

SASA Schedule 2019

Friday, March 1st

2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Registration & Coffee/Chai Station
Founders Room, Bauer Center North

3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Art performances and exhibitions
McKenna Auditorium

5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Welcome Reception
Founders Room, Bauer North

Saturday, March 2nd

8:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Registration & Coffee/Chai Station
Founders Room, Bauer Center North

9:00 – 9:30 a.m.

Opening Keynote

McKenna Auditorium
Professor Sudha Pai, Former Professor of Political
Science at the Centre for Political Studies,
Jawaharlal Nehru University, India

Everyday Communalism: Riots in Contemporary Uttar Pradesh

9:45 – 11:15 a.m.

Concurrent Panel Session I

Bauer Center South

Panel 1A: BC 22: Recent Research on Politics in South Asia I

Moderator: Vandana Asthana (Eastern Washington
University)

-Saba Naseem (New York
University): The Politics of Exclusion
and Securitization: How the
Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Has
Become a Target in Anti-Terror
Legislation in Pakistan

-Rajit Das (Kennesaw State
University): India's Mahayudh with
Nationalism

-Simi Mehta (Impact and Policy
Research Institution): Unbridled
Political Paranoia and its Impact on
the Socio-Economic Framework of
India

-Mahesh Kushwaha (Soka University
of America) Constitution, Citizenship
and Statelessness in Nepal

Panel 1B – BC 23: Images of Women and Gender in South Asia

Moderator: Purnima Mehta Bhatt (Hood College)

-Mehreen Jamal (University of
Arkansas): A New Pakistani Woman:
Images of Gender, Nation and
Identity in Women's Literary
Magazines

-Niyati Misra Shenoy (Columbia
University): A Shadow-Archon of the
Sexual Order: Woman Criminal and
Masculine Victimhood in Early 19th
Century India

- Pratchi Priyambada (Mahapatra)
(University of California, Irvine):
Dancing girls" "Slaves" and
"Prostitutes": Changing Identities of
Dancers in British Abolitionist
Discourses in India (1800-1860)

-Jordan Stevenson (Eastern
Washington University): Technology
and Globalization: Transnational
Advocacy Networks for Women in
South Asia

Panel 1C – BC 24: South India and Sri Lanka Heritage Archives

Moderator: David Blundell (University of California,
Los Angeles)

-Amy Catlin-Jairazbhoy (University of California, Los Angeles): Local Repatriation, the Restudy Methodology, Applying Archives to Communities: Returning to Kerala with Arnold Bake's 1938 Audio-Visual Collectanea

-David Blundell (University of California, Los Angeles): Sense of Rasa: GIS Digital Archives for Southern Asian Heritage Conservation

-Preethi De Silva (Scripps College): Ancient Buddhist Sites and Royal Residences in Sri Lanka: A Progress Report on a Digital Collection at the Claremont Colleges

Panel 1D – BC 25: China in South Asia: Economic Issues and Concerns

Moderator: David Karl, Chief Knowledge Officer, GetGlobal LLC.

-Murad Ali (University of Malakand): China's Belt and Road Initiative in South Asia: Socio-Economic Prospects and Geopolitical Implications

-Amna Mahmood (International Islamic University): The Expansion of Shanghai Cooperation Organization: Its Impact on India-Pakistani Relations and Regional Connectivity

-David Blundell (University of California, Los Angeles): China in the Indian Ocean

COFFEE BREAK 11.15 -11.30 am

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Concurrent Panels Session II,
Bauer Center South

Panel 2A – BC 22: Recent Research on Literature and Film in South Asia

Moderator: David Blundell, University of California, Los Angeles

-Purnima Mehta Bhatt (Hood College): Voices from the Deep: Women, Folklore and Water

-Tasheem Hameed (University of Buffalo): Futures Unmoored: The Muslim Other in *Othello* and Sri Lanka

-Mayuri Dekka (University of the Bahamas): Bollywood in the Multi-ethnic Literature Classroom: Deconstructing Bias Through Empathy

Panel 2B – BC 23: Recent Research on Non profits, History and Politics in South Asia II

Moderator: Brad Clough (The University of Montana)

--Alexander Williams (Yale University, undergraduate): Imagining the Post-Colonial Lawyer: The Legal Profession and the Indian Nation-State, 1947-1967

- Gisele Cardoso de Lima (Texas A & M University): Acid Attack Survivors and Indian NGOs: Business Model versus Feminist Model

-Muthusami Kumaran (University of Florida): Climate Change and Megacities in India: Causes, Consequences, and Strategic Interventions by Environmental NGOs.

- Choudury M. Shamim (California State University, Fullerton): Bangladesh as an Emerging Power in the New World Order

Panel 2C – BC 24: Religion, Structural Violence and Buddhism

Moderator: Deepak Shimkhada (Claremont School of Theology)

-Miroj Shakya (University of the West): Overcoming Obstacles: The Tradition of Recitation of the Grahamātrikā Dhāraṇī in the Newar Buddhist Community in Nepal

-Rohini Pragma Samani (Florida International University): Arguing Against Karma: Structural Violence as Envisioned by Ācharya Mahāprajña (1920-2010)

-Navreet Thind (University of California, Irvine): The Role of Women in Sikhism

-Sunil JayaSinghe (Independent Scholar): Kapilvastu

Panel 2D – BC 25: Sustainability and Development in South Asia

Moderator: Suman Timsina (International Development Institute)

-Archana Mohan (SUNY Binghamton): Mapping Sustainability Using Technology Platforms: The Role of Startups in Rebuilding Gurgaon, India

-Ammen Habibi (International Development Institute): Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals in Afghanistan: Challenges and Opportunities

-Suman Timsina (International Development Institute): Challenges of Engagement and Empowerment in Capacity Building in Nepal

-Mahak Agarwal (Independent Scholar, ISOCARP): A Dream of open

defecation free India? Decolonize Urban Sanitation

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Lunch & President Chodosh Plenary Session 1
McKenna Auditorium

HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA

Lunch will be made available beginning at 1:00 p.m.
Remarks will begin at 1:30 p.m.

3:15 – 4:45 p.m.

Concurrent Panels Session III

Bauer Center South

Panel 3A – BC 22: Hindutva Politics in India: Muslims, Youth and Everyday Life

Moderator: Aseema Sinha (Claremont McKenna College)

Panelists:

-Sudha Pai (Jaharlal Nehru University)

-Amrita Basu (Amherst College)

-Nita Kumar (Claremont McKenna College)

Panel 3B –BC 23: Corruption, Violence and Terror in South Asia

Moderator: Muthusami Kumaran, University of Florida

- Anubha Anushree (Stanford University): The Corrupt or Corruptible History of the British Empire in South Asia

-Jo Anne S. Pandey (California State University, Northridge): A Qualitative Analysis of Classroom-Based Writing Therapy, Conducted in Post-Earthquake Nepal

-Anwita Ray (Louisiana State University): Queering Bodies and Cultures: Ethnographies of 'Foreign' Terror

-Hari Prasad (Independent Scholar):
Removing a Thorn with a Thorn:
Evaluating India's Use of Militias in
Counterinsurgency

**Panel 3C – BC 24: New Voices in Jain Studies:
Philosophy, Ecology, Musicology**

Moderator: Christopher Chapple (Loyola
Marymount University)

-Ana Bajželj (University of California,
Riverside): Making Clay Pots: Jaina
Philosophers on the Nature of
Causal Relations

-Christopher Patrick Miller (Loyola
Marymount University): Jainism,
Yoga, and Ecology: A Course in
Contemplative Practice for a World
in Pain

-Nirinjan Kaur Khalsa (Loyola
Marymount University): Exploring
Themes of Music and (Non-)Violence
in the Jain and Sikh Traditions

**Panel 3D – BC 25: Socio-Economic Transformation,
Arts, and Crafts Industries in South Asia**

Moderator: Purnima Mehta Bhatt (Hood College)

-Marcella Sirhindi (Oklahoma State
University): Young Pakistani Artists'
Membership in the Elite World

-Eram Hadi (St. John's University):
Designed by Diversity: The Syncretic
Cultural History of Gujarati Textiles

-Deepa Mahadevan (University of
California, Davis): Indian Classical
Dance and the Diaspora Space

-Sethu Kumanan (Sethu Bhaskara
Agricultural College, India): Means
for Socio-Economic Transformation
of the Farming Community in
Sivagangai District

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Networking Reception
McKenna Auditorium

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Dinner and Exemplar Awards
McKenna Auditorium

Sunday, March 3rd

8:00 am – 5:00 p.m.
Registration & Coffee/Chai Station
Founders Room, Bauer Center North

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.
SASA In-Person Board Meeting

9:15 – 10:45 a.m.
Plenary Session 2. **HEALTH &
WELLNESS: PLANET, BODY & MIND**
McKenna Auditorium

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Concurrent Panels Session IV
Bauer Center South
**Panel 4A – BC 22: Experiences of Environment in
the Making of Himalayan Ontologies**

Moderator: Amy Holmes-Tagchungdarpa
(Occidental College):

-Jana Fortier (University of
California, San Diego): The Color of
the Wind: The Environment as
Inspiration for Color Terms among
the Raute of Nepal

-Dr. Kalzang Dorjee Bhutia
(Occidental College): How to Live
with the Mountain: Reciprocity and
Local Environmental Ethics in the
Nesol (*Gnas gsol*) of Sikkim

-Amy Holmes-Tagchungdarpa
(Occidental College): Mud, Stones,
and Trees as Sacred Supports:
Environment as Offering and
Inspiration in the Making of Local

Himalayan Buddhist Material
Cultures

Expression within the Modern Art of
Ghulum Rasool Santosh

**Panel 4B – BC 23: Art and Architecture in South
India and Sri Lanka**

Moderator: Muthusami Kumaran, University of
Florida

- Margaret Kay Dodd (independent scholar): Ceylon in the 1950s: A Photographic Presentation of the Work of Reg van Cuylenburg
- David Blundell (University of California, Los Angeles) and Gautama Prabhu (Foundation for His Sacred Majesty, Chennai): The Eco-Temple Project of South India
- Frank Escher (Escher GuneWardena Architecture, Los Angeles): Concept and Design of the LACMA Exhibition of Sri Lanka Heritage
- Ravi Gunewardena (Escher GuneWardena Architecture, Los Angeles): In Harmony with Nature: A Study of Historical Architecture and Modern Interpretations in Sri Lanka

**Panel 4C – BC 24: Goddess: Shakti Worship and
Tantrism: Art, Religion and Narrative**

Moderator: Nalini Rao (Soka University of America)

- Nalini Rao (Soka University of America): Shakta Tantra in Material Visual Culture
- Christopher Chapple (Loyola Marymount University): Praise of Padmāvātī in 108 Epithets
- Deepak Shimkhada (Claremont School of Theology): Goddess Resides in the Sacred Pool of Mata Tirtha
- Taylor Remington (Claremont School of Theology): Shakti and its

Panel 4D – BC 25: Religion in South Asia

Moderator: Miroj Shakya (University of the West):

- Sundas Jaber (Claremont School of Theology): Meditation and Healing in the Work of Muhammad Dārā Shikūh
- Christopher T.Fleming (University of Southern California): Calamitous Clouds: Dharma and Kāma in Kālidāsa's Meghadūta and in Jinasena's Pārśvābhyudaya
- Adam Pave (San Bernadino Valley College): Teaching the *Bhagavad Gita* in an Introduction to World Religions Course

12:45 – 3:00 p.m.

**Lunch & 3rd Plenary: RESHAPING CULTURES: THE
STREAMING MEDIA REVOLUTION & SOUTH ASIA**

McKenna Auditorium

Remarks will begin at 1:30 PM.

3:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

**Concurrent Panels Session V,
Bauer Center South**

**Panel 5A – BC 22 Quality and Affordability of
Education in India and Sri Lanka**

Moderator: David Blundell (University of California,
Los Angeles)

- Naresh Barsagade (Independent Scholar): Questioning the Quality and Opportunity of Education in Urban and Rural India
- Vaishali Gaidhani, (University of the West): Babasaheb B.R. Ambedkar and the Relevance of Education

-Benjamin Kaila (Independent Scholar): Dr. Ambedkar and Contemporary Education In India

-Jack Knight (Independent Scholar): Evaluation of Availability and Quality of Education in Sri Lanka

Panel 5B – BC 23 Shiva in Myth, Art and Theology

Moderator: Deepak Shimkhada (Claremont School of Theology)

-Fiona McMillan (Claremont School of Theology): The Enigma of Shiva Nataraj

-Hyma Gollamudi (Independent Scholar): The Formless Form: Comprehending Shiva

-Dipesh Risal (Independent Scholar): The Myth of Shiva, Presented in the Form of Historical Fiction

-Jamie Mills (Claremont School of Theology): Brahman and Quantum Physics: Sound, Creation, and Unifying Reality

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Closing Reception

The Founders Room, Bauer North