

BASAS 



British Association for South Asian Studies

**BASAS Annual Conference
and
Annual General Meeting 2007**

**28-30 March 2007
St Catharine's College
Cambridge, UK**



British Association for South Asian Studies

BASAS Annual Conference and AGM 2007

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St Catharine's College, Cambridge, UK

Introduction

Dear conference participant

Welcome to the British Association for South Asian Studies Annual Conference 2007. It is a pleasure to host the meeting in Cambridge, and I hope that you will all have a stimulating and enjoyable three days.

I am delighted at the response to the call for participation in the conference, and the rich and varied conference programme reflects the vibrancy of South Asian Studies as an intellectual pursuit. The conference has attracted participation from the United Kingdom and South Asia, but also more widely from Europe, North America, South East Asia and Australia. I hope this will result in some interesting exchanges during the formal sessions of the conference, but also in informal settings, over meals and drinks, over the next three days.

We are fortunate in having two very interesting public lectures during the course of the conference, on Thursday the 29th of March. The Pakistan High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, HE Dr Maleeha Lodhi, has found time to come up to Cambridge to address the conference, and I'm sure that this will be a very topical lecture. The Nirman lecturer this year is Professor Tor Halfdan Aase, from the Department of Geography at the University of Bergen. Professor Aase was President of the Nordic Association of South Asia Studies between 2001 and 2004, and has worked in India, Nepal and Pakistan. He will be speaking to us on issues emerging from on-going research in the Nepal Himalayas.

The Nirman Foundation continue to provide generous support for the Annual Lecture, as well as the reception that follows. We have also received support from Routledge, who publish *Contemporary South Asia*, for a reception on the first day of the conference. The Society for South Asian Studies (SSAS) has provided funds that will be used towards bursaries and the annual student prize. We are grateful to all these organisations for their on-going support of BASAS.

I'd like to thank Juhi Sutaria who has assisted me in the run-up to the conference and Emma Mawdsley, who has been a source of guidance and advice. The BASAS Executive Committee have been very supportive colleagues, and I welcome you all to Cambridge on their behalf.

Bhaskar Vira

GENERAL INFORMATION

Registration

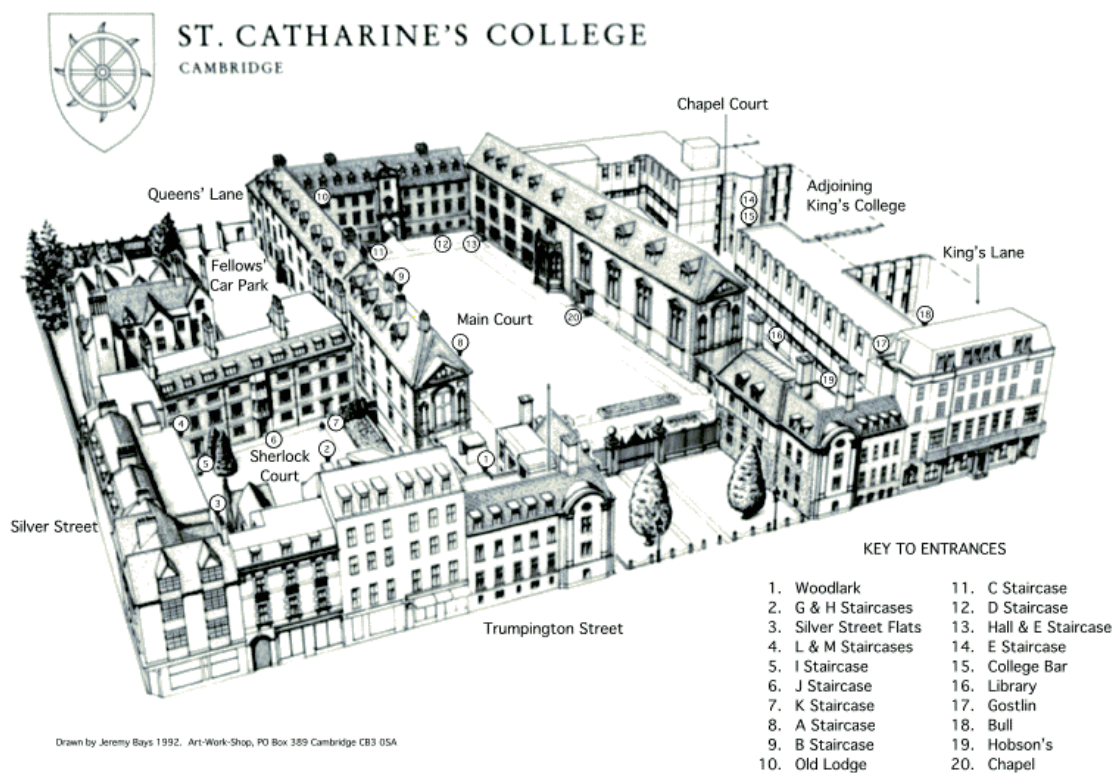
Registration will be in the Ramsden Room in St Catharine's College, between 12.00 noon and 2.00 pm on Wednesday 28th March. Participants who are arriving on 29th March and 30th March should report to the Porter's Lodge at St Catharine's College, who will provide them with further instructions about registration.

Meeting venues

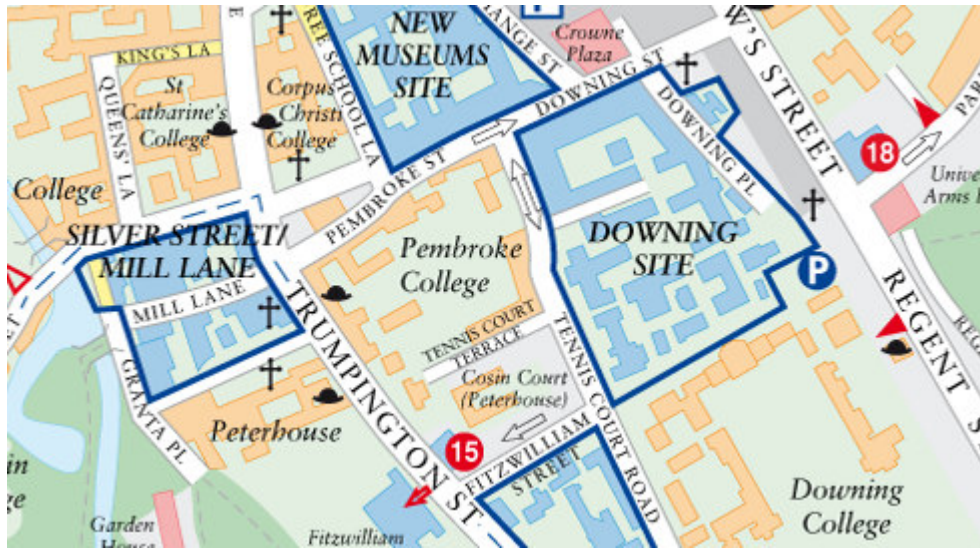
The meeting rooms for parallel paper sessions are all on site in St Catharine's College. There are four rooms reserved for our use: the Ramsden Room, Rushmore Room, Old Combination Room and Senior Combination Room. These will be clearly marked throughout the conference.

All meals and refreshments will be served in Hall on the main College site.

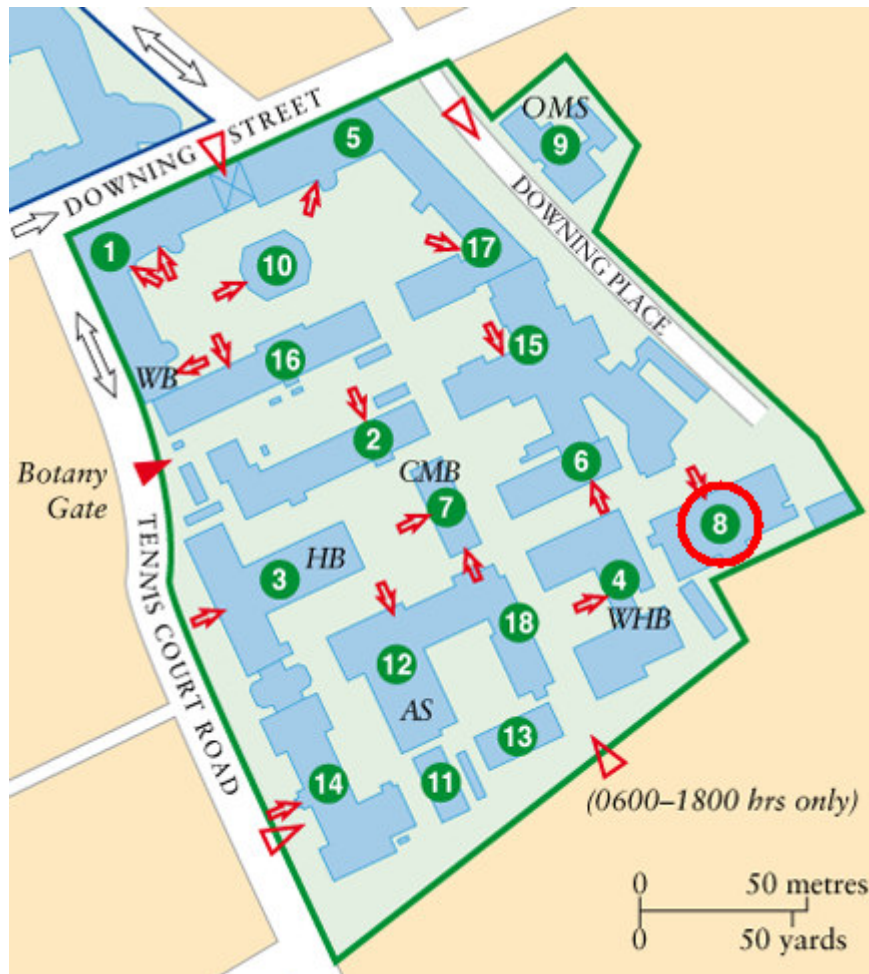
Drinks receptions on Wednesday 28 March and Thursday 29 March will be held in the Ramsden Room.



The venue for the public lecture by Dr Maleeha Lodhi is a short walk from St Catharine's, in Mill Lane.



The venue for the Nirman Foundation Lecture is at the Department of Geography on the Downing Site (marked (8) in the map below).



Accommodation

All accommodation for the conference is in single, en-suite rooms on Bull, E and Gostlin staircases. Keys for rooms are to be collected from the Porter's Lodge on arrival, and returned on departure. Rooms must be vacated by 10.00 a.m. on the day of departure.

Telephones

There is a pay phone situated near the Porter's Lodge.

Laundry facilities

There are laundry facilities on site which can be used by residential delegates, using coins. Details are available at the Porter's Lodge.

Computer facilities

The Lower Woodlark room will be set up as a computer room to allow internet access for delegates during their stay. There are also computer printing facilities in this room. Residential delegates will also have access to wireless internet facilities in their rooms.

College bar

A pay bar is open in College on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 6.30 p.m. till 11.00 p.m.

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St Catharine's College, Cambridge, UK

TIMETABLE

WEDNESDAY 28 MARCH 2007

12.00 noon REGISTRATION starts: RAMSDEN ROOM

1.00 – 2.00 pm LUNCH: HALL

2.00 – 3.30 pm Parallel paper sessions 1

Panel 1A: “Sri Lanka in the 21st Century: A Failed State or a Dynamic Multi-cultural Society?”

VENUE: RUSHMORE ROOM

CHAIR: Katherine Adeney

Organiser: Chaminda Hettiarachchi, Department of Management of Technology, Faculty of Engineering, University of Moratuwa, Moratuwa, Sri Lanka

E-mail: dilhanke@yahoo.com

1. Kanchana N. Ruwanpura, University of Southampton “Separating spaces? Ethno-gendering social networks”
2. Charitha Herath, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka “The Role of Media in Indo-Lanka Relations for Sri Lankan Ethnic Conflict”
3. Chaminda Hettiarachchi, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka “Federalism and Decentralization as a Way Forward in Sri Lanka”

Panel 1B: Personal law, identity politics and civil society in colonial South Asia: 19th – early 20th century

VENUE: SENIOR COMBINATION ROOM (SCR)

CHAIR: Polly O’Hanlon

Organisers: Eleanor Newbiggin and Leigh Denault, University of Cambridge

E-mail: ern20@cam.ac.uk; ltd22@cam.ac.uk

1. Mitra Sharafi, University of Cambridge, “The Marital Patchwork in Colonial South Asia”
2. Erica Wald, London School of Economics, “From Begums and Bibis to Abandoned Women and Idle Females: the creation of the ‘prostitute caste’ myth in early nineteenth century India”
3. Leigh Denault, University of Cambridge, “Partition and the Politics of the “Joint Family” in 19th Century North India”

Panel 1C: Private sector development, corporate social responsibility and social standards in South Asia

VENUE: RAMSDEN ROOM

CHAIR: Arif Zaman

Organisers: Arif Zaman (Henley Management College and the Commonwealth Business Council) and Quanita Mahmood (National Institute for Competitiveness, Pakistan)

E-mail: s.arif.zaman@gmail.com

1. S. Jaseem Ahmad, Middlesex University Business School, "From Principles to Practice: Exploring Corporate Social Responsibility in Pakistan UK"
2. Sheba Saeed, University of Birmingham, "Beggars of Lahore"
3. Quanita Mahmood, National Institute for Competitiveness, Pakistan, "Social standards, competitiveness and quality in South Asia"

Panel 1D: Writing British Asian Cities

VENUE: OLD COMBINATION ROOM (OCR)

CHAIR: Sean McLoughlin

Organisers: William Gould, Ananya Kabir, Sean McLoughlin and Emma Tomalin, University of Leeds

E-mail: W.R.Gould@leeds.ac.uk; A.J.Kabir@leeds.ac.uk; S.McLoughlin@leeds.ac.uk;

E.Tomalin@leeds.ac.uk

1. Emma Tomalin, University of Leeds, "Writing British Asian Cities: an introduction to the network"
2. William Gould, University of Leeds, "Writing British Asian Cities: interdisciplinary approaches"
3. John Eade, Roehampton University, "Writing British Asian Tower Hamlets"

3.30 – 4.00 pm

TEA: HALL

4.00 – 5.30 pm Parallel paper sessions 2

Panel 2A: The changing nature of the state in South Asia I

VENUE: RUSHMORE ROOM

CHAIR: Nikita Sud

Organiser: Nikita Sud, Department of Politics, University of York

E-mail: ns526@york.ac.uk

1. Jyoti Saraswati, Department of Economics, SOAS, "Explaining the Shifting Role of the State in the Indian IT Industry"
2. Dolf te Lintelo, School of Development Studies, University of East Anglia, "Municipal street vending policy in Delhi since 1991: a state of liberalisation?"
3. Edward Simpson, Department of Anthropology, Goldsmiths, University of London, "The response of two states to popular protest in the aftermath of natural disasters in South Asia"

Panel 2B: Deconstructing conceptual categories

VENUE: SENIOR COMBINATION ROOM (SCR)

CHAIR: Sudeshna Guha

1. Masahiko Togawa, Graduate School for International Development and Cooperation, Hiroshima University, Japan, “Rethinking Syncretism: Hindus and Muslims over a Saintly Cult in Bangladesh”
2. Faraz Anjum, University of Punjab, Lahore and Centre for South Asian Studies, Cambridge, “Deconstructing Colonial Discourse: A Critical Study of British Views on Learning and Education in Mughal India”
3. Terenjit Singh Sevea, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore, “South Asian Islamist critiques of colonialism: towards an understanding of the Islamist oeuvre”
4. Spencer Leonard, University of Chicago, “A Fit of Absence of Mind? The Metropolitan Moment in the Conquest of Bengal”

Panel 2C: Public-private partnerships in South Asian development: building trust and managing risk

VENUE: RAMSDEN ROOM

CHAIR: Emma Mawdsley

Organisers: Martin Menski (Clifford Chance LLP) and Arif Zaman (Henley Management College and the Commonwealth Business Council)

E-mail: s.arif.zaman@gmail.com

1. Yutaka Sato, Royal Holloway College, “Towards public-private partnerships in poverty alleviation: urban restructuring and the changing role of NGOs in Ahmedabad, India”
2. Shailaja Fennell, University of Cambridge, “Regulating Risk? What do public-private partnerships bring to the provision of education in South Asia?”
3. Priti Parikh and Allan McRobie, University of Cambridge, “UK Public-private participation in slum and village infrastructure improvement projects in India”
4. Arif Zaman, Henley Management College, the Commonwealth Business Council and the SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry, UK and Pakistan, “Public-Private Partnerships in Infrastructure: Opportunities and Challenges in South Asia”

Panel 2D: Writing British Asian Cities

VENUE: OLD COMBINATION ROOM (OCR)

CHAIR: Emma Tomalin

Organisers: William Gould, Ananya Kabir, Sean McLoughlin and Emma Tomalin, University of Leeds

E-mail: W.R.Gould@leeds.ac.uk; A.J.Kabir@leeds.ac.uk; S.McLoughlin@leeds.ac.uk; E.Tomalin@leeds.ac.uk

1. Sean McLoughlin, University of Leeds, “Writing British-Pakistani Bradford: 1960s - 2000s”
2. Kate Pahl, University of Sheffield and Andy Pollard, Sheffield Hallam University, “Narratives of migration and artefacts of identity: new imaginings and new generations”
3. Aisha Anees Malik, University of Cambridge, “Aapnay Lok: Pakistanis in Slough”

5.30 – 6.30 pm

BASAS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

VENUE: OLD COMBINATION ROOM (OCR)

6.30 – 8.00 pm RECEPTION SPONSORED BY CONTEMPORARY SOUTH ASIA

VENUE: RAMSDEN ROOM

8.00 pm DINNER FOR RESIDENTIAL DELEGATES: HALL

THURSDAY 29 MARCH 2007

9.00 – 10.30 am Parallel paper sessions 3

Panel 3A: State Building in Afghanistan

VENUE: RUSHMORE ROOM

CHAIR: Amalendu Misra

Organiser: Rani Mullen, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia, USA

E-mail: rdmull@wm.edu

1. Wolfgang Danspeckgruber, Princeton University: “The Political Economy of State-Building in Afghanistan”
2. Rani D. Mullen, College of William and Mary: “Sequencing and timing in the debate over centralization versus decentralization – lessons for Afghanistan”
3. Meghan McCarthy, College of William and Mary: “Built on Shaky Foundations: Donor Coordination in Afghanistan”

Panel 3B: Personal law, identity politics and civil society in colonial South Asia: 20th century

VENUE: SENIOR COMBINATION ROOM (SCR)

CHAIR: William Gould

Organisers: Eleanor Newbiggin and Leigh Denault, University of Cambridge

E-mail: ern20@cam.ac.uk; ltd22@cam.ac.uk

1. Rohit De, University of Cambridge, “The “Muslim Women Question” in Colonial India”
2. Eleanor Newbiggin, University of Cambridge, “The codification of family law and secular citizenship in post-colonial India”
3. Angma Jhala, University of Oxford, “The Malabar Hill Murder Trial of 1926 in the Bombay High Court”

Panel 3C: New Leisure Infrastructure and the Multiplex Phenomenon: Towards a Cultural and Political Economy of Urban Space in India

VENUE: RAMSDEN ROOM

CHAIR: Emma Mawdsley

Organiser: Adrian Mabbott Athique, Centre For Critical and Cultural Studies, Faculty Of Arts, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia

E-mail: a.mabbottathique@uq.edu.au

1. Adrian Athique, University Of Queensland, Australia “The Political Economy of Film Exhibition in India: The Logic of the Multiplex”
2. Douglas Hill, University of Otago, New Zealand, “Urban Transformation and the Rise of the Multiplex”
3. Gita Viswanath, “A New Film Going Public: Crowd, Audience and Genre at the Multiplex”

Panel 3D: Memory, trauma, and violence in South Asia

VENUE: OLD COMBINATION ROOM (OCR)

CHAIR/DISCUSSANT: Joya Chatterji

Organisers: Gauri Raje and Srila Roy, University of Warwick

E-mail: gauriraje@yahoo.com; S.Roy@warwick.ac.uk

1. Nida Kirmani, University of Manchester “The Role of Collective Memory in Narratives of the Urban Locality”
2. Subhasri Ghosh, Institute of Development Studies, Kolkota, India, “Memory, trauma and nostalgia: East Bengal refugee women in West Bengal”
3. Nayanika Mookherjee, Lancaster University, “Imaging ‘trauma’ and the raped woman of the Bangladesh war of 1971”

10.30 – 11.00 am COFFEE: HALL

11.00 am – 12.30 pm GUEST LECTURE: H.E. DR MALEEHA LODHI, PAKISTAN HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE UNITED KINGDOM

‘PAKISTAN TODAY: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES’

VENUE: MILL LANE LECTURE ROOM 3, UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE (this is a short walk from St Catharine’s College)

THIS LECTURE IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

12.30 – 2.00 pm LUNCH BREAK: HALL

(THERE WILL BE A SCREENING OF A FILM: ‘MIGRATIONS: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF RACIAL DIVERSITY IN KIRKLEES’ (DIRECTOR: NAVDEEP SINGH KANDOLA) OVER THE LUNCH BREAK IN THE RAMSDEN ROOM)

2.00 – 3.30 pm Parallel paper sessions 4

Panel 4A: The changing nature of the state in South Asia II

VENUE: RUSHMORE ROOM

CHAIR/DISCUSSANT: Ed Simpson

Organiser: Nikita Sud, Department of Politics, University of York

E-mail: ns526@york.ac.uk

1. Ronald Herring and Tariq Thachil, Cornell University, "From Marxism to Hindutva: An Analysis of Differences in SC/ST Voting Patterns Across India"
2. Nikita Sud, University of York, "The Indian State in a Liberalising Landscape"
3. Rukhe Zehra Zaidi, King's College London, "Struggling against the State: Exploring the strategic dynamics of state interaction by the Anjumane Mazaarin in Pakistan"

Panel 4B: The City in Medieval India, 1000-1700 AD

VENUE: SENIOR COMBINATION ROOM (SCR)

CHAIR: Nilanjan Sarkar

Organiser: Nilanjan Sarkar, Commissioning Editor, Taylor & Francis Books India Pvt Ltd, New Delhi

E-mail: nilanjansarkar@hotmail.com

1. Nilanjan Sarkar, Taylor & Francis Books India Pvt Ltd, "An Urban Imaginaire, ca 1350: The Capital City in Zia Barani's Fatawa-i Jahandari"
2. Emma Flatt, SOAS, "The Urban(e) Courtier: Cosmopolitan and Local Identity in the Medieval Deccan"
3. Diego Giolitti, SOAS, "Early Mughal Gardens: A Political and Economic History"

Panel 4C: Defining and contesting development orthodoxy

VENUE: RAMSDEN ROOM

CHAIR: Kunal Sen

1. Richard Palmer-Jones, University of East Anglia, "The Emperor's New Clothes: Poverty Measurement in Theory and Practice in India and Bangladesh"
2. Jeevan Raj Sharma, University of Edinburgh "The 'problem' of migration: The case of Nepali male 'labour' migrants to the Indian city of Mumbai"
3. Juhi Sutaria, University of Cambridge, "Interplay between gender, power and sexuality among unmarried young girls: a comparison of Indian and Western literature"
4. Matilde Adduci, University of Turin, "The social conflict over aquaculture practices in Chilika lake waters: a class perspective"

Panel 4D: Women in the Politics of Dalit Assertion in Contemporary India

VENUE: OLD COMBINATION ROOM (OCR)

CHAIR/DISCUSSANT: Dilip Menon

Organisers: Radhika Govinda and Sarah Beth Wilkerson, Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Cambridge

E-mail: rg330@cam.ac.uk; sbw24@cam.ac.uk

1. Sarah Beth Wilkerson, University of Cambridge, Dalit women and the pen: gendering Hindi Dalit literature
2. Radhika Govinda, University of Cambridge, “Re-inventing Dalit Women’s Identity? Dynamics of Social Activism and Electoral Politics in Rural North India”
3. Badri Narayan, Visiting Fellow, Wolfson College Cambridge “Women heroes and Dalit mobilisation: memory, history and politics”

3.30 – 4.00 pm TEA: HALL

4.00 – 5.00 pm BASAS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: PLENARY

VENUE: RAMSDEN ROOM

6.00 pm ANNUAL NIRMAN FOUNDATION LECTURE: PROFESSOR TOR HALFDAN AASE (UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN)

LOCAL RESPONSES TO GLOBALISATION IN THE HIMALAYAS

VENUE: LARGE LECTURE THEATRE, DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY, DOWNING PLACE (this is a short walk from St Catharine’s College)

THIS LECTURE IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

7.15 pm RECEPTION NIRMAN FOUNDATION (ST CATHARINE’S COLLEGE)

VENUE: RAMSDEN ROOM

8.00 pm GALA DINNER: HALL

FRIDAY 30 MARCH 2007

9.00 – 10.30 am Parallel paper sessions 5

Panel 5A: Achieving sustainable development in times of conflict : challenges and opportunities

VENUE: RUSHMORE ROOM

CHAIR: Graham Chapman

Organiser: Zinithiya Ganeshpanchan, Midlands Centre for Criminology and Criminal Justice, Loughborough University

E-mail: zzsg2@lboro.ac.uk

1. Chaminda Weerawadhana, Universite de Tours/INCORE, University of Ulster, “Peace-Treaty Making and the Sri Lankan Conflict: Lessons to Learn from the 2002 Ceasefire Agreement in Sri Lanka”
2. Zinithiya Ganeshpanchan, Loughborough University, “Addressing gender based violence and promoting women’s participation in the local economies to achieve the national development agenda”
3. Marek Moron, Jagiellonian University, Poland, “Baluchistan: remarks on historical circumstances of national aspirations”

Panel 5B: India in the Eyes of Europe: Are Hinduism and Caste Colonial Constructions?

VENUE: SENIOR COMBINATION ROOM (SCR)

CHAIR: Raf Gelders

Organisers: Sarah Claerhout and Raf Gelders, Ghent University, Belgium

E-mail: raf.gelders@UGent.be

1. Sarah Claerhout, Ghent University “India in the Eyes of Europe: About the Construction Hypothesis and its Flaws”
2. Raf Gelders, Ghent University, “Hinduism as Colonial Construction Contested: The Importance of Pre-colonial and Continental European Experiences”
3. Marianne Keppens, Ghent University, “What about the construction of Brahmanism?”
4. Esther Bloch, Ghent University, “The Construction of Hinduism. Brahmanical Endeavour or European Imagination?”

Panel 5C: NGOs

VENUE: RAMSDEN ROOM

CHAIR: Emma Mawdsley

1. Shulan Zhang, Shandong University, China & St Antony’s College, Oxford, “India’s Environmental NGOs: the Case of NBA”
2. Patrick Kilby, Australian National University, Canberra, “The Strength of Networks: the local NGO response to the tsunami, in India”
3. Trishima Mitra-Kahn, Roehampton University, “The Movement and its discontents- NGOs and the politics of professional feminist activism in North India”

Panel 5D: Experiences of the colonial and post-colonial encounter

VENUE: OLD COMBINATION ROOM (OCR)

CHAIR: Bhaskar Vira

1. Talat Ahmed, SOAS, "Progressive Writers and People's Theatre during the Second World War"
2. Sumita Mukherjee, University of Oxford, "Re-discovering" India: The Impact of Travel on Indian students in Britain, 1900-1939
3. Bidisha Ray, University of Manchester "*The temerity to record her shameless life!*": colonial prostitution and life writing in 19th century Bengal"
4. Anu Garg, University of Lancaster, "Patelism: a strategy and Indian doctors' well-being"

10.30 – 11.00 am COFFEE: HALL

11.00 – 12.30 am Parallel paper sessions 6

Panel 6A: State Building & Security in Afghanistan

VENUE: RUSHMORE ROOM

CHAIR: Rani Mullen

Organiser: Rani Mullen, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia, USA

E-mail: rdmull@wm.edu

1. Antonio Giustozzi, LSE: "Sources of anti-government opposition in Afghanistan"
2. Mark Sedra, LSE: "Security Sector Reform & State-Building in Afghanistan"
3. Jonathan Goodhand, SOAS: "Statebuilding, the opium economy and borderlands"

Panel 6B: Visions of Past in South Asia: Historiography and Theory

VENUE: SENIOR COMBINATION ROOM (SCR)

CHAIR: Michael Willis

Organisers: Michael Willis, British Museum and SSAS, & Abhishek Singh Amar, SOAS

E-mail: MWILLIS@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk; asamar77@yahoo.com

1. Michael Willis, British Museum, "The Guptas and Historical Memory"
2. Adam Hardy, University of Cardiff, "King Bhoja's Royal Temple"
3. Sudeshna Guha, University of Cambridge, "Beyond representation: archaeological histories of India"
4. Ezra Rashkow, SOAS, "Imperial visions of cultural ecology in Mughal India: inventing the British 'empire of nature'"
5. Abhishek Singh Amar, SOAS, "Colonial perception of Buddhism and Bodhgaya"

Panel 6C: Community-based approaches

VENUE: OLD COMBINATION ROOM (OCR)

CHAIR: Emma Mawdsley

1. Zia Hasan et al, AIMS International, “Health Information, Entertainment and Engaging Communities”
2. Sumeet Jain and Sushrut Jadhav, University College London, “Community Participation in India’s National Mental Health Program”
3. M. Mahruf Chowdhury Shohel and Andrew J. Howes, University of Manchester, Putting the Pillars in Right Places: A Framework of Community-based Development Initiative (CDI) for Rural Development in Bangladesh

**12.30 – 1.30 pm OPEN ROUND TABLE TO DISCUSS BASAS/SSAS RESEARCH.
PLENARY SESSION**

VENUE: RAMSDEN ROOM

1.00 – 2.00 pm LUNCH: HALL

CONFERENCE ENDS

List of Participants

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