

South Asia Newsletter

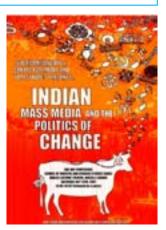
Centre of South Asian Studies www.soas.ac.uk/csas/

No 67 October 2007

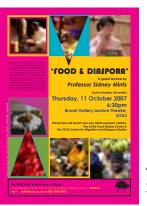
Forthcoming events at SOAS this term:

Why India, Why Now 2008?
One day Conference

Further details on Page 13



'India Mass Media and the Politics of Change' Conference Further details on $\begin{tabular}{ll} Page 11 \end{tabular}$



'Food & Diaspora' lecture. Further details on Page 14



International Conference '1857/2007: Imperialism, 'Race', Resistance' Further details on Page 8

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October 2007

New Staff Member

Dr Lawrence Sáez

has joined the Politics Department at SOAS as Senior Lecturer in Comparative and International Politics. He joins SOAS from the Asia Research Centre at the London School of Economics, where he was Visiting Fellow. His research is focused on the intersection between international and comparative political economy, particularly as it pertains to the challenges of economic reform across different industry sectors in developing countries. He is the author of Federalism Without a Centre: The Impact of Political Reform and Economic Liberalization on India's Federal System (Sage 2002) and Banking Reform in India and China (Palgrave MacMillan 2004). He is the co-editor (with Katharine Adeney) of Coalition Politics and Hindu Nationalism (Routledge 2005). Dr Sáez is currently writing a book on energy security in Asia.



Dr Sáez has a strong research profile, but he also believes in the importance of bridging the gap between academia, the public, and policy-makers. For instance, he is an external advisor to the European Commission and has been instrumental in setting up a European Commissionsponsored academic network of India scholars based in the EU. The network, called the European Network for Contemporary Academic Research on India (ENCARI), aims to develop closer collaboration between EU-based scholars who work on contemporary India issues, particularly those of policy relevance to the European Commission. Dr Sáez also appears frequently on television to comment on contemporary South Asia issues. He has recently been interviewed at ABC, Al Jazeera, the BBC, CNN, and Reuters.

Dr Sáez is actively involved in academic leadership positions. He is the Chair of the Standing Group on Third World Politics of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) and is the Chair of the Politics of South Asia Specialist Group of the Political Studies Association (PSA). He is also a member of the Executive Committee of the PSA, where he is Chair of the subcommittee on IT and media. Prior to living in the UK, Dr Sáez was an assistant research political scientist at the Institute of East Asian Studies and visiting scholar at the Center for South Asia Studies, University of California at Berkeley. He was also the associate editor for South Asia at Asian Survey. He holds a B.A. in political science from U.C. Berkeley; an M.A.L.D. in international relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy; and a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Chicago.

Academic Staff Promotions 2006-2007

The following academic staff promotions were approved by Governing Body with effect from 1 September 2007.



Rachel Dwyer
Professor of Indian Cultures and Cinema

and

Reader **Dr Caroline Osella**Department of Anthropology

Retirement

Professor Christopher Shackle

retired from his full-time Professorship at the end of September 07. He will be employed as a Research Professor, on a one-year (RAE-linked) contract for 2007/08.

He has had a most distinguished career at SOAS as teacher and scholar, latterly in the departments of South Asia and the Study of Religions, and has provided much service to the School, as head of department, for the Bulletin, in many administrative and strategic roles, and of course for a long term as Pro-Director that included a period as acting Director.

Bookshelf

Filippo and Caroline Osella. "Muslim Entrepreneurs between India and the Gulf", in ISIM Review 19, Spring 2007

Caroline and Filippo Osella. "Muslim style in south India", in Fashion Theory: The Journal of Dress, Body & Culture

Dr Caroline Ossella is Reader in Anthropology with reference to South Asia



The Sardar Sarovar Dam Project Selected Documents Philippe Cullet (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2007)

The Sardar Sarovar Project has been one of the most debated development projects of the past several decades at both an international level and within India itself. Cullet's volume brings together all the key documents relating to the project: including those pertaining to World Bank loans, the judicial pronouncements of the Supreme Court and documents relating to specific local level issues - in particular environment and rehabilitation. The work includes an introductory section focusing on the history of the project, the involvement of the different actors, the impacts on the local population, and a general analysis of the controversy surrounding it.

In providing an easily accessible source for all the main documents relating to this landmark project, this compilation will be a valuable resource for researchers and policy-makers working in the areas of International Environmental Law and International Development Law.

Contents

The Sardar Sarovar dam project: an overview; Early documents and decisions; Clearances and institutional aspects; Drinking water and benefits to drought prone areas; Documents pertaining to the 1994 writ petition of the Narmada Bachao Andolan; Resettlement; Project assessments; Financial aspects; International documents; Additional resources; Maps; Index.



Dr Philippe Cullet is Senior Lecturer in Law at SOAS.

Bookshelf

"The Changing Pattern of Foreign Trade Specialization in Indian Manufacturing"

just been published in a special issue on India in the Oxford Review of Economic Policy (Volume 23, No, 2, Summer 2007)

jointly written by

Pasquale Scaramozzino, Department of Financial and Management Studies, SOAS **Bassam Fattouh**, Department of Financial and Management Studies, SOAS **Michele Alessandrini**, Universita' di Roma Tor Vergata

Oxford Review of Economic Policy

Vol. 23, No. 2, Summer 2007 www.oxrep.oxfordjournals.org

India

Edited by V. Bhaskar and Bishnupriya Gupta

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South Asia History Seminar, SOAS Autumn Term, 2007 Tuesday, 5.00 PM Room G52, Main Building, SOAS (Free and open to the public)

9 October Arik Moran

(Oxford University)

In the Company's shadow: Princes and officials on the Indian frontier, 1815-1846

16 October Yuthika Sharma

(Columbia University)

The City rendered visible: Panoramic imaginings and operative mappings of the

Delhi territory, 1815-1858

23 October William Gould

(University of Leeds)

Shadow States: Languages of Corruption and Caste in the Bureaucracy in Uttar

Pradesh, 1930s-1960s

30 October Patrick Olivelle

(University of Texas at Austin)

Crime and punishment in ancient South Asia: Marking the body in criminal law and

social ideology

6 November Reading Week, no seminar

13 November Sumathi Ramaswamy

(Duke University)

Maps, Mother Goddesses and Martyrdom in Modern India

20 November Sunil Amrith

(Birkbeck College)

Tamils and Others in the Bay of Bengal: From creolization to a plural society

27 November Fiona Groenhout

(University of Western Australia)

Better mad than bad? Colonial knowledge, indirect rule and the

politics of princely 'character', 1880-1940

4 December Ravi Ahuja

(SOAS, University of London)

Labour, Markets, Regulation: Approaching a Key Problem of Transterritorial History

11 December Harald Fischer-Tiné

(Jacobs University, Bremen)

The Black Waters and the 'Wages of Whiteness': The Racial Dividend and the Life

of European Convicts on the Andamans

Convenors: Dr Shabnum Tejani and Professor Ravi Ahuja

Contact: <u>st40@soas.ac.uk</u>

October 2007

Conference at SOAS



1857/2007: Imperialism, 'Race', Resistance an international conference on the 150th anniversary of the 1857 uprisings Saturday, 6 October 2007 10.30am – 6.00pm SOAS, Thornhaugh Street, London WC1H 0XG

Speakers include: eminent Indian historian Sumit Sarkar; writer, film-maker and anti-war activist Tariq Ali; Indian human rights lawyer Nandita Haksar, who most recently has defended the accused in the Parliament Attack case; radical historian and educationalist from Pakistan Mubarak Ali; historian and writer on colonialism and patriarchy Kumkum Sangari; Editor of Indian left monthly Liberation Kavita Krishnan; spokesperson of Cageprisoners Adnan Siddiqui; eminent civil-liberties lawyer Gareth Peirce; Iraqi Democrats Against Occupation spokesperson Hani Lazim, historian and writer on British imperialism John Newsinger

Organised by South Asia Solidarity Group, The 1857 Committee and the Centre for South Asian Studies, SOAS

1857 saw a sustained and widespread uprising against British rule in India. Although dubbed the 'Indian Mutiny' in many colonial history books, the uprising, which spread across much of the northern half of South Asia (at that time called India, now including India, Pakistan and Bangladesh) and lasted almost two years, had all the characteristics of a war against imperialism and for independence.

The aim of this conference is not only to remember what happened in 1857, but to highlight the continuities and parallels with the situation in South Asia and globally today. We will be looking at 1857

Photo: women protesting the seizure of their land for a Special Economic Zone in Singur, West Bengal, India

as one of the high points of continuing popular anti-imperialist resistance, in which people identifying with different communities and religions but sharing many aspects of culture consciously came together to resist an aggressively racist colonial power. In the process we will talk about contemporary imperialism, racism and the rise of the religious right, and the struggles against them in South Asia and here in Britain.

Currently the rise of intense anti-Muslim racism in Britain (along with other developments, like the rise of Hindutva in India) has polarised South Asian communities. It is urgent to reclaim our shared history of anti-colonial struggle and draw parallels with the British state's current role in imperialism and war. Some of the key themes of this conference include:

- The repressive state in Britain and South Asia and the construction of 'terror'
- People's resistance to corporate capital from the East India Company to today
- Land alienation, globalisation of agriculture and people's struggles for resources
- 'Divide and rule', the religious right and popular movements against communalism
- Changing strategies of state intervention and control: 'culture' 'race' and gender

Register now for the conference as places are limited.

To register for the conference, photocopy, complete and return the form below. For more information contact: sasg@southasiasolidarity.org

1857/2007: Imperialism, 'Race', Resistance an international conference on the 150th anniversary of the 1857 uprisings Saturday 6 October 2007

SOAS, Thornhaugh Street, London WC1H 0XG (tube: Russell Square)

Registration Fee: Institutions £25.00, Individuals £10.00, Students and Low-waged £3.00, Asylum seekers free (but please confirm your place by mailing sasg@southasiasolidarity.org)

Please make cheques or postal orders payable to South Asia Solidarity Group and return with the completed form to: South Asia Solidarity Group, c/o Londec, 293-299 Kentish Town Road, London NW5 2BT

I/We enclose a cheque/postal order for £......

Name (s)

Institutional Affiliation (if any)

Organisation (if any)

Address

E-mail

Telephone No.

How did you hear about the conference?

October 2007

Bangladesh Seminars at SOAS

Starting from Wednesday 10th October, there will be a series of weekly Bangladesh Seminars at SOAS in the School of Law from 5-7 pm, room tbc, to discuss the past, present and future of Bangladesh, not only from legal perspectives, but from all kinds of angles. Individuals who wish to contribute papers at some stage should contact Professor Werner Menski at SOAS (wm4@soas.ac.uk) or Biswajit Chanda (bc5@soas.ac.uk), who will be joint convenors. We will work from week to week on a focused discussion of how this young troubled country may be helped by academically grounded guidance to pull itself out of what seems to be a deep black hole at present. There is a plan to put the best papers together as a publication in 2008.

Access is free and open to all, but constructive discussion is expected.

Jainism Art and Architecture at SOAS

Workshop 2008 - Jainism Art and Architecture 10th Jaina Studies Workshop at SOAS

6th-7th March 2008

Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre,

School of Oriental and African Studies, Russell Square, London WC1H OXG

To mark the tenth Jaina Studies Workshop of the Centre of Jaina Studies at SOAS, the conference will celebrate the role of art and architecture in the Jaina tradition. It will focus both on objects of art themselves and on the Jain attitudes towards and ways of using religious art and architecture. Contributions are invited on Jaina sacred places, Jaina temples and temple worship, iconography, as well as on painting, design, scripts and manuscript illustrations, and related issues.

Inquiries: jainastudies@soas.ac.uk

SOAS Concert Series 2007/08

Mon 15 Oct

Sidi Goma

Black Sufis of Gujarat

The mysterious, little known Sidis are the descendants of Africans who travelled across the Indian Ocean to India over the last 1000 years. As Sufi Muslim devotees to an African saint and symbolic ancestor, sharing his sacred gift of joy through their music and dance is their divine calling and life-affirming talent. The exuberant energy and joyful presence Sidi Goma bring to the stage is captivating and powerful and offers a fascinating insight into their unique African-Indian heritage. A lecture-demonstration.

Fri 30 Nov

Binapani Mahato

Folk Song Treasures from Eastern India

Binapani Mahato is one of the very few classically trained jhumur singers of the Rarh region in Eastern India. Jhumur songs and dances express the loves, hopes, and political and social aspirations of a people who have been thoroughly neglected in the recent past. Having researched jhumur songs and chhau rhythmic patterns of the region for many years, her performances reflect the historical, social and spiritual environment of the local people of Jharkhand.

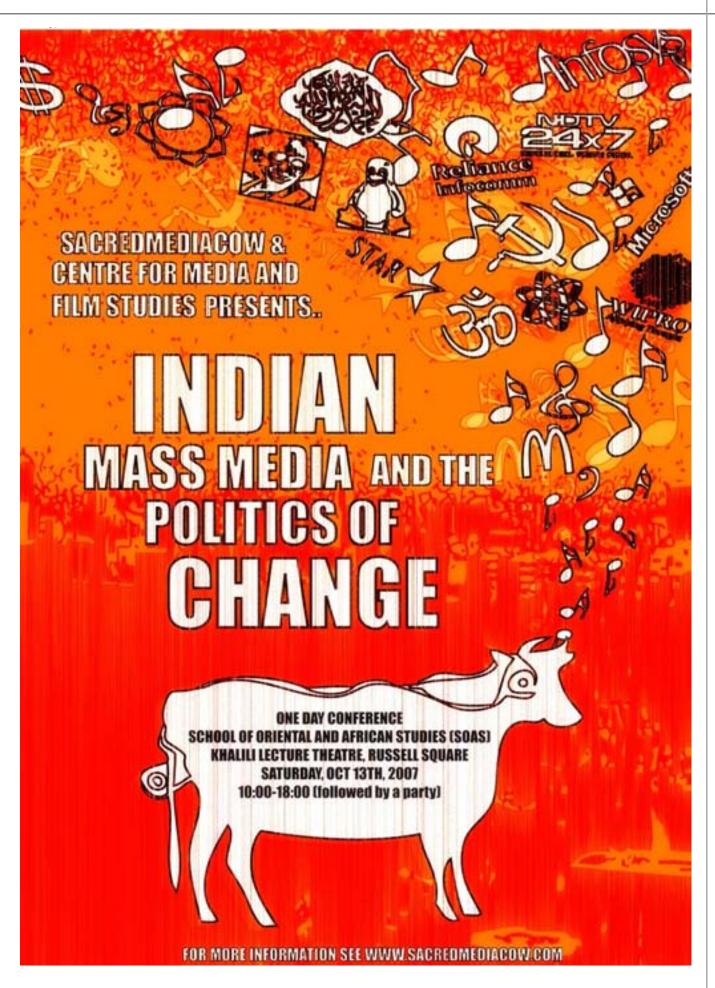
Plus! Lecture/Presentation with Dr Binapani Mahato, 4pm

FREE ADMISSION TO ALL CONCERTS, NO BOOKING REQUIRED

Venue capacity is limited and we operate a first come first served system. We advise you to arrive early to avoid disappointment.

VENUE: BRUNEI GALLERY LECTURE THEATRE, SOAS, University of London

ENQUIRIES: TEL 020 7898 4500, EMAIL musicevents@soas.ac.uk / www.soas.ac.uk/concerts



New SOAS Programme For Creative Industries

Creative Capital - World Cities

Funded by the Higher Education Innovation Fund (HEIF), Creative Capital - World Cities is an exciting new programme helping the UK's Creative Industries¹ harness business opportunities in India and China, with the aim of expanding UK share of the \$1.3 trillion global market for creative industries and creating a two-way exchange for Indian and Chinese partners exploring opportunities within the UK.

CONSORTIUM

Creative Capital - World Cities brings together an impressive consortium including SOAS, University of the Arts London, King's College London, London Business School and the Centre for Creative Business. The partners offer an extensive and complimentary range of specialist business, economic, technical, regional, cultural and creative expertise to be harnessed through the programme in turn boosting consultancy, training and knowledge transfer activities and reputation.

INTERNATIONAL CREATIVE NETWORK

Five new international Creative Business Centres in Beijing, Hong Kong, Shanghai, New Delhi and Mumbai will work alongside the London based team to generate new business opportunities and leads and provide local and international support. Creative Capital-World Cities has also developed a new London-based market intelligence unit called the

1 Creative industries are defined as and include: advertising, architecture, art and antiques markets, computer and video games, crafts, design, designer fashion, film, video, photography, music, performing arts, publishing, software, TV and radio.

Creative Industries Observatory that combines the tasks of collating information on the creative industry landscape with providing up-to-date, readily available information that can be used by academics, policy makers and businesses alike. Through the network Creative Capital World-Cities support areas include:

Specialist sector advice, business support and consultancy

Cultural, business and language training PR support and help with business development and strategy needs

Networking opportunities and local area knowledge

Trade and exhibition events
Online database of Indian and Chinese

With additional support from international companies including Deloitte and TATA, agencies such as Creative London and UK Trade and Investment, and the newly established Creative Industries Observatory this initiative offers creative industries a unique opportunity to take their skills and business to new levels and to learn how to operate in the global marketplace.

companies

For further information contact Katie Mills, SOAS Interface (020 7898 4706), katiemills@soas.ac.uk

All ideas, thoughts and creative inputs are welcomed.











Conference at SOAS

Why India, Why Now 2008?

A one day conference uncovering what present day India has to offer the UK creative industries, highlighting why 2008 is the right time for creative businesses to look at this lucrative emerging economy. The conference is sponsored by Creative Capital-World Cities (a new initiative helping UK creative industries explore business opportunities in India) and the event aims to inspire and inform participants with an impressive line up of leading Creative and Indo-British trade expert speakers, uncovering the rewards for expansion and collaboration amongst the creative industries of the UK and India.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

Rodney Fitch, CEO and Chairman of Fitch Design Laura Hoke, Programme Director, Creative Capital-World Cities

Parminder Vir OBE, Film Council and Business Ambassador for Creative Industries, IBPN Sharon Bamford, CEO UK India Business Council Alpesh Patel, UK-India Round Table and "the UK's best-known Internet trader" and regular Bloomberg correspondent.

Radio 4 renowned journalist Peter Day will also lead a session examining a series of inspiring case studies from Prime Focus, Eros International, Spectrum Value Partners and Benoy, interviewing representatives on the secrets to success.

DATE AND LOCATION

Monday 28th January 2008 (9am-6pm, plus drinks reception), Brunei Gallery, SOAS, Russell Square

CONFERENCE CHAIR Rodney Fitch (Fitch Design)

SPONSORS Creative Capital-World Cities

PARTICIPANTS

Media creatives, creative SMEs, academics, finance sector with an interest in media investment, others with an interest in India and the creative industries.

NETWORKING

Evening networking event open to conference participants (from 6.00pm)

For more information contact Katie Mills, SOAS Interface, (020 7898 4706), katiemills@soas.ac.uk

Details will also be available in the autumn on www.whyindiawhynow2008.com

Note: Programme details are subject to change.



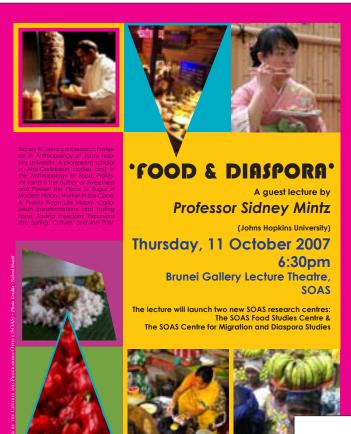








October 2007



Forthcoming Lectures at SOAS

The SOAS Food Studies Centre constitutes a network of academic staff and students, activists, policymakers and food journalists interested in the political, economic, and cultural dimensions of food, historically and in the contemporary moment. Under the rubric of the SOAS Food Forum, the Centre organises public lectures and a seminar series on food related topics. It also serves as a vehicle for organising workshops and conferences, funding staff research, hosting post-doctoral fellows, and securing funding for research students.

To guarantee a seat, or for more information, please contact: Rahima on ~ rb41@soas.ac.uk or 020 7898 4893

The SOAS Centre for Migration and Diaspora

ALL WELCOME. Entry is Free of Charge

Studies aims to coordinate migration and diaspora related research across the school, and initiate new interdisciplinary, collaborative, research projects, both across the faculties and with other institutions. By fostering a vibrant and innovative Migration and Diaspora research culture at SOAS, supported by seminars, occasional lectures and workshops, the Centre also seeks to attract higher numbers of research students to the school, and expand the teaching programme across faculties. Strategic initiatives which span both disciplines and institutions will help generate links with external institutions and individuals, as well as build an environment for collaborative research which will attract an international body of scholars to SOAS, helping us contribute to the growing debates on issues of migration and diaspora in the wider social and political landscape.

Please note that both lectures are free and open to the public. To reserve a place contact:

- rb41@soas.ac.uk Prof Sidney Mintz
- centres@soas.ac.uk Frances Moore Lappe

A SOAS Food Forum Distinguished Lecture

Frances Moore Lappé Living Democracy, Ending Hunger

Frances Moore Lappé's Diet for Small Planet (1971) has sold over 3 million copies and continues to awaken readers to the human-made causes of hunger and the power of our everyday choices to create the world we want. She co-founded Food First, the California-based Institute for Food and Development Policy, and now co-leads the Small Planet Institute, a collaborative network for research and popular education to bring democracy to life. She is author or co-author of 16 books, including her latest, Getting a Grip: Clarity, Creativity, and Courage in a World Gone Mad.

6.30pm Monday, 12 November 2007 in the Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre, SOAS To reserve a place contact centres@soas.ac.uk or Tel 020 7898 4892



SOAS University of London

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The Launch Exhibition of: Foyle Foundation Objects of Instruction: Treasures of the School of Oriental and African Studies 11 October - 15 December 2007

Curator: Anna Contadini, in collaboration with the Brunei Gallery, the Department of Art and Archaeology, and the SOAS Library.

Objects of Instruction: Treasures of the School of Oriental and African Studies is an important project aimed at publicising the School's remarkably rich but little known artistic and archival collections. Generously funded by the Foyle Foundation, the exhibition is set to culminate in a permanent display in the new Foyle Special Collections Gallery. For the first time this will make the artistic assets of SOAS accessible to a wider audience, including students, scholars, and members of the general public. The launch exhibition, which is due to open in October 2007, will bring together a broad range of interesting and beautiful objects from across Asia and Africa that are at present known only to a few specialists.

Among this wealth of material are illustrated Islamic manuscripts, including a luxurious Mughal copy of the Anvar-i Suhayli, a book of animal fables; Chinese and Japanese paintings and prints; varied ceramic objects from the Middle East and East Asia; decorative Buddhist manuscripts and sculptures from South-East Asia; contemporary African paintings and textiles; and important archaeological collections from East Asia, South Asia and the Middle East. Many of these objects are true treasures whose display is long overdue. The content will be periodically rotated, which will ensure the vitality and continued appeal of the permanent display.

Objects of Instruction will not only significantly enhance the image of the School as a unique institution with a strong involvement in the arts, but will also be of great interest and benefit to a broad range of groups. Foremost among these are students, for whom the exhibition and display will provide stimulating teaching aids as well as exciting opportunities for research. The wider community - in particular those whose cultures the artefacts represent - will benefit from the project. Objects of Instruction will thus be of considerable, far-reaching, and enduring importance, and will finally make known the richness and variety of the School's artistic and archival holdings.

Opening hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10:30 - 17:00 (Closed Sundays & Mondays) ADMISSION: FREE

For further information on exhibition details, please contact:

The Brunei Gallery (SOAS):

Tel: 020 7898 4046 - Recorded Information

Tel: 020 7898 4915 - Reception

Fax: 020 7898 4259 E-maíl: gallery@soas.ac.uk







Southeast Asia – Sculpture of a seated Buddha. Alabaster with traces of lacquer, on a teak base. Burma, circa 1800. H74.5xW40.5xD22cm. Mr and Mrs F. Thomas Bircham bequest, 1950; once the property of King Thibaw of Burma.



A Tribute to Ralph Russell



Ralph Russell is the legendry SOAS teacher of Urdu language and literature.

He was educated at St John's College, Cambridge and then came to SOAS to teach in the South Asia Department through to his retirement in 1981. Ralph's chief contribution was to revolutionise the teaching of languages through an emphasis on speaking as a means of effective communication. His own, impressive, mastery of Urdu was the result not of language laboratories or rote learning but as a natural outcome of his keen desire to communicate with people. In the Second World War, Ralph was stationed in India as a British soldier and as an idealistic and committed Communist activist he wanted to 'agitate' amongst the Indian soldiers. He had no wish to speak in English, believing that as a Brit in India, it was up to him to learn the local language. These principles remained a guiding influence on his own teaching strategies as he developed materials for both undergraduate students and for the

teaching of Urdu in British schools.

Ralph has been a prolific writer producing course readers on Urdu for Urdu and Hindi speakers as well as those new to Urdu. He has also written and translated books on Ghalib and the Mughal poets. Ralph's scholarship went beyond the scope of language and literature to incorporate the fields of humanities and political science. His political interests and concerns made a natural ally and friend of the Progressive Writers' Association in India. He personally knew many of the writers from the 1930s and 40s and has written on the contribution this movement made to Urdu literature. Consequently, it is no surprise that a new generation of students and scholars have been influenced by his writings and it was an honour for SOAS and the Centre to host this event in the light of his achievements.

Talat Ahmed former Teaching Fellow at SOAS

RALPH RUSSELL

I have known Ralph Russell since 1977 when he returned to the UK after a sabbatical and when I was approaching my second year of the B.A. South Asian studies specialising in Urdu with a subsidiary in classical Arabic. He was the most approachable of lecturers and showed a real interest in his students' personal as well as professional lives. I took an immediate liking to him and we formed a relationship which to this day- 30 yearsthat is very important to me although we rarely see each other now that I am working abroad. We also worked closely in the arena of teaching Urdu in both schools and to adults. Learning Urdu was a 'returning to roots' experience for me facilitated by my discussions with Ralph which allowed me to take what I needed to take from my both I could talk to Ralph about anything that my cultures as a British born Pakistani of I wished- when I went to him solving a Kashmiri origin and to adapt or reject that problem always seemed so clear and logical

which I questioned. I admired his immense knowledge of Urdu and Urdu literature and his cool ability to appreciate as if from within and yet be able to stand outside and criticise with reason.

Ralph was the kind of father that I never had- one that appreciated the questions that I asked of life and human behaviour and one that believed in my ability to do whatever I wished to do. I could discuss all the difficulties in my personal life and in the various jobs that I held as teacher and then Co-ordinator for Community Languages in the London Borough of Waltham Forest; Co-ordinator of the Access to Teaching for Primary Education for Asian & Black People Project in Lancashire; as Programme Manager, Education for the Aga Khan Foundation in Pakistan and now in my current position as the Chief Executive Officer of the Aga Khan Education Service,

and yet a few minutes after leaving him that wonderful clarity shared with him would all disappear in a sea of emotions!

Ralph is simply great! He has always had more confidence in me than I have in myself and has been a pillar of strength in my life. I am sorry I am not with him to share this wonderful celebration of his life but I wish him all the best in life and pray Allah blesses him with good health and many more years with which to complete his work and share his love and wisdom with his friends and family. Amin!

Sughra Choudhry Khan SOAS graduate 1980 B.A South Asian Studies

> The ' Tribute to Ralph Russell' took place on 28 June 2007 at SOAS

FELLOWSHIP

Charles Wallace Trust Visiting Fellowship at SOAS Centre of South Asian Studies, SOAS

Two three month Visiting Fellowships are awarded annually by the Centre of South Asian Studies, SOAS, one with the Charles Wallace India Trust and the other with the Charles Wallace Pakistan Trust.

This year, for the first time, candidates can apply directly to SOAS. We hope that the new system will result in a larger amount of applications; which is fairer to all candidates wanting to apply. Details can be found on the Centre website: www.soas.ac.uk/csas/

Charles Wallace India Fellowship, SOAS How to Apply

We are now receiving applications for the 3 month Charles Wallace India Fellowship tenable at SOAS.

Terms of the Fellowship

- The tenure of the Fellowship should be predominantly during SOAS term-time (January–March);
- The Fellow WILL be based at SOAS, usually sharing an office;
- The Fellow WILL be expected to take part in the general intellectual life of the School (e.g. active participation in seminars);
- At the end of the fellowship the Fellow WILL submit a final report (of about 1,500 words) within 3 months of the termination date;
- The Fellowship at present carries a subsistence grant of £3,000 and return air fare.

Please note that it is the responsibility of the successful candidate to arrange accommodation within the limit of the budget.

Eligibility and Guidelines

Applicants:

- MUST be working in the fields of 'Indian Studies' (Arts or Humanities and Social Sciences) which are supported at SOAS (Humanities and Social Science subjects not supported at SOAS will normally NOT be considered);
- may NOT hold the Fellowship for the purpose of or in conjunction with enrollment in any Higher Educational Institution in the United Kingdom (including SOAS);

- must NOT be over forty-five years old;
- should normally have completed a PhD and, having normally had no opportunity to do research outside India, should be ready to make the most of a short period of study and discussion at SOAS;
- must NOT have had a Charles Wallace
 India Trust grant within the last five years.

How to Apply:

Applicants should send Jane Savory the following information either in hard copy or in electronic format.

The application <u>must</u> include:

- a full curriculum vitae, including details of study leave or appointments outside India.
- 2. a description of research to be carried out in London including an explanation of the need to be in London.
- 3. two short examples of published or unpublished work (not more than 20,000 words in all).
- 4. Please also arrange for two referees to send confidential references directly to Jane Savory, Centres and Programmes Office, SOAS.

Further Notes

- Ineligible applications will NOT be considered.
- Applications must be submitted IN FULL (including references) by the closing date (incomplete applications will NOT be considered).
- Anyone who sends the information in hard copy must supply two copies of each paper.

- Unsuccessful applicants WILL be notified.
- Applicants who submit an ineligible or incomplete application will NOT be contacted.

Any applications that do not comply to these conditions will not be considered.

Applications need to reach Jane Savory by: 15 October 2007.

Contact Details

Email: js64@soas.ac.uk

Postal Address:

Jane Savory, Centre of South Asian Studies, c/o Centres & Programmes Office, SOAS, University of London, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG.

The decision will be announced to all eligible applicants in November 07.

If you require any further information please contact Jane Savory on js64@soas.ac.uk

Dr Daud Ali, Convenor, Charles Wallace Fellowship Programme at SOAS

Charles Wallace India Fellowship 2006/07 End of Fellowship Report

Report of S. Ali Nadeem Rezavi Charles Wallace Fellow India 2007

It was indeed an honour to be selected as the Charles Wallace Fellow India for 2007 and a privilege to join the famed School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, as such in March for a period of three months.

Having worked on Urban Middle Classes in the Mughal Empire for my doctoral thesis submitted at the Centre of Advanced Study in History, Aligarh Muslim University which included a chapter on the Architects and Engineers of the Mughal period, I shifted my attention to the works accomplished by the members of this profession and soon I found myself taking up extensive surveys of their architectural marvels and planning at Fathpur Sikri, the utopian darul saltanate of Akbar. The initial surveys and archaeological explorations at Fathpur Sikri brought me face to face with a number of hitherto un-answered questions regarding the interpretations of those structures. The miserliness of the written word to interpret the monuments and structures, I soon realised, could be compensated by the voluble but veiled information being provided by the Mughal miniaturists of Akbar's atelier. Thus I started looking at the visual records of the Fathpur Sikri monuments left behind by the illustrators of such manuscripts as the Akbarnama, copies of which are preserved at the Victoria and Albert Museum, the India Office collection, now at the British Library, the Chester Beatty collection at Dublin, and various other such other repositories outside India. But then I could see, sitting in Aligarh (or for that matter elsewhere in India) only the copies of only those, which had the good fortune of being published in various scholarly works, coffee-table books, and learned journals. But from whatever I could glimpse, realisation dawned that here was the key to understand the monuments and their

functions. And I wished to get a chance to visit the various repositories of those masterpieces, to see the rest for myself. The chance to do so was very kindly (and timely) provided by the SOAS and the Charles Wallace Trust. When Professor Shireen Moosyi nominated me for the fellowship and sounded me on it I took it as a Divine Intervention, and in spite of a recent cardiac problem took up the offer and submitted a project on the depiction of Mughal Monuments in Mughal Miniatures. This project I hoped would not only bring me face to face with what I wanted to see, but it would also provide me an opportunity to check whether my thesis was only true for Akbar and Fathpur Sikri or for other periods and monuments as well. Fortunately the project was accepted and I joined the SOAS on 1st March 2007 for a period of three months.

At SOAS I was exposed to a work culture, which least to say, and in spite of the bureaucratic red-tape (eg., the IT department was able to provide me with a computer a week after my arrival, and a printer one and a half months after!) is simply excellent. The seminars organized by the Centre of South Asian Studies were all intellectually stimulating and quite academically rewarding. The resources of the SOAS library are so vast and mind boggling that the three-month stay appeared so paltry and insufficient. I had planned to visit five or six libraries, some in London; others at Dublin, Cambridge and Oxford, but then mid-way during my stay I had to decide to postpone a visit outside London for a future trip.

The SOAS library and its vast resources took up most of my time at London. The library distracted me from my project a lot, for each day rummaging through the stacks of the SOAS I would come across yet another book or journal which

was not available to me back home, and instead of my stated work, I would start reading that book or article. The SOAS also made available to me a vast amount of journals and books online, which are near impossible to access in India. The open xerox facility at SOAS is also an excellent feature, though I wish, could it not have been included (at least some specific amount) within the 'right' of a Fellow, just as printing is? It would mean saving many pounds for a scholar coming from the third world on a string (and a very thin one!) budget! The office facilities (the reserved desk, phone, computer, printing and the free stationary, a constant supply of which is made available by Ms.Jane Savory) too are excellent and takes much burden off a visiting scholar and helps him concentrate unhindered on his/her work.

Apart from the SOAS, I was also able to make use of the Warburg and Courtauld Institute of Art at Warburg Building, University of London, situated just behind the SOAS. They bring out an excellent art journal and have their own collection of art slides. The riches of the British Museum were also thrown open before my eyes, but I am afraid, in the name of 'India', they only hold and display sculptures. A visit to British Museum might give one the feeling that the things worth exhibiting from India is just sculpture and the Mughal empire and its material culture hardly exists, or if it does, then it is in the eyes of the officials of British Museum, not worthy of display!

The Fellowship also provided me the chance to use the vast resources of the superbly managed British Library. I could use its Asia and Africa section, which houses the India Office Collection. There I not only had my first glimpses of the Mughal miniatures, but also its vast collection of photographs and visual prints taken in the 18th and 19th Centuries of the various Mughal monuments. The photographs of the various monuments taken by or for Lord Curzon, the pictures and drawings of Fathpur Sikri buildings by E.W.Smith, a number of oil on paper paintings etc were brought to my knowledge by John Falconer, the Head of Visual Materials and Curator of Photographs at the British Library. Apart from these manuscripts, miniatures and rare photographs, the British Library also

FELLOWSHIP

provided me with a number of books and material that I never knew of.

The fourth place of pilgrimage from where I drew my academic nourishment was the famed Victoria & Albert Museum which houses the illustrated Akbarnama which had opened for me new doors of interpretation of Fathpur Sikri and its monuments. The microfisch of images and paintings at the V&A Library helped me greatly to zero in to the visual sources which I had to consult.

As a result of this award I was also able to attend a number of very inspiring and vigorously debated conferences and seminars held at Cambridge and SOAS.

Now as I write and submit this short report of my stay at London at the 'fag' end of my tenure at SOAS as a Charles Wallace Fellow from India for 2007, I take this opportunity to thank not only the many members of the SOAS community, both academic and technical but also the members of the Charles Wallace Trust who facilitated my stay as such. Amongst others I would like to thank Daud Ali, Avril Powell, Francesca Orsini, Mathew Nelson, Shabnam Tejani, Talat and a host of others at the Centre of South Asian Studies at SOAS. I would also like to personally thank Richard Alford of the Charles Wallace Trust and Vishu Sharma of the British Council at Delhi who helped me reach London and stay here comfortably. I would also thank Jane Savory for very patiently meeting my daily demands at the SOAS.

The Fellowship helped me gain much, both academically and otherwise. One thing which I would have completely missed had I not been offered this fellowship was the maternal pangs of giving birth! So far I had given birth to research works as a proud father, who experiences a painless parenthood unlike a mother who undergoes labour pains to enjoy parenthood at the end. The costs of London coupled with the modest monetary offerings of the Trust to let me experience the pangs of parenthood from the perspective of a mother! But then, it could not have been possible for me to give birth to new research had it not been for this Fellowship. Coming from a 'developing' nation of the third world, I could never

have been able to afford the living expenses of London on my own, or even the ticket to fly out here. However, I am thankful to the trust for providing me some extra funds at the 'fag' end of my stay to surmount some of my monetary problems. If possible, the Trust should consider raising the amount of fellowship to some extent; or if not, then enter into a contract with some organization or the other who can house the Fellows at nominal rates which are commensurate with the amount being offered to a Fellow.

As a way of suggestion, I would also like to wish more interaction between the visiting Fellow, the Faculty and students of SOAS than it is there presently. In fact I would have liked to interact with the SOAS students, to share my experiences with them and theirs with me. After all a Charles Wallace Fellow from India or Pakistan, is basically a teacher at the place he comes from!

The third unsolicited suggestion which I would wish to extend is that a Fellow at the end of his visit may be asked to submit a summarized report of the theme which he had set out to explore when he/she arrived. I hope that when I reach back to my home, one day I will receive a letter urging me to submit a report on what my conclusions are, howsoever tentative, on the project "Depiction of Monuments in Mughal Monuments" which I had proposed to work upon before coming. A submission of that report would be the only proof of whether I did what I claim above or ...

Charles Wallace Pakistan Fellowship, SOAS How to Apply

We are now receiving applications for the 3 month Charles Wallace Pakistan Fellowship tenable at SOAS.

Terms of the Fellowship

- The tenure of the Fellowship should be predominantly during SOAS term-time (January–March);
- The Fellow WILL be based at SOAS, usually sharing an office;
- The Fellow WILL be expected to take part in the general intellectual life of the School (e.g. active participation in seminars);
- At the end of the fellowship the Fellow WILL submit a final report (of about 1,500 words) within 3 months of the termination date;
- The Fellowship at present carries a subsistence grant of £960 for three months and return travel to Pakistan.

Please note that it is the responsibility of the successful candidate to arrange accommodation within the limit of the budget.

Eligibility and Guidelines

Applicants:

- MUST be working in the fields of 'Indian Studies' (Arts or Humanities and Social Sciences) which are supported at SOAS (Humanities and Social Science subjects not supported at SOAS will normally NOT be considered;
- may NOT hold the Fellowship for the purpose of or in conjunction with enrollment in any Higher Educational Institution in the United Kingdom (including SOAS);
- must NOT be over forty-five years old;
- should normally have completed a PhD and, having normally had no opportunity to do research outside Pakistan, should be ready to make the most of a short period of study and discussion at SOAS;
- must NOT have had a Charles Wallace PakistanTrust grant within the last five years.

How to Apply:

Applicants should send Jane Savory the following information either in hard copy or in electronic format.

The application must include:

- 1. a full curriculum vitae, including details of study leave or appointments outside India.
- 2. a description of research to be carried out in London including an explanation of the need to be in London.
- 3. two short examples of published or unpublished work (not more than 20,000 words in all).
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Further Notes

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- Applications must be submitted IN FULL (including references) by the closing date (incomplete applications will NOT be considered).
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Postal Address:

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The decision will be announced to all eligible applicants in November 07.

If you require any further information please contact Jane Savory on js64@soas.ac.uk

Dr Daud Ali, Convenor, Charles Wallace Fellowship Programme at SOAS

Charles Wallace Pakistan Fellowship 2006/07 End of Fellowship Report

Report of Nadeem Omar Tarar Charles Wallace Fellow 2007

I take this opportunity to thank Charles Wallace Trust selection committee for giving me an opportunity to take up three months fellowship at SOAS. The fellowship proved really helpful in developing my post-doctoral research on the subject of illustrated manuscripts in medieval India as well as provided a much cherished exposure to lively academic environs. Access to a vast network of libraries in London, including SOAS was critical to my research and so was interaction with the faculty and doctoral students. In particular, I managed to look at illustrated manuscripts in the SOAS archive as well as British Library and Welcome Trust Library. Access to Senate House Library was helpful as it allowed right to use to doctoral dissertations from UK universities as well as to books not available in the SOAS library. The access to JSTOR along with other on line journals at the library was very helpful in surveying the subject of my research

The seminar and workshops at SOAS related to on-going research projects at the Centre for South Asian Studies, proved to be useful in developing a broader historical perspective on issues, within and beyond the sphere of my research project. Weekly seminars in various departments, especially the ones in department of history

were a constant source of intellectual stimulation, and follow up discussions in a relaxed environment at the SCR made learning experience an enjoyable one. Of particular significance to me, has been the reading sessions under the project 'the literary cultures of North India', which provided insights into a field of medieval Indian literary history which I am beginning to fathom. The opportunity to present a paper in the conference hosted under the above named project allowed me to present and share ideas with scholars from all over the world.

The Charles Wallace Fellows at History department at SOAS are lucky to have Jane Savory, secretary to the department who untiringly attended to every bit of a logistic issue and made visiting scholar feel at home. Among the faculty, Dr Daud Ali and Dr Avril Powell must be thanked for their time and support. The doctoral students at the department were also very friendly and helpful.

As a small piece of suggestion, I think it would be a good idea to host a farewell to visiting scholars at the end of their study as a matter of professional courtesy. On the whole it has been a very useful learning experience.

SOUTH ASIA RESEARCH (SAR)

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JABIR ALI

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SUMAM MARY IDICULA AND PETER S. DAVID

A MORPHOLOGICAL PROCESSOR FOR MALAYALAM LANGUAGE

SRILA ROY

THE EVERYDAY LIFE OF THE REVOLUTION: GENDER, VIOLENCE AND MEMORY

LINA SAMUEL

WOMEN, WORK AND FISHING: AN EXAMINATION OF THE LIVES OF FISHER-WOMEN IN KERALA

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Romila Thapar: Somanatha: The Many Voices of a History.

NILANJAN SARKAR

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ROSHAN DE SILVA WIJEYERATNE

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INDIA

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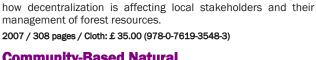
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The Royal Society for Asian Affairs

Sir Peter Holmes Memorial Award for 2008

The Royal Society for Asian Affairs invites applications from individuals aged 18-25 for an award established in memory of Sir Peter Holmes MC (1932-2002), a long-standing member of the Society who besides becoming Chairman of the Royal Dutch Shell Group was a distinguished traveller, mountaineer, fisherman and photographer.

The aim of the award is to encourage purposeful travel in Asia by young people. Applicants should submit a plan of a project involving travel in a country or countries of Asia and relating to the geography, history, politics, environmental conservation, culture or art of the area to be visited. Any part of Asia, including the Middle East, may be chosen. Plans should be costed as far as possible and should state the duration of the travel involved and how the costs will be met. The award will be made on the basis of originality, coherence, evidence of background knowledge, and the degree to which the project is likely to add to general understanding of the area chosen and/or to benefit local people or the applicant. Preference will be given to projects that are not requirements in an academic or other course.

Applicants should provide contact details for two referees. To avoid unnecessary expense, the aim is to

make the award on the basis of written submissions, which should be no more than two sides of A4 in length and should, if possible, be sent both in electronic form and in hard copy. A one-page CV including date of birth would also be helpful, as would a statement how the applicant heard about the award. In the event that two or more submissions were deemed to be of equal worth, candidates would be called for interview in London. An acknowledgement of the application will be sent on its receipt.

The successful applicant will be expected to make a presentation to the Society about the project after its completion, and to provide a photographic or other pictorial record.

The present notice refers to travel in 2008. The award will consist of up to £1000 and two years' gratis membership of the Society. The adjudicators have discretion to divide the award among more than one candidate if appropriate.

Applications should be sent by 31 October 2007 to The Secretary, RSAA, 2 Belgrave Square, London SWIX 8PJ (email: sec@rsaa.org.uk), to whom also any queries should be addressed. The Society will notify the successful candidate by 31 January 2008.

Sir Peter Holmes Memorial Award for 2007: Recipients

Nicholas Farrelly received £500 for the travel project he proposed, to visit and document a festival in the Chinese border area of Lonchuan County, Yunnan Province. - the Jingpo Wunpawng Manao Festival. [He is giving a talk on this under the RSAA lecture programme on Tuesday 20 November]

The second recipient was Mlle Alice Ekman, who also received £500 towards her project, to make a comparative photographic record in black and white of four coastal cities during travel in China in August 2007 [She is unable to be present on 20 November but her photographs will be on display then].

In Relation To New Cultures of Intimacies and Togetherness in Asia

New Delhi, India, May 9-10, 2008

This conference seeks to bring together scholars working across areas such as sociology, gender studies, film/media studies, anthropology, popular culture, and urban studies in order to explore emerging cultures of intimacies and friendship in contemporary non-Western contexts. We are particularly interested in perspectives that relate the topic to the making of social selves at a time great economic and cultural change in many Asian societies. Socially, 'non-Western' has often been considered synonymous with traditional, conservative, static and illiberal, particularly in contexts of intimate/personal relationships that are expected to conform to certain values, norms and expectations of heritage. However, following modernity at large and specific contexts of change like economic liberalization, globalization and the worldwide web, there is, increasingly, a perception (if not a belief) that social structures and networks have been affected, and "new" cultures of intimacy and togetherness are emergent (if not already established). There is a decided conviction that such new structures and networks are visible in day-to-day contexts at work, home and leisure, and that they reflect political, cultural, emotional and intellectual transitions and upheavals.

At this conference, we would like to explore this notion of emergent cultures of "new" intimacies and togetherness in Asian societies in as many varied social and cultural registers as possible.

Possible Themes:

Televisual/Cinematic Intimacies
New/Changing Spaces of Intimacy
New Cultures of Marriage
Intimacy, Togetherness and Class
Non-heterosexual Cultures of Intimacy
Advice Columns and the Reading Public
Intimacies and Consumer Cultures
'Youth' Cultures and Intimacies
The 'New Woman' and the 'New Man'
The Metrosexual/the Uber-sexual
'Friends' - Transformed Intimacies in Living Spaces
Sex and the City
Intimacies and New Urban Spaces
Changing Workplace Cultures
New Lexicons of Conversation/Communication

Inquiries, abstracts, and expressions of interest:

Brinda Bose: brindabose@yahoo.co.in

Sanjay Srivastava: sanjays@deakin.edu.au

Call For Papers

Marriage in Globalizing Contexts Exploring Change and Continuity in South Asia

Background Information

Currently, South Asian countries are undergoing a trajectory of rapid economic growth that is manifesting high consumption patterns, new economic opportunities and upward mobility. While economic changes are being extensively researched, concomitant social changes in South Asia have not received the scholarly attention they deserve. In this conference we would like to bring under focus emerging patterns of marriage and family that are tied to economic and demographic shifts, new forms and imaginings of intimate relationships, and of the self. Marriage and family as the building blocks of any society connect closely with the economy; indeed many of the challenges currently being faced by developed countries arise from dwindling populations (itself a consequence of changing ideas of marriage and individual fulfilment), and the costs of care for the elderly and young children outside of a traditional marriage and kinship context.

In developing countries also demography, migration, economy and gender struggles are altering the marriage landscape. Keeping in mind the manifold cultures, local variants and class disparities in South Asia, in which direction is the institution of marriage transmuting and evolving? Which aspects of marriage i.e. ideologies, norms and everyday practices remain wholly resistant to change? Are there fundamental shifts in the importance, forms and content of marriage that are thereby challenging the universality of marriage per say? Is the South Asian region embracing a specific model of marriage or is marriage retaining some of its local particularities?

In probing the theme of change and continuity, the conference aims to generate a coherent debate on modern-day marriage. So far marriage has been studied as an adjunct to other research topics (e.g. migration, domestic violence etc). Moreover, in Indian sociology there

has been an overwhelming emphasis on examining kinship norms, alliances, rules, structures, marriage ceremonies and rituals. Consequently the sociological field of marriage and kinship does not take into account a vast and rich array of everyday marriage narratives/trajectories and their interpretations. In addition, little attempt has been made to augment a feminist analytical framework for comprehending marriage that accommodates the palpable differences of caste, class, ethnicity, region and religion. Thus, the investigative theme of marriage from a global and South Asian perspective merits separate and detailed attention. Against the backdrop of economic transformations and modernization, a key concern is to also to scrutinize and unpack modern expressions and lived experiences of marriage. Moreover, our interest lies in collating papers that review contexts of change, and how men and women deploy their agency, emotive power and choices in reshaping and subverting marriage.

We invite papers on marriage and family research focusing on the countries of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Whilst we encourage papers from different disciplinary backgrounds, individual contributions should combine conceptual thinking with ethnographic content (i.e. field-work, participant observation and interviews) and based on the following themes:

1: Conceptual understandings of marriage

Given the heterogeneity within South Asia, there is a need to explore the diversity of marriage forms and their acceptance by communities despite the existence of hegemonic and culturally privileged forms of marriage representing 'correct' types of marriage. Have sociological studies done justice to describing and analysing diverse patterns that vary by region, caste, class,

ethnicity and religion? Here we seek to understand not only dominant marriage patterns but also patterns from the 'margins' or those type of atypical marriages/unions that have been bypassed in the literature. Furthermore, a comparative understanding of trends and patterns in contemporary South Asia will enrich our sociological understanding of what drives changes in marriage and family.

2: Demographic Imbalances, Economic Shifts and Marriage Markets

Most South Asian countries are demonstrating a consistent rise in the age of marriage although it remains far below that of South-East Asia and Japan. What are the multiple factors that influence changes in age at marriage – education, dowry, employment, labour needs of families etc.? Are there variations by region, religion and ethnic community? Are we beginning to see trends towards non-marriage, or couples choosing not to have children or instead opting to be in live-in relationships?

Patterns of marriage are also being directly impacted by demographic imbalances and economic disparities. The declining number of women in India, China and South Korea has led to widespread shortages of female spouses sparking a significant numbers of transnational, cross-border and crossculture marriages with distinct social implications. Such marriage migration, tied to the economics of poverty and prosperity, challenges the very notion of marriage as a sacrament or a relationship of mutual care and intimacy and appears to be defined more by the need for women's productive and reproductive labour. Yet, it raises complex questions of female agency and

3: Shifting ideas of love, intimacy and marital practices

Under this category we are interested in contemporary marital practices and the types of marriage/relationships/ alliances (from self-chosen marriages to gay relationships) younger generations of Asians are entering into and how marriage and love are being defined or viewed. Is marriage today a social necessity or are new modes of flexibility emerging in relation to marital choice? Is the conventional

on romantic love (or taking the initiative and their interrelationships with the relationships proceeding divorce? changing economy and society.

Among the middle classes, the culture of participation and marriage arranged marriage appears to be giving way investigation. What are the new rules of between women's paid work requirements.

4: Divorce and re-marriage

the incidence of divorce or its emergence/ non-emergence across Asia. An increase in divorce can direct us to changing marital 6: Socio-legal advancements, feminist expectations, ideals and lived experiences. interventions and their impact on marriage/ We will benefit from papers that have domestic life. documented inter-generational change, where divorce was previously uncommon to new marriage legislation (e.g. relating and whereby a shift is evident in the younger to property, inheritance, child custody, generation's experience. In South Asia, often domestic violence etc) and how the law the dominant perception is that the arranged altercating women's choices in marriage, marriage system manifests stable, life-long prevailing social norms and experiences and harmonious marriages. Accordingly a of conjugality. To what extent are women

system of arranged marriages altering or is that "love marriages do not last." Papers subjecting itself to modifications? What role that compare divorce rates in both arranged is education, media exposure, employment and love marriages and factors contributing and urbanization playing in shaping young towards marital break-down can lend a people's notions about marriage and love? nuanced perspective to rectifying these Are younger generations eschewing parental stereotypes. In addition, papers should match-making criteria for marriages based elaborate on the gender dimension of divorce i.e. whether women or men are to arrange their own marriages)? How are initiating divorce, post-divorce natal kin they negotiating their marital preferences support, economic fall-back position and within the wider framework of the family, custody of children. Alongside divorce, community and caste nexus? Equally, are studying the dynamics of re-marriage will parents ready to relieve themselves of the provide fruitful comparison. Are individuals duty of marrying their progeny? In order to rejecting re-marriage and opting for other understand shifts in marriage we welcome relationships? What about the emotional data that investigates new marriage patterns quality and longevity of new marriages/

5: Women's paid work, labour force

to individual choice but this needs detailed This sections looks at the relationship marriage? If the framework of caste and consequences of economic independence) community is being loosened, is class, as and marriage. Given the new economic reflected in the idea of 'assortative mating' opportunities that have surfaced for South taking over? How does this matching occur Asian women, is the growing phenomenon and what are the new modes and sites for it of women's entry into the labour market (workplace, relatives/newspapers/internet leading to the democratization of marriage? marriage portals /internet chat rooms)? How is paid work affecting women's fall-While self-choice and individual fulfilment back position, their agency and choices may be the desired hallmarks of the modern in marriage (e.g. are other factors such marriage, we need to interrogate the agency as the support of natal kin as pivotal in of the marrying couple and track whether strengthening a women's fall-back position)? any real shifts from earlier patterns of What challenges is economic independence significant parental role are occurring - for presenting to the marital dyad/husbands? instance the phenomenon of 'arranged love Are we seeing a significant delay in the age of marriage,' that conforms to class and status marriage and how are young/older women evaluating and perceiving their work? We are also keen to explore generalizations on male breadwinner ideologies/discourses in South Asia, such as "upper class married We are keen to explore the relative stability women do not work" and "poor married of conjugal relations, in order to foreground women have always worked, as they have no choice."

common stereotype in marriage discourses benefiting from socio-legal advancements?

Does the law play a salient role in marriage and what types of marriage/gender discourses emerge from legal texts and

Furthermore, in South Asia a range of feminist NGOs, women-based community organizations (nari adalats, mahila panchayats) and caste associations play an important role in the domain of marriage. In relation to marital disputes and breakdown, these organizations offer women/ couples services of informal dispute settlement, conflict resolution and marriage counselling. We are keen to understand $how these \, in formal/community arbitration$ forms that fall outside the legal domain regulate marriage and domestic life and reported incidents of marital conflict. By studying feminist arbitration procedures and counselling services we can gain a better comprehension of the nature of marital discord that gets reported, and how various non-legal pluralisms are functioning side by side.

Date and venue of conference: New Delhi, March 2008

Submission of final papers: December 2007

Long-term goal: Our goal is to consolidate an edited volume that can lend differing perspectives to marriage in South Asia.

Conference organizers and contact Dr. Ravinder Kaur Associate Professor Department of Humanities and Social Indian Institute of Technology, Hauz Khas New Delhi 110016 e-mail: ravinder.iitd@gmail.com

Dr. Shalini Grover Sir Ratan Tata Post Doctoral Fellow Institute of Economic Growth (IEG) University of Delhi (Delhi): 110007 e-mail: drshalinigrover@yahoo.co.uk

27 October 2007

EXTERNAL CONFERENCES

17th biennial conference of the Asian Studies Association of Australia (ASAA)

1-3 July 2008, Sebel Albert Park Hotel, Melbourne

Theme: "Is this the Asian Century?"

The biennial Asian Studies Association of Australia (ASAA) conference is the largest gathering of expertise on Asia in the southern hemisphere.

The theme for 2008 invites you to assess how the regions and issues on which you are interested are faring. The ASAA conference is multi-disciplinary and covers Central, South, South-East and North East Asia and the relationship of all of these with the rest of the world.

The 17th biennial conference on 1-3 July 2008 will bring together specialists to assess trends in Asian law, medicine and health, science, ethics/human rights, politics, regional security, economics, culture, religion, environment, media, the performing arts and many other fields.

Given the theme, we encourage cross-country and inter-regional analysis. To assess how Asia is doing, we need to think broadly about Asia and compare trends in India and China, the new giants of Asia, with the older industrial power Japan and newly emerging economies of Singapore, Thailand and Indonesia. We also need to link up these trends with events outside Asia.

Join us either as a presenter of a conference paper or as a participant to = debate what is happening in the Asian region and its impact on the rest of the world. In some fields, trends in Asia are driving world affairs but in other areas Asia lags behind. What is the case in your field? Will this be the Asian century?

The 2008 conference is hosted by Monash Asia Institute, Monash University on behalf of the Asian Studies Association of Australia (ASAA).

To visit the conference website, http://www.conferenceworks.net.au/asaa/index.php

To register, visit http://www.secureregistrations.com/Asian

Workshop: 'Identities in a South Asian Context'

As part of the South Asian Studies in the North network, the University of Sheffield is hosting an interdisciplinary one day workshop on Identities in a South Asian Context. This workshop will be held on Friday November 16th 2007. Our keynote speaker is Professor Shail Mayaram from CSDS in Delhi. Further details (which are still being finalised) of other speakers (including Dr Rob Aitken, Dr Tariq Jazeel, Prof. Craig Jeffrey, Dr Steve Legg, Prof. Shirin Rai, Dr Kanchana Ruwanpura, Dr Andrew Wyatt and Dr John Zavos) and their papers can be found at

http://www.shef.ac.uk/politics/research/centres/identities-sa-workshop.html

The workshop is free to attend, but to help us organise the day, please contact Margaret Holder m.holder@shef.ac.uk to confirm your attendance.

Gujarat Studies Association

The 2nd Biennial Conference

Identities:

Reflections on Global Gujarati Communities

23rd – 24th May 2008 • University of Toronto (New College), Canada

Keynote Speakers

Professor Ali S. Asani, Harvard University

Professor Radhika Desai, University of Manitoba, Canada

Jason Kenney, Secretary of State, Multiculturalism and Canadian Identity (tbc)

Important Dates:

21 Jan 2008 Early Bird Registration Ends

17 Mar 2008 Conference Registration Ends

24 Mar 2008 Refunds for Cancellations Ends

For further details please see the GSA website:

www.gujaratstudies.org

or contact

s.mawani@gujaratstudies.org

ROUTLEDGE SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

New and Forthcoming Titles

ROUTLEDGE ADVANCES IN JAINA STUDIES

Series edited by Peter Flügel, SOAS, University of London, UK

History, Scripture and Controversy in a Medieval Jain Sect

Paul Dundas, University of Edinburgh, UK

Examining the history and intellectual activity of the medieval Svetambara Jain renunciant order, the Tapa Gaccha, this book focuses on the consolidation by the Tapa Gaccha from the thirteenth century of its identity as the leading Svetambara order.

November 2006: 234x156: 304pp Hb: 978-0-415-37611-2: £65.00

Studies in Jaina History and Culture

Disputes and Dialogues

Edited by **Peter Flügel**, SOAS, University of London, UK

This book breaks new ground by investigating the doctrinal differences and debates amongst the Jains rather than presenting Jainism as a seamless whole whose doctrinal core remained virtually unchanged throughout its long history.

April 2006: 234x156: 512pp Hb: 978-0-415-36099-9: **£100.00**

60 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

A Selection of Titles to Mark the 60th Anniversary of Partition

Partition and Post-Colonial South Asia

A Reader (3 Volumes)

Edited by **Gyanesh Kudaisya**, National University of Singapore, Singapore and **Tan Tai Yong**, National University of Singapore, Singapore

Taking a comparative approach, this three-volume reader brings together an array of critical essays examining the effects of the Indian subcontinent partition covering topics such as borders and boundaries, displacement, citizenship, and national identities.

December 2007: 234x156: 1,217pp Hb: 978-0-415-35954-2: **£395.00**

Partition and the South Asian Diaspora

Extending the Subcontinent

Papiya Ghosh, Patna University, India

Seeking to widen partition studies, this book examines how partition persists in the lives of some of its migrants and minorities, and political projects across South Asia and its diaspora, in an increasingly transnational context.

March 2007: 216x138: 308pp Hb: 978-0-415-42409-7: £50.00

Indian Politics and Society since Independence Events, Processes and Ideology

Bidyut Chakrabarty, University of Delhi, India

Focusing on politics and society in India, this book explores new areas enmeshed in the complex social, economic and political processes in the country.

June 2008: 234x156: 240pp Hb: 978-0-415-40867-7: £85.00 Pb: 978-0-415-40868-4: £22.99

Pakistan - Social and Cultural Transformations in a Muslim Nation

Mohammad Qadeer, Queens University, Canada

This is the first English-language survey of Pakistan's socio-economic evolution. Mohammad Qadeer gives an essential overview of social and cultural transformation in Pakistan since independence, which is crucial to understanding Pakistan's likely future direction.

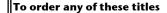
July 2006: 234x156: 336pp Hb: 978-0-415-37566-5: **£75.00**

India's Partition

The Story of Imperialism in Retreat **Pani Grahi**

This title offers an examination of the circumstances surrounding India's independence from Britain and the partition of the subcontinent.

August 2004: 234x156: 400pp Hb: 978-0-7146-5601-4: **£90.00**



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(Please quote SAS Newsletter Sep 2007)



Centre for Trade and Development (Centad), New Delhi, India is an autonomous, not-for profit institution that seeks to strengthen the abilities of governments and communities in South Asia to make economic globalisation work for development.

Event Report

Brain-Storming Meeting on 'Indo-EU FTA: Issues and Concerns' 21 August 2007

While uncertainty is looming large over the future of the Doha Round of multilateral trade negotiations under the aegis of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), more and more countries are entering into an increasing number of regional trade agreements (RTAs). The European Union (EU) - a major player in the multilateral and regional fora, is about to forge a free trade agreement (FTA) with India, which, though a late-starter in the realm of RTAs, is proactively negotiating various bilateral and regional agreements in the recent past. Given the wide-ranging differences in the capacities of the two parties in such a North-South FTA, an urgent need was felt for undertaking a comprehensive assessment of the possible challenges facing India – the weaker player in the game. With this aim in view, Centad, along with the Oxfam International's Make Trade Fair (MTF) campaign, organised a one-day 'Brainstorming Session' on Indo-EU FTA on 21 August 2007 in New Delhi. The consultation marked the beginning of a series of research and advocacy activities that Centad is planning to undertake in the forthcoming months in the context of the India-EU FTA, the negotiations for which is scheduled to gear up October 2007 onwards. The consultation, which found participation from the academia, the government of India, and the civil society from all across India, was well-appreciated as a timely and important initiative; timely because the negotiations on this FTA are just about to gear up, and important because of the crucial significance of this FTA for India, the EU being its largest trading partner.



Brain-storming on Indo-EU FTA. (From left) Linu Mathew Philip, Centad; Moana Bhagwati, Madras Institute of Development Studies; Nagesh Kumar, Research and Information Systems for Developing Countries; and R.S. Ratna, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India.

The deliberations were spread over four sessions, each containing presentations by eminent experts and followed by open discussion. The key issues discussed included the following:

- The background of the India-EU FTA and its current state of play;
- Rationale behind this FTA;
- India's position in the FTA in the face of its commitments to the multilateral trade negotiations;
- Significance and challenges facing India in the context of this FTA;
- Issues and concerns of India in specific areas of negotiations, such as Non-agricultural Market Access (NAMA), Customs Facilitation, Services, and Competition Policy.

The concluding session explored the ways and means of building an effective partnership among the civil society organisations in India towards facilitating a fair deal for the country in this important FTA.

For further details, visit us at www.centad.org

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

International Conference on Indo-EU FTA
New Delhi, India
30 October- 1 November 2007

As a continuation of Centad's work-programme on Indo-EU FTA, launched with the one-day consultation in New Delhi on 21 August 2007, Centad, along with Traidcraft, UK; Oxfam International's Make Trade Fair (MTF) campaign, and some other civil society organisations is going to organise a three-day international conference on Indo-EU FTA in New Delhi on 30 October to 1 November 2007. The conference will find representation from the academia, government of India officials, as well as civil society representatives from different parts of the globe. Further details would be available on <www.centad.org>

Workshop on 'Trade and Barriers to Access to Medicines' NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad, India 9-12 October 2007

Access to medicines is one of the primary components of the right to health. However, realisation of this right is increasingly affected by national and international trade and economic policies. While the public health policies of the government have an important bearing on access to medicines, the intellectual property regime, regulatory framework, research and development policies, business models of pharmaceutical companies, branding and pricing strategies and domestic and international trade in medicines also have significant impact on access to medicines. Against this backdrop, Centad, with support of Oxfam GB, is organising a four-day national-level workshop on 'Trade and Barriers to Access to Medicines' at NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad, on 9-12 October 2007. This workshop is being supported by Oxfam GB. For further details please visit http://www.centad.org/announcement 37.asp>

CENTAD PUBLICATIONS

Recent Releases

Working Paper 8



Title: Protection of Geographical Indications: An Overview of Select Issues with Particular Reference to India

Author: Kasturi Das (Research Officer, Centad)

About the paper: This paper is a comprehensive overview of a range of issues in the context of GI protection, with a particular focus on India. It tracks the negotiating history of TRIPS in search of the origin of the hierarchical protection for GIs and provides a cogent account of various contours of the debate till date. It also analyses the Indian GI Act in the light of the TRIPS provisions and provides a portrait of the current status of GI registration in India.

Full download of this paper and all other *Centad Working Papers* is available on the Centad website: http://www.centad.org

Trading Up
Volume 3, Issue 1, Jan-Mar 2007
Developing Countries and Trade in Service



Trading Up is a quarterly trade magazine of Centad, aimed at demystifying issues around trade and development. The latest (Jan-Mar 2007) issue of *Trading Up* is focused on *Developing Countries & Trade in Services*.

Highlights of the Current Issue:

- *Interview* with Prof. Yash Tandon, Executive Director, South Centre, Geneva.
- Interview with Dr. Saman Kelegama, Executive Director, Institute of Policy Studies, Sri Lanka.
- *Trade Perspective* by Dr. Rashmi Banga, UNCTAD India Programme.

Forthcoming Issue of Trading Up: Agribusiness & Trade

Full download of the current issue and all the past issues of *Trading Up* is available on the Centad website: http://www.centad.org

For further information on Centad's Work and Publications please contact:

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NEWSLETTER

Since its inception in 1916, the School of Oriental and African Studies has been an important international centre for the study of South Asia. In 1966, the Centre of South Asia Studies was established to co-ordinate the research of the South Asian specialists spread widely throughout SOAS.

At present SOAS employs over thirty full-time South Asian specialists in the teaching staff. In addition to a department of South Asian Languages and Cultures, SOAS has South Asia specialists in the departments of Anthropology, Art and Archaeology, Development Studies, Economics, History, Law, Music, Religions and Politics. Several South Asian specialists are also based near SOAS in other institutions of the University of London.

One floor of the SOAS Library is dedicated to the South Asia collection, overseen by the South Asia librarian and two assistants. The Library continues to develop its web pages relating to South Asian Studies.

More than 100 courses on South Asia are taught at SOAS, and many others contain a significant South Asian component. Students may elect for a single-subject South Asia degree, or combine South Asia with a discipline in a two-subject degree. Presently SOAS offers degrees or joint degrees in the following South Asian languages: Bengali, Gujarati, Nepali, Hindi, Pali, Sanskrit, Sinhala, Tamil and Urdu; some of these languages are also available for MA degrees. All languages, and many other South Asian courses, are also available as one unit within the MA South Asian Area Studies or within the MA South Asian Cultural Studies.

Centre of South Asia Studies

Contact Details

Centre of South Asian Studies

c/o Centres & Programmes Office School of Oriental and African Studies Universtiy of London Thornhaugh Street Russell Square London WC1H OXG

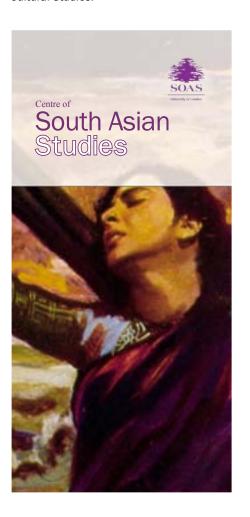
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Chair:

Office Manager: Jane Savory





CSAS Keywords Webpage:

The Keywords Project initated by Dr Rachel Dwyer can be found on:

http://www.soas.ac.uk/centres/centreinfo.cfm?navid=912

The essays on South Asian Keywords have been written by a number of internationally known scholars.

CSAS Email List

If you would like to be added to the CSAS mailing list and receive information on the Centres seminars and events please send an email to Jane Savory with the following details:

- · CSAS mailing list;
- · your email address; and
- your first name and surname.

CENTRE OF SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

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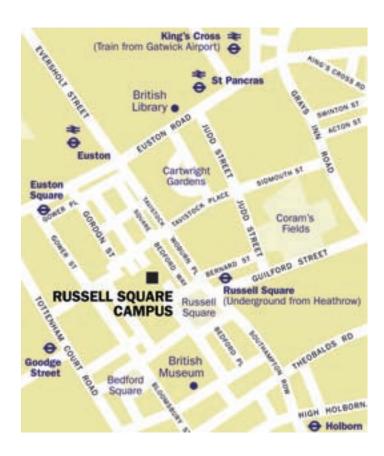
Contributions

If you would like to submit a piece for consideration for the next edition of the Newsletter (January 2008) please send the details in electronic format to centres@soas.ac.uk

The Centre Chair will have the final say on which materials appear in the Newsletter. Items we would like to particularly receive are:

- reports on academic workshops/conferences;
- · details of forthcoming academic events

We would like to thank all the readers who have already sent in articles.



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