



**British Association for South Asian Studies**

## Annual Conference & AGM 2006

19-21 April 2006, Birkbeck College, London, UK

With support from the British Academy Society for South Asian Studies  
and the Nirman Foundation

### PROGRAMME

#### WEDNESDAY 19 APRIL 2006

10.30 - 11.45	<b>REGISTRATION</b> (Room 405)
11.45 - 12.00	<b>WELCOME ADDRESS</b> (Room 421)
12.00 - 12.45	<p><b>PLENARY SESSION</b> (Room 421)</p> <p><i>20 years of BASAS – past, present and future</i></p> <p><b>Professor Peter Robb</b>, Pro-Director of the School of Oriental and African Studies, UK, and Chair of the Council of the Society for South Asian Studies at the British Academy</p>
12.45 - 2.15	<b>LUNCH</b>
2.15 - 3.45	<p><b><u>PANEL 1A: CASTE, RELIGION AND BUREAUCRACY IN INDIA, 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY</u></b> (Room 421)</p> <p>Chair: <b>Professor Roger Jeffery</b>, University of Edinburgh, UK</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Prof. Ornit Shani</b>, Tel-Aviv University, Israel, <i>How certain state policies foment ethnic tensions: caste and religion in the making of reservations</i></li> <li><b>Dr. William Gould</b>, University of Leeds, UK, <i>The dual state: bureaucracy, community and corruption in Uttar Pradesh, 1930 – 1960s</i></li> <li><b>Justin Jones</b>, University of Cambridge, UK, <i>Colonial bureaucracy and religious revivalism: the tanzim movement in Indian Islam</i></li> </ol>

	<p><b><u>PANEL 1B: DOWRY IN CONTEMPORARY SOUTH ASIA AND THE DIASPORA: TAKING THE 'DOWRY PROJECT' FORWARD</u></b> (Room 403)</p> <p>Chair: <b>Dr. Emma Tomalin</b>, University of Leeds, UK</p> <p>1. <b>Dr. Tamsin Bradley</b>, London Metropolitan University, UK, <i>The dowry project: past, present and future</i>,</p> <p>2. <b>Dr. Srimati Basu</b>, DePauw University, Indiana, US, <i>Legacies of the Dowry Prohibition Act in India: marriage practices and feminist discourses</i></p>
3.45 - 4.15	<b>TEA</b>
4.15 - 5.45	<p><b><u>PANEL 2A: CENSORSHIP IN COLONIAL AND POST-COLONIAL INDIA AND THE DIASPORA</u></b> (Room 421)</p> <p>Chair: <b>Dr. Anindita Ghosh</b>, University of Manchester, UK</p> <p>1. <b>Dr. John Zavos</b>, University of Manchester, UK, <i>Stamp it out! Disciplining the image of Hinduism in multicultural Britain</i></p> <p>2. <b>Dr. Rajinder Dudrah</b>, University of Manchester, UK, <i>Censorship and sensuality in Bollywood cinema</i></p> <p>3. <b>Dr. Deana Heath</b>, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, <i>Genealogizing modernity: imperial hygiene, obscenity, and moral regulation in colonial India</i></p> <p><b><u>PANEL 2B: IDENTITY, STATE AND CONFLICT IN SOUTH ASIA</u></b> (Room 403)</p> <p>Chair: <b>Dr. Clare Anderson</b>, University of Leicester, UK</p> <p>1. <b>Dr. Mark Brown</b>, University of Melbourne, Australia, <i>Before citizenship: liberalism and the making of colonial subjects</i></p> <p>2. <b>Bhangya Bhukya</b>, University of Warwick, UK, <i>Power, subalternity and identity: making and remaking of Lambadas Community in Hyderabad State</i></p> <p>3. <b>Nikita Sud</b>, University of Oxford, UK, <i>A paradigmatic shift? Tracing the role of Gujarat's state during Hindu-Muslim violence from 1969 to 2002</i></p> <p>4. <b>Dr. Manouri Jayasinghe</b>, National Institute for Oriental Languages and Civilisations, Paris, France, <i>Sri Lankan conflicts: a literary representation</i></p>
6 - 7	<p><b>NIRMAN FOUNDATION LECTURE</b> (Room B34)</p> <p><i>Bridging the Growing Divide? The Congress and Indian Democracy</i></p> <p><b>Professor Zoya Hasan</b>, Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India</p>
7 - 9	<b>NIRMAN RECEPTION</b> (Room B04)

9.15 - 10.45

**PANEL 3A: CONFLICT AND VIOLENCE IN SOUTH ASIA** (Room 421)

Chair: **Professor Graham Chapman**, University of Lancaster, UK

1. **Dr. Dibyesh Anand**, University of Bath, UK, "*Look, The Muslim!": Hindutva and the politics of imagination*

2. **Jeevan Raj Sharma**, University of Edinburgh, UK, *Fieldwork in the context of socio-political conflict: some methodological issues*

3. **Tanya Sheikh**, International Institute for the Study of Islam, Leiden, The Netherlands, *'Love marriages' revisited: the Shaista Almani case*

**PANEL 3B: DYNAMICS OF POVERTY AND LABOUR IN SOUTH ASIA** (Room 403)

Chair: **Dr. Pritam Singh**, Oxford Brookes University, UK

1. **Dr. Kanchana N. Ruwanpura**, Hobart & William Smith Colleges, USA, and **Leanne Roncolato**, William Smith College, USA, *An enabling or disabling right? The nexus between child labour and poverty in Bangladesh*

2. **Dr. Kunal Sen**, University of East Anglia, UK, *Networks in the traditional economy – evidence from India*

3. **Dr. Manoj Agarwal**, University of Lucknow, India, *Deficient demand for development in a rapidly growing economy: the Indian scenario*

**PANEL 3C: JUDICIAL ACTIVISM AND CIVIL SOCIETY: IN WHOSE PUBLIC INTEREST?** (Room 407)

Chair: **Dr. Prakash Shah**, Queen Mary College, UK

1. **Dr. Hans Dembowski**, Development and Cooperation D+C, Frankfurt, Germany, *'Taking the State to Court' – or how the Calcutta High Court is stifling academic debate*

2. **Professor Werner Menski**, School of Oriental and African Studies, UK, *Judicial passivism in the public interest*

3. **Ridwanul Hoque**, School of Oriental and African Studies, UK, *Taking justice seriously: judicial public interest and constitutional activism in Bangladesh*

	<p><b><u>PANEL 3D: ISLAMIC COMMUNITY AND POLITICAL HERITAGE</u></b> (Room 406)</p> <p>Chair: <b>Dr. Richard Gale</b>, University of Birmingham, UK</p> <p>1. <b>Hilal Ahmed</b>, School of Oriental and African Studies, UK, <i>The community of monuments and the monuments of a community: understanding the idea of an 'Indian Muslim' architectural heritage</i></p> <p>2. <b>Aasim Akhtar</b>, School of Oriental and African Studies, UK, <b>Asha Amirali</b>, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK, and <b>Ali Raza</b>, School of Oriental and African Studies, UK, <i>The mullah-military alliance in Pakistan</i></p> <p>3. <b>Saeed Rid</b>, University of Berkeley, California, USA, <i>A strategy for removing the deadlock in the peace process between India and Pakistan</i></p>
10.45 - 11.15	<b>COFFEE</b>
11.15 - 12.45	<p><b><u>PANEL 4A: NEW HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES ON THE STATE IN POST-COLONIAL SOUTH ASIA</u></b> (Room 421)</p> <p>Chair: <b>Professor Frank Conlon</b>, University of Washington, USA</p> <p>1. <b>Dr. Shalini Sharma</b>, Keele University, UK, <i>Enemies of the state – the reaction of the Indian State to the Telengana uprising from 1946 to 1952</i></p> <p>2. <b>Taylor Sherman</b>, University of Cambridge, UK, <i>State of emergency and the emergent state: the police action and anti-communist operations in Hyderabad and the formation of the Indian state, 1948-1953</i></p> <p>3. <b>Aishwary Kumar</b>, University of Cambridge, UK, <i>Knowledge, archive and disciplinarity in the making of postcolonial tribalisms: reading a 1980s crisis narrative in Santal Parganas</i></p> <p><b><u>PANEL 4B: ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS: GOVERNMENT AND GOVERNANCE IN SOUTH ASIA</u></b> (Room 403)</p> <p>Chair: <b>Dr. Emma Mawdsley</b>, Birkbeck College, UK</p> <p>1. <b>Tapan K. Nath</b>, University of Tokyo, Japan, <i>Forest villagers in northeastern hill forests of Bangladesh: linkages between their livelihoods and forest conservation</i></p> <p>2. <b>Dr. Rumi Aijaz</b>, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK, <i>Form of urban local government in India</i></p> <p>3. <b>Deepti Sastry</b>, Birkbeck College, UK, <i>Postmaterialism and Indian middle-class environmental values</i></p> <p>4. <b>Dr. Martin Menski</b>, King's College London, UK, <i>Perils of the precautionary principle: environmental policy lessons from governing genetically modified crops in India</i></p>

	<p><b><u>PANEL 4C: MEDIA AND CENSORSHIP</u></b> (Room 407)</p> <p>Chair: <b>Prof. Graham Chapman</b>, Lancaster University, UK</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Nandana Bose</b>, University of Nottingham, UK, <i>Making the cut: censoring Hindi cinema in contemporary India</i></li> <li>2. <b>Sonia Benjamin</b>, School of Oriental and African Studies, UK, <i>A rose by any other name: exploring the politics of roja</i></li> <li>3. <b>Srijana Mitra Das</b>, University of Cambridge, UK, <i>“Say Shava Shava!”: self-censorship, changing states and the cultural economy of ‘Punjabiya’ in Bombay cinema</i></li> </ol> <p><b><u>PANEL 4D: DEMOCRATISING MOBILITY: CASTE, CLASS, RELIGION AND ETHNICITY</u></b>(Room 406)</p> <p>Chair: <b>Dr. Katharine Adeney</b>, University of Sheffield, UK</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Dr. Arun K. Jana</b>, University of North Bengal, India, <i>Ethnic parties and multi-party democracies of South Asia: comparing the Indian and Sri Lankan case</i></li> <li>2. <b>Divya Vaid</b>, University of Oxford, UK, <i>Caste and its influence on class mobility</i></li> <li>3. <b>Dr. Mohanan B Pillai</b>, Gandhigram Rural Institute, Tamil Nadu, India, <i>Religion and social development: the case of Kerala, India</i></li> </ol>
12.45 - 2.15	<b>LUNCH</b>
2.15 - 3.45	<p><b><u>PANEL 5A: LIBERALISATION AND ECONOMIC REFORMS IN INDIA</u></b> (Room 421)</p> <p>Chair: <b>Dr. Kunal Sen</b>, University of East Anglia, UK</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Dr. Tim Beal</b>, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, <i>Entering the Indian market: myth and reality</i></li> <li>2. <b>Zehra Sayed</b>, University of Strathclyde, UK, <i>The economies of price war in the Indian newspaper industry</i></li> <li>3. <b>Dr. B. V. Muralidhar</b>, S.V.University, Tirupati, India, <i>The impact of economic reforms on Dalits</i></li> </ol> <p><b><u>PANEL 5B: POST-TSUNAMI AND POST-WAR SRI LANKA: CHALLENGES AND PERSPECTIVES IN NATION-BUILDING</u></b>(Room 403)</p> <p>Chair: <b>Dr. Harsha Liyanage</b>, International Advisor to Sarvodaya, Sri Lanka</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Ajantha Dharmasiri</b>, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka, <i>Voluntary involvement in post-tsunami nation-building: a pioneering experience of a premier business school</i></li> <li>2. <b>Vallipuram Kanagasingam</b>, Eastern University Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka, <i>Post-tsunami and post-war Sri Lanka: challenges and perspectives in nation-building with special reference to the fishing industry in the Batticaloa district</i></li> </ol>

	<p>3. <b>Chaminda Hettiarachchi</b>, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, <i>Post-tsunami and post-war Sri Lanka - challenges and perspectives in nation-building</i></p> <p>4. <b>Karunatissa Atukorala</b>, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, <i>Tsunami: use and abuse for nation-building in Sri Lanka</i></p> <p><b><u>PANEL 5C: WOMEN AND POLITICS IN INDIA: AGENCY, CULTURES AND CAREERS</u></b> (Room 407)</p> <p>Chair: <b>Professor Patricia Jeffery</b>, University of Edinburgh, UK</p> <p>1. <b>Dr. Sumi Madhok</b>, School of Oriental and African Studies, UK, <i>Political intrigue, coercion and agency: snapshots of Dalit women and political citizenship in NW India</i></p> <p>2. <b>Dr. Kalpana Wilson</b>, School of Oriental and African Studies, UK, <i>Politics and ‘agency’: struggles of rural women agricultural workers</i></p> <p>3. <b>Dr. Manuela Ciotti</b>, University of Edinburgh, UK, <i>At the margins of feminist politics? Everyday lives of women activists in northern India</i></p> <p><b><u>PANEL 5D: MOVING BEYOND MIMETIC ENCOUNTERS: MEDICAL INNOVATION AND INDIGENOUS MEDICAL SYSTEMS IN COLONIAL INDIA</u></b> (Room 406)</p> <p>Chair: <b>Dr. Pratik Chakrabarti</b>, Wellcome, Oxford, UK</p> <p>1. <b>Projit Mukharji</b>, School of Oriental and African Studies, UK, <i>The story of the Tortoise or reading the pulse in colonial Bengal: social history of a diagnostic method</i></p> <p>2. <b>Rohan Dev Roy</b>, Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine at University College London, UK, <i>Debility, diet, desire: towards a history of late 19<sup>th</sup> century everyday health awareness in Bengal?</i></p> <p>3. <b>Nandini Bhattacharya</b>, Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine, University College London, UK, <i>Discourses of disease in a colonial plantation</i></p> <p>4. <b>Rachel Berger</b>, University of Cambridge, UK, <i>Conceiving the pure nation: Race, reproduction and the politics of late colonial nationalism in North India</i></p>
3.45 - 4.15	<b>TEA</b>
4.15 - 5	<b>AGM</b> (Room 421)
5 - 6.30	<b>DRINKS RECEPTION HOSTED BY CONTEMPORARY SOUTH ASIA</b> (Room 405) Sponsored by <b>Taylor &amp; Francis</b>
7 onwards	<b>CONFERENCE DINNER</b>

<p>9.15 - 10.45</p>	<p><b><u>PANEL 6A: ASIAN DESCRIPTION OR EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE?</u></b> (Room 421)</p> <p>Chair: <b>Professor S.N. Balagangadhara</b>, University of Ghent, Belgium</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Marianne Keppens</b>, University of Ghent, Belgium, <i>Asian description or European experience?</i></li> <li>2. <b>Dr. Jakob De Roover</b>, University of Ghent, Belgium, <i>Hindu tyranny and its liberty</i></li> <li>3. <b>Raf Gelders</b>, University of Ghent, Belgium, <i>The language of reform reformed</i></li> </ol> <p><b><u>PANEL 6B: MADRASAS AND MODERNITY IN SOUTH ASIA</u></b> (Room 403)</p> <p>Chair: <b>Alexander Evans</b>, Foreign &amp; Commonwealth Office, British Government, UK</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Dr. Matt J. Nelson</b>, School of Oriental and African Studies, UK, <i>Muslims, markets, and the meaning of 'a good education' in Pakistan</i></li> <li>2. <b>Dr. Niaz M. Asadullah</b>, University of Oxford, UK, <i>Religious schools, social values, and economic attitudes in Bangladesh</i></li> <li>3. <b>Maleeha Aslam</b>, University of Cambridge, UK, <i>Pakistan madrasas (past and present): Issues in education and human development</i></li> </ol> <p><b><u>PANEL 6C: NEW DESTINATIONS AND DIFFERENT ROUTES : EXPLORING SOUTH ASIAN MIGRATION TO EUROPE</u></b> (Room 407)</p> <p>Chairs: <b>Dr. Kanwal Mand</b>, London South Bank University, UK, and <b>Dr. Ester Gallo</b>, University of Perugia, Italy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Dr. Mark-Anthony Falzon</b>, University of Malta, Malta, <i>From diaspora to community: Sindhis in Malta, 1870-2005</i></li> <li>2. <b>Dr. Cristiana Natali</b>, University of Bologna, Italy, <i>Dancing the war overseas: artistic performances and identity strategies among Tamil migrants of Sri Lanka</i></li> <li>3. <b>Dr. Federica Ferraris</b>, University of Sussex, UK, and <b>Silvia Sai</b>, University of Bologna, Italy, <i>Transnational Khalsa: Sikh identities in Italy between conversion and migration</i></li> <li>4. <b>Marta Vilar Rosales</b>, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal, <i>The Goan elites from Mozambique. Migration experiences and identity narratives during the Portuguese colonial period</i></li> </ol>
<p>10.45 - 11.15</p>	<p><b>COFFEE</b></p>
<p>11.15 - 12.45</p>	<p><b><u>PANEL 7A: CIVIL SOCIETY AND POLITICAL SOCIETY: ISSUES IN POWER AND DEMOCRATIZATION</u></b> (Room 421)</p> <p>Chair: <b>Dr. Katharine Adeney</b>, University of Sheffield, UK</p>

1. **Dr. Supriya RoyChowdhury**, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, India, *Civil/political society and democracy: the debate reconsidered*

2. **Urs Geiser**, University of Zurich-Irchel, Switzerland, *Who shapes development in North-West Pakistan?*

3. **Palash Kamruzzaman**, University of Liverpool, UK, *Civil Society participation in the development of Bangladesh: poverty reduction strategy paper*

**PANEL 7B: RETHINKING THE MUTINY-REBELLION OF 1857-8** (Room 403)

Chair: **Dr. Jon Wilson**, King's College London, UK

1. **Professor Sumit Guha**, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, USA, *Surviving the maelstrom: the north Indian adventures of Vishnubhat Godse, 1857-1858*

2. **Dr. Clare Anderson**, University of Leicester, UK, *A mauvi, a captive and a penal settlement: Liaquat Ali, Amelia Bennett and an early cultural history of the Andaman Islands*

3. **Dr. Andrea Major**, University of Edinburgh, UK, *'Burning Passions': sati and religious fanaticism in British interpretations of 1857*

**PANEL 7C: ART, LITERATURE AND SOCIAL CONFLICT** (Room 407)

Chair: **Zinthy Ganeshpanchan**, University of Loughborough, UK

1. **Dr. Neel Rekha**, Independent Researcher, *Salhesa iconography in Madhubani paintings: a case of Harijan assertion*

2. **Dr. Debali Mookerjea-Leonard**, James Madison University, USA, *The intractable dilemma of purity: Gandhi and the Partition*

3. **Mahinda Wetara**, University of Peradineya, Sri Lanka, *History of medicine attached to the Buddhist monastic tradition in Sri Lanka, 5<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> centuries AC*

12.45 - 1.15

**CLOSING REMARKS** (Room 421)