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to this fifth edition of the **SAI** | Newsletter. The summer term was marked by the farewell of two eminent researchers and professors who have contributed to the prospering academic life of the SAI in manifold and significant ways: After five years Prof. Wiqar Ali Shah has completed his last stint of the Allama Iqbal Professorial Fellowship and after more than twenty years as head of the Department of Political Science at SAI Prof. Subrata Mitra set off for retirement. Both colleagues will be deeply missed at the institute and though replacements are on the way and will hopefully be arriving at Heidelberg in the next year, it seems hard to imagine that they will be adequately replaced. For the time being it's time to say goodbye and thus farewell receptions were organized for Prof. Ali Shah and Prof. Mitra on which occasion colleagues, friends, family and students gathered in big numbers. Read more about it inside this newsletter.

A number of new developments are to be reported and you will find more details when flipping through the following pages. Among these are the founding of the Sri Lanka Working Group that has initiated a Sri Lanka lecture series in the summer term. Together with the opening of the branch office in Colombo, for which local branch office manager Darshi Thoradeniya was employed in early 2014, we have all the good reasons to believe that research on this part of South Asia will flourish. Secondly, we have launched a paper series entitled "South Asia Institute Papers" and we are happy to have convinced Prof. Sheldon Pollock to start the series by raising the question "What is South Asian Knowledge Good For?". Lastly, the first SAI teaching day was held in early April, bringing together researchers and lecturers from all departments at SAI as well as associated Buddhist Studies (Cluster of Excellence Asia and Europe). Before continuing the list of the many activities and "news" at SAI we want to invite you to take a look for yourself: Enjoy reading the **SAI** | Newsletter

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FAREWELL-RECEPTION FOR PROF. SAYED WIQAR ALI SHAH'S CONTRIBUTION AS ALLAMA IQBAL CHAIR

by Gita Dharampal-Frick

The South Asia Institute honoured Prof. Sayed Wiqar Ali Shah for his contribution as holder of the Allama Iqbal Professorial Fellowship from 2009-2014 with a farewell-reception. The celebration took place in the reading room of the library of the South Asia Institute (SAI), on Wednesday, June 25th, 2014, 7pm.



Prof. Shah is an international expert on Bacha Khan, the Khudai Khidmatgars and the politics of the NWFP, exemplified by his doctoral research at Oxford in 1997 and published as „Ethnicity, Islam and Nationalism Muslim Politics in the North-West Frontier Province, 1937-1947“ (OUP 1999). Driven by extraordinary zeal

and commitment he has acquired an invaluable collection of archival material relating to the organisation and development of the Khudai Khidmatgar, and in particular to Bacha Khan and his family members. Moreover, he has 10 other books and several articles to his credit.

Prof. Shah's scholarship is deeply concerned with contemporary developments in Pakistan and neighbouring Afghanistan, concerns which he has brought to bear in his teaching as the Allama Iqbal Professor at the SAI since September 2009. His lecture courses, for instance on Afghanistan, with appropriate titles like „Afghanistan, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow“, „Afghanistan at the Crossroads“, „The Taliban's Resurgence and its Impact on Pakistan“ have extended the syllabus of the History Department and increased its attraction for students exponentially, with participants from all disciplines, transcultural studies, and exchange students. Further, through participation in workshops and conferences, as well as interviews with the press, Prof. Shah has become a prominent figure on the regional and national arena. And consequently, the Allama Iqbal Professorship has acquired considerable status.

The members of the South Asia Institute are bidding farewell to him and to all members of his wonderful family, „khuda hafiz“.



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PROFESSOR SUBRATA K. MITRA'S FAREWELL-CELEBRATION “WITH A BANG AND NOT A WHIMPER”

by Radu Carciumaru

On July 15th 2014, the farewell-celebration for Professor Subrata K. Mitra – the first and only holder of a chair in Political Science of South Asia in Germany and the Head of the Department, took place in the reading room of the library of the South Asia Institute.

In front of a full house of 150 students, friends, colleagues, guests and family members, the farewell-celebration started with short laudatory speeches by Professor Hans Harder, Professor Axel Michaels, and Dr. Jivanta Schöttli.

After thanking the laudators and acknowledging the singularity of the moment, Professor Mitra gave his farewell lecture on “Integration and Anxiety in Indian Politics: Tradition, Re-Use and Hybridity” in front of a generous audience.

Professor Mitra's talk has been a veritable tour de force, containing a concise overview of his previous research, while drawing on his seminal works, as well as a new theme – “anxiety and moral panic in politics”. This new and previously unexplored topic shows that Professor Mitra's work and research will not stop, even if the tenure ends.

The talk was structured into the following seven sections: 1. The Making of Politics in Post-Colonial India: Conflating Culture and Rationality; 2. Integration and Anxiety in Indian Politics: Beyond Culture and Rationality; 3. Is Collective Anxiety uniquely Indian? Area Meets Theory; 4. Moral panics' as a Category of Comparative Sociology; 5. What Causes collective Anxiety in Indian Politics? Four Possible Reasons; 6. How the West Transformed Transcendental Categories of Race, Gender, and Religion into Transactional Categories of everyday politics? Why India Failed to Transform Moral Panic into Normal Politics?; 7. Where Do We Go From Here? (Beyond Derivative Modernity: Re-use, Hybridity and Indian Tradition; Living with, and not against Anxiety; Re-inventing institutions: back to Culture and Rationality).

After his talk, Professor Mitra thanked all persons and institutions that were responsible for his personal and professional development – his family, his alma mater, his peers and his students.

The superb musical setting that was accompanying the official part of the celebration was kindly made possible by a group of musicians under the supervision and direction of Professor Stefan Klonner.

A splendid party with Indian delicacies, Bollywood music and lively discussions followed the farewell speech.

The overall spirit of the participants and the prevalent atmosphere left no room for another conclusion, but that Professor Mitra bid farewell with a bang and not with a whimper!



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65TH BIRTHDAY OF PROF. DR. AXEL MICHAELS

On the occasion of the 65th birthday of Prof. Dr. Axel Michaels a celebration and academic discussion took place in the Karl Jaspers Centre on Friday, May 30, 2014. During the day a group of colleagues from all over the world engaged with Axel Michaels' research in a symposium titled “Texts, Practices, Beliefs: Responses to the Oeuvre of Axel Michaels”.

Scholars presented papers on Hinduism and research on Nepal designed to spark off lively discussions of Prof. Michaels' two main research interests. The intensive academic discussion was followed by an informal celebration. A highlight for the department of Classical Indology was the presentation of their birthday gifts to Prof. Michaels.



Axel Michaels studied Indology, philosophy and law in Munich and Hamburg and at the Benares Hindu University in India. In 1996, he was offered a professorship at Heidelberg University. Here he took over the professorship of Classical Indology at the SAI, where he now heads the Department of Cultural and Religious History of South Asia. Since 2007 he has been a member of the directorate of the Cluster of Excellence “Asia and Europe in a Global Context”. At the same time, Prof. Michaels is managing director of the newly established Centre for Transcultural Studies and heads the research unit “Religious and Law-Historical Sources from Pre-Modern Nepal” at the Heidelberg Academy of Sciences and Humanities. As a member of the Academic Advisory Council, Axel Michaels is committed to supporting Heidelberg University's interests and future developments.



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FOUNDING OF THE SRI LANKA WORKING GROUP

by Radu Carciumaru

The Sri Lanka Working Group was founded in summer 2014. From the onset, it seeks to stimulate and encourage the scientific discourse on political, social, economic and cultural aspects and developments in Sri Lanka. In order to facilitate this, the working group initiates, organizes and supports interdisciplinary lectures, seminars, discussion meetings, workshops as well as excursions relevant to Sri Lanka. Moreover, for members of staff and students from SAI, it provides a forum for cross-disciplinary exchange on Sri Lanka.

The working group supports the public relations activity of the SAI in building academic networks focused on Sri Lanka, corroborates with the institute for a profound academic exchange and internship opportunities in Sri Lanka and makes concentrated efforts to popularize the country amongst both students and researchers.

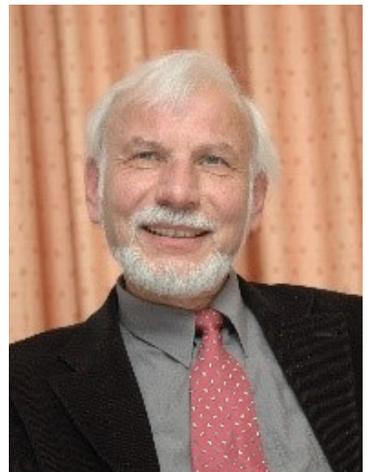
Out of this cooperation, the South Asia Institute initiated the Sri Lanka Lecture Series (SLLS) during the Summer Term 2014. The SLLS was inaugurated by Professor Jonathan Spencer FRSE (Regius Chair of South Asian Language, Culture and Society; Deputy Head of School of Social and Political Science, Edinburgh University), who gave a memorable lecture on "Pillayar and the Politicians: Divine Solutions to Sri Lanka's Ethnic Problem" on June 5, 2014.

This was followed by the second SLLS lecture held by Professor John P. Neelsen (Department of Sociology, Tuebingen University), who spoke on "The International Community and the Conflict in Sri Lanka", July 3, 2014. Both lectures were followed by engaged and lively discussions. With regard to the winter term 2014/2015, several internationally distinguished scholars confirmed their interest and availability in giving SLLS lectures at the South Asia Institute.

Every scholar or student from the SAI with an interest in Sri Lanka, time available, motivation and initiative can and is encouraged to join the Sri Lanka Working Group! The working group meets once a month, predominantly during lecture time.



Professor Jonathan Spencer FRSE (Regius Chair of South Asian Language, Culture and Society; Deputy Head of School of Social and Political Science, Edinburgh University)



Professor John P. Neelsen (Department of Sociology, Tuebingen University)

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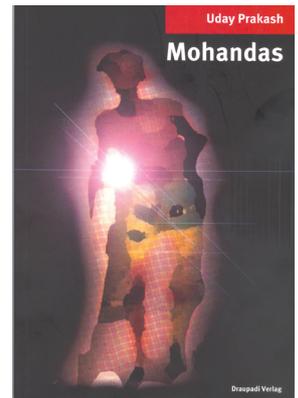
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FIRST PLACE FOR MOHANDAS IN „WELTEMPFÄNGER“

The novel “Mohandas” by Uday Prakash, translated from Hindi by Gautam Liu (Hindi-lecturer at the South Asia Institute, Department of Modern South Asian Languages and Literatures) and Ines Fornell, took the first place in the latest issue of the literature ranking list entitled „Weltempfänger“ (initiative of litprom - the Society for the Promotion of Literature from Africa, Asia and Latin America e.V.).

The novel “Mohandas” shows the consequences that result from the still existing social problems in India, like caste spirit, corruption and nepotism. It is based on a true story and the film adaption of the novel has been shown at numerous international film festivals.



DFG AND ICHR DELEGATION VISIT SAI

A delegation from the DFG (German Research Council) and the ICHR (Indian Council of Historical Research) visited the SAI from 6th to 8th May to discuss new fields of cooperation and to give German colleagues a better insight into current Indian research in the social sciences and the humanities. The DFG-Programme Director (Studies in Ancient Cultures and History) Dr. Torsten Fischer and the ICHR's Prof. Dr. Bhairabi Prasad Sahu (Delhi University), Prof. Dr. Amar Farooqui (Delhi University) and Prof. Dr. Ravindran Gopinath (Member Secretary, ICHR) interacted with colleagues from the SAI and the History Seminar of the university (at a reception at the home of Prof. Dr. Gita Dharampal-Frick, after a tour of the town). Profs. Farooqui and Sahu held public lectures on “The British Empire and the Anti-Colonial Struggle of 1857-58” (6th May, SAI) and on “Passages to India: Odisha as the Focus of German Historical Interest” (7th May, at KJC), respectively.

LAUNCH OF PAPER SERIES “SOUTH ASIAINSTITUTE PAPERS”

A new paper series called South Asia Institute Papers has been launched. The first issue is Sheldon Pollock's article (Columbia University) “*What is South Asian Knowledge Good For?*”.

This paper is the text of a lecture delivered in Heidelberg as part of a festive celebration in the Alte Aula on May 8, 2012 on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the South Asia Institute. Exploring the dichotomy between knowledge about South Asians produced in the Western university and knowledge produced by South Asians in history, it goes on to argue for the importance of the latter to human well-being no less than to true education. Additionally, it provides an outline of the development of South Asian studies in the US in order to point up the distinctiveness of the South Asia Institute.



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FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT AT THE ISSW: 3RD PLACE FOR THE SAI'S TEAM

by Rafael Klöber

The Institute of Sports and Sports Sciences (ISSW) of Heidelberg University held a football tournament as part of the 50th anniversary celebration on 11th April 2014 for teams from different faculties and central institutions of the university. Among the ten teams, consisting of university faculty, members of the SAI formed a motivated squad to valiantly

uphold the Institute's colours for the Ruperto-Carola as a whole. The interdisciplinary team consisted of players from various departments, namely History, Anthropology, Geography, Political Science, including the Library. Paradigmatically named Mohun Bagan International, the Institute's team referenced the

famous Mohun Bagan side from Calcutta. In 1911 this side, as the first ever Indian club, won the IFA shield against the East Yorkshire Regiment, which led to an outburst of public joy and nationalist sentiment. The current squad, unlike its famous predecessor, did not play bare-

foot, but, nonetheless, managed to emerge victorious from the group-stage due to a higher goal score. Though the semifinal was lost to Olympiakos Pythagoras from the Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics, Mohun Bagan International, nevertheless, secured 3rd place after an exciting match culminating in a thrilling penalty shoot-out against Chemical Brothers from the Faculty of Chemistry. The SAI-side missed the first penalty, but so did the Chemists with their second, and after both teams scored their consecutive penalties, the decisive 4th shot was saved by a superb reflex by Mohun Bagan's goalkeeper, which led to the victory of the SAI-team. In short, the SAI has proved its mettle, and can certainly be ranked among the top institutes of Heidelberg University – not only in research and teaching, but also on the football pitch.



SAI's Team



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TEACHING DAY AT SOUTH ASIA INSTITUTE: DIDACTIC TRAINING FOR THE FACULTY

To create a forum for good teaching practices, experiences from lecturer-student interactions, and to clarify administrative procedures associated with students' assessments and teaching in general, Rafael Klöber (Department of History) and Lars Stöwesand (Registrar) organised the first "SAI Teaching Day" on 7 April 2014.

In all, 15 researchers and lecturers from all departments at the SAI and the Buddhist Studies Department at the Cluster of Excellence "Asia and Europe in a Global Context: The Dynamics of Transculturality" joined the event. The "SAI Teaching Day" was divided into two main sessions. In the morning the participants discussed and clarified certain common teaching topics, like the grading procedure, the utility of evaluations, the mediation of basic academic competency, and how to deal with student absences, but also discussed necessary administrative formalities as well as the introduction of a set of rules to improve administrative efficiency. This dialogue greatly helped to develop a shared understanding on these issues, across disciplinary boundaries within the institute. After the lunch break, the didactics expert, Petra Eggenesperger (Heidelberg University Didactics Team), led the second session. With a short film on the didactic concepts developed by the renowned scholar, John Biggs, on different approaches to teaching at universities, Eggenesperger was able to familiarize the participants with university teachers' usual approach towards students. The discussion that followed the film screening underscored that an in-depth didactic qualification is essential for good teaching and fruitful student-teacher interaction. In particular, the responsibility for creating a viable learning environment in the class-room mainly lies with the lecturer and greatly depends on his/her commitment and preparation. Eggenesperger demonstrated in an hands-on manner some simple didactic methods that facilitate conceptualizing single sessions as well as whole courses (e.g. the formulation of learning objectives or the division of classes into diverse working groups).

Though much, of course, was quite familiar and commonsensical, yet engaging in a lively discussion about such issues certainly enriched the participants' understanding of teaching and of the important role played by the teacher's personality. Since the "SAI Teaching Day" was well attended and generally appreciated by the SAI teaching staff, there is a good chance of making it a regular annual event.



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WIKIPEDIA-PROJECT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND THE SAI-LIBRARY

During the summer semester 2014, Nicole Merkel from the SAI-library and Rafael Klöber from the Department of History launched a joint project to introduce and sensitize students to the well-known online encyclopedia Wikipedia, widely used even by academics. As part of Rafael Klöber's undergraduate seminar, entitled "British, Aryans and Dravidians: Colonial South India", the students were taught to engage critically with the history, content, copyright issues and the stipulations involved in contributing to Wikipedia. Nicole Merkel guided the students on how to use Wikipedia as an information resource, and taught them the skills required to produce new articles in line with the requirements of the online encyclopedia as well as on par with academic standards.

Kastenstreit

Kastenstreit beschreibt die Diskussion der europäisch christlichen Missionsgruppen in Indien über den richtigen Umgang mit dem von ihnen vorgefundenen Kastenwesen im 18. Jahrhundert.

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Geschichte der christlichen Mission in Tranquebar [Bearbeiten]

--> *Hauptartikel:* Christliche Mission in Indien, Dänisch-Hallesche Mission, Leipziger Mission

Während unter der Herrschaft der britischen East India Company Mission anfangs noch unterbunden wurde und eher eine Missions ablehnende Politik verfolgt wurde, änderte sich dies mit der Übernahme der Gebiete der East India Company durch die britische Krone im Jahre 1858. Die anglikanische Mission gewann immer stärker an Einfluss. Allerdings waren nicht nur die Briten in Indien vertreten, sondern auch andere europäische Mächte versuchten in Indien Fuß zu fassen. So zum Beispiel die Portugiesen, die Niederländer mit ihrer eigenen Handelsorganisation, der Niederländischen Ostindien-Kompanie und auch die Dänen.

Über die dänische Kolonie Tranquebar gelangten auch deutsche Missionare nach Indien. Die Dänisch-Hallesche Mission in Tranquebar nahm 1706 mit der Ankunft der ersten Missionare Bartholomäus Ziegenbalg und Heinrich Plütschau ihren Anfang. Die Dänisch-Hallesche Mission endete 1837 mit dem Tod ihres letzten Missionars August Friedrich Crämer.

Die Evangelisch-Lutherische Mission zu Leipzig, auch Leipziger Missionswerk genannt, sah sich als Nachfolgeorganisation der Dänisch-Halleschen Mission. Sie schickte 1840 ihren ersten Missionar, Heinrich Cordes nach Indien. 1845 wurden die dänischen Güter an die Engländer übergeben und die anglikanischen Missionsgesellschaften übernahmen die Leitung der Mission vor Ort. Während des ersten Weltkrieges übernahm die Schwedische Kirchenmission die Arbeit der Deutschen, die von den Briten interniert wurden. 1919 wurde die unabhängige „Tamil Evangelical Lutheran Church“ gegründet mit der das Leipziger Missionswerk heute noch eine Partnerschaft besitzt.

Screenshot of the article on "Kastenstreit"

The project proved to be a fruitful exposure to the multidimensionality of everyday knowledge production in a globalized and online world. Furthermore, the task of writing new articles encouraged the students to elaborate on topics with which they were dealing in the seminar. For the students, the project successfully combined a productive writing exercise with gaining meaningful skills in information literacy as well as developing an awareness for critically using online media. Moreover, the German version of Wikipedia was enriched by new contributions on the caste-debate ("Kastenstreit") among Protestant missionaries in 19th century South India, on the Anti-Hindi movement ("Anti-Hindi Bewegung") in early 20th century Tamil Nadu, and on two influential Indian reformers of the Madras Presidency, namely "Ramalinga Swamikal" and "Kandukuri Viresalingam". This joint project conducted by Rafael Klöber and Nicole Merkel was an exemplary start to cooperation between different departments in the SAI, and hence will most probably have a follow-up, stimulating similar collaborations in the future.

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MASTER THESIS AWARD FOR DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS STUDENT LISA OBERLÄNDER

Lisa Oberländer has been a student in Heidelberg's Master of Science in Economics program between 2010 and 2013. She specialized in the economics of low-income countries, an elective taught by Stefan Klonner, head of the Department of Development Economics at the South Asia Institute. He also supervised her master's thesis on health insurance for the poor. This research is based on a cooperation between the South Asia Institute and the Institute of Public Health, which is part of the Faculty of Medicine of Heidelberg University.

In her thesis, Lisa Oberländer evaluates the impact of a health insurance subsidy offered to especially poor households in Burkina Faso. The Institute of Public Health had added this subsidy to an existing insurance product in 2007 and also conducted survey interviews with more than 1000 households. Using state-of-the-art statistical methods that she had acquired in her studies, Lisa found that demand for health insurance among poor households is very price-sensitive and that the increased outreach of health insurance due to the subsidy reduces the number of sick days in the study population noticeably.



Prof. Dr. Stefan Klonner



Lisa Oberländer

For this exceptional thesis, Lisa won the € 2500 Graduate Award of the SEW-EURODRIVE foundation. Upon her graduation the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) awarded her a Carlo-Schmid Fellowship for a six month internship at the World Bank headquarters in Washington, D.C.

She currently continues to work for the research department of the World Bank and will take up doctoral studies at the Paris School of Economics later this year.

The cooperation between the Medical Faculty's Institute of Public Health and the South Asia Institute's Department of Development Economics has continued successfully in the meantime and ongoing research on health insurance for the poor has been presented at various academic conferences.

opment Economics has continued successfully in the meantime and ongoing research on health insurance for the poor has been presented at various academic conferences.

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RESEARCH**PEOPLE****BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS****CONTACT****15TH ANNIVERSARY OF SUMMER SCHOOL IN SPOKEN SANSKRIT**

The yearly Summer Schools in Spoken Sanskrit and the Nepali Intensive Course will be held from 4th to 29th August, 2014 in Heidelberg. This is the 15th consecutive year that this course is being organized in Heidelberg under the guidance of Dr. Sadananda Das, who is a speaker and experienced teacher of spoken Sanskrit.

On Monday, 25th August and Friday, 29th August 2014 the South Asia Institute celebrates 15 years of Summer School in Spoken Sanskrit in Heidelberg. The chief guest will be his Excellency Vijay Gokhale, the Ambassador of India. The event begins on Monday with Sanskrit Performances performed by Ananth Rao on 4 p.m. in the Reading Room of the SAI-Library. On Friday, 10-11 a.m. the oral presentations by the candidates on the topic "The Validity of Strīdharmā in Contemporary India" will be held for the Saraswati Sanskrit Prize 2014 in room Z10. This is followed by a Closing Ceremony, where a Sanskrit Play, Sanskrit Subhashitas and Nepali Songs, will be performed by the participants under the guidance of Dr. Sadanda Das and Laxmi Nath Shrestha.

Find invitation and further information here:

<http://www.sai.uni-heidelberg.de/abt/IND/summerschool/summer-school.php?sanskrit#sanskrit>

The Summer Schools are attracting students and scholars of Indology from all over the world. This is a unique opportunity to learn and practice spoken Sanskrit in a dynamic fashion. The course teaches students how to converse in simple Sanskrit on the topics of daily life. The necessary grammar will be introduced and returned to repeatedly to help students internalise it. The students' participation in the strong interactive element of the course will be supported by the use of multimedia aids.

The teacher Dr. Sadananda Das received a PhD from the Centre of Advanced Study in Sanskrit, University of Pune. From 1993 to 2005 he worked as a research fellow in India. He has taught summer schools in spoken Sanskrit in several universities in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, Spain and Australia. Since 2005 he has been working as a lecturer in Sanskrit at the University of Leipzig.

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RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM WITH SUJATA PATEL

On Thursday, 5.6.2014 Professor Sujata Patel from the department of Sociology, University of Hyderabad, India, gave the lecture „Beyond Divisions and Towards Internationalism. Social Sciences in the Twenty First Century“ as part of the research colloquium of the South Asia Institute.

The lecture discussed the social sciences of the 20th century that inherited a colonial episteme from its 19th century orientation that divided these into separate disciplines having distinct national traditions. These national traditions were placed in unequal relationship with each other within these disciplines, with some being considered universal and others being particular. Such an episteme constrains the formation of novel ways of thinking necessary for the creation of discourses on global intersections that are connecting and dividing the world in new ways. The lecture elaborated ways and means to displace this episteme and focused on the concept of ‘diversities’ as a mode and means to displace the hegemonic universalism present in 20th century social sciences.



Professor Sujata Patel

Sujata Patel teaches sociology at the University of Hyderabad. An historical sensibility and a combination of four perspectives - Marxism, feminism, spatial studies and post structuralism/post colonialism influences her work, which covers diverse areas such as modernity and social theory, history of sociology/social sciences, city-formation, social movements, gender construction, reservation, quota politics and caste and class formations in India.

She is also an active interlocutor of teaching and learning practices, and has written on the challenges that organise its reconstitution within classrooms, University structures. She is the author of more than sixty peer reviewed papers and is the Series Editor of Sage Studies in International Sociology (including Current Sociology Monographs); Oxford India Studies in Contemporary Society (Oxford, India) and Cities and the Urban Imperative (Routledge, India).

She is also the author of The Making of Industrial Relations (OUP, 1997), editor of The ISA Handbook of Diverse Sociological Traditions, Sage London (2010) and Doing Sociology in India, Genealogies, Locations and Practices, Delhi, Oxford (2011) as also a coeditor of five books, Bombay: Metaphor of Modern India (OUP, 1995); Bombay: Mosaic of Modern Culture (OUP, 1995); Bombay and Mumbai: The City in Transition (OUP, 2003); Thinking Social Science in India (Sage, 2002); and Urban Studies (OUP, 2006).

She has been associated in various capacities with the International Sociological Association and has been its first Vice President for National Associations (2002 - 2006).

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CONFERENCE ON “GLOBALIZING MENTAL HEALTH” AT INTERNATIONALES WISSENSCHAFTSFORUM HEIDELBERG

by William Sax

The conference was organized under the auspices of AROGYAM (Advances in Research on Globally Accessible Medicine) an academic network linking researchers from Heidelberg, Edinburgh University, Jawaharlal Nehru University (Delhi) and the Achutha Menon Centre for Health Science Studies in Trivandrum, Kerala (South India). The network is funded for three years by the DFG, ANR (France), ESRC (U.K.), ICSSR (India) and NW (Netherlands).

Global Mental Health is of particular interest at present, because awareness in India of mental health issues has dramatically increased in recent years, and ambitious plans are afoot to build capacity in this area. Controversies are raging over the type and quantity of services that should be offered, and due to its interdisciplinary and international makeup, AROGYAM is especially well placed to discuss and comment on these issues.

The goal of the conference was to produce new teaching materials for global health, and accordingly it produced three curricula: 1) a summer school course entitled “Plural Methods and Approaches in Mental Health Research”, 2) an upper-level course for social scientists, psychologists, clinicians, policy makers, social workers and others entitled “Mental Health Theory and Practice - the local and the global”, and 3) a two-week short course directed toward public health students, entitled “International Mental Health: public health perspectives”.

In addition to their scientific work, participants at the conference also took advantage of the lovely Heidelberg weather to see the castle, take a boat tour on the Neckar, and visit the Prinzhorn Collection. Everyone was extremely impressed with the professionalism and good food at the IWH!



Participants at the Prinzhorn Collection



Participants at a boat tour on the Neckar



Participants at the castle of Heidelberg

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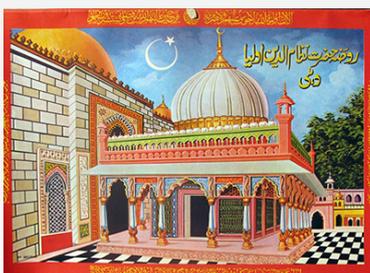
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Key Visual of the project



Shrine Rauza Hazrat Nizamuddin Aulia (popular poster published by Brijbasi Press)

NEW PROJECT “VISUAL PILGRIM”

The project “*Visual Pilgrim*” by Prof. Christiane Brosius, Yousuf Saeed and Suboor Bakht - in cooperation with the Heidelberg Research Architecture - has resulted in an online publication. Under the title “South Asia’s Islamic Shrines and Transcultural Visuality”, 10 essays enhanced with texts, photographs and videos are now available online, with some contributions by faculty from the South Asia Institute.

The collection of essays has been edited by Christiane Brosius, Chair of Visual and Media Anthropology at Heidelberg Centre for Transcultural Studies, and Yousuf Saeed, filmmaker and researcher based in Delhi. The project was based on extensive annotation of the research data and used a video annotation tool. Several short-time stipends had been given to successful applicants, the outcome are the essays.

The publication seeks to explore the relationship of place, religious practice and the emplacement as well as traffic of people, images and other media technologies across time and space. It examines Islamic shrines of saints in South Asia and other Islamic regions that are institutions of religious pilgrimage centred on the grave or mausoleum of an important Sufi saint or Shia imam. Such shrines are visited not only by Muslims but also by people from other faiths who go there to seek blessings and spiritual salvation. In the recent years, many of the shrines looked at in this volume have undergone transformation due to increasing influx from international or regional pilgrims and tourists and a rising interest to incorporate them into heritage politics of a city or state, impacting discourses on citizenship or ethnicity.

The volume proposes that cross-cultural entanglements are part and parcel of Sufi sites and practices, even though often not ‘obvious’ and/or acknowledged. The shrines, though physically immobile, are connected by agents, images, media, and practices, and thus shape a certain kind of spatial fluidity, always keeping everyday worlds and concerns at the forefront of enquiries about translocal connectivity, a connectivity that is by no means free of conflicts and tensions.

This transcultural mobility and connectivity of religious paraphernalia, sites and practices is of grave concern to the authors of the volume whose attention is paid to condensed zones of contact, such as Ladakh; to pilgrimage and media flows in Iran and Europe; to mediated religion in Pakistan, Singapore and Bangladesh or to performative aspects of site-specific and yet transnationally mobile imagery in particular regions of the Indian subcontinent.

The online publication is the result of a research project in the Cluster of Excellence ‘Asia and Europe in a Global Context’ with the title “*Visual Pilgrim: Mapping Popular Visuality and Devotional Media at Sufi Shrines and other Islamic Institutions in South Asia*”. The project was conceptualised as an interactive, multimedia and multi-layered exploration that locates transcultural connections and flows between various Sufi shrines or Islamic pilgrimage centres in India and beyond. Hundreds of documented images, videos, audios and objects have been plotted onto the maps and annotated in the image database of Heidelberg University, unravelling linkages between different regions, sites, audiences, and media.

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CONFERENCE “SOUTH ASIA IN TRANSITION: ELECTIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES, AND CIVIL SOCIETIES “ ORGANIZED BY SAI & KAS IN APRIL

The conference on “South Asia in Transition: Elections, Political Parties, and Civil Societies” was organized by the South Asia Institute, University of Heidelberg, and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) and took place on April 9th, 2014. The South Asia Institute was represented by: Prof. Subrata Kumar Mitra, Dr. Jivanta Schöttli, Prof. Sayed Wiqar Ali Shah, Dr. Siegfried O. Wolf, Dr. Martin Gieselmann.

This conference brought together experts from India, Afghanistan and Pakistan to discuss implications and conditions under which the elections take place: To which extent did Pakistan succeed in its democratic transition? How did new political forces as well as the existing ones perform in the newly elected Parliament? Why was India much more

successful than other South Asian states in the establishment of a multi-party system? How will the rise of new political parties like the Aam Aadmi Party change the Indian political party system from a long-term perspective? With regard to Afghanistan, the role of elections



as democratic mechanisms of stability and political integration was the focus of dialogue. Are elections the cure of all and what are their limitations? Doubtless, the holding of free and fair elections and especially the acceptance of electoral results will be one of the most significant prerequisites for future peace, national reconciliation and integration in Afghanistan.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ON INDIA’S LOK SABHA ELECTIONS, MAY 2014

The SAI, in cooperation with the Indo-German Association, Heidelberg, hosted a roundtable discussion on the general elections in India, in which the Modi-led BJP achieved a clear majority. The elections (with an electorate of 814.5 million) lasted from 7th April to 12th May 2014, and took place in 9 phases conducted in different states of the sub-continent. The results of the election were discussed in a lively debate by Prof. Mridula Mukherjee and Prof. Aditya Mukherjee (both from the Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University), Prof. Subrata Mitra (SAI, Department of Political Science) and Prof. Dr. em. Dietmar Rothermund (SAI, Department of History). Prof. Dr. Gita Dharampal-Frick (Dept. of History) chaired and moderated the event which was extremely well attended by students, faculty members and interested members of the public.

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Participants in front of Royal Holloway, University London



Presenting our papers at the conference

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES (BASAS)

by Bernhard Beitelmaier

From 2 to 4 April 2014 the Annual Conference of the British Association for South Asian Studies (BASAS) took place at Royal Holloway, University of London.

Dr. Lion König, La Toya Waha, Yang Lu and Bernhard Beitelmaier, all members of the Department of Political Science of the South Asia Institute (SAI), organised a joint panel on “Patterns of Conflict in South Asia: National and International Dimensions”, which was selected for the conference.

Analysing the origin and development of conflicts within as well as between South Asian states, the panel, chaired by Lion König, went beyond the conventional understanding of the concept and highlighted that conflict does not necessarily have to take violent forms but can instead entail conflicts of meaning.

Such ‘silent conflict’ can be as harmful to the stability of the nation-state as physical clashes. Thus, the theoretical lesson that this panel offered was that holistic conflict research must draw on realism, as well as on critical theory, and on quantitative and qualitative methodology to effectively assess the interplay between different levels and dimensions of conflict.

The central aim was to draw upon the different theoretical approaches and methods of analysis provided by the panellists to consider cognitive discrepancies between different social actors, and critically examine the struggle for a monopoly of interpretation in the multi-lingual, multi-ethnic and multi-religious societies of South Asia. In doing so, the panel raised a number of significant conceptual issues that point beyond the immediate context and contribute to an enhanced understanding of the general nature and dynamics of conflict.

The individual papers delivered by the participants covered a wide range of issues: Lion König’s “Communal Violence and Cognitive Clashes in India: Hindus, Muslims, and the Conceptual Problem of Secularism”, and La Toya Waha’s paper on “Analysing Buddhist Monastic Violence: Identity and Conflict in Sri Lanka” covered national dimensions of conflict in the cases of India and Sri Lanka, while Yang Lu in her presentation “From the Conflict- to the Post-conflict Stage: India-China Border Dispute and the ‘News War’” took the international dimension into account as did Bernhard Beitelmaier’s contribution “Conflicting Concepts: Exploring Indian Strategic Culture(s) and the Impact on Security” on the implications of the conflict of meaning over the concept of strategic culture within India’s strategic community.

The panel has not only given young scholars the opportunity to present their latest research at a high-end conference, and to connect to a wider specialized audience, but has also laid the ground for future academic collaboration and publications.

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by Roman Sieler

The 27th annual symposium of the German Society for Medical Anthropology (AG Ethnomedizin), “Global Mental Health – Mental health in Africa, Asia and Latin America from an anthropological and cultural psychiatric point of view”, took place from 27th to 29th June 2014, at the Völkermuseum, Heidelberg. This symposium was organized in collaboration with the South Asia Institute and, on Saturday, 28th June, comprised a two-part panel on “Current Contributions to Research on Mental Health from Heidelberg”, which consisted of seven presentations of ongoing and completed work conducted by researchers and students of the SAI. The first part of this panel, moderated by Prof. William Sax, head of the Dept. of Anthropology at the SAI, included three presentations. The first presentation, by Prof. Sax, reflected upon the possibility and value of combining anthropology and epidemiology in understanding ritual healing. Dr. med. Ananda Samir Chopra, Ayurvedic physician and research fellow at the Dept. of Anthropology, then presented his work on “Passions and “Madness” – the nosology of “mental diseases” in classical and modern Āyurveda”, in which he contrasted understandings of mental health in Ayurveda and biomedicine. Eva Ambos, Ph.D. candidate at the Dept. of Anthropology, explored the question of ‘Who defines whom as mentally ill and why?’ in the context of trance-like states in Sri Lanka in her lecture entitled “And those who were seen dancing were thought to be insane by those who could not hear the music – On Aesthetics and Mental Health in Sri Lanka”. The second part of the panel, moderated by Dr. Roman Sieler, coordinator of the M.A. “Health and Society in South Asia” (MAHASSA) at the SAI, highlighted research projects on topics in mental health, conducted by four students of the MAHASSA program. Margarita Lipatova presented her work on the re-definition of a meditation technique of Buddhist origins in Europe and North America, entitled “Mindfulness: facted out. Epistemic violence in creating mindfulness measuring scales”. Talking about her research on a ritual dance performance tradition in Kerala and its social importance and curative potential, Jency Joseph then gave a talk entitled “Teyyam performance as therapeutic approach”. Poonam Kamath next presented some results of her research conducted in Mumbai on “Local Psyches, Global Psychiatry: negotiating biopsychiatric and indigenous nosologies of mental illness in an Urban space”, by highlighting indigenous nosologies of mental health alongside biomedical ones. The panel’s final presentation, entitled “Psychologization and Pathologization of Shamanism Reconsidered – the Case of Eastern Nepal” was given by Raphael Mousa, who talked about the changing perceptions of shamans in scholarly discussions and their respective heuristic values in understanding shamanic healing. The panel, which was well attended, served to portray the richness and high quality of research contributions on topics of mental health from Heidelberg anthropologists. It also provided a valuable panorama of the work conducted by MAHASSA students and has certainly aroused interest in their forthcoming MA theses.

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WORKSHOP IN JAIPUR ON “INDIAN WATERSCAPES”

by Jörg Gengnagel

An international field workshop took place at Agrawal P.G. College in Jaipur, India. It was organised by Jörg Gengnagel, Prof. Monika Boehm-Tettelbach, and Rajendra Singh Khangarot. In addition, Ravi Baghel, Gita Dharampal-Frick, Elvira Graner, Frances Niebuhr and Marcus Nüsser were participating and contributing as members of the South Asia Institute.

Several media including the newspapers Daily News and Rajasthan Patrika reported about the workshop organised by the Interdisciplinary Research Group “Waterscapes in Transcultural Perspectives” of the Cluster Asia and Europe in Jaipur, India, from February 13 to 15, 2014. Under the title “Indian Waterscapes. Engineering Knowledge and Local Knowledge Systems”, the participants discussed the management of water in India.

The research group is jointly coordinated by Jörg Gengnagel and Marcus Nüsser. It attempts to trace the circulation and transformation of environmental knowledge fragments and practices across the boundaries of diverse knowledge systems. With this field workshop in Jaipur the research group started a series of workshops that enhance transdisciplinary cooperation without sacrificing the strength of disciplinary methodology and competencies, which has lately become a state-of-the-art practice in the agendas of leading global environmental research.

In the city of Jaipur, step-wells and tanks had from the early 18th century been built by Indian engineers with special expertise in water supply systems for arid zones. Modern public supply systems also had to cope with concepts of health and social function surrounding water and co-existed with traditional systems.

The presented case studies of Jaipur and Amber examined the systems of knowledge as applied to management of water and the shift in the function of water architecture down into the present.



वर्कशॉप में हुई चर्चा



जयपुर। सांगानेरी गेट स्थित अग्रवाल पीजी कॉलेज में इंटरनैशनल वाटर केम्पस इंजीनियरिंग नॉलेज एंड लोकल नॉलेज सिस्टम विषय पर आयोजित वर्कशॉप के दूसरे दिन टैक्निक ऑफ वाटर हाबीसिंग, वाटर कंजर्वेशन और हिस्टोरिकल आस्पेक्ट ऑफ वाटर के बारे में जानकारी दी गई।

‘लापोरिया’ के बारे में बताया। ये राज्य का वो गांव है, जो कभी बंजर हुआ करता था, लेकिन आज हरा-भरा है। सत्र के दौरान जर्मन की प्रोफेसर जुड़ा जैन ने एक पपर प्रजेंट किया, जिसमें इन्होंने वाटर हिस्टोरिकल आस्पेक्ट ऑफ वाटर एप्लीकलर आर्किटेक्चर इन राजस्थान के



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- ▶ New Zimmer Chair: Prof. Amiya P. Sen
- ▶ New Resident Representative at SAI branch office Kathmandu
- ▶ Prof. John Taber as Visiting Professor in Heidelberg
- ▶ Congratulations to Christoph Bergmann
- ▶ Congratulations to Yang Lu for her Dissertation
- ▶ Welcome to Prof. Saraswati Raju
- ▶ Welcome to Dr. Roman Sieler and Markus Pauli at the South Asia Institute
- ▶ Prasar Bharati's Chief Executive Officer at SAI

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PROF. MICHAELS WAS APPOINTED FOR ACADEMIC ADVISORY COUNCIL (ACC)



Prof. Dr. Axel Michaels, Director of the Department of Classical Indology, South Asia Institute, was appointed to the Academic Advisory Council (AAC) by Rector Prof. Dr. Bernhard Eitel. Here he will represent the interests of the humanities and social sciences.

The Academic Advisory Council was founded in 2006 during the planning of the institutional strategy; its role is to advise on strategy for Heidelberg

University in connection with the Excellence Initiative. It gave institutional form to existing longstanding contacts between the University and numerous eminent international scholars and representatives of industry. The ACC monitors and accompanies the implementation of the institutional strategy along with general developments at the University, advising the Rectorate in all questions relating to further conceptual planning for its future. The members of the ACC are eminent scholars from internationally esteemed universities and research institutions, high-ranking representatives of industry and senior academics from the University of Heidelberg.

NEW COLOMBO BRANCH OFFICE MANAGER

The Colombo Branch Office of the South Asia Institute reopened in February 2014 with Darshi Thoradeniya as its branch office manager. The branch office is located at the Social Policy Analysis and Research Centre (SPARC) of the University of Colombo, with which the South-Asia-Institute has had a strong relationship for more than ten years. A Memorandum of Understanding between the two institutions was signed on the 24th of March 2014, with the intention of fostering academic cooperation with universities and academic institutions all over Sri Lanka.



Darshi Thoradeniya



Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo

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NEW ZIMMER CHAIR: PROF. AMIYA P. SEN

We are happy to announce the arrival of Prof. Amiya P. Sen as new chairholder of the Heinrich Zimmer Chair for Philosophy and Intellectual History. Prof. Sen will join the SAI in winter term 2014/15 for a two-year stay. Prof. Sen is professor of Modern Indian History at the Department of History and Culture at Jamia Millia Islamia. He has held several prestigious fellowships both within India and beyond. His prime focus of interest is the intellectual and cultural history of Modern India and he has published widely on Hinduism as well as biographical studies on eminent Indian historical figures. The Heinrich Zimmer Chair is awarded by the Indian government through the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR). Prof. Sen is the third chairholder since inauguration of the position in 2010.



NEW RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE AT SAI BRANCH OFFICE KATHMANDU

Starting in August 2014 Nadine Plachta will keep up her position as resident representative at the SAI branch office in Kathmandu, Nepal. Mrs. Plachta has conducted research in Nepal for more than a decade. During this time she has built up a wide network of contacts with academic institutions in the country. Mrs. Plachta holds an M.A. in Anthropology and Religious Studies from Heidelberg University and has worked on Tibetan Buddhism. Currently she is about to complete her doctoral thesis at the University of Bern on the topic of "Being Tsumpa: Negotiating Identity, Belonging, and Place in a High Mountain Valley of Nepal".



PROF. JOHN TABER AS VISITING PROFESSOR IN HEIDELBERG

We welcomed Prof. John Taber (Full Professor for Philosophy, University of New Mexico) as a visiting professor in the summer semester 2014. He gave lectures in the fields of South Asian Studies, Cultural and Religious History of South Asia and Transcultural Studies as replacement for Prof. Dr. Birgit Kellner during her research sabbatical at the Chair of Buddhist Studies, Cluster Asia and Europe.



John Taber is a leading international expert in the field of classical Indian philosophy. He works on Brahmanical (Mīmāṃsā) and Buddhist traditions (Yogācāra) and their interrelationships. In 1983, he received his Ph.D. from Universität Hamburg in Philosophy with minor subjects Indology and General Linguistics. 1987 he joined the University of Mexico, where he was Chair of the department of Philosophy from 2005-2009. Previously, he was also a visiting professor at the University of Vienna.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO CHRISTOPH BERGMANN FOR HIS DISSERTATION

Congratulations to Christoph Bergmann for the successful defense of his doctorate thesis supervised by Prof. William S. Sax, Ph.D. and Prof. Dr. Marcus Nüsser. His dissertation "Living in a High Mountain Border Region: Politics and Poetics of Central Himalayan Pastoralism" originated from an interdisciplinary research project between the departments of geography and anthropology at the SAI that was funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). Based on a case study in the Himalayan border triangle between India, Tibet (China) and Nepal, Christoph Bergmann analyzes how mountain pastoralists dealt with shifting border demarcations and territorial conflicts in pursuit of a viable livelihood.



Prof. Dr. Marcus Nüsser, Christoph Bergmann, Prof. William S. Sax,

CONGRATULATIONS TO YANG LU FOR HER DISSERTATION

Congratulations to Yang Lu, Department of Political Science of South Asia Institute for completion of her dissertation (Prof. Subrata Kumar Mitra). Yang Lu is since November 2011 Senior Research Assistant at the Department of Political Science of the South Asia Institute.

The dissertation "Dynamics of National Interest and National Identity: A Constructivist Approach to the India-China Relations (2003-2012)" analyses the current India-China relations by using the concepts "national interest" and "national identity" within the framework of social constructivism of international relations. The thesis argues that the dynamics of national identity and national interest defined by the current international and domestic structures determine the formulation of their foreign policy strategies and thus their bilateral relations. The work is a contribution to the scarce constructivist literature on Sino-Indian relations.



Prof. Mitra, Yang Lu, Prof. Frank R. Pfetsch (Second assessor, Institute for Political Science, University Heidelberg)



Dr. Jivanta Schöttli, Prof. Mitra, Yang Lu, Prof. Frank R. Pfetsch, Babara Neef (Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences, University Heidelberg)

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WELCOME TO PROF. SARASWATI RAJU

During the summer term we were happy to welcome Professor Saraswati Raju at the South Asia Institute as a DAAD Guest Professor. She is a Professor in Social Geography at the Centre for the Study of Regional Development (CSR D) at the Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi, India.

Her research interests are Gendered History, Gender and Space, Research Methods and Policies related to South Asian Youth. She has published nationally and internationally on issues related to gendered marginalities in labour market, access to literacy/education/skills, demographic concerns and gender and space.

She is one of the founding members of the International Geographic Union's (IGU) Commission on Gender and Geography and has received many visiting awards and fellowships in her long and illustrious career.



WELCOME TO DR. ROMAN SIELER AND MARKUS PAULI AT THE SOUTH ASIA INSTITUTE

We cordially welcome two new Research Associates at the South Asia Institute. Dr. Roman Sieler works at the Department of Anthropology and Markus Pauli at the Department of Political Science of the South Asia Institute since April 2014.

Dr. Roman Sieler works as Research Associate and Course Coordinator MA Health and Society in South Asia at the Department of Anthropology. His research foci are South India, Tamil Nadu and Medical Anthropology, siddha medicine, manual medicine, and martial arts.

Markus Pauli, Dipl.-Pol. works as Research Associate at the Department of Political Science. His research foci are Microfinance Institutions (MFIs), Amartya Sen's Capability Approach, and Economic Citizenship.



Dr. Roman Sieler



Markus Pauli

PRASAR BHARATI'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AT SAI

The Chief Executive Officer of India's national public service broadcaster Prasar Bharati, Jawhar Sircar, visited the SAI on 3rd of June and held a talk (accompanied by an impressive powerpoint presentation) in the Institute's colloquium about the (new) media's synergetic interaction with the outcome of the Indian elections. The event was well attended by faculty, students and interested friends of the SAI.



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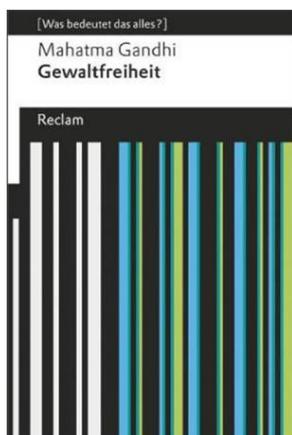
- ▶ New Publication by Gita Dharampal-Frick
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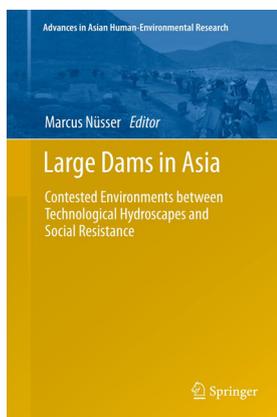
NEW PUBLICATION BY GITA DHARAMPAL-FRICK

Reclam published Mahatma Gandhi's „Was bedeutet das alles? Gewaltfreiheit“, edited by Gita Dharampal-Frick (Head of Department of History, South Asia Institute), with excerpts from Gandhi's speeches and writings. His speeches and statements about nonviolence and political resistance had enormous influence in the past and shape the political debate until now.

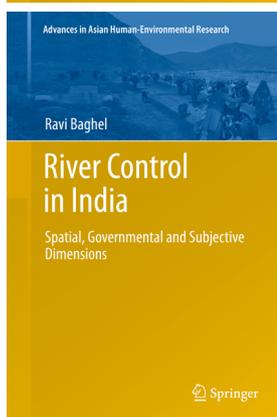


This edition is compiled by Gita Dharampal-Frick, the editor of the standard edition of Gandhi's works, and offers the most important texts. A curriculum vitae as well as a map are also included in the book.

NEW BOOK PUBLICATIONS IN THE SERIES „ADVANCES IN ASIAN HUMAN-ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH“ BY MARCUS NÜSSER AND RAVI BAGHEL



The Springer Verlag published two new books in the series „*Advances in Asian Human-Environmental Research*“ by Marcus Nüsser (Head of Department of Geographie) and Ravi Baghel (Research Associate Department of Geographie).



In the new volume „*Large Dams in Asia: Contested Environments between Technological Hydroscaapes and Social Resistance*“ by Marcus Nüsser the various dimensions of the large dams controversy in Asia are critically analyzed and the complex relationships between landscapes, resources, and their modification by human land use are discussed.

„*River Control in India: Spatial, Governmental and Subjective Dimensions*“ by Ravi Baghel discusses the effects on the environment by river control projects from experts like large dams and embankments.

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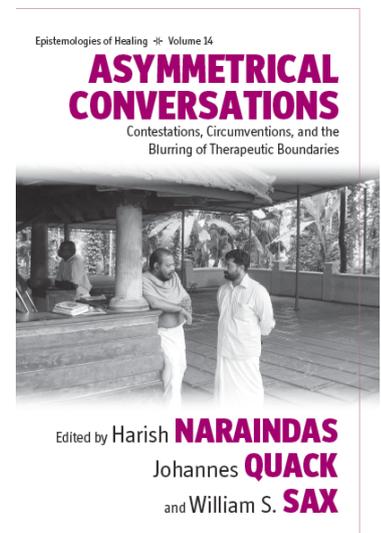
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NEW BOOK “ASYMMETRICAL CONVERSATIONS” BY HARISH NARAINDAS, JOHANNES QUACK, AND WILLIAM S. SAX

A new book called “Asymmetrical Conversations - Contestations, Circumventions, and the Blurring of Therapeutic Boundaries”, edited by William S. Sax, Harish Naraindas, and Johannes Quack was published by Berghahn Books in May 2014.

The contributors to this volume describe contestations and circumventions of health ideologies, and the blurring of therapeutic boundaries, on the basis of case studies from India, the South Asian Diaspora, and Europe, focusing on relations between body, mind, and spirit in a variety of situations.

William S. Sax is Chair of Anthropology at the South Asia Institute. Harish Naraindas is currently Associate Professor in the School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Iowa. Johannes Quack is principal investigator of the Emmy Noether-Project “The Diversity of Nonreligion” at Goethe-University, Frankfurt.



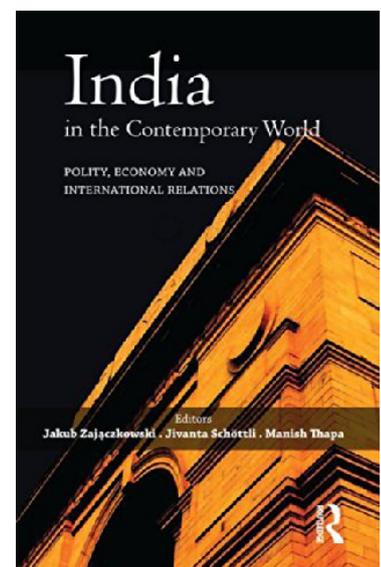
NEW BOOK CO-EDITED BY JIVANTA SCHÖTTLI

A new book titled “India in the Contemporary World: Polity, Economy and International Relations” edited by Manish Thapa, Jakub Zajaczkowski and Jivanta Schöttli was published by Routledge in May 2014.

The volume includes 19 papers of scholars from India and the EU, including Subrata K. Mitra (Head of the Department Political Science, SAI).

The book brings together Indian and European perspectives on India’s polity, economy and international strategy. It explores internal, regional and global determinants shaping India’s status, position and goals in the early 21st century.

Jivanta Schöttli is an associate member of the South Asia Institute, Heidelberg University and former research fellow at the Department of Political Science. Jakub Zajaczkowski is Assistant Professor at the Institute of International Relations, Vice-Director of the Institute for Research and International Cooperation, and Chairperson of the Centre for Contemporary India Research and Studies, University of Warsaw, Poland. Manish Thapa is Assistant Professor at the Department of Conflict, Peace and Development Studies, Tribhuvan University, Nepal.



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CONTACT

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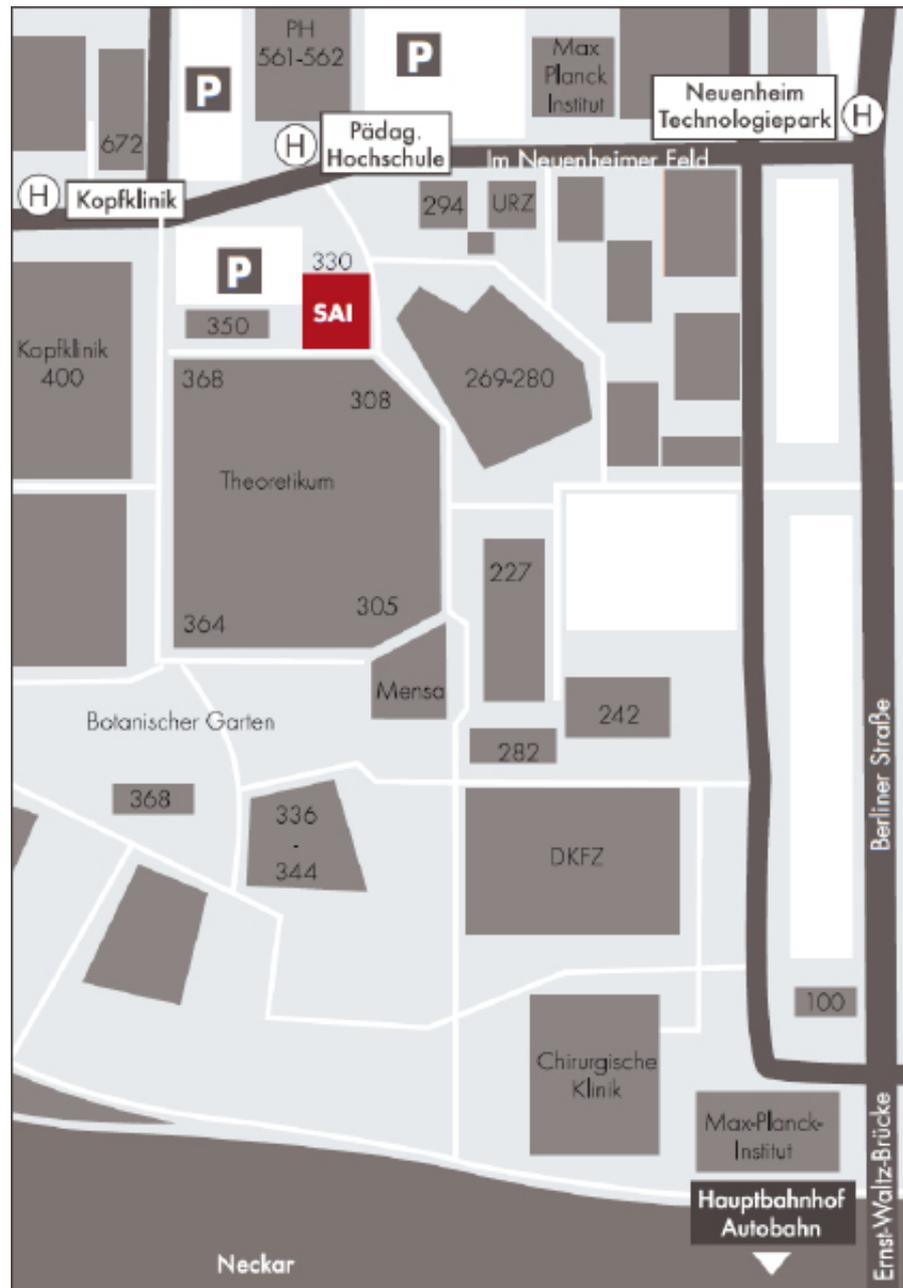
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MAP OF THE AREA



Arriving by car from Autobahn A656

Turn left towards “Chirurgie” and “Zoo” at the end of the Autobahn. Cross the Neckar on Ernst-Waltz-Brücke. You are now at “Berliner Straße”. At the third traffic light turn left and enter into the Neuenheimer Feld Campus. After ca. 200 m the SAI is on the left hand side. Use one out of three public parking lots close to the institute.

Public Transport

From Heidelberg main station: Take bus line 32 or 21 (direction towards “Neuenheim”). Get off at the stop “Kopfklinik” or “Pädagogische Hochschule”. Bus line 31 also brings you to University Square (Uniplatz) in Heidelberg Old Town and back.

