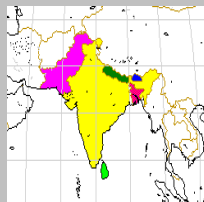


B.A.S.A.S.

British Association for South Asian Studies

BASAS Bulletin



Volume 2 No. 2 January 1997

BRITISH LIBRARY PLANS TO OUT-HOUSE INDIA OFFICE RECORDS' MANUSCRIPTS

The main Oriental and India Office Collections (OIOC) are due to be shifted to the new British Library building at St Pancras in 1998-99. However, it has been recently discovered that the Library is planning to out-house all the manuscript volumes of Indian Proceedings/Consultations (1702-1860), probably to an unspecified site at Colindale, North London.

All the other India Office Records at present kept in the Blackfriars Road repository will be transferred to St Pancras, but, it is claimed, there will be insufficient space there for the manuscript Proceedings.

The central importance of the Proceedings is for the Company period, which until now have been reasonably accessible in the same building, in contrast to the widely dispersed locations of the original Proceedings held in South Asia. Even in their present fairly accessible state, work on the Proceedings can be quite time-consuming. If all these materials, however, are no longer held on site, there will inevitably be longer delays and increased frustration in finding the appropriate material. To separate the Proceedings from the main body would be a considerable obstacle in accessing and using them. Thus it is important that Proceedings should retain the present advantage of having these records in the same building, alongside other connected OIOC materials.

Quite apart from the resulting inconvenience to researchers, it is also clear that the separation of the manuscript Proceedings from the main body of OIOC materials will have other negative consequences. For example, the volumes themselves will in the long run suffer wear and tear through being moved backwards and forwards. In addition the OIOC staff will be put to more trouble in managing the new system, and will find it far less easy to refer to the Proceedings either when seeking answers to inquiries or when endeavouring to make much needed improvements to the present finding aids for these series.

For a long time we have been told that one of the special advantages of having the new St Pancras home for the British Library would be the centralising of its diverse collections. By contrast, if the plan to out-house the manuscript Proceedings goes ahead, the reference

facilities of OIOC will certainly diminish. In order to induce the Library to work out a better solution write to:

Dr Brian Lang, Chief Executive, The British Library, St Pancras Site, 96 Euston Road, London, NW1 2DB, UK. Email: brian.lang@bl.uk Fax: 0171-412-7268.

EDITORIAL: SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES DATABASE OF EXPERTISE IN THE UK

For some time now BASAS has been considering issuing a new directory of its members. This major activity has been overtaken by events. The Co-ordinating Council for Area Studies Association (CCASA), of which BASAS is a member, is currently undertaking a substantial enterprise to produce an area studies database. This exercise has been supported by the ESRC, HEFCE and the University of Manchester. The database will be located on the World Wide Web and maintained and periodically updated by the Computing Department of University of Manchester. The CCASA has already started the project and at present ex-Soviet Studies and Eastern European Area Studies are being targeted.

The ESRC will access information from this database to produce a glossy, user-friendly directory to inform policy makers and users of the expertise available in Britain. Individual associations such as BASAS will be able to down-load a sub-set of the database and produce its own directory, which will be made available to members.

The original questionnaire seen by the Executive Committee of BASAS was considered to be too long, complex and asked for information that was not readily available to individuals or was considered to be intrusive. In light of these and other comments a much more user-friendly and shorter questionnaire has been produced which will allow colleagues to simply attach their c.v. and details concerning student numbers on relevant courses could be filled in by the departmental secretary.

In the first stage of this exercise, the Area Studies Database Unit will contact registrars of Higher Education institutions asking what courses on South Asia are being taught and who are teaching them. Questionnaires would be sent to these individuals. The second stage of the exercise, would involve the Unit contacting BASAS for lists of members and any other lists that may be appropriate. Individuals not contacted in the first round would be then sent a questionnaire if appropriate. The information would be collated along with information from other area associations to form a national database on area studies.

It is important that everyone should participate in this exercise as it quantifies the strengths and weaknesses of South Asian studies. This would allow for a more informed discussion of its future development. A poor response would weaken any case for improving the funding of scholarly activity on the sub-continent.

'THE STATE OF PAKISTAN STUDIES': INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PAKISTAN AT THE SMITHSONIAN, WASHINGTON DC

Forty scholars from numerous academic disciplines met at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC, and reviewed various themes and issues concerning Pakistan Studies. Organised under the auspices of the American Institute for Pakistan Studies (AIPS), the conference took place on the 18th-22nd September 1996 and was attended by experts from the USA, Canada, Britain, Pakistan and India. The event was located in the Sackler Gallery and the Washington Memorial, both part of the Smithsonian Institution, which is a

combination of numerous galleries and museums that are known for their famous art collections, exhibitions and research programmes.

The AIPS, founded in 1973, is the pre-eminent academic body in the USA for the furthering of research on Pakistan and sponsors educational exchanges between the two countries. The contributors to the conference were asked a year in advance to prepare research papers in their respective specialties. The first session, moderated by Professor John Richards of Duke University, heard presentations by Chetan Singh, Nigel Allen and Katherine Ewing dealing with the Indus valley basin, Northern Areas and the formation of cultural identities.

The second session, entitled 'Politics and Identities', was chaired by Professor Charles Kennedy, Director of AIPS, and dealt with the issues of Muslim nationalism in the sub-continent, ethnic-nationalist movements in Pakistan and electoral politics in the country since 1947. Dr David Gilmartin (North Carolina) provided a critique of South Asian historiography whereas Dr Iftikhar Malik (Bath College) theorized on aspects of ethnic pluralism in Pakistan. Dr Mohammad Waseem (Oxford) argued for a serious rethink of the electoral processes in Pakistan.

The third session, chaired by Dr Mustapha Pasha (American University), looked at the inter-relationship between language, literature, media and identity formation. In this panel the following presentations were made; 'Lahore and the Urdu Canon' by Professor Fran Pritchett (Columbia University), 'Language in Pakistan' by Dr Peter Hook (Michigan) and 'Culture and Media' by Altaf Gauhar, formerly of the Third World Foundation. Pritchett analyzed the evolution of Lahore as the centre for Urdu literature under the influence of Sir Syed, Maulana Hali and Maulana Azad. Hali's *Muggadimmah Shehro Shaairi*, prepared the ground for the emergence of Urdu literature. Peter Hook's presentation, based on his extensive work on languages in Pakistan, juxtaposed the enormous linguistic variety and complexity in the country with the lack of research and interest in the discipline. According to Mr Gauhar, Pakistan's official identity had been constructed simply as an opposing polarity to Hinduism and no alternative constructions were allowed at any level. He also argued that through censorship and official manipulation, compounded by the lack of democratic norms, it hindered the evolution of an independent media and in several cases the journalists themselves allowed to be misled and exploited by state functionaries.

The fourth panel in the conference, moderated by Professor Razi Wasti (Government College, Lahore), heard papers by Professors Margaret Mills (University of Penn.), Frank Spaulding (Ohio State) and Regula Qureshi (University of Alberta). Mills reviewed the attempts to preserve folk cultures whereas Spaulding took Islamabad as a case study to see the interface between architecture and urban environment. Regula Qureshi, in her paper, described the diverse origins, varying from Islamic, Indian, and regional traditions, of Pakistani music. The fifth panel comprising of Drs. Carl Ernst (North Carolina) and Qasim Zama (Quaid-i-Azam University) was chaired by Dr Zulfigar Gilani (Peshawar University). Both the papers reviewed the literature on Sufism and the *Ulama* and pinpointed some new areas for further research.

The sixth panel, chaired by Professor Craig Baxter, the president of the AIPS, heard papers by Drs. Shahnaz Rouse (Sarah Lawrence College) and Antia Weiss (Oregon University), which reviewed gender issues. Dr Sabeeha Hafiz, a well known expert on women's issues, was unable to attend the session since her ministry in Islamabad refused to send her and instead insisted on sending a non-academic bureaucrat. Subjects like economy, water management and education were discussed in the seventh session, chaired by Dr Afak Haydar (Arkansas University), the treasurer of the AIPS. Professor Tahir Andarabi (Pomona College), Mustafa Danish (University of Denver) and Abdullah Khadim Hussain (Islamabad) were the main speakers on the panel.

The seventh panel chaired by Professor Lawrence Ziring (University of Western Michigan) heard papers on 'Military and Politics in Pakistan' by Dr Hasan Askari Rizvi (Columbia) and, 'Pakistan's Foreign Policy' by Dr Marvin Weinbaum (Illinois). Rizvi discussed the dominant role of the military in Pakistani politics whereas Weinbaum critiqued the elite's monopoly over the formulation and implementation of Pakistan's foreign policies. Literature on the Kashmir dispute was reviewed in a paper by Professor Robert Wirsing (South Carolina). His study provided a comparative outlook on different ideological and strategic positions characterising the intricate issue.

There were extensive discussions on opening up new areas of research. It was felt that there was numerous scholarly studies focused on Pakistan but there were several areas that needed to be looked at or revisited. There was a need to theorize the role of pressure groups, on the contraction of the social sector and the burdening loans and debilitating defence expenditure. The whole question of good governance had to be examined. Pakistan's history has not been internalised by its present leaders and the country keeps stumbling from crisis to crisis. The drift in national policies has exacerbated an identity crisis with autonomist forces establishing and pursuing their own narrow and particularist agenda. The conference ended on a sombre note reflecting on the country's instability and the failure to exploit its natural and human resources.

Iftikhar H. Malik, Bath College of Higher Education

14TH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON MODERN SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES: PANEL ON 'PARTITION OF PUNJAB AND BENGAL'

At the Modern South Asian Studies Conference held at the University of Copenhagen on 21-24 August 1996, Dr. Gurharpal Singh and Dr. Ian Talbot organised a panel on the 'Partition of Punjab and Bengal'. The panel heard papers from leading scholars working in Britain, South and South-East Asia on the pre-1947 debate about the future of these provinces after colonial rule, the political, economic, social, demographic and cultural consequences of partition, and the role of the provinces in the nation and state-building projects of India, Pakistan and Bangladesh. There was active debate about partition followed by stimulating discussion on many areas of contemporary relevance of the processes unleashed by the division of India. The contributors to the panel highlighted many areas of continuity between pre-independence period and the contemporary developments in these two provinces and their respective nation-states. The papers to this panel will be published in an edited volume with Oxford University Press (1997). Anyone who needs further details of this panel should contact either Dr. G. Singh at the School of Humanities, De Montfort University, Leicester, LE1-9BH, U.K. or Dr. I. Talbot at the Department of Historical and International Studies, Coventry University, Priory St., Coventry, U.K.

NEW MANAGING EDITOR FOR *CONTEMPORARY SOUTH ASIA*

As the new Managing Editor of *Contemporary South Asia* (a Carfax, Oxford, publication), it is my pleasure to invite BASAS colleagues to submit materials for consideration as a main or review article, or as a shorter topical note on current issues concerning Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and/or the South Asian Diaspora.

Please note that while national perspectives will not be ignored, the journal's overriding purpose is to encourage scholars within South Asia and in the global community to search for means (both theoretical and practical) by which our understanding of the present

problems of co-operation and confrontation in the region can be enhanced.

Main articles (of 5000-7000 words) and review articles (of 1500-2000 words) should be submitted in duplicate hard copy (and, if possible, on a 3.5" IBM-compatible disc in Word for Windows or ASCII format) to [Dr. Apurba Kundu](#), Department of Social and Economic Studies, University of Bradford, Bradford BD7 1DP, UK. Tel: +44-(0)1274-385-046 Fax: +44-(0)1274-385-295 Email: a.kundu@bradford.ac.uk

ON THE WEB

Web update this month introduces various addresses that may be of interest to members. These consist of web pages and on-line journals that have recently been updated.

INCORE is the Initiative on Conflict Resolution and Ethnicity of the United Nations University and the University of Ulster. INCORE has just produced the first editions of the 'INCORE guide to internet sources on conflict and ethnicity in India' and the 'INCORE guide to internet sources on conflict and ethnicity in Pakistan'. The guides are available at <http://www.incore.ulst.ac.uk/cds.countries/index.html>

Centre of Non-Western Studies (CNWS), Leiden University, the Netherlands. The Centre comprises the Research School of Asian, African and Amerindian Studies. Site contents: general Information, index, staff and organisation; CNWS research clusters, CNWS members, research assistants, CNWS newsletter, CNWS publications, teaching programme, CNWS agenda, admission. URL <http://oasis.leidenuniv.nl/interfac/cnws/>

Asian studies WWW Virtual Library is a collaborative venture developed at Coombs Computing Unit, RSS/RSPAS, Australian National University providing an up-to-date guide to scholarly documents, resources and information systems on the Web concerned with social science research on Asia. Below are some web sites that may be of interest to South Asianists.

- **Afghanistan** WWW VL - <http://www.rockbridge.net/personal/bichel/afghan.htm> [maintained by: Anthony and Rebecca Bichel (bichel@rockbridge.net)]
- **India** WWW VL - <http://webhead.com/WWWVL/India/> [maintained by: Sergio A. Paoli (spaoli@fcaglp.fcaglop.unlp.edu.ar)]
- **Nepal** WWW VL - <http://www.catmando.com/wwwvlnp.htm> [maintained by: Mahendra B. Shrestha (shrestha@catmando.com)]
- **Sri Lanka** WWW VL - <http://members.tripod.com/~hettiarachchi/sl2.html> [maintained by: Rohan Hettiarachchi (r.hettiarachchi@amc.uva.nl)]
- **Tibet** WWW VL - <http://coombs.anu.edu.au/WWWVL-TibetanStudies.html> [maintained by: T. Matthew Ciolek (tmciolek@coombs.anu.edu.au)]

The home page of the **Asia Research Centre** at Murdoch University has recently been updated to include a section that provides links to various Asian related Web sites. Of particular interest is a list of Asian law related Web sites and a long list of Web sites concerned with Singapore.

- **Home Page:** <http://wwwhum.murdoch.edu.au/arc/wwwhp.htm>
- **Links:** <http://wwwhum.murdoch.edu.au/arc/links.htm>
- **Legal Resources:** <http://wwwhum.murdoch.edu.au/arc/legal.htm>
- **Publishers, E-Journals and Newspapers:**
<http://wwwhum.murdoch.edu.au/arc/publish.htm>

Washington Post The *Washington Post's* Web page (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/>) also has a book review section with complete first chapters of recently published fiction and

non-fiction books, along with the review published in the *Post*. See <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/style/longterm/books/books.htm>

Journal of South Asian Women Studies. Subscription is free and open to all. Articles, news etc. submitted to the journal are subject to review before publication. Editor-in-Chief: Enrica Garzili (Harvard University). Editorial Board: Himendra B. Thakur (International Society Against Dowry and Bride-Burning in India, inc.), Technical Editor: Arch. Ludovico Magnocavallo, Email (to subscribe): india@shore. URL <http://www.shore.net/-india/jsaws>

12TH LAKE DISTRICT WORKSHOP: *CALL FOR PAPERS*

The 12th annual Pakistan Workshop is being convened on 27-29 June 1997 at the Manchester University Cottages at Satterthwaite in the Lake District. The theme for this meeting will be: 'Justice in Post-Colonial Condition'. As usual the choice of the theme is meant to stimulate discussion and is not binding. The main aim of the Workshop is to provide an opportunity to present and discuss current work on Pakistan, it's peoples and South Asians in an informal setting. It is open to all those with interest in that region. Scholars are encouraged to submit their abstracts and research proposals by mid-February 1997.

This year we intend to use the main hall at Pepper House in Satterthwaite for our meetings on all three days. It is possible that the University Cottages will not be available this year, and hence we shall have to stay at Pepper House or one of the other bed and breakfast places which offers accommodation at a reasonable price and is situated in the beautiful rolling hills of the Grisedale Forest near Hawkshead in the Lake District. The total cost for the Workshop for two and a half days, apart from accommodation which is paid directly, will be about £40 (including meals). As Pepper House gets booked quickly for summer, it is essential to reserve it in advance. A £20 registration is required for early reservation.

The travel information will be circulated closer to the meeting date. The Workshop, over the years, has become an international and inter-disciplinary scholarly event. It receives and welcomes participants from the Continent, North America, South Asia and elsewhere. For further inquiries contact: Dr. Iftikhar H. Malik, School of History, Bath College of Higher Education, Newton Park, Bath BA2 9BN, UK. Phone: +44+01225+873701 Fax: +44+01225+872912 Email: Imalik@bathhe.ac.uk

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR PAKISTAN STUDIES

Announces a Special Lecture by The Reverend (Dr) Michael Nazir Ali on 'Love and Law in Islam and Christianity', Friday 31 January, at 6.30 in Room G.58, at SOAS, University of London, Tea will be available before the meeting

Further details may be obtained from Dr David Taylor(0171) 3236123

CENTRE OF SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES, SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL AND AFRICAN STUDIES

Workshop on 'The Place of the Past: Uses of History in South Asia', 16, 17 and 18 April

1997. Convenors Dr Avril Powell and Dr Daud Ali.

Seminar on 'Globalisation and People's Movements' (convened by the South Asia Solidarity Group) scheduled for October.

Workshop on 'South Asian Art 1920-1960' (organised jointly by the Centre and the Royal Asiatic Society).

BASAS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The BASAS Annual General Meeting will be held during the annual conference at Bath College. It is scheduled for the 13th of April and any items for the agenda should be sent by the end of February 1997 at the latest to the secretary, [Dr Yunas Samad](mailto:a.y.samad@bradford.ac.uk), Department of Social and Economic Studies, University of Bradford, Richmond Road, Bradford, BD7 1DP, UK, Tel: 012744804, Fax: 01274 385295, Email: a.y.samad@bradford.ac.uk

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES (EASAS)

For those who are interested in joining EASAS a membership form is reproduced below:

MEMBERSHIP EASAS

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO: Documentation Centre on South Asia, Kern Institute, Leiden University, PO Box 9515, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands

NAME:

ADDRESS:

RESEARCH AREA (S):

I wish to join the EASAS as a member yes/no

The membership fee for three years (1997, 1998, 1999) is fixed at Euro (ECU) 50 or, for one year (1997), at Euro (ECU) 20.

Payment should be sent to ABN/AMRO Bank, Rapenburg 39, Leiden, The Netherlands, bank account no. 60.81.85.035 in the name of D.H.A. Kilff, and mentioning "inzake EASAS".

1 ECU = UK £ 0.79 | 20 ECU = UK £ 16 | 50 ECU = UK £ 39.50

SEMINARS AND LECTURES ON SOUTH ASIAN TOPICS

SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL AND AFRICAN STUDIES

Centre of South Asian Studies Seminar

Wednesdays, 5 pm, Room L65. Enquiries: 0171 323 6353 (direct line)

January 15 *Making early Tamil cinema musical*, Steven Hughes (University of Chicago)

January 29 *Feeding grass to lions: the Khudai Khidmatgar and Akali movements compared*, Mukulika Banerjee (UCL)

February 12 *Gender, environment and famine in C.19th Chotanagpur*, Vinita Damodaran (University of Sussex)

February 26 *Mumbai dreams: identities and governance in Bombay*, Thomas Hansen (Roskilde University, Denmark)

March 12 *Metropolitan science and Colonial nonsense: an exposition of the works of Sukumar Roy*, Bhaskar Mukhopadhyay (Birkbeck College, London)

Himalayan Research Forum

South Asia Department, Thursdays at 5.30 p.m., Room G51. Enquiries to the South Asia Department, 0171 323 6251 (direct line)

February 20 *Economic development in Nepal and the impact of political change since 1990*, T. Louise Brown (University of Birmingham)

February 27 *Title to be announced*, Rebecca Saul (SOAS, London)

March 6 *Local media in Nepal: cable TV in Tansen and the concept of indigenous media*, Michael Wilmore (University College, London)

March 13 *Between tradition and change: modern painting in Nepal*, Julia Hegewald (SOAS, London)

March 20 *To be confirmed*, Anna Balikci (SOAS, London)

South Asian History Seminar

History Department, Tuesdays 5 pm, Room G58 (primarily for staff, graduate students and visiting scholars). Enquiries: History Departmental Office (direct line) 0171 323 6146. Fax 0171 323 6046.

January 14 *The impact of modernisation in Bombay, 1915-25*, Sandip Hasareesingh (Oxford)

January 21 *Multitude in solitude: the Phulwari Sharif experiment in Sufism*, F. A. Qadir (Oxford)

January 28 *Religious versus social: Jesuit ethnographic experiments in 17th-century South India*, Ines Zupanov (SOAS)

February 4 *Powerful women, fearful men: informing popular culture in Punjab in the late 19th and early 20th centuries*, Anshu Malhotra (SOAS)

February 11 *The phantom cannabis user: drugs, madness and criminality in the asylums of British India 1857-1880*, James Mills (Edinburgh)

February 18 READING WEEK

February 25 *Explorations of alchemy and chemistry in medieval India**, Vijaya Deshpande (SOAS)

March 4 *The Congress and the bureaucracy in U.P. in the aftermath of independence: conflict and compromise*, Suhit Sen (SOAS)

March 11 *Politics of technology in post-Colonial India: the standardisation of Ayurvedic medicine manufacture**, Madhulika Banerjee (Delhi/Oxford)

March 18 *Orientalism in Colonial Madras*, Thomas Trautmann (Michigan)

*Joint meeting with History Department's Centre of Science and Medicine.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

South Asian Seminar

Wednesdays, 5.15 pm Director's Room, Centre of South Asian Studies, Laundress Lane, Cambridge CB2 1SD. Telephone: 01223 338 094. Fax: 01223 316 913. Details from the Convenor: Dr Lionel Carter.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Seminar in Contemporary South Asia

Thursdays, 2 pm Blackhall Seminar Room, Queen Elizabeth House, 21 St. Giles, Oxford OX1 3LA. Convenors:

Dr B Harriss-White and Dr Nandini Gooptu. Telephone: 01865 273 600. Direct line: 01865 273 617. Fax: 01865 273 607

January 23 *Structural adjustment and the health care sector in India*, Brijesh Purohit (Jaipur Institute of Development Studies/Visiting Fellow, QEH)

January 30 *Toxic politics: risk, vulnerability and environmental justice: the case of Bhopal Gas*, Ravi Rajan (Cornell University)

February 6 *Culture and transculture: problems in analysing the political consequences of Colonialism?*, Jonathan Spencer (University of Edinburgh)

February 13 *Social anthropology and the Indian village*, Surinder S Jodhka (University of Hyderabad/Visiting Fellow, QEH)

February 20 *Seminar title to be announced*, Judith Heyer (Somerville College, Oxford)

February 27 *The Bandit Queen, Kali and Phoolan Devi*, Criana Connal (Linacre College, Oxford)

March 6 *Unpacking the juvenile sex ratios in India* Sarish, Agnihotri (University of East Anglia)

March 13 *Liberalisation and the dilemmas of Indian business: the issue of corporate governance*, Jairus Banaji (Visiting Fellow, QEH)

To receive notices on South Asian Studies at Oxford and for inclusion of names in mailing lists, please write to: Dr Nandini Gooptu, Queen Elizabeth House, 21 St Giles, Oxford OX1 3LA. Email: ngooptu@vax.ox.ac.uk

South Asian History Seminar

Tuesdays, 2.15 pm Small Dining Room, 1st Floor, Queen Elizabeth House, 21 St. Giles, Oxford OX1 3LA.

Convenor: Dr David Washbrook, Centre for Indian Studies, St Antony's College, Oxford OX2 6JF, Telephone/Fax: 01865 274559

January 21 *The arrival of modernity: urban renewal and new technologies of everyday life in Bombay city, 1905-1925*, Sandip Hazareesingh (Warwick University)

Wednesday 29 January (at the European Studies Centre, 70 Woodstock Road, Oxford Science) *Imperialism and the natural environment-issues and controversies in South Asian and Southern African environmental history*, Dr Ravi Rajan (Cornell University)

February 4 *Collusion in the tea industry in the 1930s: response of firms in India, Ceylon and Indonesia*, Dr Bishrupriya Gupta (St Andrews University)

February 11 *Colonial places and convict spaces: criminality, resistance and policies of transportation in Mauritius 1815-1853*, Clare Anderson (Edinburgh University)

February 18 *Famine process and famine policy in Ahmednagar District 1870-84*, David Hall-Matthews (St Antony's College)

February 25 *Nationalism and its doubles*, Robert Young (Wadham College)

March 4 *History of the genesis of personal law in India*, Jon Wilson (St Antony's College) and

Gender relations in Mughal India, Ruby Lal (St Edmunds Hall)

March 11 *The emergence of the film industry in India, 1913-37*, K. Bhaumik (St Antony's College) and

Transition to Colonial rule in Thanjavur: 1770-1830, V. Dharmalingam (St Antony's College)

SOUTH ASIAN VISITING SCHOLARS

QUEEN ELIZABETH HOUSE, OXFORD UNIVERSITY

Dr Brijesh C. Purohit was recently appointed a Fellow of the Institute of Development Studies, Jaipur, and is currently engaged on a project on 'Capital Formation in Agriculture'. His proposed research is on structural adjustment and the health care sector in India: feasibility of alternative financing strategies.

Dr Biswaroop Das is a Fellow and Association Professor at the Centre for Social Studies, Surat. His research interest relates to the area of understanding spatial as well as social dimensions of the urbanisation process.

Dr Surinder S. Jodhka has taught at the Department of Sociology at the University of

Hyderabad since 1992 and has published in the area of agrarian change. His proposed research is on 'Changing Constructions of the Indian Village'.

Dr Jairus Banaji studied Classics and Social Anthropology at Oxford, then Modern History at JNU. He has worked around issues related to large firms in the Bombay region, and is currently working on a book on 'Globalisation and Indian business'. He is also planning a study of rural labour systems.

Dr Madhulika Banerjee is a lecturer in Political Science at Gargi College, University of Delhi. She proposes to examine how the patterns of colonial and post-colonial state policy in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka have affected technological change with reference to the pharmaceutical industry.

Dr Kailas Sarap is Professor of Economics at Sambalpur University. He is working on Land market transactions: theories and evidence from South Asia with special reference to rural India.

CENTRE OF SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

THE PLACE OF THE PAST: USES OF HISTORY IN SOUTH ASIA

6-18 April 1997

Convenors: Dr Avril Powell and Dr Daud Ali

This workshop is intended to explore the uses of historical knowledge in South Asia. It seeks to develop a group of theoretically informed papers about the role of historical knowledge in past and present day South Asia. It will question the conditions and means by which knowledge of the past becomes a social, cultural or political force. The papers will focus on historical knowledge as both practice and representation, treating the figurations of the past as courtly ornament, public monument, national resource or political imaginary.

Participants will include: Mikael Aktor, Shahid Amin, Prathama Banerjee, Sudhir Chandra, Kumkum Chatterjee, Polly O'Hanlon, William Pinch, Pamela Price, Sumathi Ramaswamy, Susan Seizer, Sudipta Sen, Kavita Sivakrishnan, Sanjay Subrahmanyam, Romila Thapar, Thomas Trautmann, Peter van de Veer, Jonathan Walters.

This workshop is part of a series in the SOAS project 'South Asia: Understandings and Perspectives' and is mainly funded by the European Science Foundation Asia Committee and The Ford Foundation.

The workshop is on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 16, 17 and 18 April 1997. The registration fee will be £7.50 per day, to include morning/afternoon tea/coffee, sandwich lunch, and copies of papers. A registration form is below.

TO: Centre of South Asian Studies, Rm 471, School of Oriental and African Studies, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG

FROM:

I am interested in attending the workshop on 16, 17 and 18 April 1997.

Delete as appropriate:

1. I enclose a cheque for £ _____ for papers, tea/coffee/sandwich lunch on 16, 17 and 18 April 1997 (£7.50 per day). (Cheques should be made payable to the School of Oriental and African Studies.)

2. I am a student and wish to attend without taking the tea/coffee/lunches, and enclose a cheque for £4.00 made payable to the School of Oriental and African Studies.

Barbara Lazoi, Executive Officer: Centre of South Asian Studies. Email: BL1@SOAS.ac.uk Tel: 0171 323 6353 (direct line) Japan Research Centre. Email: JRC@SOAS.ac.uk. Tel: 0171 637 2388

THE BASAS CONFERENCE, 11-13 April 1997

The 1997 Conference is particularly special due to the 50th anniversary of Indo-Pakistani independence. The Bath College of Higher Education (BCHE), a university sector institution, located in the scenic rural setting, is hosting this major event. The only Georgian town of its kind in the heart of south-western England, Bath is a unique combination of history and arts. Founded by the Romans as a health spa, the city boasts of lovely architecture, numerous art galleries and friendly restaurants. Bath is efficiently connected with Bristol (12 miles to the West) and London (120 miles to the East) by a regular coach and train service. It will be interesting to note that the BCHE's Newton Park campus, owned by the Duchy of Cornwall, is located outside the town in the country with the rolling hills, small lakes and wooded areas.

Twenty rooms from the student's residence at the University of Bath, with self-catering facilities and an accessible cafeteria, have been reserved for participants at non-commercial rates. Thus it is essential to make arrangements as early as possible. Special free transport has been arranged between the University and BCHE campuses. There is available a list of bed and breakfast places that are close to the venue of the conference, which can be obtained on request from the organisers. Remember that April is a popular time of year for tourists visiting Bath and early reservation is strongly advised. There is ample parking available on the College campus itself. The registration fee is £10 and a special rate of £5 for students. Our other major campus is on Sion Hill, a walking distance from the city centre right behind the Royal Crescent and Circus, and is known for teaching and research programme in arts. But the conference will be taking place on the Newton Park campus - the main college site - next to the village of Newton St. Loe. We do hope that the conference will afford ample opportunities for participants to explore Bath and the adjoining countryside.

Dr David Washbrook, Reader in Modern South Asian History at the University of Oxford, has kindly agreed to be the inaugural speaker. Our Friday Night dinner will be at Green Park Brassiere - a historic landmark in the city centre (19-21hrs). The Saturday Night dinner will be in a South Asian restaurant on the well-known Pultney Bridge (18-20hrs). Due to limited space early reservations for accommodation and meals is necessary. All the meals will have vegetarian alternatives.

The preparations for quite a few panels are already under way:

- Diaspora
- Military
- Partition
- Gender
- International Relations
- Media
- Geography

- Health

There is an open invitation for proposals for new panels. Adjusting individual papers/presentations should not pose any difficulty. We would definitely urge scholars and students of South Asia to participate in this special event through presentations or by organising separate panels. We are also expecting quite a few publishers to set up bookstalls during the conference.

For panels or any individual inquiries regarding the conference or accommodation, arrangements and travel, please contact Dr. Iftikhar H. Malik, School of History, Bath College of Higher Education, Newton Park, Bath BA2 9BN, England. Tel: +44-(0)1225-873-701/244 Fax: +44-(0)1225-872-912 E-mail: Imalik@bathhe.ac.uk

BASAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE 1997

APRIL 11-13, BATH, UK

REGISTRATION FORM**

NAME:

ADDRESS:

Title of the Paper/Presentation:

Registration	£10.00 (students £5.00)
Accommodation (11th & 12th April)	£11.75 per night
Conference Dinner (11th)	£10.00
Conference Dinner (12th)	£10.00
Lunch on 12th (sandwich)	£2.50
Lunch on 13th (baguette)	£2.50
Total	

**Cheques may be kindly made to BCHE Conference and sent to Dr. Iftikhar H. Malik, School of History, Bath College of Higher Education, Newton Park, Bath BA2 9BN, England.

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385295, Email: a.kundu@bradford.ac.uk. **NB:** Contributions for the next issue have to be received before the end of February 1997 for inclusion in the April 1997 issue.

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