



**South Asian University**  
Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS)

**Poetic Imagining(s) of Southasia: Borders and Nations**

AKBAR BHAWAN, CHANAKYAPURI

22-23 April 2019

NOTE : This conference is open to all but please register by sending your affiliations to Jasmine Bhalla ([isaspoetics2019@gmail.com](mailto:isaspoetics2019@gmail.com)) to receive conference coupons

**MONDAY, 22 APRIL 2019**

<b>09:30 AM</b>	<b>REGISTRATION</b>
<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>WELCOME REMARKS BY DR KAVITA SHARMA, PRESIDENT, SOUTH ASIAN UNIVERSITY (SAU)</b>
<b>10:15 AM</b>	<b>REMARKS BY DR PROMODINI VARMA, SECRETARY, ISAS, SAU</b>
<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>FEW WORDS FROM THE ORGANIZERS: MALLIKA SHAKYA, DEPT OF SOCIOLOGY, SAU</b>
<b>10:30 AM – 11:45 PM</b>	<b>PLENARY:</b> Professor Fakrul Alam, East West University, Bangladesh Professor Abhi Subedi, Tribhuvan University, Nepal
<b>11:45 AM – 12:00 PM</b>	<b>TEA/COFFEE</b>

**12:00 PM – 1:30 PM**

<b>PANEL 1a: RECLAIMING MYTHOLOGY AND LEGENDS</b> <b>(FSI hall)</b>	<b>PANEL 1b: AESTHETICS OF NARRATIVISING NATIONS</b> <b>(Mezzanine Hall)</b>
<p><b>Rethinking the Visible Transgender/s of Mythology in Contemporary Times</b> Sangita Rayamajhi, Center for Advanced Studies in South Asia</p> <p><b>Buddhist Temples and Modern Allegories in Post-Conflict Sri Lanka</b> Yoshiko Ashiwa, Anthropology, Hitotsubashi University</p> <p><b>When Legends Die: The Politics of Toponyms in Arunachal Pradesh</b> Swargajyoti Gohain, Sociology &amp; Anthropology, Ashoka University</p> <p><b>DISCUSSANT: Promodini Verma, South Asian University</b></p>	<p><b>The Indian Mushairah as Space of Dissent, Solidarity, and Critique of the Nation</b> Maaz bin Bilal, OP Jindal Global University</p> <p><b>Islamised Poetics as a Counter Strategy to Nationalism: A Critical Reading of Muhammad Iqbal's Select Writings</b> Irfanullah Farooqi, Department of Sociology, South Asian University</p> <p><b>India: A Nation or a Notion in <i>Out of God's Oven and Husband of a Fanatic</i></b> Durba Mukherjee, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Kanpur</p> <p><b>DISCUSSANT:</b></p>

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM	LUNCH	
2:30 PM – 4:00 PM		
<b>PANEL 2a: RECLAIMING FOLKS AND LEGENDS</b>	<b>PANEL 2b: PERIODICISING DISCOURSES</b>	
<p><b>Addressing the ‘Solar cult’ and Bhakti in <i>Dhamail</i> folk-songs</b> Antara Chakrabarty, Centre for J Nehru Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia</p> <p><b>Radical Retellings of Hir: Gender and the Politics of Voice in Postcolonial Punjabi Poetry</b> Sara Kazmi, Department of English, University of Cambridge</p> <p><b>Poetry as (Im)potentiality: Reading Translations of Tukaram’s Abhang Poetry</b> Sneha Chowdhury, Centre for English Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University</p> <p><i>DISCUSSANT : Ira Raja, Department of English, University of Delhi</i></p>	<p><b>Rhetoric, Negotiation &amp; Exhibition of ‘National’ in Bangladeshi Literature</b> Manas K Chowdhury, Anthropology, Jahangirnagar University</p> <p><b>The Ethical Nationalist Subject in Kishorilal Goswami’s Historical Novels</b> Rohan Chauhan, Department of Modern Indian Languages and Literary Studies, University of Delhi</p> <p><b>Conceptualizing the Socio-Cultural Identity of the Marginalized: Popular Print Culture in the late 19th and early 20th century Calcutta</b> Shrobona Banerjee, History, Ambedkar University</p> <p><i>DISCUSSANT : Fakrul Alam, East West University</i></p>	
4:00 PM – 4:15 PM	TEA/COFFEE	
4:15 PM – 5:45 PM		
<b>PANEL 3a: SPATIALITY OF NATIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS</b>	<b>PANEL 3b: POETICS OF THE CITY</b>	
<p><b>Articulating Urbanities: Reconsidering Cosmopolitanism and Nationalism Through Spatial Theory</b> Ankita Kaushik, English, Jamia Millia Islamia</p> <p><b>Psycho-scapes : Fictionalizing Nations and Nationalization of the Self in Bilal Tanweer’s <i>The Scatter Here is Too Great</i></b> Ifrah Afzal, English Language and Literature, Pakistan Institute of Fashion and Design</p> <p><b>Subaltern Cosmopolitan in Kochi: Evaluating Secular Spaces, Identity, and Borders</b> Grace Raju, Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia</p> <p><i>DISCUSSANT : Abhi Subedi, Tribhuvan University</i></p>	<p><b>Redefining New Delhi’s Sites/Sights via Ethnographic Poetry : An Analysis of Michael Creighton’s New Delhi Love Songs</b> Athira Unni, Department of English, St. Joseph’s College (Autonomous)</p> <p><b>Romance of the Techno/Metropolis : The (E)merging Cross-Borders in Zac O’Yeah’s Mr. Majestic Trilogy</b> Navami TS; Somdatta Bhattacharya, Humanities/Soc Sciences, IIT Kharagpur</p> <p><b>Between Transnational Imaginings and Sub-National Divisions: Social Stratification among India’s Muslims</b> Asra Junaid Mamnoon, Jamia Millia Islamia</p> <p><i>DISCUSSANT: Swargajyoti Gohain, Sociology and Anthropology, Ashoka University</i></p>	

TUESDAY, 23 APRIL 2019

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

**PANEL 4a: LIMINAL NATIONS**

**Interrogating the Politics of Identity, Nation-building and Historiography in India through Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar's *The Mysterious Ailment of Rupi Baskey***  
Amitayu Chakraborty, Department of English, Durgapur Women's College

**Border Thinking and Feminist Eco-poetics in Uzma Aslam Khan's *Thinner than Skin***

Diviani Chaudhuri, Department of English, Shiv Nadar University

**Subverting the Narratives of Borders and Nations: A Reading of Debendranath Acharya's *Jangam* (1982) and Amitav Ghosh's *The Glass Palace* (2000)**

Lakhipriya Gogoi, Department of English, Dibrugarh University

**DISCUSSANT: Manas K Chowdhury, Anthropology, Jahangirnagar University**

**PANEL 4b: CHALLENGES OF EVERYDAY CITIZENSHIP**

**Governmentality and Rebellion : Power and Fallibility Addressed in Select Texts of Kashmir**

Muddasir Ramzan, Department of English, Aligarh Muslim University

**After Rana Plaza Collapse: Framing Injustice through Creative Avenues**  
Samina Luthfa, Department of Sociology, University of Dhaka

**What's Home Got to Do With It? An Analysis of Trauma and Memory in Meena Alexander's Poems**

Shelly Narang, Department of English, SGGS College, Panjab University

**DISCUSSANT : Ankur Datta, Department of Sociology, South Asian University**

11:00 AM – 11:15 PM

TEA/COFFEE

11:15 PM – 12:45 PM

**PANEL 5a: DALIT/NATIONS**

**The Poetics of Caste & Culture: Reading Meena Kandasamy's *Touch and Ms Militancy***

Simmi Gurwara, Amity Institute of Corporate Communication, Amity University

**Mapping the Nation Through the Lens of Dalit Literary Discourse**

Ravi Kant, Department of English, Shyama Prasad Mukherji College

**The Subaltern Critique of Dominant Historiography and Retrieving a Historiography of Dalit Literary Traditions in India**

Vandana, Department of English, University of Delhi

**PANEL 5b: EXILE AND ABSENCE**

**Voices beyond Borders: Exile and Refugee Poetry and Performance**

John Clammer, Jindal School of Liberal Arts and Humanities

**Adil Jussawalla's "Missing Person" and the Image of the Splintered Nation**

Souradeep Roy, Theatre and Performance Studies, School of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University

**Money, Migration and Motherland: Imdadul Haq Milan's Two Novellas *Bondage and Exile***

<b>DISCUSSANT: Ishita Dey, Department of Sociology, South Asian University</b>		Shafiqul Islam, Department of English, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology <b>DISCUSSANT: Samina Luthfa, Sociology, University of Dhaka</b>	
<b>12:45 PM – 1:30 PM</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>		
<b>1:30 PM – 3:00 PM</b>			
<b>PANEL 6a: THE POETICS OF PARTITION</b>		<b>PANEL 6b: SEXUALITY AND DISSENT</b>	
<p><b>The Mythical and the Mundane in Partition Literature: Time, Violence and Narrative in Bhisham Sahni's <i>Tamas</i> and Intizar Hussain's <i>Basti</i></b> Archit Nanda, Keshav Mahavidyalaya, University of Delhi</p> <p><b>"What is Left in Me Now of Religion or Chastity?": Manto's Interrogation of the Two-Nation Theory in His Portrayal of Abducted Women during the Partition of India</b> Debapriya Goswami, Department of English (NSET), NSHM Knowledge Campus</p> <p><b>Manto's Partition: Between Personal and the Political</b> Mustafiz Ul Hasan, Sociology and Anthropology, Ashoka University</p> <p><b>DISCUSSANT : Irfanullah Farooqi, Department of Sociology, South Asian University</b></p>		<p><b>Remembering Deaths Outside The Nation's Imagining: Poetry Written By Tamil Women In Sri Lanka</b> Aparna Eswaran, Central University of Kerala</p> <p><b>Exploring Identity and Space of Hijra in Arundhati Roy's <i>The Ministry of Utmost Happiness</i></b> Rama Islam, Department of English, Metropolitan University</p> <p><b>Writing, Publishing and Preserving "New" Imaginings: The Self and/in the Nation by "New" Women of Nepal</b> Amrita Gogoi, Department of Political Science, Dibrugarh University</p> <p><b>DISCUSSANT : Sangita Rayamajhi, Center for Advanced Studies in South Asia</b></p>	
<b>3.00 PM – 3.15 PM</b>	<b>TEA/COFFEE</b>		
<b>3:15 PM – 4:45 PM</b>			
<b>PANEL 7a: INHABITING THE BORDER</b>		<b>PANEL 7b: HOME IN THE WORLD</b>	
<p><b>The Poetics of Borderland: Life and Work of Phanishwarnath Renu</b> Bhaskar Gautam, Chair, North South Collectives</p>		<p><b>Intimate Enemies: A Close Reading of <i>The Shadow of the Crescent Moon</i> and the <i>Ibis</i> Trilogy</b> Jaya Yadav, Department of English, Faculty of Arts, University of Delhi</p>	

**Border burdens: Floating Boundaries of Ethnic Lands**  
Packiyathan Ahilan, Department of Fine Arts, University of Jaffna

**Fictionalizing and Disowning the Border of Bengal: A Study of Srijato's *Dhonso***  
Azhar Uddin Sahaji, Department of English, Zakir Husain Delhi College (M)

**DISCUSSANT: Mallika Shakya, Department of Sociology, South Asian University**

**The Lived-History and the Lived-Geography of Southasia in Poet(h)ic Imagining(s)**  
Jayjit Sarkar, Department of English, Raiganj University

**Frontiers Dividing and Connecting Places: A Study of the Poetry of Arundhati Subramaniam, Anjum Hasan, C.P. Surendran, and Tabish Khair**  
Shruti Sareen, Department of English, University of Delhi

**DISCUSSANT: John Clammer, Liberal Arts and Humanities, OP Jindal Global University**

**4:45 PM – 6:15 PM**

**SUMMING UP AND GOING FORWARD**

Ira Raja, Department of English, University of Delhi  
Mallika Shakya, Department of Sociology, South Asian University  
Promodini Varma, Institute of South Asian Studies, South Asian University  
**CHAIR :** Sanjay Chaturvedi, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, SAU

**NOTE OF THANKS**

Mallika Shakya, Department of Sociology, South Asian University