

The Center For South Asia Studies  
**16th Annual South Asia Conference**  
University of California, Berkeley  
International House  
2229 Piedmont Ave. Berkeley, Ca  
Friday/Saturday, February 16/17, 2001

**Agenda**

**Friday, February 16**

Session 1  
9:00 - 10:30 AM

**Panel 1: History, Memory, Community: Rethinking South Asian Regional Cultural History**

**Chair and Discussant:** Mridu Rai, Bowdoin College

*Location: Homerom*

- Alternative Imaginings: Representations of Community in Punjabi Oral Epics  
Farina Mir, Columbia University
- Writing Hindu-Muslim Hybridity: Nationalist Histories in Late Princely Hyderabad  
Eric L. Beverley, Harvard University
- The Ideal Leader?: Maratha Historiography and the Quest for Social Leadership in Colonial Maharashtra  
Prachi Deshpande, Tufts University

**Panel 2: The Ground Beneath Her Feet: Gender, Consumption and Globalization**

**Chair:** Bakirathi Mani, Stanford University

**Discussant:** Rajiv Vrudhula, University of California, Berkeley

*Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room*

- Destination Culture: Performing the Nation at South Asian Arts/Activist Festivals  
Bakirathi Mani, Stanford University
- "Roomful of Asha": Negotiating Gender and Ethnic "Authenticity" Through British Asian Music  
Falu Bakrania, Stanford University
- Between Consumer and Commodity: The Fashions of Youth in Kerala  
Ritty Lukose, University of Pennsylvania

Session 2  
10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

**Panel 3: Redesigning the Pakistani State: Plans and Progress**

**Chair:** Naseem A. Jawed, California State University, Chico

*Location: Homerom*

- The Formulation and Implementation of Pakistan's Local Government Plan, 2000  
Charles Kennedy, Wake Forest University
- The Politics of Military Keynesianism in Pakistan: An Assessment  
Syed B. Hussain, University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh
- Pakistan's Quest For Subsidiarity and Decentralization: Plans and Progress  
Agha Saeed, California State University, Hayward
- Refounding Politics: Reconnecting Civilization, Community and  
the State in Pakistan  
Aurangzeb Syed, Northern Michigan University

**Panel 4: The Politics of Representation: Gender, Sexuality, and Power in Popular Hindi Films**

**Chair:** Priya Joshi, University of California, Berkeley

*Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room*

- Absent Mothers, Hidden Fears: the Fantasy of the Maternal in Popular Hindi Film  
Charlene Beh, University of California, Berkeley
- Forbidden Desires and Insurgent Fantasies: Loves that Cannot Be Spoken in Bollywood Blockbusters  
Christine Hong, University of California, Berkeley

- The Phenomenon of Mother India: Female Bodies and the Space of the Nation  
Padma Rangarajan, University of California, Berkeley
- Black & White or Gray in Awara and Sri 420  
Deborah Stein, University of California, Berkeley

Session 3

1:30 - 3:00 PM

**Panel 5: Migrants, Bodies, Knowledge: South Asian Selves in Transnational Spaces**

**Chair and Discussant:** Kavita Daiya, University of Chicago

*Location: Homeroom*

- Identity as Global Process: South Asian Immigrants in Germany  
Sareeta Amrute, University of Chicago
- Embodied Discourse: Human Rights, Resistance, and the Body in Tibet  
Jennifer M. Chertow, Stanford University
- Sahni Mootoo's "Cereus Blooms at Night": Literature, Ritual, Erotics  
Proma Tagore, University of Victoria

**Panel 6: Anthropological Perspectives on Dowry in India**

**Panel Chair:** Karen Leonard, University of California, Irvine

**Discussant:** Susan Seymour, Pitzer College

*Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room*

- A North India Perspective on Dowry: Generalizations from Uttar Pradesh Village Studies  
Pauline Kolenda, University of California, Berkeley
- A South India Perspective on Dowry: Observation in a Karnataka Village  
Helen E. Ullrich, New Orleans
- Gender, Family, School Linkages in India: the Issue of Dowry  
Carol C. Mukhopadhyay, San Jose State University

Session 4

3:15 - 4:45 PM

**Panel 7: The Politics of the Popular**

**Chair:** Sheetal Majithia, Cornell University

**Discussant:** Gayatri Gopinath, University of California, Davis

*Location: Homeroom*

- From Mainland to Diaspora: (Dis)Embodying Feminine Voices in the Asian Underground  
Nilanjana Bhattacharjya, Cornell University
- Where is Filmistan? Multiple Visual Registers in an Indian Film Village  
Will Elison, University of Chicago
- Melodrama and Modernity: New Subjectivities in Indian Soaps  
Sheetal Majithia, Cornell University

**Panel 8: Cries from South Asia: Tiers of Natural Resource Management**

**Panel Chair:** Brigitta Bode, University of California, Berkeley

**Discussant:** Isha Ray, University of California, Berkeley

*Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room*

- Can the Center See the Local State Through the Trees?  
Brigitta Bode, University of California, Berkeley
- Flows of the Mahaweli: The Formation and Reformation of Farmer Companies and Organizations  
Katariina Tuovinen, University of California, Berkeley
- The Dynamics of Participation: An Assessment of AKRSP's Extension Volunteer Model  
Brinda Sarathy, University of California, Berkeley

5:00 PM: **Reception**

*Location: Great Hall*

6:00 PM: **Film Presentation of "My Son, the Fanatic"**

Followed by Discussion with Hanif Kureishi, screenwriter

*Location: Chevron Auditorium*

## **Saturday, February 17**

Session 5:

9:00 - 10:30 AM

### **Panel 9: Social Practices, Formal Procedures: Cross-Cultural Intercourse in Mughal, Colonial and Post-Independence India**

**Panel Chair:** Aarati Kanekar, University of Cincinnati

**Discussant:** Hema Chari, California State University, Los Angeles

*Location: Homeroom*

- Indigenous or Foreign: The Metamorphosis of Fabric Types in Pathan Urban Settlements in Mughal India  
Manu Sobti, Georgia Institute of Technology
- Salon and Darbar: The Indian Interior and the Space of Representation in Colonial India  
Sabir Khan, Georgia Institute of Technology
- Travel and Translation: Cross-Cultural Tropes  
Mark Cottle, Georgia Institute of Technology

Session 6

10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

### **Panel 10: Of Resistance and Tact: The Role of Literature and Media during Military Regimes in Pakistan**

**Chair:** Javaid Sayed, City College of San Francisco

**Discussants:** Abdul Jabbar, City College of San Francisco & Khwaja Ashraf, Berkeley

*Location: Homeroom*

- To Be or Not To Be: Military Government's Attempts at New Press Legislation  
Naeem Mazhar, Press Information Department, Government of Pakistan
- Of Challenge and Response: Role of the National Press during Military Regimes  
Wali Zahid, Institute of Leadership and Management, Lahore, Pakistan
- Showing Resolve to Voice Dissent: Urdu Literature During Martial Laws  
Hamid Iqbal Butt, Government College of Commerce, Shahdara, Lahore, Pakistan

### **Panel 11: Defining Parameters: The Image of the Feminine in South Asian Art & Literature**

**Chair & Discussant:** Joanna Williams, University of California, Berkeley

*Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room*

- Counting Mothers: Matrices of Sound and the Marking of Boundaries  
Layne Little, University of California, Berkeley
- Disrobing the Courtesan: Exposing the Feminine Voice in 17th Century South Indian Love Poetry  
Gita Pai, University of California, Berkeley
- Casting a Goddess: The Canonization of Antal as Bhudevi  
Archana Venkatesan, University of California, Berkeley

Session 7

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

### **Panel 12: Visuality and Modernity in South Asia**

**Panel Chair:** Finbarr B. Flood, National Gallery of Art

**Discussant:** Kajri Jain, Getty Research Institute

*Location: Homeroom*

- Transcribing Ruins, Inscribing Difference: Architectural Photography as Ethnographic Practice in Colonial India  
Finbarr B. Flood, National Gallery of Art
- The Visual and the Material in Everyday Urban South Asia  
Iftikhar Dadi, Cornell University
- Phantasmagoric Aesthetics: Violence in the Colonial Photographic Archive  
Zahid Chaudhary, Cornell University

**Panel 13: The Vicissitudes of Partition Memory: Visions and Voices of Communal Violence**

**Panel Chair:** Vasudha Dalmia, University of California, Berkeley

**Discussant:** Michael Nijhawan, South Asia Institute, Heidelberg, Germany

*Location: Ida & Robert Sproul Room*

- Re-Memory and Recompense: Staging 1947 in Documenting 1992  
Bishnupriya Ghosh, Utah State University
- Autobiography and the Dhadi Voice: Ruins of Partition Memory and the Quest for Sikh Identity  
Michael Nijhawan, South Asia Institute, Heidelberg, Germany
- Loss and Recovery: Popular Bengali Cinema as Partition Discourse  
Bhaskar Sarkar, University of California, Santa Barbara