the Cultural and Intellectual History of Asia, established 30 years ago in 1991, the focus remains predominantly on the premodern period. Here South Asian Studies are being pursued within a broader vision of Asian Studies that extends to Tibet and other parts of Central Asia as well as East Asia (China, Japan). Based on particular strengths in the study of Buddhist philosophy, the institute at the Academy also fosters Buddhist Studies more widely as a bracket that connects research efforts across Asia.

The history of South Asian Studies in Vienna is also a history of institutional reconfiguration and disciplinary realignment. It is against this local background that we, as conveners, thought it appropriate to propose reflection on disciplinary boundaries as the main agenda for the 26th ECSAS. The history of the EASAS is to some extent a mirror image of the history of South Asian Studies in Vienna. Whereas in Vienna Indology was enriched and expanded by Modern South Asian Studies, conversely, EASAS began as an association of scholars in Modern South Asian Studies and has more recently (since 2010) taken the step to extend its historical reach further into the past.

Alas, the boundaries of our respective fields and subfields remain fluid – and indeed they must. In spite of a tendency towards increasing specialisation within South Asian Studies at large we think is essential to maintain and even intensify transdisciplinary dialogue and collab-

oration, bearing in mind that disciplinary boundaries are historically contingent and at times drawn arbitrarily, necessary as they might be in pragmatic terms. It is in this spirit that we have invited not one, but two esteemed colleagues as keynote lecturers who have dealt with these issues in their own ways: Monica Juneja (Heidelberg University) and Shail Mayaram (New Delhi). Monica Juneja kindly agreed to come to Vienna to speak to us in person. Shail Mayaram unfortunately cannot join us in person, but we particularly appreciate that she has agreed to deliver her talk for us online from Delhi.

It is a matter of particular regret (and irony) that this conference which is meant to encourage dialogue is now condemned to take place largely in a virtual space rather than face to face. Space for reflection, moreover, is reduced within an ongoing global pandemic that has already taken so many lives, a pandemic that has disrupted the social fabric, especially in South Asia, on a scale that is difficult to fathom. ECSAS conferences provide many opportunities to meet colleagues from various countries, including from South Asia. There is little doubt that a predominantly virtual event as is the case this year will limit these opportunities, but perhaps these new lines of communication may also bring some benefits, by allowing colleagues to participate who otherwise would not have had the chance. We hope that despite these conditions, which are more than challenging, the conference will be a fruitful one, with novel insights and constructive discussions.

This conference has been more than two years in the making, and under trying circumstances. It would not have been possible without the generous financial support of the two institutions that jointly serve as hosts, the University of Vienna and the Austrian Academy of Sciences – which we gratefully acknowledge. The Academic Committee, which linked the local Viennese research community with representatives of EASAS, was always available to the organisers for advice. We also want to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks particularly to the members of the Organising Committee, Borayin Larios, Petra Latschenberger, Jürgen Schörflinger, Jan Seifert, Judith Starecek, and alphabetically last but certainly not least, Verena Widorn. Numerous other helpers, including students, have joined the team and worked

to make this event possible under continuously changing conditions. We are grateful for their ongoing commitment. It remains for us to express our hope that the peaceful and quiet atmosphere at the University Campus will provide a pleasant and stimulating environment for interesting encounters, and that at least some of this atmosphere will also thrive online. Enjoy the conference!

Martin Gaenzle, University of Vienna  
Birgit Kellner, Austrian Academy of Sciences

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Council of the European Association for South Asian Studies I am pleased to welcome you to Vienna for its 26th Conference. ECSAS is our flagship event that has for many years now taken place bi-annually. Due to the global Covid-19 pandemic, the Vienna conference, originally scheduled for 2020, was postponed by a year. Now, in a time characterized by change and uncertainty, for the first time we are holding this event mostly online, with a tiny number of delegates meeting in person on a friendly campus of the University of Vienna.

For the first time this conference is also held in Austria, and we are very delighted to have it in the capital city of Vienna. Playing host to the largest European conference concerned with research on South Asia is, undoubtedly, a great honour but also a great responsibility even in ordinary times. All the more reason for us to be extremely grateful to the 26th ECSAS organising team, headed by Martin Gaenzle and Birgit Kellner. Firstly, for agreeing to organise the conference and, secondly, for their steadfast and committed efforts to meet the challenges of an unpredictable pandemic reality. In this context, one may only wonder whether the new experience of our colleagues in Vienna, as well as all of us, will leave a lasting mark on how ECSAS will look like in the future.

Despite pandemic adversities, the scale of the 26th ECSAS emphasises its importance and unabated interest in South Asian studies: well over 40 panels and over 300 participants from Europe, South Asia and almost all parts of the world. I am sure that there will be many opportunities for fruitful discussions and networking in a place with a long tradition of South Asian Studies – both at the University of Vienna and at the Austrian Academy of Sciences – that goes back to the mid-nineteenth century. Today, both centres cover a wide range of disciplines and interests in premodern and modern South Asian studies and enjoy an established reputation in the academic world in Europe and beyond. We are really honoured with such an appropriate venue for this gathering, regretting that we cannot all meet on site.

Thanking again the organisers, I also thank the conference delegates for attending the 26th ECSAS, virtually or in person, and bringing your

expertise to the conference. Without you it would be impossible to create the forum to benefit of interaction with scholars from all around the world. We look forward to your further involvement with EASAS.

Over the four days of the conference, we have the opportunity to muse on the motto of the Vienna Conference – “Reflecting on Disciplinary Boundaries” – to network, to strengthen and initiate academic collaboration. I wish you all a successful conference in the beautiful city of Vienna.

Danuta Stasik  
EASAS President

## PANELS

- 01 Sarma / Caumanns**  
Adaptations of South Asian Narratives Across Time and Space.
- 02 Dasgupta / Damodaran**  
Adivasi Studies: contours of a field.
- 03 Cabalion / Chowdhuri / Kabra / Thakur**  
After displacement: (Re)Settlements, People, Policies and Outcomes.
- 04 Kerin / Larios / Widorn**  
Art, Ritual, and Text at Shrines in South Asia: a cross-disciplinary and diachronic investigation of the forms and functions of shrines.
- 05 Knoll / Heidemann**  
Between the Mainland and the Deep Blue Sea: Transformation and Continuity in South Asian Islands and Littorals.
- 06 Tschurennev / Kamenov / Banerjee**  
Beyond domesticity. Shifting sites of women's labour in modern India.
- 07 Roy / Framke**  
Beyond knowledge transfer: Circulation of intellectual resources between Europe and South Asia from early 19th to mid-20th century.
- 08 Garalyte / Sukumar / Menon**  
Contemporary Anti-Caste Utopias: A Dalit Bahujan Discourse of Emancipatory Social Transformation.
- 09 Khan**  
Crossing Boundaries of British India: New Perspectives on Connected Histories of Princely States.
- 10 Czerniak-Drożdżowicz / Dębicka-Borek / Kędzia**  
Cultural ecology in the literary cultures of South Asia.
- 11 Gaenszle / Chhetri**  
Cultural flows in the Singalila borderlands: Trans-border linkages in East-Nepal, Sikkim and Darjeeling.

- 12 Jain-Neubauer**  
Designing Water: Morphology, Ecology and Histories of Waterscapes in South Asia.
- 13 Chandra / Hüsken**  
Dynamics of Female Agency in Religious Settings in India.
- 14 Lin**  
Fabricating Development and Social Changes in the Indian Northeast (cancelled)
- 15 Gerke / Blaikie**  
Fluid Boundaries in Asian Medical Traditions: Between Text and Practice.
- 16 Graner / Sen / Valanciunas / Clini**  
Governing and Representing Gender and Sex(uality) in South Asia – (Re-)Negotiating Lakshman rekha.
- 17 Voix / Wildcroft**  
Institutionalized Yoga – Interdisciplinary Approaches to Yoga-Organizations in South Asia and beyond (cancelled)
- 18 Das Gupta / Prakash / Bochkovskaya**  
Interrogating Marginalities Across Disciplinary Boundaries: Perspectives from South Asia.
- 19 Cattoni / Wigh**  
Kāmaśāstras/Kokaśāstras: an interdisciplinary corpus.
- 20 Fludernik / Harder**  
Leisure and Forms of Resistance to Labour in Modern and Contemporary South Asian Literature.
- 21 Bhutia / Lemtur**  
Making of the Mountains: Trans-disciplinary approaches to the Himalayas.
- 22 Rastelli / Mirnig**  
Marks of devotion: The construction and politics of religious identity through external signs.
- 23 Jeffery**  
Medical professions in South Asia: historical and contemporary analyses.
- 24 Susewind / Ghazi**  
Muslim social formations: bridging discursive and Islamicate perspectives
- 25 Mukhopadhyay / Baier**  
Occult South Asia: Rethinking the History of Modern South Asian Religions and Spiritualities through the Lens of Esotericism Research and vice versa.
- 26 Pecchia**  
On the transmission of the Sanskritic culture in the colonial period: Philology and print in South Asia.
- 27 Nardi / Bachrach**  
Pushtimarg, Past and Present: New Perspectives on a Hindu Sampradaya
- 28 Andersen / Narayana / Nayak / Prakash**  
Right Wing Politics: Interdisciplinary Reflections on South Asia.
- 29 Aktor / Madsen**  
Sabarimala: Temple Politics and Temple Regulation.
- 30 Freschi**  
Sanskrit jurisprudence and hermeneutics on how to solve legal controversies.
- 31 Sheth / Rees Hofmann**  
Song, Dance, and (Con)Texts: Re-examining performance traditions in medieval and early modern South Asia.
- 32 Consolaro / Browarczyk**  
South Asia via Translation: Human Factor, Power Relations and Heterolingualism.
- 33 Wagner / Roy**  
South Asia's Changing Connectivity. (cancelled)

- 34 Vandenhelsken / Randeria**  
Subaltern Studies, a State of Play.
- 35 Chatterjee**  
Talismanic Writing: powerful texts.
- 36 Chudal**  
Testimonies and Interpretations of South Asian World War Experiences. [\(cancelled\)](#)
- 37 Pai / Malinar**  
The Bhagavad Gita – modern interpretations, cross-cultural perspectives.
- 38 Schuler / Monius†**  
The History of Emotions as a New Disciplinary Direction for South Asian Studies (in memoriam Anne Monius).
- 39 Chag / Depala / Hatcher**  
“Thus It Is Said...”: The Role of Scripture in Legitimising South Asian Sectarian Communities
- 40 Bradbury / Das**  
Urban India: social, spatial and political trajectories.
- 41 Lorea / Basu**  
Vernacular Audiovisual Productions of Religious Experience: New Media, Small Media and Religious Performance in South Asia. [\(cancelled\)](#)
- 42 Castaing / Tignol**  
Vernacular literary magazines and the shaping of colonial and postcolonial South Asia.
- 43 De Clercq / Oberlin / Pauwels**  
Vernacular Mahābhāratas in Text and Performance.
- 44 Sarkar / Karnick**  
‘Vernacular’ Theorisations of ‘Literature’ in Modern South Asia.
- 45 Ollett / D’Avella / Keerthi / Arzony**  
Vernacular Grammars
- 46 De Simone / Mondini**  
Yātrā: Rethinking Pilgrimage in South Asia through Art and Literature.
- 47 Jones / Dandekar / Sahoo**  
Rethinking Relationships between Anthropology, History and Theology in South Asian Religious Studies
- 48 Gerharz / Pfaff-Czarnecka**  
ROUNDTABLE – Contested academic spaces in South Asia



## MONDAY, 26 JULY

TIME	Panels									
11:00	<b>On site Registration</b> Campus, Hörsaalzentrum, Courtyard 2/ Hof 2, Spitalgasse 2-4									
13:00	<b>Opening – Room C2</b>									
13:30	<b>Keynote 1 – Room C2</b> <b>Monica Juneja</b> Disciplinary Thresholds – Art History and Ecological Imaginaries									
15:00	<b>Coffee Break</b>									
15:30	34	31	18	30	44	23	37	27	39	47
17:00	<b>Coffee Break</b>									
17:30	34	31	18	30	44	23	37	27	39	47
19:00	<b>Reception</b> Campus, Courtyard 2/ Hof2, Spitalgasse 2–4									



hybrid panel



online panel

**TUESDAY, 27 JULY**

TIME	Panels											
9:00	32	28	46	07	16	06	05					
10:30	Coffee Break											
11:00	32	28	46	07	16	06	05	26	01	25		
12:30	Lunch Break											
13:30	24	46	04	19	09	15	26	01	25	45		
15:00	Coffee Break											
15:30	42	43	44	04	19	09	15	18	01	25	45	
17:00	Coffee Break											
17:30	General Meeting – Room C2											

hybrid panel
  online panel

## WEDNESDAY, 28 JULY

TIME	Panels												
9:00		11	08	28	03	40	06						
10:30	Coffee Break												
11:00	13	11	08	48	03	40	38						
12:30	Lunch Break												
13:30	<b>Keynote 2</b> – online, screening in Room C2 <b>Shail Mayaram</b> The Nation as Lament: The Pandemic and the Reshaping of the Political												
15:00	Coffee Break												
15:30	13	43	12	42	03	09	38	18	35	04	22	20	
17:00	Coffee Break												
17:30	13	43	12	42	03	09	38	18	35	04	22	20	

hybrid panel
  online panel

## THURSDAY, 29 JULY

TIME	Panels					
9:00	10	21	29	02	08	40
10:30	Coffee Break					
11:00	10	21	29	02	08	40
12:30	Coffee Break					
13:00	Final Session – Room C1					

 hybrid panel
  online panel

## PAPER SCHEDULE

**Panel 01****Adaptations of South Asian Narratives Across Time and Space.**

The panel wants to explore how adaptations of South Asian narratives point to changes in aesthetic concepts or media hierarchies and what roles the adapted narratives and adaptations play within their respective socio-cultural contexts.

**Convenors**

Ira Sarma, Volker Caumanns

**Tuesday, 27 July 11.00 (CEST)*****Shefali More***

Journey of Agastya and Lopāmudrā narrative through time

***Surabhi Jiwrajka***

From Folk to Film: Adaptation of an Indian Folktale Across Genre

***Mariam Zia***

Salman Rushdie's Adaptations of the Dastan Genre

***Volker Caumanns***

Towards an Adaptation History of the Viśvantara Jātaka in Tibet and Beyond

**Tuesday, 27 July 13.30 (CEST)*****Stephan Popp***

Mughal Pañcatantra adaptations

***Heleen de Jonkheere***

Adapting an adaptation over time and space: a case study from the Jain tradition

***Rita Mukhopadhyaya / Ronie Parciack***

The Play of Inter-Semiotic Traffic at Roadside Peer Baba Shrines: Adapting a Sufi Tradition

***Kathleen Jorcke***

Heinrich Uhle's critical edition of Śivadāsa's Vetālapañcaviṃśatikā as adaptation

**Tuesday, 27 July 15.30 (CEST)****Mayurika Chakravorty**

Feminization and De/Reterritorialization in a Transnational Adaptation of Ramayana

**Madhuja Mukherjee**

Through the Animated Lens of Graphic/Narratives

**Ira Sarma**

'First Hand: Exclusion' – The Graphic Adaption of the 'India Exclusion Report'

**Panel 02****Adivasi Studies: contours of a field.**

This panel is an attempt to bring academics and activists together in order to delineate the contours of the interdisciplinary field of Adivasi Studies.

**Convenors**

Sangeeta Dasgupta, Vinita Damodaran

**Thursday, 29 July 09.00 (CEST)****Rajanya Bose**

Land, labour, indigeneity and class: An enquiry into agrarian transition among Adivasis in India

**Sohini Sengupta**

'We celebrate the birth of girls'. Narratives of past and Adivasi women in twenty first century East Central India

**Arjab Roy**

Death of an Adivasi: Interpreting and Understanding Bikram Hembrom's Death

**Chiara Correndo**

Hybrid Adivasi leadership patterns after PESA

**Thursday, 29 July 11.00 (CEST)****Tatsuro Fujikura**

The Evolution and Prospect of Tharu Adivasi Movement in Nepal

**Raphaël Rousseleau**

Forest king in the mirror of courtly culture

**Markus Schleiter**

Music Videos and South Asian Indigeneities – Post/coloniality, media infrastructures and social critique by an ethnography of popular Santali songs

**Sangeeta Dasgupta**

Adivasi Studies: A Historian's Voice

**Panel 03****After displacement: (Re)Settlements, People, Policies and Outcomes.**

This panel analyzes life after displacement by teasing out the processes from the moment of dislocation to the settling of the displaced in their new location. While "displacement studies" have grown more numerous since the 1990s, research on what comes after displacement is curiously rarer.

**Convenors**

Joel Cabalion, Arnab Roy Chowdhuri, Asmita Kabra, Vikramaditya Thakur

**Wednesday, 28 July 09.00 (CEST)****Suravee Nayak**

Land, Bargaining, and the Negotiating Lives: A Case of Displacement in Talcher Coalfields of Odisha, India

**Pratim Das / Aratrika Ganguly**

Mapping Memory and Nostalgia: Identity in liminal Space

**Asmita Kabra**

Resettlement outcomes in the context of heterogeneous land quality: A case study of Adivasi conservation refugees in central India

***Ekata Bakshi***

Rethinking Partition induced-migration in West Bengal, India: A study through the lens of gender, caste and region

**Wednesday, 28 July 11.00 (CEST)**

***Mrittika Shahita***

The Untold History of the Displaced Bengalis of Burma

***Arnab Roy Chowdhury***

'Silence of the Lambs': Rohingya Refugee Policy, Politics and Trope in Contemporary India

***Kenneth Bo Nielsen / Ritanjan Das***

After the Factory: Livelihoods and Political Organisation in Post-Dispossession Singur

***Sanderien Verstappen***

Adjustment Practices: Proposal for a post-displacement anthropology

**Wednesday, 28 July 15.30 (CEST)**

***Shelley Feldman***

Hidden in Plain Sight: In-Situ Displacement in Bangladesh

***Vikramaditya Thakur***

After Displacement: Vernacular Modernity in the Quest for Viable Resettlement in Rural Western India

***Vathsala Aithal***

Between Powerlessness and Agency: Engagement in the Rohingya Crisis

***Vekar Mir***

After the Deluge: everyday negotiations of Dard-Shina tribe of Gurez following their resettlement

**Wednesday, 28 July 17.30 (CEST)**

***Véronique Dupont***

Slum redevelopment and differentiated resettlement in Delhi. The case of Kathputli Colony rehabilitation project

***Girija Godbole***

Surviving evictions in the times of rising land prices: The case of Katkari tribal group in western Maharashtra, India

***Afroja Khanam***

Local expert perceptions on slum communities and slum evictions in Dhaka, Bangladesh: Case of Korail Slum

***Joel Cabalion***

Panel Comments: Social Sciences and (Forced) Displacement: What Methods for What Perspectives?

**Panel 04**

**Art, Ritual, and Text at Shrines in South Asia: a cross-disciplinary and diachronic investigation of the forms and functions of shrines.**

This panel focuses on relationships between shrines and their communities in South Asia. With an interdisciplinary approach, we investigate these relationships through analyses of texts, aesthetics, historical and ethnographic material, space production, and the material culture at these sites.

**Convenors**

Melissa Kerin, Borayin Larios, Verena Widorn

**Tuesday, 27 July 13:30 (CEST)**

***Vijayashree Cs***

Renegotiating Identities through Reshaping Rituals: The case of Bhutaradhane

***Alexander Henn***

Shrines of Goa: Materiality, Transience, Resilience

***Aditya Bhattacharjee***

Gaṇeśa Transformed: Diachronic Inquiries of Shrines to Hindu Gods in suburban Thai Buddhism

**Tuesday, 27 July 15:30 (CEST)****Melissa Kerin**

Concerning Birth: Fertility Practices and Rebirth Traditions at Tingmosgang's Avalokitesvara Shrine

**Chandreyi Basu**

Child's Play: Materiality of Children's Shrines in Early Mathura

**Patrizia Granziera**

Catholic and Tamil Divine Mothers: Art and Ritual in Tamil Shrines

**Sona Prabhakaran**

When Death Beds Throbb with Life: Understanding the Materialities of Liminal Deaths in Mariamman's Temple

**Wednesday, 28 July 15:30 (CEST)****Torsten Tschacher**

A Muslim Pagoda in South India: Community, Aesthetics, and Religion at the Nagore Dargah

**Deborah De Koning**

The Ravana Mandiraya in Colombo

**Anne Hartig**

Reincarnated Gods: Changing Strategies of Display in modern Hindu Temples in North India

**William Elison**

"Bloomin' Idol Made o' Mud": Shrines and Darshan in the Short Stories of Rudyard Kipling

**Wednesday, 28 July 17:30 (CEST)****Gulbahar Shah / Ambreen Gul**

Sufi Shrines of Kashmir: Analysing the Impact of Socioeconomic and Political Transformation on the Relationship between the Shrines and the People

**Elena Mucciarelli / Cezary Galewicz**

The Dance of Kuratti

**Borayin Larios**

Manifesting Divinity in the Everyday – Pune's Wayside Shrines

**Panel 05****Between the Mainland and the Deep Blue Sea: Transformation and Continuity in South Asian Islands and Littorals.**

South Asian littorals are connected, desired, exposed – and challenged by radical transformations. We examine whether, how and to what extent historical patterns continue in the present. This addresses both the relationships littoral societies attain and disciplinary emphasis on certain qualities.

**Convenors**

Eva-Maria Knoll, Frank Heidemann

**Tuesday, 27 July 09:00 (CEST)****Eva-Maria Knoll**

Biomedical Remoteness and Service Decentralization in the Maldivian Islands

**Shaina Sehgal / Suresh Babu**

Impact of historic and strategic State policy on recent coconut trade at the Nicobar Islands

**Samayita Banerjee**

Itinerant Museums: Situating Antiquarian Practices and the Role of Museums in the Littoral Sundarbans

**Suparna Sengupta**

Through the Lens of Thomas Forrest: Imperial Power, Politics and Survey of Islands in the Bay of Bengal

**Tuesday, 27 July 11:00 (CEST)****Frank Heidemann**

Trade, State, and Kinship in Minicoy (Maliku)

**Boris Wille**

Trans-local infrastructure and the spatiality of political protest in the Maldivian hub-city Male'

**Götz Hoeppe**

Counting fishes: Genealogies of Numero-Politics on the Malabar Coast

**Philipp Zehmisch**

Panel Comments



**Panel 06****Beyond domesticity. Shifting sites of women's labour in modern India.**

Combining historical and anthropological methodologies, the panel explores transformations of women's labor in modern India (19th–21st centuries). It looks at paid and unpaid labor, explores sites of women's labor, and the ways in which women negotiate employment, care-work, and family life.

**Convenors**

Jana Tschurenev, Nikolay Kamenov, Supurna Banerjee

**Tuesday, 27 July 09:00 (CEST)*****Mircea Raianu***

Intimacy and Militancy: Women Workers in India's First Steel Plant, ca. 1908-1958

***Nikolay Kamenov***

Labour, Property, and Gender in the Context of the Cooperative Movement in Western India, 1900 to 1950

***Jana Tschurenev***

Spiritual Motherhood 'Social work' and 'social service' in the early twentieth century Bombay Presidency

***Priya Singh***

Gender-specific Barriers to Social Protection for Home-based Women Beedi Workers in India

**Tuesday, 27 July 11:00 (CEST)*****Mohammed Afzal***

Expanding the Scope of Women's Work: Narratives of Economic Precarity and Medical Practice in Muhammadi Begham's Urdu Novels

***Twisha Singh***

Subverting the 'Domestic': A Gendered Analysis of Socio-Cultural Labor of Female Stage Actresses in Colonial Calcutta, 1870-1920

***Sanhita Chatterjee***

Domestic Goddesses and Double Shifts: Bengali married women's negotiation of professional and domestic labour

***Sherin Sabu***

Bleeding Kin: Menstrual Care Work and Women's Relationships

**Wednesday, 28 July 09:00 (CEST)*****Nitin Varma***

Ayahs and Mehterannies: The Making of Female Domestic Labour in Colonial India

***Aanchal Dhull***

Between Market and "Home-cooked" Food: Understanding Contours of Domesticity

***Asiya Islam***

Daughters of domestic workers: Young women and socio-economic change in contemporary India

**Panel 07**

Beyond knowledge transfer: Circulation of intellectual resources between Europe and South Asia from early 19th to mid-20th century.

This panel explores how knowledge has been circulated/exchanged between Europe and South Asia approximately from the colonial times till the end of WWII. It also examines the political and socio-cultural currents that influenced these processes and privileged certain types of knowledge over others.

**Convenors**

Baijayanti Roy, Maria Framke

**Tuesday, 27 July 09:00 (CEST)**

**Christian Spang**

India within Karl Haushofer's writing and thinking

**Maria Framke**

Producing 'useful' anti-imperialist knowledge as a means of subsistence: the multiple lives and audiences of Devendra Nath Bannerjea

**Baijayanti Roy**

Knowledge of India as "Political Science" in Nazi Germany

**Isabella Schwaderer**

India, Dance and Religion: Trajectories of Discourse Between Academic Knowledge and Racist Theories 1936-38

**Tuesday, 27 July 11:00 (CEST)**

**Weronika Rokicka**

Lessons from the USSR: Bengali travel writings on Russia in the 1930s

**Bhaswati Bhattacharya**

Social Space, Ideas and Practice: Urban India, 1940-1970

**Jason Freitag**

Nietzsche in India: A. K. Coomaraswamy and the Supermen in the East

**Panel 08**

Contemporary Anti-Caste Utopias: A Dalit Bahujan Discourse of Emancipatory Social Transformation.

This panel aims at investigating how the ideas of the historical anti-caste thinkers resonate today in the works of new intellectual leaders, histories, iconography, literature, social movements and oral narratives reproducing and re-actualizing the anti-caste intellectual tradition.

**Convenors**

Kristina Garalyte, N. Sukumar, Shailaja Menon

**Wednesday, 28 July 09:00 (CEST)**

**Maya Suzuki**

Diluted Dalit Rights and Justice in the Post-Mandal Era

**Rahul Sonpimple**

Leadership In Dalit Movement: Analyzing Post-Ambedkar Dalit Leadership in Maharashtra

**Dinesh Kumar Ahirwar**

The Utopia of Annihilation of Caste and Cultural Revolution: A Critical Reflection on Ambedkar and Mao's Method of Social Change

**Prashant Ingole**

Reproduction of Anti-caste Discourse in Contemporary Visual and Verbal Formst

**Wednesday, 28 July 11:00 (CEST)**

**Sukumar Narayana**

Teaching Dalit Bahujan Utopias: Notes from the Classroom

**Shailaja Menon**

Periyar: Forging a New Female Self

**Kristina Garalyte**

Beef as Anti-Caste Utopia

**Thursday, 29 July 09:00 (CEST)*****Bidhan Chandra Dash***

Dalit Utopia Interrupted: Violence and Exclusion in Higher Educational Institutions

***Raja Chandrashekhar M***

E V Ramasamy Periyar and his Rational Humanistic, Self-Respecting, Intellectual Engagemnets

***Mrudul Nile***

Negotiating Political Spaces

***Komal Rajak***

Scrutinizing the Politics of the Usages of term 'Dalit' in Anti-Caste Tradition: an Inquiry through Nomenclatural Perspective

**Thursday, 29 July 11:00 (CEST)*****Azeem Ahmed***

The "Struggle for Equality" and the Pasmada Movement: Understanding anti-caste movements among the Muslims

***Ramkumar Govindan***

'Long Live Ambedkar, Periyar and Marx': Arunthathiyar Movement and Assertion in Tamil Nadu

**Panel 09****Crossing Boundaries of British India: New Perspectives on Connected Histories of Princely States.**

Moving beyond the colonial discourse on British and Princely India, this panel deconstructs the discursive production of boundaries in colonial India by exploring connected histories of the princely states.

**Convenor**

Razak Khan

**Tuesday, 27 July 13:30 (CEST)*****Amar Farooqui***

Princes, Anachronism and the Anti-Democratic Impulse

***Sujata Chaudhary***

Administration of Hindu Temples: Analyzing the Regional Trajectories of State-Religion Interactions in Colonial and Post-Colonial India

***Teresa Segura-Garcia***

From Baroda to "Free America": Maharaja Sayaji Rao III of Baroda's engagement with anticolonialism through the United States

***Irina Glushkova***

Photo Albums as a Link among Maratha Princely States

**Tuesday, 27 July 15:30 (CEST)*****Amanda Lanzillo***

Building Princely States: Mobile intermediaries, labor, and Islamic heritage 1857-1915

***Radha Kapuria***

Musicians' 'Significant Geographies' in Colonial Punjab: From Patiala and Kapurthala to Lahore and Delhi

***Anna Morcom***

Hindustani music and princely patronage: a systemic historical study of today's India

**Anita Elizabeth Cherian**

Revisiting Princely Patronage, The Institution and Practice of the Zonal Cultural Centres: Hauntings, Continuities, Conjunctions

**Wednesday, 28 July 15:30 (CEST)****Brian Cannon**

Reconsidering Customary Law: Local Legalities in and beyond Colonial Rajasthan

**Christopher Jenkins**

'International justice within reach of all': The Rise of India's 'International Courts', 1830–1860

**Sarath Pillai**

The Crisis of Nationalism: Round Table Conference, Constitutional Patriotism, and the Possibility of an All-India Federation.

**Rama Mantena**

Political Futures and the Ends of Empire: Anti-colonialism, federation and civil liberties in Twentieth-Century South India

**Wednesday, 28 July 17:30 (CEST)****Marvi Slathia**

Princely ruled Jammu and Kashmir, its development and reforms during colonial and post colonial times

**Debajit Dutta**

The Raj and the Princely States of North-East India: An Account of Monetary Diplomacy

**Sashi Teibor Laloo**

Up-rooting Colonial Boundaries: Narratives from Jaintiapur and the Southern Khasi Chiefdoms

**Panel 10****Cultural ecology in the literary cultures of South Asia.**

Supposing that environment is decisive in the process of developing cultural phenomena of a given region, this panel focuses on the role of interdependence of nature and culture in production of literary texts and other products of culture from the perspective of cultural ecology methods.

**Convenors**

Marzenna Czerniak-Drożdżowicz, Ewa Dębicka-Borek, Ilona Kędzia

**Thursday, 29 July 09:00 (CEST)****Marzenna Czerniak-Dożdżowicz**

Introduction and Along the river, towards god – Kaveri and pañcaraṅga shrines

**Barbora Sojkova**

The corporeal relationship between men and cattle in the Vedic prose

**Lidia Sudyka**

From the Fields to the Throne: Keḷadi-Ikkeri Rulers and the Culture of Nature

**Iris Odyuo**

Crafting of Ornaments and its Accessories in Folk-tales and Folk-songs among the Nagas

**Thursday, 29 July 11:00 (CEST)****Ilona Kędzia**

Medicine within the cultural ecosystem. Some remarks on Tamil Siddha medico-alchemical literature from cultural-ecological perspective.

**Jonas Buchholz**

The Country and the City: The Cultural Ecology of the Kāñcippurāṅam

**Ewa Dębicka-Borek**

Cultural Ecology of the Hunting Festival in Ahobilam

**Panel 11**

Cultural flows in the Singalila borderlands: Trans-border linkages in East-Nepal, Sikkim and Darjeeling.

This panel seeks to explore how cultural transfers across the international border between East-Nepal and the Sikkim-Darjeeling region contribute to shape the region and people's agency, knowledge and practices. It brings together studies on cultural transfers within these borderlands in various fields.

**Convenors**

Martin Gaenzle, Prem Chhetri

**Wednesday, 28 July 09:00 (CEST)*****Mélanie Vandenhelsken***

Ancestral territories, political borders, and the Limbu's sense of community in Sikkim

***Bal Gopal Shrestha***

Transformation and Invention: Newar Religion, Ritual, Feasts and Festivals in Sikkim

***Uwe Niebuhr***

When the borders are closed: René Nebesky-Wojkowitz's fieldwork in the Sikkimese borderland

***Sujoy Chakravarthi***

'Homeward Bound?' – Assessing Gorkhaland as an Imaginative Geography and the Indian-Nepali Identity in Select Works

**Wednesday, 28 July 11:00 (CEST)*****Prem Chhetri***

Ethnicizing federalism in Nepal: Claims for a Limbu state in Province Number 1 after 2008

***Grégoire Schlemmer***

Impact of the Nepal-Indian border on the "Rai" ethnic movement

***Alban von Stockhausen / Marion Wettstein***

Political borders and the transformations of Kirat Rai mythology

**Panel 12**

Designing Water: Morphology, Ecology and Histories of Waterscapes in South Asia.

The panel intends to explore innovative narratives of water structures in terms of their eco-historical, socio-political and aesthetic siting, beyond the conventional art historical parameters, and breaking the boundaries of hitherto often tightly fenced disciplines.

**Convenor**

Jutta Jain-Neubauer

**Wednesday, 28 July 15:30 (CEST)*****Nirmal Mahato***

Adivasi Water Harvesting System in the Jungle Mahals, Eastern India: An Alternative Idea for Sustainable Future

***Arjun Rao***

Water Strategies of Late Prehistoric Settlements in the Semi-arid and Tropical Climates of Southern India

***Sugata Ray***

How to See Water in an Age of Unusual Droughts: Ecological Aesthetics in the Little Ice Age, Mathura

***Ebba Koch***

New Evidence for Mughal Agra as Waterfront City.

**Wednesday, 28 July 17:30 (CEST)*****Sara Keller***

Water-s in the Western Indian city (10-16th C).

***Sara Kuehn***

Sacred Waterscapes as Ecological Habitats for Endangered Animal Species at Sufi Shrines in the Indian Subcontinent

***Vitus Angermeier***

Waterscapes in Āyurveda: Mapping health and disease through hydrology

**Panel 13****Dynamics of Female Agency in Religious Settings in India.**

The panel shall serve as a forum for discussion of dynamics of female religious and ritual leadership in the Indian religious traditions. The aim is to facilitate conversations between scholars studying specific cultural, historical and geographical situations in which women acquire such agency.

**Convenors**

Vinita Chandra, Ute Hüsken

**Wednesday, 28 July 11:00 (CEST)*****Jeremy Saul***

Hanuman in a Woman's Body: Reconfiguring Female Domesticity as Public Performance

***Amnuaypond Kidpromma***

Womanhood and female agency in Bengali Vaishnava Sahajiya Tradition

***Jyoti Phulera***

Presence and absence of females in the Silsilas: Tariqat and Female Agency in South Asian Sufism in the Delhi Sultanate

***Chandrayee Dey***

Songs of Protest and Desire: Muslim women of Bengal

**Wednesday, 28 July 15:30 (CEST)*****Vinita Chandra***

Claiming Religious and Ritual Landscape: A Case Study of Pāṇinī Kanyā Mahāvidyālaya

***Tara Sheemar***

Women as Religious Masters: Kālarātrī and her band of witches

***Agi Wittich***

Women's Body, Lineage, and Yoga: Geeta Iyengar's yoga (r)evolution

***Michal Riva Erlich***

Biographies of Magnified Agency: From Housewives to the Founders of Guru-Bhakti Communities

**Wednesday, 28 July 17:30 (CEST)*****Daniela Bevilacqua***

When Genders Break Traditions: The Kinnar and the Pari Akhārā

***Ute Huesken***

Transcultural Theravāda Buddhist nuns' communities

***Nanette Spina***

Women's Religious and Ritual Leadership: Om Shakti in India  
Communicating Innovation in Contemporary Hindu Tradition

***Nirmala Salgado***

Agency, Resistance, and Communal Practice among Sri Lankan Bhikkhunis.

**Panel 15**

Fluid Boundaries in Asian Medical Traditions: Between Text and Practice.

This panel considers the ways disciplinary boundaries both inform and challenge understandings of South Asian medical traditions. How do ethnography and philology as methods and skills both portray and shape the relationship between texts, knowledge, theory and practice in these traditions?

**Convenors**

Barbara Gerke, Calum Blaikie

**Tuesday, 27 July 13:30 (CEST)**

**Tony Chui**

Fluid Urinalysis: Five Chapters from the Medicine of the Moon King

**Stephan Kloos**

(Con)textualizing Asian Medicines: The "Documentization" of Sowa Rigpa and the Anthropology of Texts

**Barbara Gerke**

When Practice Contradicts Texts: The Use of Panacea in Sowa Rigpa

**Tuesday, 27 July 15:30 (CEST)**

**Florian Ploberger**

Can Tibetan herbs be replaced by European herbs?

**Calum Blaikie / Sienna Craig**

What Counts as a 'Text'? Narrative, Authority, and Knowledge Transmission in Sowa Rigpa Encounters

**Panel 16**

Governing and Representing Gender and Sex(uality) in South Asia – (Re-)Negotiating Lakshman rekha.

While classical texts impose a rather narrowly defined circle (Lakshman rekha), the past decades of "modernising" the sub-continent have considerably widened such restrictive modes of governance. In multi-disciplinary perspectives, we both address such changes in governance and explore how media and communication technology are enabling the crossing and/or the policing of such borders.

**Convenors**

Elvira Graner, Samita Sen, Deimantas Valanciunas, Clelia Clini

**Tuesday, 27 July 09:00 (CEST)**

**Rukmini Barua**

Regulating Romance: The state, family and technology in contemporary Delhi

**Bhaswati Chatterjee**

Daughters of the Social Reform: Challenges and Negotiations

**Elvira Graner / Samita Sen**

Governing Marriage in India: (Re-)Negotiating Lakshman rekha

**Himani Bajaj**

'Safe' Technologies, Sexual Ambivalence: A study on experiences of Young women in Urban Delhi

**Tuesday, 27 July 11:00 (CEST)**

**Deimantas Valanciunas**

'O stree kal aanaa': monstrous feminine in contemporary Indian horror cinema

**Kaustav Bakshi**

On the precarious side of the Lakshmanrekha: Gay men, family surveillance and framing of moral boundaries in contemporary Sri Lankan English fiction

*Dikshya Karki*

Women in 'New Nepali cinema'

*Anugyan Nag*

Trans-men dancing as Goddesses: Breaking Boundaries of Religion and Gender

### **Panel 18**

**Interrogating Marginalities Across Disciplinary Boundaries: Perspectives from South Asia.**

Adopting an inter-disciplinary approach, the panel seeks to examine the conceptualisations of marginality in its multiple dimensions – political, societal, economic, legal, spatial – in colonial and postcolonial India.

#### **Convenors**

Sanjukta Das Gupta, Amit Prakash, Anna Bochkovskaya

#### **Monday, 26 July 15:30 (CEST)**

*Rakhee Moral*

Anxiety as Art: Reading People, Precarity and Landscape in Assam's Borderlands

*Debjani Banerjee*

Masquerading in the Margins: The figure of the bystander in South Asian literature

*Heinz Werner Wessler*

Between empathy and representation: On the discourse on a common binary in Dalit/Adivasi Hindi literature

*Swapna Banerjee*

Exploring Marginalities: Representations of Male Domestic Workers in Two Films on colonial and postcolonial Bengal, India

#### **Monday, 26 July 17:30 (CEST)**

*Leena Sharma*

Construction of the 'Hijra/Kinnar' (Eunuch) Identity as/in a Transgressing Body

*Pratichi Priyambada (Mahapatra)*

Slaves, Prostitutes, and Patronage: Female Dancers in Colonial Bombay Presidency

*Alina Filimonova*

Unique but Common: Marginality of Pakistani Hijras in South Asian Perspective

*Pallavi Beri*

Victimised in the name of Protection – Revisiting the Institutional Reforms for Marginalised Women in Shelter Homes

#### **Tuesday, 27 July 15:30 (CEST)**

*Svetlana Sidorova*

At the Margins of the Empire Making Project: Masters, Servants and Household in Colonial India

*Thomas Chambers*

Between Marginalisation & Connectedness: Muslim Artisans in India

*Anna Bochkovskaya*

'Marginal' Scriptures in Contemporary Punjab: A Heterochronic Approach

*Sanjukta Das Gupta*

The centre and the margin in Jharkhand Adivasi histories

#### **Wednesday, 28 July 15:30 (CEST)**

*Mani Sudhir Selvaraj*

Structural Violence Against Dalit and Tribal Christians in India

*Denise Ripamonti*

Debating Land and Development at the Margins: Political Discourse, State-Society Relations, and the Maoist Conflict in India

*Padmanabh Samarendra*

Marginalisation through Empowerment: The Policy of Reservation for the Scheduled Castes in India

*Amit Prakash*

Interrogating Marginalities as a Crisis of the Liberal Script



**Wednesday, 28 July 17:30 (CEST)****Elvira Graner**

Including the Marginalised: Governing Digital Divides in India

**Aasim Khan / Martin Webb / Ratan Suri**

Politics of Jaankaari: Mediation and marginalisation in digital Delhi

**Priyanka Nupur**

Spheres of Marginality in the Urban Space: Exploring Interconnections in a Global City

**Panel 19****Kāmaśāstras/Kokaśāstras: an interdisciplinary corpus.**

This panel considers the large and understudied corpus of kāmaśāstras/kokaśāstras as a place of encounter of various disciplines and languages. By examining recensions of various works, we will trace the dynamics of transmission of erotological knowledge in relation to their evolutive audiences.

**Convenors**

Nadia Cattoni, Sonia Wigh

**Tuesday, 27 July 13:30 (CEST)****Nadia Cattoni**

The science of palmistry in Anand Kavi's Kokasāra

**Iris Farkhondeh**

To what extent are the Sanskrit "bawdy satires" from Kashmir embedded in kāmaśāstric tradition?

**Anuj Kaushal**

Hybrid Sexuality: Where Kokkaka Meets Ibn Sina in Twentieth Century North India

**Shubham Arora**

Positioning the Body: An Account of Sex Positions in the Kokaśāstras in Medieval South Asia

**Tuesday, 27 July 15:30 (CEST)****Sonia Wigh**

Sexual or Social Maladies? Translating sexual medicine in Early Modern North India

**Naba Gopal**

The Interdisciplinary Corpus of Kamasāstra in 'Vidya Sundar' pala and 'Chaushathi-Rati Bandha'

**Panel 20****Leisure and Forms of Resistance to Labour in Modern and Contemporary South Asian Literature.**

This panel investigates leisure discourses in recent South Asian literature both English and vernacular. We will look at leisure scenarios in modern and contemporary fiction and at how leisure-related activities and moments of recreation are juxtaposed to stress levels of globalized work regimes.

**Convenors**

Monika Fludernik, Hans Harder

**Wednesday, 28 July 15:30 (CEST)****Hans Harder**

The Idle Visionary: Bankimchandra Chattopadhyay's Kamalakanta (1875)

**Katarzyna Dombrowicz**

The warp of labour and the weft of leisure in Abdul Bismillah's Jhīnī jhīnī bīnī cadariyā

**Farha Noor**

Leisure and Resistance to Work Regimes in Satyajit Ray's /Feluda/ Novels

**Wednesday, 28 July 17:30 (CEST)*****Supurna Dasgupta***

"Are you Home?": Erotics of Leisure in Bengali Poetry from the 60s

***Greeshma Mohan K***

A brief excurses into food and travel: Writing leisure in the postcolony

***Melina Munz***

Alternative Temporalities of Experiences of Leisure in Recent Indian Fiction

**Panel 21**

**Making of the Mountains: Trans-disciplinary approaches to the Himalayas.**

This panel aims to bring together researchers from different disciplines focusing on the production of the Himalayas through gender, material culture, trade and flow of people, goods and ideas. It also hopes to engage with various approaches and methods in studying the mountains.

**Convenors**

Anisa Bhutia, Nokmedemla Lemtur

**Thursday, 29 July 09:00 (CEST)*****Nilanjana Mukherjee***

The Himalayas as a Spatial Imaginary

***Tania Kar***

Colonial Governmentality and the Structuring of State Spaces: re-examining British justifications for the Hindusthan-Tibet Road

***Vasudha Pande***

Changing Geographies and Imaginaries: Himalayas and Trans-Himalayas

***Anisa Bhutia***

Khatag and the making of Kalimpong: Rethinking the Tibetan Material Culture

**Thursday, 29 July 11:00 (CEST)*****Hansa Rawat***

Mapping the Territorial Space in British India: Anglo-Nepalese War and the Formation of Non-Regulation Province

***Anna-Maria Walter***

Love at Second Sight - The Touristification of Landscape and Heritage of Gilgit Baltistan

***Dorota Kamińska-Jones***

The Himalayan Mountains as a Transformational Space for British Woman in the Colonial Period

***Nokmedemla Lemtur***

Uncovering hidden histories: Himalayan porters in German archive

**Panel 22**

**Marks of devotion: The construction and politics of religious identity through external signs.**

The panel explores the historical circumstances in which signs worn on the body have been constructed to generate religious identity and how they are utilized in religio-political discourses. To reach a broader understanding of the processes involved, we invite papers from different disciplines.

**Convenors**

Marion Rastelli, Nina Mirnig

**Wednesday, 28 July 15:30 (CEST)*****Marion Rastelli***

Being branded or not being branded? Branding as an identity marker in Śrīvaiṣṇavism

***Jonathan Peterson***

Hermeneutics of Exclusion: Ritual Branding and Scholastic Practice in Sixteenth Century Vedānta

**Zaheer Abbas**

Can you tell by the name? Sectarian Self-Expression by the Muslims of Lucknow

**Wednesday, 28 July 17:30 (CEST)**

**Jean Arzoumanov**

Managing sectarian diversity in the colonial world : Indo-Persian visual handbooks on ascetics and their sectarian marks (1790-1860)

**Shubha Shanthamurthy**

Siddharāma turns his coat: The changing religious affiliation of a Śaiva yogin in premodern Deccan

**Csaba Kiss**

Devotion Unmarked: the reinterpretation of the four life-stages in the Vṛṣasārasaṃgraha

**Nina Mirnig**

The construction of Śaiva identity in the early medieval period: the Śivadharmaśāstra on external signs of the devotee

**Panel 23**

**Medical professions in South Asia: historical and contemporary analyses.**

Historians and social scientists will reassess conceptual approaches and empirical evidence on the social organisation of medical practitioners in South Asia, 1800 to the present day. We welcome papers on the whole 'profession', as well as on sub-fields, controversies, policies and regulation.

**Convenor**

Roger Jeffery

**Monday, 26 July 15:30 (CEST)**

**Samiksha Sehwari**

Credentialism and Culturalism: Colonial Legacies for South Asian medical professional project(s)

**Kiran Kumbhar**

The doctor-society relationship in India before the rise of corporate-style hospitals, 1947–1980

**David Jones**

Specialists or Generalists: Debates about the Development of Cardiac Surgery in India, 1948–1968

**Monday, 26 July 17:30 (CEST)**

**Eram Alam**

Foreign Bodies: On the Politics of Professional Migration

**Roger Jeffery**

Current Challenges for Doctors in South Asia: Not Deprofessionalisation but a New Form of Professionalisation?

**Nandini Bhattacharya**

What is a pharmacist? Professionalisation and praxis of dispensing in modern India

**Panel 24**

**Muslim social formations: bridging discursive and Islamicate perspectives**

As a way of analytically bridging the piety and everyday-Islam perspectives on aesthetic practices, we propose to focus on the Islamicate-broadly conceptualized across the rich terrain of South Asia to explore the role of pleasure and aesthetics in forming and expressing Muslim sociability.

**Convenors**

Raphael Susewind, Sana Ghazi

**Tuesday, 27 July 13:30 (CEST)**

**Shahana Munazir**

Ethical Time of Destiny: Islamic Education and Post-Schooling Life Outcomes of Muslim Girls in Contemporary India

**Muneer Aram Kuzhiyan**

Pleasantly Pious: The Case of Muslim Wedding Songs (Oppana) from Kerala, South India

**Panel 25**

**Occult South Asia: Rethinking the History of Modern South Asian Religions and Spiritualities through the Lens of Esotericism Research and vice versa.**

The panel aims to discuss the entangled history and mutual transformation of modern Indian religions and spiritualities and esoteric/occult currents with a mostly Euro-American background.

**Convenors**

Mriganka Mukhopadhyay, Karl Baier

**Tuesday, 27 July 11:00 (CEST)****Mriganka Mukhopadhyay**

Despatialization: Offering a new theoretical approach for understanding Occult South Asia

**Toshio Akai**

Where Japan's mediumship intersected Western occultism

**Julian Strube**

Tantra in Modern Bengal from the Perspective of a Global Religious History

**Christopher Helton**

Mystical ontology or the lack thereof: a hermeneutical critique of Agha Hananda Bharati's conceptualization of mysticism

**Tuesday, 27 July 13:30 (CEST)****Jessica Albrecht**

"Mothers of the daughters of Ceylon": Marie Musaeus Higgins' and Miranda Canavaro's theosophical feminism

**Samuel Thévoz**

'The Delights of Samādhi': Alexandra David-Neel, Haṭha Yoga and Occult South Asia

**Peter Heehs**

The Myth of the Theons: Constructions and Deconstruction of the Image of Two European Occultists

**Matthew Clark**

The 'mystic East' and psychedelics: soma/haoma and complex plant formulas in ancient Asia

**Tuesday, 27 July 15:30 (CEST)****Magdalena Kraler**

The Occult in Modern Yoga: The Latent Light Culture and Yogic Breath Cultivation (Prāṇāyāma), 1905-1935

**Marleen Thaler**

Kuṇḍalinī Rising. The Initial Theosophic examination of the Tantric concept of kuṇḍalinī

**Karl Baier**

Yoga and Magic in the Work of Henri Clemens Birven

**Keith Cantu**

"My Spirit seemeth": Śrī Sabhāpati Svāmī's Refutation of the Lotus-Kingdom

**Panel 26**

On the transmission of the Sanskrit culture in the colonial period:  
Philology and print in South Asia.

The panel aims to explore the transmission of texts of the Sanskrit culture in colonial South Asia by looking, in particular, at the publishers' entrepreneurship and the philological activity (namely editorial and interpretative practices) concerning Sanskrit texts.

**Convenor**

Cristina Pecchia

**Tuesday, 27 July 11:00 (CEST)**

**Camillo A. Formigatti**

Lithography in 19th Century Mumbāi: Bapu Sadashiv Sheth's and other Lithographic Presses

**Jason Birch**

The Transmission of Premodern Yogāsanas by Illustrated Manuscripts and Printed Books

**Elisa Ganser**

Dance tradition in the making between manuscript and print culture

**Christèle Barois**

A note on the printed editions of the Śivapurāṇa

**Tuesday, 27 July 13:30 (CEST)**

**Justin Henry**

The 19th century Sri Lankan Sanskrit Renaissance and Legacy of the Sinhala Rāmāyaṇa

**Minakshi Menon**

Editing and "Translating" the Amarakośa: Henry Thomas Colebrooke and the Making of Colonial Botany, c. 1800

**Cristina Pecchia**

The transmission of the Carakasamhitā in colonial South Asia

**Panel 27**

Pushtimarg, Past and Present: New Perspectives on a Hindu  
Sampradaya

Focusing on the devotional sect of Pushtimarg, this panel encourages a diversity of papers to stimulate new debates on the significance of the sect vis-à-vis its social histories, devotional practices, theologies, literatures, visual and performing arts from the 15th century up to the present day.

**Convenors:**

Isabella Nardi, Emilia Bachrach

**Monday, 26 July 15:30 (CEST)**

**Rosina Pastore**

Telling Kṛṣṇa's tale: the Brajvilās by Brajvāsīdās

**Shandip Saha**

Retrieving Gopināth From the Margins of Puṣṭi Mārga History

**Joachim Bautze**

The lost 18th century utsavamalika (garland of festivals) of Shri Nathji in the Jhala ki Haveli, Garh of Kota, Rajasthan

**Isabella Nardi**

Kings, Icons, and Festivals: the Saptasvarupotsava of 1739 as represented in a mural at the City Palace of Kota

**Monday, 26 July 17:30 (CEST)**

**Aditya Ruia**

Ambivalent Authority: Manoraths as history in the depiction of power dynamics at the Udaipur Court (1921 - 1930)

**Emilia Bachrach**

Mobile Masculinities and Hashtag Hinduism

**Anishka Gheewala Lohiya**

How to raise the divine baby Krishna; the Pushtimarg way of devotional seva

**Priya Kothari**

On Katha and Koshtak: Imaging the Seven-Day Sermon in the Vallabha Devotional Community

**Panel 28****Right Wing Politics: Interdisciplinary Reflections on South Asia.**

The panel seeks to interrogate the political economy of shift to the Right and its global implications. The interest is especially in exploring some of the complex linkages, seeking to understand and explain the rise of the political Right in South Asia through case studies and comparisons.

**Convenors**

Peter B. Andersen, Sukumar Narayana, Bhabani Shankar Nayak, Amit Prakash

**Tuesday, 27 July 09:00 (CEST)****Reyazul Haque / Farhana Latief**

Forensic Nationalism: Everyday Politics of Normalising Violence

**Mujibur Shaikh**

Hindu Right and Indian Muslims: Interrogation of their Adversarial Relations and Its Impact on Minority Rights

**Bagesh Kumar**

Marx-vaad na Mao-vaad Sabse Upar Rastravaad: Understanding Right Wing Student Activism

**Debadrita Chakraborty**

Masculinity in the making of nations: Men complicit in the rise of right wing politics in India

**Tuesday, 27 July 11:00 (CEST)****Wolfgang-Peter Zingel**

Overcoming scarcity? On the political economy of water in South Asia

**Jessy Philip**

Peasant Populism and Right Wing Politics: A case study from Gadwal, Telangana State of South India

**Ridhima Sharma**

Revisiting the Cow Protection Discourse: Gender, Caste and Labour at a Gaushala in a North Indian Town

**Manish K Jha**

Right wing Populism and Citizenship conundrum: Making of Stateless Population in India

**Wednesday, 28 July 09:00 (CEST)****Sushant Kishore**

The Lucid Reification of Hindutva – The Hindu Self and Muslim Others in Play/Games

**Otso Harju**

Willful ignorance and white supremacy – White 'liberal' tourists in India as a Hindutva asset

**Panel 29**

**Sabarimala: Temple Politics and Temple Regulation.**

This panel explores the legal and political processes surrounding the Supreme Court verdict that allows all female devotees entrance to the Sabarimala Temple in Kerala. Panelists are invited to place the case in the field of temple administration, temple regulation, and religious policy formulation.

**Convenors**

Mikael Aktor, Stig Toft Madsen

**Thursday, 29 July 09:00 (CEST)**

**Priyesh Patel**

#ReadyToWait or #HappyToBleed? Critiquing the Sabarimala Debate through Discourse Analysis

**Anjana Ranjith**

Faith vs Fundamental Right: The Politics of Sabarimala Controversy

**Amitha Santiago**

In Search of the Unexpected: The Supreme Court, Menstruating Women and Untouchability

**Sooraj S S / Krishna K. R. Kavya**

Intersection of Caste and Gender in the Sabarimala Issue: Problematizing the 'Hindu Devotee'

**Thursday, 29 July 11:00 (CEST)**

**Umar Nizarudeen**

Lal Jose's '41': Sabarimala the Body as Degree Zero of Difference

**Saumya Uma**

Gender at the Cross Roads of Freedom of Religion: Examining the Sabarimala Judgement and Beyond

**Mikael Aktor**

Purification Rituals at the Sree Dharma Sastha Temple, Sabarimala, and the Tantrasumuccaya

**Panel 30**

**Sanskrit jurisprudence and hermeneutics on how to solve legal controversies.**

The panel focuses on how jurisprudence (Dharmaśāstra) in precolonial South Asia adopted the paradigms elaborated by the exegetical school (Mīmāṃsā) and applied them to the concrete cases of juridical disputes. The participants in the panel will approach these issues from multiple perspectives.

**Convenor**

Elisa Freschi

**Monday, 26 July 15:30 (CEST)**

**Patrick Olivelle**

How to Change Law in Classical India Hermeneutics in the Service of the Legal Profession

**Giovanni Sartor /Kees van Berkel**

Using formal argumentation to clarify structures of legal reasoning

**Elisa Freschi / Agata Ciabattini**

Getting in the mind of Medhātithi with the help of formal argumentation

**Monika Nowakowska**

Killing Brahmins and drinking wine – grahaikatva-nyāya from the perspective of TV I.3.7

**Monday, 26 July 17:30 (CEST)**

**Francesco Godano**

Argumentation frameworks in Medieval jurisprudence compared to South Asian ones

**David Brick**

The Debate on Cross-Cousin Marriage in Classical Hindu Law

**Timothy Lubin**

"The Wise Thief and the Brahmin Felon"

**Panel 31**

**Song, Dance, and (Con)Texts: Re-examining performance traditions in medieval and early modern South Asia.**

This panel considers the production and circulation of performance traditions and texts in medieval and early modern South Asia. By redirecting attention from narratives of syncretism and hybridity, we seek to promote reflections on a processual understanding of these histories.

**Convenors**

Ayesha Sheth, William Rees Hofmann

**Monday, 26 July 15:30 (CEST)**

**William Hofmann**

Songs of Love and Loss: Early Vernacular Sufi Musicking and the Development of an Indo-Persian Music

**Ayesha Sheth**

Deśī Rāgas in Courtly Texts : The case of a sixteenth century Rāgamālā treatise

**Namrata Kanchan**

Political Notes of the Kitab-i nauras: An analysis of Aesthetically Embodied Kingship Practices in Ibrahim Adil II's Bijapur

**Talia Ariav**

On the ethos of the multilingual: exploring Sanskrit registers of performance in Maratha Tanjavur

**Monday, 26 July 17:30 (CEST)**

**Agnieszka Wojcik**

The dance chapter of Tulaja's Saṅgītasārāmṛta as an encounter of Sanskrit and local tradition

**Athira Sreedevi Prasenan**

Jathikkummi, the Song of Caste: Knowledge, Sanskrit and Folk in Performance

**Muhammed Niyas Ashraf**

Mawlīd as Text and Ritual: Prophetic Love and Devotion in Colonial Malabar

**Panel 32**

**South Asia via Translation: Human Factor, Power Relations and Heterolingualism.**

Keeping in mind the increased number of heterolingual writings by members of marginalised communities in South Asia, we propose to study the act of their translation not as a mere linguistic matter but as an analytical tool for the study of antagonisms that shape homolingual global capitalism.

**Convenors**

Alessandra Consolaro, Monika Browarczyk

**Tuesday, 27 July 09:00 (CEST)**

**Balwant Kaur / Vibhas Chandra Verma**

Humiliation, Resistance and Dreams in Translation : A study of Lal Singh Dil's memoir and poems

**Daniela Spina**

Starting at the end: translation in Goan literary history

**Rosine Vuille**

Borrowing or Transcreating? On Agha Shahid Ali's ghazals and their multilingual intertexts

**Nora Melnikova**

Conceptual transfer in translations of Early Modern Hindi bhakti poetry

**Tuesday, 27 July 11:00 (CEST)**

**Julia Guenther**

Feminist literary spaces: an analysis on power relations within translation discourses

**Maria Puri**

Too Militant, Not Militant Enough: Sandip Kaur's Autobiography, Bikhra Pinda, and Politics of Translation

**Monika Browarczyk**

A Second Life of The Second Sex. Prabha Khaitan's Hindi Rendition of Simone de Beauvoir's Classic



*Alessandra Consolaro*

Translating Adivasi literature: Rescuing from in/visibility?

### **Panel 34**

*Subaltern Studies, a State of Play.*

This panel invites papers discussing the concepts and researches in the field of Subaltern Studies. We propose four topics for discussion: the boundary between history and anthropology, critics of Subaltern Studies, Subaltern Studies outside of India and new fields for the study of subalternity.

#### **Convenors**

Mélanie Vandenhelsken, Shalini Randeria

**Monday, 26 July 15:30 (CEST)**

*Jean-Thomas Martelli*

Indian Student Politics as Political Communities: A Subalternist Reading

*Uday Chandra*

Rediscovering the Primitive: Adivasi Histories in and after Subaltern Studies

*Nicolas Jaoul*

Caste and the Outcaste. Does the study of subaltern caste formations still matter?

*Hanna Werner*

The eternal subaltern? History, power, and the ambivalent role of identity politics

**Monday, 26 July 17:30 (CEST)**

*Sugata Nandi*

Inscrutable Subalternity: Street Magicians of Colonial India

*Meenakshi Nair Ambujam*

Negotiating Identities: The Subaltern in Scheduled Areas

*Shraddha Chatterjee*

Sexual Subaltern Subjects as Signifiers of the Current Crisis in Queer Politics in India

### **Panel 35**

*Talismanic Writing: powerful texts.*

This panel explores how powerful signs, symbols and formulae enable texts to act in the world. Interdisciplinary approaches to the decipherment and analysis of talismanic writings will engage multiple overlapping fields of meaning, including the aesthetic, affective, religious, and historical.

#### **Convenors**

Nandini Chatterjee, Elizabeth Thelen

**Wednesday, 28 July 15:30 (CEST)**

*Fouzia Farooq Ahmed*

Shama-i-Shabistan-i-Raza as a Book of Problem Solving

*Nandini Chatterjee*

The wrath of a woman: curses as injunctions in Indo-Persian legal documents

*Zoé Headley*

Curses and Oaths in Village Legal Culture (Tamil Nadu)

*Dominic Vendell*

"In the Future Too, Shri Hari Will Prove It": Written Oaths in Eighteenth-Century Maratha Politics

**Wednesday, 28 July 17:30 (CEST)**

*Muntazir Ali*

Significance and Context of Quranic verses, Hadiths and Keywords: An Epigraphical Survey of Deccan

*Elizabeth Thelen*

Divine Signs: seals of deities and saints in Rajasthan from the 17th-19th centuries

**Arighna Gupta**

The Sovereign and His Signature: Cases of Eighteenth Century Little-Kings in Bengal

**Walter Hakala**

Improvised Permanence: Urdu Epigraphy in Deccan Princely States

**Panel 37**

**The Bhagavad Gita – modern interpretations, cross-cultural perspectives.**

This panel explores from various disciplinary perspectives the Bhagavad Gita in modern contexts and as a transnational document. Papers are invited dealing with modes of its reception and with reinterpretations among modern-day philosophers, politicians, spiritual leaders, writers etc.

**Convenors**

Gita Pai, Angelika Malinar

**Monday, 26 July 15:30 (CEST)****Akshara Ravishankar**

Vernacular Commentary and the Bhagavad Gītā: Questions of Transition and Circulation

**Richard Davis**

The First English Gita and Four British Orientalists

**Jeremy Engels**

The Ethics of Oneness: Reading Democracy Alongside the American Transcendentalists and the Bhagavad Gita

**Angelika Malinar**

Coping with “karmayoga” in late nineteenth century interpretations of the Bhagavadgita

**Monday, 26 July 17:30 (CEST)****Gita Pai**

An Anti-British Vision of the Bhagavad Gita in Tamil Verse

**Erika Baldt**

“Like a web of pearls on thread”: Women and the Bhagavad Gita in Modern Times

**Bhabani Shankar Nayak**

Bhagavad Gita, Hindu Religious Ethics and Modes of Capitalist Accumulation in India

**Johan Krieg**

Reading the Bhagavad Gita from an eco-humanistic perspective on the banks of the river Ganga in Rishikesh (North India)

**Panel 38**

**The History of Emotions as a New Disciplinary Direction for South Asian Studies (in memoriam Anne Monius).**

We can no longer justify talking about the history of religion, intellectual history, connected history, and other histories of South Asia without including the history of emotions, which promises to open up a new disciplinary direction for South Asian Studies.

**Convenors**

Barbara Schuler, Anne Elizabeth Monius†

**Wednesday, 28 July 11:00 (CEST)****Barbara Schuler**

Honour, Emotions, and Communities in Early Modern Tamil-speaking South India

**Emma Kalb**

“Alas for that Invaluable Jewel”: Attachment, Companionship and Loss in the Court of Aurangzeb

**Frederik Schröer**

Emotions in Exile: Insights of a History of Emotions of the Tibetan Diaspora in India

**Wednesday, 28 July 15:30 (CEST)**

**Hamza Iqbal**

'I destroyed myself and yet have not despair': Jaun Elia and the New Aesthetics of Despair

**Aparna Bandyopadhyay**

An Intimate History of Colonial Bengal: Negotiating the Problem of Sources

**Syeda Asia**

Emotions, Identity & the Entrepreneurial Self: Narratives of Working Muslim Women in Rural India

**Wednesday, 28 July 17:30 (CEST)**

**Diana Dimitrova**

Emotion, ritual and body in the devotional tradition of Radhasoami

**Ranjamrittika Bhowmik**

Mystical Utterances of Sahaja: The Soul-Body Amalgam in Caryāgīti, Tukkhā and Bāul-Fakir Songs of Bengal

**Anandita Bajpai**

The Sound of Friendship: Warm Wavelengths of Radio Berlin International during the Cold War years in India

**Panel 39**

**"Thus It Is Said...": The Role of Scripture in Legitimising South Asian Sectarian Communities**

This panel calls for current research on the formation of religious traditions in South Asia with a focus on scripture. It explores how scripturalisation and the various processes it involves has helped establish communities within authoritative rubrics during their critically formative years.

**Convenors**

Avni Chag, Kush Depala, Brian A. Hatcher

**Monday, 26 July 15:30 (CEST)**

**Lubomír Ondračka**

Vallālacarita and the identity of the Bengali Nāths

**Smit Thacker**

Svāminārāyaṇa-Siddhānta-Sudhā: Informing the practice of the Svāminārāyaṇa Mantra

**Monday, 26 July 17:30 (CEST)**

**Abhishek Ghosh**

'Eyes Tinged by the Salve of Love' – Forming of Gaudiya Vaiṣṇava Canon and the Hermeneutics of Bhaktivinoda

**Manasicha Akepiyapornchai**

Translating Tamil God into Sanskrit in Vedāntadeśika's Dramidopaniṣattātparyaratnāvalī

**Brian Hatcher**

Panel Comments

**Panel 40**

**Urban India: social, spatial and political trajectories.**

This panel explores the social, spatial and political evolution of India's cities in the neoliberal era. The papers engage diverse disciplinary perspectives on the urban milieu and its relationship to broader socio-political trajectories, drawing together case studies from across contemporary India.

**Convenors**

James Bradbury, Ritanjan Das

**Wednesday, 28 July 09:00 (CEST)****S. Shakthi**

Business as Usual in a City under Water: Natural Disasters, Urban Modernity and Chennai's Information Technology Industry

**Bani Gill**

Nocturnal Microsites in the Emergent City: African Kitchens in Metropolitan Delhi

**James Bradbury**

Kolkata's refugee colonies: making and unmaking a political community

**Wednesday, 28 July 11:00 (CEST)****Jonathan Galton**

A view from the rooftop: conflicting visions of a neighbourhood redevelopment project in Mumbai

**Rita Afsar**

Dhaka's changing landscape: prospects for economic development, social change and shared prosperity

**Pablo Holwitt**

The chimeric city: Urban renewal in central Mumbai as ideological assemblage

**Thursday, 29 July 09:00 (CEST)****Anwasha Chakraborty**

The return of the 'local': study of three neighbourhoods in Kolkata from 1990s to present

**Jusmeet Singh Sihra**

How are Urban Dalits Segregated? Evidence from Ulajhpur, Rajasthan

**Thursday, 29 July 11:00 (CEST)****Vivek Mishra**

Elite Informality: Spatializing the Privilege

**Julia Perczel**

Doing it Right: strange alliances and material arrangements of honesty in Delhi, the recycling capital of India

**Ritanjan Das / Elizabeth Rhoads**

God, State and the City: Negotiating Urban Development around Religious Properties in Calcutta and Rangoon

**Panel 42**

**Vernacular literary magazines and the shaping of colonial and postcolonial South Asia.**

Focusing on vernacular literary magazines in colonial and postcolonial South Asia, this panel aims to assess both their impact on modern vernacular literature, their relevance as historical sources and their role in the cultural, social and political construction of modern South Asia.

**Convenors**

Anne Castaing, Eve Tignol

**Tuesday, 27 July 15:30 (CEST)****Kanad Giri**

Narratives of Dissent: Exploring Communitarian Identity in Post-Partition Bengali Dalit Magazines

**Gianni Sievers**

Wit, Wisdom and Music in Print: An Urdu Magazine on the Performing Arts in Colonial India

**Anton Zykov-Genke**

Standardisation or Vernacularisation? Parsi Newspapers and Journals in the 19th Century

**Aakriti Mandhwani**

From the age of Dharmyug to the age of Dharmvir Bharti

**Wednesday, 28 July 15:30 (CEST)****Sanjukta Poddar**

Offering Lessons in Cosmopolitanism in a Provincial City: The Case of Adib (1909–1913)

**Léticia Ibanez**

Being Tamil, Being International : Literary Modernism, the Eḷuttu way.

**Ajmal Kamal**

Literary journal as a means to break out of cultural myopia

**Wednesday, 28 July 17:30 (CEST)****Anne Murphy**

Journals and magazines in the formation of the modern Punjabi literary imaginary

**Julien Régis Columbeau**

The journal 'Panjābī' and the pakistanization of Punjabi language and literature (1951-1960)

**Arun Remesh**

Mathrubhumi Weekly and the Formation of the Malayali Identity

**Rigzin Chodon**

Monthly newspaper from Ladakh and Kyelang (early 20th Century)

**Panel 43****Vernacular Mahābhāratas in Text and Performance.**

This panel will explore the multitude of Mahābhārata retellings in vernacular languages in all genres, from "classic" texts, to performances, to popular media, including versions from Muslim, Jain and other communities, and ritual performances from diverse regions of the Subcontinent and beyond.

**Convenors**

Eva De Clercq, Heike Oberlin, Heidi Pauwels

**Tuesday, 27 July 15:30 (CEST)****Heidi Pauwels**

The Benefits of marrying a Demoness: the Hidimbā episode in a fifteenth-century Hindi Mahābhārata

**Eva De Clercq / Simon Winant / Tine Van Overberghe**

Jain Mahābhāratas in Classical Hindi: Bulākīdās' PāṇḍavPurāṇ

**Perundevi Srinivasan**

Tracing Bhānumatī through the Tamil Folklore and the Field

**Chinmay Sharma**

The Spectre of the Original: Sanskrit Mahabharata in modern retellings of the Mahabharata

**Wednesday, 28 July 15:30 (CEST)****Heike Oberlin**

The Interplay of the Vernacular with Sanskrit in Subhadrādhanañjayam on the Kūṭiyāṭṭam Stage

**Sohini Pillai**

Rethinking Courtly Patronage Claims in Two Regional Mahābhāratas

**Helena Reddington**

Laughing in Malayalam: Satirical Retellings of Stories from the Mahābhārata in the Tuḷḷal Genre of Kerala

**Wednesday, 28 July 17:30 (CEST)*****Nell Hawley***

Pañcarātra ("The Five Nights"): A Miniature Mahābhārata in an Unusual Disguise

***Sravani Kanamarlapudi***

Śāsirekhā Pariṇayamu: Tracing the rich cinematic legacy of an oral Telugu folk story

***Robin Rinehart***

The Mahābhārata in the Dasam Granth: Kings and Sacrifices in Giān Prabodh

**Panel 44****'Vernacular' Theorisations of 'Literature' in Modern South Asia.**

The panel discusses 'vernacular' theorisations of literature in the 19th and 20th centuries. We ask what 'modern' ideas of literature, literariness, and literary history were and how they were generated by synthesizing disparate vocabularies – Sanskrit, Persianate, Western – in inventive ways.

**Convenors**

Judhajit Sarkar, Anirudh Karnick

**Monday, 26 July 15:30 (CEST)*****Philipp Sperner***

"Social Prosperity" through Literature: Ramchandra Shukla, Literary Theory and the Construction of a Democratic Nation State

***Kiran Keshavamurthy***

Articulating the Tamil Modern: Debates in Tamil Literary Criticism

***Prashant Bagad***

Hari Narayan Apte's Concept of Vidagdha Literature

**Monday, 26 July 17:30 (CEST)*****Anirudh Karnick***

Kavitā and Sāhitya in early 20th C. Hindi literature

***Paresh Chandra***

The Caprice of Writing: A Ghalibian poetics of the Ghazal

***Sumaira Nawaz***

A Stranger's Homecoming: Arzu's Persian in Mir's Urdu Poetry

**Tuesday, 27 July 15:30 (CEST)*****Radhika Prasad***

'Sounding Out' Tradition: The Formulation of an Experimentalist Poetics in Agyeya's Preface to the Doosra Saptak

***Judhajit Sarkar***

Prefacing "Modernism"(s): On the Nature and Purpose of 'Adhunik' Bangla and 'Nayi' Hindi Poetry

***Aditya Bahl***

Jujhaar: On the Poetry of Revolution in Punjab, 1960s-70s

**Panel 45****Vernacular Grammars**

This panel focuses on the phenomenon of "vernacular grammars," i.e., grammars written for languages other than Sanskrit, in precolonial South Asia. We will try to define this phenomenon and trace out important patterns, connections, and developments across languages and regions.

**Convenors**

Andrew Ollett, Victor D'Avella, Naresh Keerthi, Sivan Arzony

**Tuesday, 27 July 13:30 (CEST)*****Andrew Ollett***

Introduction: Categories and Historical Overview

***Victor D'Avella***

Innovations in the Telugu Verbal System

***Rishi Rajpopat***

Vernacular Grammarians or Historical Linguists?

**Tuesday, 27 July 15:30 (CEST)****Jane Allred**

Sanskritizing Kannada / de-Sanskritizing Pāṇini: Bhaṭṭākalaṅkadēva's Humble Contribution to Paninian Grammar

**Naresh Keerthi**

Being Local - Dēśi and Dēśya as linguistic categories in Old Kannada

**Sivan Goren Arzony**

Feels like a Vernacular: The Construction of a Vernacular Literary Identity in the Lilātilakam

**Panel 46****Yātrā: Rethinking Pilgrimage in South Asia through Art and Literature.**

The conveners seek to explore new modes of thinking about pilgrimage in South Asia that stem from the analysis of artistic and literary evidence. The aim of this panel is to develop a multidisciplinary theoretical framework that applies a relational approach to the study of pilgrimage in South Asia.

**Convenors**

Daniela De Simone, Sara Mondini

**Tuesday, 27 July 09:00 (CEST)****Daniela De Simone**

Aśoka's pilgrimage to Bodhgayā: Kingship and dhamma in early India

**Vishi Upadhyay**

Telhara circuit in historical records (A cluster of ancient Buddhist sites)

**Elora Tribedy**

Non-Mobility and Material Attachments in Early Medieval Indian Buddhism: Cases from Eastern India

**Filippo Lunardo**

Powerful places and dangerous beings. A 18th century dGe lugs pa text on gCod

**Tuesday, 27 July 11:00 (CEST)****Sara Mondini**

Renaming Sites, Rewriting Histories. The Role of Pilgrimage in the Process of Negotiation and Transformation of Sacred Sites Shared by Muslims and Lingayats in Northern Karnataka

**Bharati Jagannathan**

An attempt at Gendering of Pilgrimage

**Peter Friedlander**

Pilgrimage and Patronage: Ahilyabai's Contribution to India's Sacred Landscapes

**Annalisa Bocchetti**

Inner and outer pilgrimages in the mystical narrative of the Citrāvalī by Usmān

**Tuesday, 27 July 13:30 (CEST)****Anna L. Dallapiccola**

Painted representations of sacred sites in the 18th–20th centuries

**Mukesh Kulriya**

Ramdev's Mela: A Study of Pilgrimage from Western India

**Sharada Srinivasan / Geetha Srinivasan**

Intertwinings of the aniconic and iconic: Insights from Himalayan pilgrimages of Amarnath, Kailash and Vaishno Devi

**Panel 47****Rethinking Relationships between Anthropology, History and Theology in South Asian Religious Studies**

Anthropology, history and theology have traditionally employed differentiated theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of South Asian religions. This panel explores recent trends that integrate these different approaches in an interdisciplinary manner.

**Convenors**

Arun Jones, Deepra Dandekar, Sarbeswar Sahoo

**Monday, 26 July 15:30 (CEST)****Travis Chilcott**

Sādhana-Bhakti and Conceptualized Perceptions of Kṛṣṇa: Investigating Historically-Embedded Theological Claims through Multidisciplinary Researches

**Kush Depala**

Theology for Ethno-Indologists: The Case of a rewritten Pūjā Text

**Deepra Dandekar**

Fiction as “Method” for Approaching Religion among Christian Converts in 19th Century Maharashtra

**William Sax**

Understanding the Divine Kingdoms of the Western Himalaya: Anthropology, Theology, and the Ontological Turn

**Monday, 26 July 17:30 (CEST)****Kalpesh Bhatt**

Green Fields and Dry Homes: Ethical Subjectivation of the Sankari Swaminarayan Community

**Bikku Bikku**

Religion, Nature and Anthropology: A Perspective from the Bishnois of India

**Tine Vekemans**

Memory, archive, and (non)fiction: Mixing methods to trace British East-African Jain heritage

**Krishni Metivier**

Fighting at the Margins: An Interdisciplinary Approach to the Invisibility of Black Hindus

**Panel 48****ROUNDTABLE – Contested academic spaces in South Asia**

This round table looks into the ways in which students engage in pre-figurative politics, how they anticipate and model university ‘differently’, how they anticipate alternative futures and how they work towards altering political spaces within the education system.

**Convenors**

Eva Gerharz, Joanna Pfaff-Czarnecka

**Wednesday, 28 July 11:00 (CEST)****Participants:**

Sudipa Topdar, Monika Maini, Heba Al Adawy, Anna Schnieder-Kröger, Jean-Thomas Martelli



## ECSAS2021 Green Meeting

Our conference aims to conform to the criteria of the Austrian Eco-label for Green Meetings/Events.

### What we do

- Our venue in the heart of the city of Vienna can easily be reached using public transport.
- We use, wherever possible, local products and services and try to provide reusable, sustainably produced items.
- Our catering provider offers a wide variety of local or regional seasonal products
- We are committed to avoid waste in all processes and select service providers with the same commitment.
- As Vienna's tap water is of exceptionally high quality, coming by pipe from the Austrian Alps, we encourage you to use this over bottled water and provide drinking bottles you can refill from our taps.

### What you can do

- If possible, opt for an environmentally friendly way of traveling in Vienna by public transport or by bicycle (the event times are chosen so that public transport can be used, [CityBikes](#) are widely available).
- If you make the trip by cab, please choose an environmentally friendly way of mobility, e.g. the partner [Taxi 40100](#) (+43 1 40 100)
- Dispose of your waste (PET, glass, paper, metal, batteries, etc.) via the separate collection bins provided at the event and throughout the University Campus.
- Turn off all lights and electronic devices (TV, air conditioning, heating, computer, etc.) when you temporarily leave your hotel room.
- Preferably consume open drinks, meals served on dishes, milk and sugar without portion package, etc.
- Return your badges / name tags to the information desk after the event.

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## IMPRINT

ECSAS 2021

26th European Conference on South Asian Studies 26 – 29 July 2021

University Campus Vienna, Spitalgasse 2-4, Hof 2, A-1090 Vienna, Austria

### Organisation

The conference is organised and hosted by the University of Vienna - the Center of Interdisciplinary Research and Documentation of Inner and South Asian Cultural History (CIRDIS), the Department of South Asian, Tibetan and Buddhist Studies (ISTB) and the Conference and Event Management - in close cooperation with the Institute for Cultural and Intellectual History of Asia (IKGA) at the Austrian Academy of Sciences.

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