Letter from the Director

I write this at the end of an exciting summer for the Center for South Asian Studies (CSAS). We ran pilots of two new international student programs, one with the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Pune (IISER), and the other with Habib University, Karachi (see more details on p. 3). These programs are the outcome of an effort at the CSAS over the past few years to expand our network of institutional collaborations in India and Pakistan, in order to create new opportunities for students and faculty—both at U-M and at the institutions we are engaging.

As my tenure as Director draws to a close—this is my fifth and final year—I am pleased that the CSAS has now established relationships with Ashoka University, Delhi University, the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), and Shiv Nadar University, all in and around Delhi, and IIT-M in Pune; and with the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) and Habib University in Pakistan. We envision sending our students to these institutions, welcoming their students to U-M, and collaborating with them.

Our summer activity came on the heels of the third annual U-M Pakistan Conference, on gender and sexuality (see p. 5); and in conjunction with other area studies centers, including two dance performances at the Center for South Asian Studies Workshop (see p. 7); a graduate student Conference (see p. 7); and the 7th annual U-M Pakistan Conference (April 6, 2018). In the pages that follow you’ll find more information on the Center’s activities over the past year as well as those we have planned for the coming year. You’ll also read about research on and engagement with South Asia from across U-M.

As 2017-18 ends my tenure as Director, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff, faculty, and students for their support of the Center. I am extremely grateful to have had this opportunity to work with you and to produce work for her over these past two years, and all with good cheer.

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CSAS International Student Programs

Janelle Fosler

The agreement with Habib University—a newly established private liberal arts university—allows select students to enroll in summer semester courses at U-M’s Ann Arbor campus. In summer 2017, four Habib students joined us on campus: Masaim Hyder Ali, Infer Khalid Baig, Fatima Hamdini, and Suhain Haq.

“Travelling on my own for the first time, experiencing life in a different country, and meeting some of the kindest and most compassionate people in Ann Arbor have been truly remarkable.” —Infer Baig

When asked about her experience, Infer Baig shared: “The Michigan summer term 2017 has been by far the greatest growing experience of my life. Here at the University of Michigan, I am taking inspiring courses on “Anthropology of the Senses” and “Gender in the Middle East,” which are very relevant to my academic interests. But I am also learning so much about myself. Travelling on my own for the first time, experiencing life in a different country, and meeting some of the kindest and most compassionate people in Ann Arbor have been truly remarkable. I know that when I go back home, I will be carrying with me some of the most wonderful memories, friendships, connections, and wisdom that life has to offer.”

Habib Students at U-M. From L-R: Fatima Hamdini, Infer Khalid Baig, Suhain Haq, Masaim Hyder Ali.

IISER Students at U-M. From L-R: Fariba Mi, Josi Jasa, Ranjuja Yaday, Prateek Yadav, Sunaj Sharma, Harshita Gendle, James Penner-Halse (not pictured: Prathamesh Date). In 2016, the Center for South Asian Studies signed agreements with Habib University (Karachi) and the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) (Pune), providing an opportunity for their students to study and/or do research at U-M. Both student programs ran for the first time in Spring/Summer 2017. In late May, we welcomed six undergraduate students from IISER to Ann Arbor and sent three U-M students to IISER’s Pune campus under the auspices of the Michigan-IISER Science Exchange Program. IISER students were placed in research labs to work alongside U-M students and faculty for approximately 10 weeks. Preliminary feedback from both students and faculty has been very positive, and we hope to have as many as 10 IISER students at U-M in 2018. We were pleased that three U-M students were able to take advantage of a reciprocal opportunity to study with faculty at IISER. We hope to see more U-M students take advantage of this opportunity to study science and the humanities in an international context and work with IISER’s renowned faculty in the future.

CSAS Students at U-M. From L-R: Rachel Hirsch (UM), Prashkar Subah (IISER), Naurah Shamsi (IISER), Andrew Beckman (UM), Midilid Wave (IISER), Alex Rozinich (UM), and Gayna Tripathy (IISER).
The Center for South Asian Studies hosted an international conference on “Sound and South Asia” on October 7–8, 2016. The study of what we hear has conventionally been reserved for the medical specialist, the acoustic engineer, and the ethnomusicologist. However, in recent years the life of sounds—from the most refined of classical music to the most irritating of street noises—has become a topic for disciplines as diverse as history, law, economics, performance studies, and film studies.

The sound of the body in South Asia has been increasingly defined along the often-rigid demarcations of women’s lives. Moving from these nuanced local considerations of sonic cultures, Isabel Huacuja Alonso (California State University, San Bernadino) and Vedrini Dogal (Sasai Center for the Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi) presented their research on the most transnational and ephemeral of sonic media: radio. Through their work on All-India Radio’s Urdu service and on the use of postcards for radio request shows, respectively, this panel detailed how sound’s famous capacity for non-directional dissipation makes it both compelling and resistant to the desires of the nation-state.

Sound studies is a burgeoning field across disciplines, and in the South Asian context it has focused most insistently on the famous sonic conventions of Indian commercial cinema. In keeping with this strong sub-field, the conference staged two conversations on film sound. The first panel on the topic considered the sonic conventions of particular historical moments in Indian filmmaking, whether in the silent and sound periods of non-digital filmmaking in the early and mid-twentieth century, as in the research of Neepa Majumdar (University of Pittsburgh), or in the digital environment of commercial filmmaking today, as explored by Madhuka Mukherjee (Jadavpur University, Kolkata). The second panel, on the topic, featuring Pavitra Sundar (Hamilton College) and Corey Creekmur (University of Iowa), articulated future directions for the study of Indian cinema sounds, considering the bodily sound associated with particular singers and the imagined sound of history.

The conference concluded with a discussion of the valuation of sound, through the work of Michelle Friedner (Stony Brook University) and Jayson Beaster-Jones (University of California, Santa Cruz) concluded the conference with a panel on “Gendered Sexuality.” Friedner’s presentation was accompanied by an exhibition of their work in the gallery space of the International Institute. The conference presented work on gendered experiences of moving through spaces, transit, roads, shrines, and religious gatherings, and how these spaces and encounters are negotiated through relations of power that are themselves shaped, mediated, and regulated through notions of masculinity and femininity. The presentations generated questions about how gender ideologies traverse state programs and society at large, and how these notions are both contested, negotiated, manipulated, and actively (re)produced by individuals and groups in various situations.

The conference was made possible by generous support from the American Institute of Pakistan Studies, as well as the U-M Institute for Research on Women & Gender, Islamic Studies Program, Residential College, Rackham Graduate School, LSA Central Student Government, Institute for the Humanities, Multi-ethnic Student Affairs, Residence Halls Association, Newberry-Barcode Hall Council, East Quad Office of Multicultural Initiatives, Asian Pacific Islander American Studies, Penny W. Stamps School of Art & Design, and the Departments of Anthropology, Asian Languages and Cultures, Communication Studies, History, History of Art, and Women’s Studies. This conference was also funded in part by the Center’s Title VI federal grant from the US Department of Education.
The Center for South Asian Studies is pleased to host an international conference on September 23-24, 2017: “Seeking Social Justice in South Asia.” The aim of the conference is to focus attention on stark and persistent political, economic, social, cultural, and environmental challenges in South Asia and to explore strategies for addressing these issues.

The conference will bring together a group of international experts from around the world to share their research and insights on a wide range of topics related to social justice in South Asia. The conference will address these issues in the context of contemporary South Asia.

We look forward to welcoming:

Flavia Agnes, Malij Legal Centre, Mumbai
Khalid Anis Ansari, Glaciary University (U.P., India)
Sara Hossein, Bangladesh Legal Aid Services and Trust
Alan Keenan, Sh/Lanka Senior Analyst, International Crisis Group (London)
Zainab Malik, Justice Project Pakistan
P. Sainath, Founder Editor, People’s Rural Archive (India)
A.R. Vasani, National Institute of Advanced Sciences (India), Bangalore
Bezwada Wilson, Safa Karmachari Andolan (India)

This conference will be made possible by the generous support of Ranvir and Ardash Tehra, and the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Graduate Interdisciplinary Conference on South Asia

Minalini Sinha

The Center for South Asian Studies hosted an interdisciplinary conference on South Asia for graduate students on March 24, 2017. Graduate students from any discipline at the University of Michigan were invited to present papers that focused on any period or aspect of the study of South Asia. A selection committee comprised of Professors Ankit Agar, School of Natural Resources and Environment, Amin Punzambalbar (Department of Communication Studies) and Minalini Sinha (Department of History) selected the eight students who presented their work at the day-long conference. The conference ended with a keynote address by Professor Douglas E. Haynes, Department of History, Dartmouth College.

Graduate students from any discipline at the University of Michigan were invited to present papers that focused on any period or aspect of the study of South Asia.

Presenters represented several different academic departments and were at different stages in their graduate careers. The following students presented their work on the conference:

- Hoda Bande-Ahmad, Anthropology ("Scenes of Inheritance: Intellectual Kinship and the Ethnography of Academic Anthropology and Sociology in Delhi");
- Tapsi Mathur, History ("How to Become a Native Explorer: English Education and the Making of a Professional");
- Devdutt Mani, Sociology ("Can Cheaper Generators Help Small Farmers Under Chronic Electricity Shortages? Evidence from a Generator Subsidy Program for MME’s in India");
- Matthew Schiller, Anthropology ("Footnote to Partition, 1938: Burma in India, Riots in Burma");
- Monur Desai, History ("Treatable Women: Adultery and Abolition in Colonial Punjab (British India)");
- Anil Menon, Political Science ("Historical Warfare and Long-Run Economic and Political Development in India"); and
- Sangita Saha, History and Women’s Studies ("Transforming Domestic Labor: Constructing ‘Worthy’ selves: A Study of Selected Women’s Autobiographies from Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Bengal").

The keynote lecture, "Brand Name Capitalism, Advertising, and the Making of Modern University of Michigan Indians, 1928-1946" by Professor Douglas E. Haynes (Dartmouth College), wrapped up the day. It was not only characteristically insightful but, fortunately, it also touched upon many of the themes that had arisen during the day-long conversations on the student papers. Professor Haynes’ audience was able to pick up on the resonances of the various themes that had emerged earlier in the day and to follow up on conversations in the informal setting of a conference dinner sponsored by the Center.

The successful outcome of the day found both the university community and Professor Haynes exposed to the kind of work undertaken by our students and the student presenters. Exposed to the range of faculty expertise on campus, beyond their individual disciplines, from which they might potentially in the future draw.

The success of the conference owed to the willingness of the student presenters to share their work as well as to the faculty students, guests, and visitors who gave their time, many for the entire day to take part in the conference. The enthusiasm and support of the graduate student volunteers, notably Leslie Hempson (History), Zehra Hashmi (Anthropology and History) and Salman Hussain (Anthropology and History), who chaired individual sessions at the conference were imperative to the success of the conference.

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Aniket Agar, Assistant Professor, School for Environment and Sustainability and Postdoctoral Fellow, Michigan Society of Fellows, was awarded the 2016 Satter Prize Award for his PhD thesis, Genetically Modified Democracy: The Science and Politics of Transgenic Agriculture in Contemporary India. This award is given to the best doctoral dissertation on Modern India in the US across the fields of humanities, social sciences, education, and fine arts. Agar co-authored an article with (Chitrangada Choudhury) on the cascading impacts of demonetisation on the tomato farmers of Western Maharashtra, which was published in Economic and Political Weekly. Maharashtrian, which was published in Economic and Political Weekly.

Mousumi Banerjee, Research Professor at the School of Public Health, presented “Analysis of Case-Control Studies at the Workshop on Quantitative Methods for Public Health Researchers from SAARC Countries” at the University of Calcutta in December 2016; and “Statistical Methods in Cancer Research” at the National Institute of Cancer Research and Hospital Workshop in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Banerjee visited Bangladesh as part of a School of Public Health Dean’s delegation to explore research, education, and scholarly exchange opportunities. Additionally, Banerjee did outreach work at Pioneer High School to bring Rabindranath Tagore’s music to high school students.

Leela Fernandes, Glenda Dickerson Collegiate Professor of Women’s Studies and Political Science, has been conducting research for her book, India’s Liberalizing State: Urbanization, Inequality and Water Politics in India. She published “Disciplinary Quarrels: A Meta-commentary on The Relationship Between Political Science and the Interdisciplinary Study of Asia,” Verge: Studies in Global Asia (3.1, Spring 2017), and completed Feminists Retie the Neoiberal State: Inequality, Exclusion and Change (New York University Press, forthcoming [2018]). Fernandes served as a member of the American Institute for Indian Studies and continues to serve as the South Asia editor of Critical Asian Studies.

Ram Mahalingam, Department of Psychology, was promoted in 2016-17 from Associate Professor to Professor. Mahalingam was selected by the USA Executive Committee for the 2017 John Dewey Award for his ongoing commitment to the education of underrepresented students. Winners of the Dewey award model the full range of John Dewey’s own considerable talents: scholarly productivity, provision of leadership, and engagement with and care for students.

Christi A. Merrill, Associate Professor, Departments of Comparative Literature and Asian Languages and Cultures, was awarded a Michigan Humanities Award with saltatorial leave in 2016-17 to write her latest book project, Genes of Rural Life: Medicating Stories of Invisible Across Languages. The book is based on research conducted in India in 2013-14, which was supported by a National Endowment for the Humanities grant.

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Savithry Namboodiripad will join U-M this fall as a Collegiate Postdoctoral Fellow in the College of Literature, Sciences, and the Arts and the National Center for Institutional Diversity. In fall 2019, she will begin a tenure-track position in the U-M Linguistics Department. Namboodiripad’s research interests include language contact, language use in post-colonial societies and immigrant communities, and language emergence and change. She completed her Ph.D. in 2017 from University of California, San Diego. In her PhD thesis, she conducted field experiments in Kerala, India, measuring variation in Malayalam word order. She is interested in how language use and contact can lead to language change, focusing on how use of English is resulting in changes to Malayalam phonology, lexicon, and syntax. Future work will investigate the relationship between language use and language structure by comparing immigrant speech communities to different communities of Malayalam-speakers in India. A native speaker of Malayalam who grew up in Minnesota, Savi received her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Linguistics from the University of Chicago. She is looking forward to returning to the Midwest after her time in Southern California.

Meha Jain is an Assistant Professor in the School of Environment and Sustainability and is also part of the Sustainable Food Systems Initiative at the University of Michigan. Jain’s research examines the impacts of environmental change on agricultural production and strategies that farmers adopt to reduce negative impacts. Her work combines remote sensing of satellite imagery and geospatial analyses with household-level and census datasets to examine farmer decision-making and behavior across large spatial and temporal scales. To date her work has focused on the impacts of weather variability and groundwater depletion on agricultural production in India, and whether smallholder farmers are able to adapt their cropping practices to mitigate these impacts. Jain currently has several ongoing projects related to sustainable agriculture in India, including: (1) examining the impacts of more efficient fertilizer use in Bihar; (2) mapping the cropland on urban areas in India presenting a troubling new development in the history of state-civil society relations in Pakistan. Zehra Hashmi (Program in Anthropology and History) discussed the implications of the disappearances and the secularization of cyber spaces for intellectual and political freedom in Pakistan and elsewhere. The discussion that followed these three presentations was enriched by Bruno Renzos (Philosophy and History) comments on enforced disappearances in Latin America. The teach-in addressed the specificity of enforced disappearances and the victimization of political activists in Pakistan, while also placing these issues in a global context of the increasing repression of dissent.

Being Brown in Trump’s America: A Roundtable on Hate Crimes Against South Asians in the United States

Salman A. Hussian

On January 16, 2017, South Asia Solidarity in Michigan (SASMi)—a network of graduate students at the University of Michigan—and the Center for South Asian Studies hosted a teach-in on the disappearances of activists and bloggers in Pakistan. Between January 4–7, 2017, four Pakistani bloggers and an activist went missing: Salman Haidar (poet, actor, playwright, writer, and a lecturer at the Fatima Jinnah University in Rawalpindi); Ahmed Waqas Goraya (medical anthropologist); Asmaa Saeed (IT specialist); Ahmed Naawan Raza (shopkeeper); and Samir Aliab (rights activist, and President of Civil Progressive Alliance Pakistan). Haidar, Goraya, Saeed, and Raza had each been involved in online activity. At the time of the teach-in, all were unaaccounted for, however, all were returned to their homes one month after their abduction.

The teach-in began with Salman A. Hussian (Program in Anthropology and History) providing an overview of the specific cases of the five disappeared activists/bloggers, and a brief history of the blasphemy/law that was mobilized in the Pakistani media to malign these activists after their disappearance. Fareha Mir (History) described the vibrant culture of dissent in urban Pakistan, the particularities of the spaces of dissent, and how the crackdown on urban activism in areas presented a troubling new development in the history of state-civil society relations in Pakistan. Zehra Hashmi (Program in Anthropology and History) discussed what the implications of the disappearances and the secularization of cyber spaces for intellectual and political freedom in Pakistan and elsewhere. The discussion that followed these three presentations was enriched by Bruno Renzos (Philosophy and History) comments on enforced disappearances in Latin America. The teach-in addressed the specificity of enforced disappearances and the victimization of political activists in Pakistan, while also placing these issues in a global context of the increasing repression of dissent.

In the aftermath of a racially-motivated shooting that killed one Indian-American and wounded another in February, 2017, the Center for South Asian Studies co-sponsored a roundtable discussion on the political climate for South Asians in the United States. Organized by two U-M student organizations, tricontinental solidarity Network and the 11th World history & literature initiative (Whali) Conference was held at the University of Michigan’s school of education on June 21-23, 2017. Titled “Resistance & Rebellion in World History & Literature,” the conference drew participation of over 40 teachers from the local area, Chicago, and Puerto Rico. The conference was partially funded by Title V federal grants and in a collaborative effort between the National Center for Education and the five National Resource Centers in the International Institute. Presentations on South Asia were made by Farina Mir (History), who spoke on “Gandhi and His Historical Significance;” and by Zehra Hashmi (Anthropology and History), who spoke on “Feminist Resistance to Military Dictatorship in Pakistan.”

The third annual UM-University of Puerto Rico Symposium focused on “Citizenship & Identity in the Classroom,” and was held at the University of Puerto Rico on March 2–3, 2017. The symposium featured presentations by scholars from various disciplines, with expertise on different aspects of arts and historical periods. The conference sought to create a space in which faculty and graduate students from the University of Michigan and the University of Puerto Rico could share the innovative and diverse ways in which they are studying the concept of citizenship with over 45 teachers and teacher candidates from San Juan, Puerto Rico, and surrounding areas. South Asia content was provided to the group by Siriam Mohan (Department of Communication Studies), who spoke on “The Photographic State: Image Manipulation, Visual Culture and Electoral Politics in Digital India;” and Zehra Hashmi (Program in Anthropology and History), who gave a talk entitled, “Biometric Belonging: Identification and Security in Urban Pakistan.”
Sara Heikeem Grewal is an Assistant Professor of World Literature in the Department of English at MacEwan University in Edmonton, Canada. She was awarded a PhD by the Department of Comparative Literature in 2016. Her dissertation, “Urdu through the organization of violence and vulnerability,” examines the colonial period in the Indian subcontinent, with a focus on the use of violence and the organization of post-colonial bureaucracy. Sadeed is the recipient of an 18-month project in gathering oral histories of inter-religious life in the late colonial era. In summer 2017, she received her PhD from the Woodrow Wilson International Center and the University of Michigan, writing her dissertation “Oral Histories of Inter-Religious Life in the Late Colonial Era.” She completed her preliminary exams, supported by an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship.
Organized in 2006 with a generous donation from an anonymous donor, the Summer in South Asia Undergraduate Fellowship (SSA) has provided 83 students with funding for research internships in India. Please join us on October 6th for the Summer in South Asia Symposium or visit the blog (sisa2017.ii.umich.edu) to learn more about the 2017 SISA fellow’s time in India.

Natalie Andrasko

is a senior with a major in International Studies and minors in Program in the Environment and Asian Languages and Cultures. Natalie spent two months interning with Frontier Markets in Jaipur, Rajasthan where she researched how Frontier Markets addresses rural electification by partnering with local entrepreneurs and training rural women to sell their solar products to other women in a program called Solar Saheli.

Addison Kamb

is a senior double-majoring in Political Science and minor in Community Action and Social Change. Chris conducted independent research on urban planning, examining the master plans of Bangalore and Amritsar to learn what values are motivating planning in the two respective cities and why those motivations are present.

Christopher Olson

is a junior majoring in Political Science and minor in Community Action and Social Change. Chris interned with Swasti, an NGO dedicated to improving the lives of children through community engagement. Jo Ellen was in Mumbai volunteering for Khiva Asaan, an organization dedicated to blending expressive arts therapies with social change. She facilitated creative theatre workshops with various communities across Mumbai, including women in incarceration and women in trafficking. Jo Ellen’s final project focuses on the immediate emotional effects of the workshops on the participants and what forms of art therapy resonated with them the most.

Caroline Richburg

is a junior studying Biomolecular Science and Anthropology. Caroline was in Mumbai with the Foundation for Mother and Child Health (FMCH), an organization focused on improving the health and well-being of children through community education and support for local mothers. Caroline’s project explores what is meant by the term “actionable knowledge,” as used by stakeholders, and the uniformity of knowledge dissemination to local clinics.

Jo Ellen Pollmann

is a senior majoring in Musical Theatre and minoring in Creative Writing. Jo Ellen was in Mumbai volunteering for Khiva Asaan, an organization dedicated to blending expressive arts therapies with social change. She facilitated creative theatre workshops with various communities across Mumbai, including women in incarceration and women in trafficking. Jo Ellen’s final project focuses on the immediate emotional effects of the workshops on the participants and what forms of art therapy resonated with them the most.

Neha Tiwari

is a senior with a minor in International Studies and a minor in Biochemistry. Neha was in Goa working with Sanqhat, an NGO dedicated to improving health by empowering existing community resources to provide appropriate physical, psychological, and social therapies. Neha’s research explores the integration of community-based lay counseling in a traditional mental health treatment program.

Neel Swamy

is a senior studying Neuroscience with a minor in Gender & Health. Neel interned with Swasti in the Indian HIV/AIDS Initiative, an HIV prevention and health resource centre in Bangalore that focuses on structurally and systematically addressing the health needs of marginalized populations, initiated by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Neel’s project focuses on the ways in which the initiative have proven to be successful and how Swasti has empowered individuals through community engagement.

Neha Tiwari

is a senior with a minor in International Studies and a minor in Biochemistry. Neha was in Goa working with Sanqhat, an NGO dedicated to improving health by empowering existing community resources to provide appropriate physical, psychological, and social therapies. Neha’s research explores the integration of community-based lay counseling in a traditional mental health treatment program.

Natalie Gruden-Alajbegovic

is a junior pursuing a dual-degree in Business Administration and Biotechnology.

Access to “East India Company” Archive

The University of Michigan Library, with the support of the CSAS, recently purchased a new database from Adam Matthew called the East India Company. This digital resource allows students and researchers to access a vast and remarkable collection of primary source documents from the India Office Records held by the British Library, the single most important archive for the study of the East India Company. The manuscript records included in this database consist of over 1.2 million pages of digitized content. If there are any questions concerning the database please feel free to contact the South Asian Librarian, Jeff Martin (jeffmart@umich.edu).

Summer in South Asia Fellows 2017

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CSAS Supports SAADA

The Center for South Asian Studies supported a collaboration between the South Asian Digital Archive (SAADA) and the Department of American Culture in summer 2017. SAADA is an independent non-profit organization working to create a more inclusive society by giving voice to South Asian Americans. It does this by documenting, preserving, and sharing stories that highlight their unique and diverse experiences.

Tirzat Gill, an LS senior, worked with Manan Desai (Communications Studies) and a member of SAADA’s Academic Council to develop the SAADA collection by examining archival materials at U M, particularly those in the Labadie Collection and the Bentley Library. Gill is currently translating Punjab materials in the SAADA collection which date back to the 1940s. Together, Gill and Desai are planning to co-author a piece for SAADA about Hucheshwar Mudgal, a migrant from Karnataka who became the editor of The Negro World in the 1920s and worked closely with Marcus Garvey.

How to Make A Gift

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Thank you for considering a gift to the Center for South Asian Studies!
CSAS Lecture Series 2017–18

September 8, 2017
Vikramaditya Khanna, University of Michigan School of Law
Changes in Dowry Practices?: Insights on Dowry and its Regulation
4pm • Room 110 • Weiser Hall

September 21, 2017
P. Sainath, People’s Archive of Rural India
Telling the stories of 833 million Indians in the digital age: The People’s Archive of Rural India
4pm • North Quad Space 2435

September 22–23, 2017
Seeking Social Justice in South Asia Conference

September 29, 2017
Ronit Ricci, Department of Asian Studies, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Sarandib, Lanka, Ceylon: Banishment and Belonging
4pm • Room 110 • Weiser Hall

October 6, 2017
Summer in South Asia Fellowship Symposium
4pm • Room 110 • Weiser Hall

October 11, 2017
Mohsin Hamid
Exit West: A Novel
4:30pm • Rackham Amphitheatre

October 13, 2017
Farhana Ibrahim, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi
Marriage’, ‘Trafficking’ and the Transnational Family: Moral and Legal Regulation of Nineteenth Century Women’s Mobility in the Western Indian Ocean
4pm • Room 110 • Weiser Hall

October 20, 2017
Veena Das, Department of Anthropology, Johns Hopkins University
Inordinate Knowledge: Intimacy and Publicity in a Slum in Delhi
4pm • Room 110 • Weiser Hall

November 2, 2017
Iffat Fatima, Filmmaker
Film Screening and discussion of Khon diy Baarav (Blood Leaves its Trail)
4pm • Room 110 • Weiser Hall

November 6, 2017
Thirumalalachari Ramasami
Policy Talks at the Ford School
4pm • Annenberg Auditorium

November 13, 2017
Ranjani Mazumdar, School of Arts & Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University
The Highway, Automobility and New Promises in 1960s Bombay Cinema
4pm • Room 110 • Weiser Hall

November 17, 2017
Nathan Tabor, Department of History, Western Michigan University
Eating the Audience’s Brain: Persianate Sociability in 18th-Century Delhi’s Poetry Salons
4pm • Room 110 • Weiser Hall

December 1, 2017
Chitralekha Zutshi, Department of History, College of William & Mary
Self and the World in a Life Narrative: Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah’s Aatish-i-Chinar
4pm • Room 110 • Weiser Hall

December 8, 2017
Kajri Jain, Department of Visual Studies, University of Toronto
“Minimum Government, Maximum Governance”: Modi’s Statue of Unity and the Sense of Scale
4pm • Room 110 • Weiser Hall

January 8, 2018
Nayanjot Lahiri, Ashoka University
India’s Archaeological Heritage Since Independence: Challenges and Dilemmas
4pm • Room 110 • Weiser Hall

February 2, 2018
Asher Gertner, Department of Geography, Rutgers University
Atmospheric Citizenship: Distributions of Life in the Wake of Delhi’s Airpocalypse
4pm • Room 110 • Weiser Hall

February 16, 2018
S.V. Srinivas, Azim Premji University
Reactive Viewing: Screens and Publics in 21st Century India
4pm • Room 110 • Weiser Hall

March 9, 2018
Sanjay Muttoo and Saman Habib
Lucknow in Letters: Endeavors, Achievements, and Tragedies
4pm • Room 110 • Weiser Hall

March 30, 2018
Munis Faruqui, Department of South & Southeast Asian Studies, University of California, Berkeley
The Rise of the Imperial Eunuchate under Emperor Aurangzeb, 1658-1707
4pm • Room 110 • Weiser Hall

April 6, 2018
8th Annual UM–Pakistan Conference

April 13, 2018
Amita Baviskar, Institute of Economic Growth, University of Delhi
Consumer Citizenship: The Social Life of Industrial Foods in India
4pm • Room 110 • Weiser Hall

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