

SASNET - Swedish South Asian Studies Network

Lund University

search this site

[SASNET Newsletter](#) | [SASNET](#) | [Research](#) | [Conferences](#) | [Education](#) | [Culture](#) | [Gandhi Collection](#) | [Institutions](#) | [Resources - news sources, travel advice and more](#) | [Researchers database](#)

SASNET Newsletters

Newsletter 138 – 9 August 2012

Last updated: 9 August 2012

SWEDISH SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES NETWORK

Subscribe to the newsletter by sending an e-mail to sasnet@sasnet.lu.se

Contents:

- [SASNET News](#)
- [Research Community News](#)
- [Educational News](#)
- [Conferences and workshops outside Scandinavia](#)
- [Conferences and workshops in Scandinavia](#)
- [Business and Politics](#)
- [South Asia related Culture](#)
- [New and updated information](#)



SASNET News

• Successful 22nd European Conference on South Asian Studies in Lisbon

The 22nd European Conference on South Asian Studies (ECSAS) was successfully held 25-28 July 2012 at the University Institute of Lisbon (also known as ISCTE-IUL) in Portugal. The conference featured no less than 51 panels. [Full information on the conference page.](#) The keynote speakers were Professor Tanika



Sarkar from Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi; and Dr. David Washbrook from Trinity College, Cambridge University. Besides all the varied panels, a one-day programme was organised with interesting new documentary films such as Nilanjan Bhattacharya's *"The Right Angle"*, Anjali Monteiro's and K P Jayasankar's *"So Heddan So Hoddan"*; and Amir Bashir's *"Harud"* (Autumn). The film programme was coordinated by Paolo Favero, Senior Research Associate at ISCTE-IUL's Centre for Research in Anthropology (previously Dept. of Social Anthropology, Stockholm University); and Giulia Battaglia, SOAS, London.

SASNET was represented at the 22nd ECSAS conference by both Anna Lindberg (who co-organised a panel on *"Marriage in South Asia. Practices and Transformations"*) and

SASNET Newsletters

Newsletter 138 – 9 August 2012
 Newsletter 137 – 18 June 2012
 Newsletter 136 – 22 May 2012
 Newsletter 135 – 3 May 2012
 Newsletter 134 – 4 April 2012
 Newsletter 133 – 8 March 2012
 Newsletter 132 – 9 February 2012
 Newsletter 131 – 16 January 2012
 Newsletter 130 – 19 December 2011
 Newsletter 129 – 24 November 2011
 Newsletter 128 – 28 October 2011
 Newsletter 127 – 11 October 2011
 Newsletter 126 – 2 September 2011
 Newsletter 125 – 12 August 2011
 Newsletter 124 – 13 June 2011
 Newsletter 123 – 13 May 2011
 Newsletter 122 – 7 April 2011
 Newsletter 121 – 18 March 2011
 Newsletter 120 – 15 February 2011
 Newsletter 119 – 20 January 2011
 Newsletter 118 – 30 December 2010
 Newsletter 117 – 14 December 2010
 Newsletter 116 – 12 November 2010
 Newsletter 115 – 22 October 2010
 Newsletter 114 – 5 October 2010
 Newsletter 113 – 7 September 2010
 Newsletter 112 – 17 August 2010
 Newsletter 111 – 24 June 2010
 Newsletter 110 – 21 May 2010
 Newsletter 109 – 23 April 2010
 Newsletter 108 – 9 April 2010
 Newsletter 107 – 12 March 2010
 Newsletter 106 – 10 February 2010
 Newsletter 105 – 29 January 2010
 Newsletter 104 – 2 December 2009
 Newsletter 103 – 6 November 2009
 Newsletter 102 – 20 October 2009
 Newsletter 101 – 2 October 2009
 Newsletter 100 – 4 September 2009
 Newsletter 99 – 23 July 2009
 Newsletter 98 – 11 June 2009
 Newsletter 97 – 26 May 2009
 Newsletter 96 – 30 April 2009
 Newsletter 95 – 6 April 2009
 Newsletter 94 – 10 March 2009
 Newsletter 93 – 4 February 2009
 Newsletter 92 – 14 January 2009
 Newsletter 91 – 5 December 2008
 Newsletter 90 – 3 November 2008
 Newsletter 89 – 3 October 2008
 Newsletter 88 – 15 September 2008
 Newsletter 87 – 21 August 2008
 Newsletter 86 – 10 June 2008
 Newsletter 85 – 20 May 2008
 Newsletter 84 – 25 April 2008
 Newsletter 83 – 27 March 2008
 Newsletter 82 – 27 February 2008
 Newsletter 81 – 30 January 2008
 Newsletter 80 – 14 December 2007
 Newsletter 79 – 29 October 2007
 Newsletter 78 – 9 October 2007
 Newsletter 77 – 14 September 2007
 Newsletter 76 – 13 July 2007
 Newsletter 75 – 20 June 2007
 Newsletter 74 – 29 May 2007
 Newsletter 73 – 27 April 2007
 Newsletter 72 – 17 April 2007
 Newsletter 71 – 6 March 2007
 Newsletter 70 – 9 February 2007
 Newsletter 69 – 9 January 2007
 Newsletter 68 – 11 December 2006
 Newsletter 67 – 9 November 2006
 Newsletter 66 – 17 October 2006
 Newsletter 65 – 20 September 2006
 Newsletter 64 – 25 August 2006
 Newsletter 63 – 20 June 2006
 Newsletter 62 – 24 May 2006
 Newsletter 61 – 28 April 2006
 Newsletter 60 – 7 April 2006

Lars Eklund,

[Read Lars personal report from the conference.](#)

The biannual ECSAS conference is the largest gathering of South Asia oriented researchers in Europe, covering all fields from the humanities and social sciences to technology, natural sciences and medicine. The conference is held biannually under the aegis of the [European Association of South Asian Studies \(EASAS\)](#), a professional, non-profit organisation of scholars engaged in research and teaching concerning South Asia with regard to all periods and fields of study. (SASNET organised the 18th ECMSAS conference in Lund in 2004.)

The 23rd ECSAS conference will take place at the University of Zürich (Switzerland) from 23 to 26 July 2014. [More information will follow on EASAS' web page.](#)



• Hectic year reflected in SASNET's Annual Report for 2011

SASNET's Annual Report for 2011 has now finally been published. This was a hectic year, full of seminars, conferences – not the least the Falsterbo conference for young scholars, interaction with embassies, universities in Sweden Scandinavia and South Asia, etc. The web site was redesigned and expanded further. The SASNET newsletters reached more than 2,500 addressees in Scandinavia and throughout the world. [Go for the 2011 SASNET Annual Report](#) (as a pdf-file).

All administrative reports regarding SASNET's work and activities from the first planning process in 1999 till today are available at SASNET's web site. [Go for the annual reports.](#)



• Sixth European PhD workshop in South Asia Studies to be hosted by SASNET

SASNET and Lund University are hosting the Sixth European PhD workshop in South Asia Studies that will take place at Falsterbo Kursgård (*photo*), Höllviken from 17 to 19 September 2012. The workshop is jointly co-organised by the European Association for South Asian Studies (EASAS); Heidelberg University, Germany; Ghent University, Belgium; University of Edinburgh, UK; Le Centre d'Études de l'Inde et de l'Asie du Sud (CEIAS), Paris, France; and SASNET/Lund University, Sweden. The previous PhD workshop was held in September 2011 in Paris where two invited PhD students from each participating university (including Lund University) presented papers. [See report from the Paris workshop.](#) The workshop's format gives each PhD candidate the responsibility of introducing the paper of another participant and raising some initial questions. A senior scholar then acts as discussant and provides feedback on the paper, prompting further debate. This format broadens perspectives on research methods, concepts, and theory by helping students consider questions from a variety of disciplines. This year the two PhD students that will represent Lund University will be Arun Rana from the [Division of Water Resources Engineering](#), and Ive Brissman from the [Centre for Theology and Religious Studies](#). More information to follow.



• More information about SASNET and its activities

See SASNET's page, <http://www.sasnet.lu.se/sasnet-news>

Research Community News

• Decisions taken for 2012 Erasmus Mundus India and Asia Regional Lots

On July, 17, 2012, the European Commission's Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) decided upon the 2012 round of the [Erasmus Mundus Action 2 – Strand 1 – Partnership programme](#), EU's flagship programme aimed at promoting the



Newsletter 59 - 9 March 2006
 Newsletter 58 - 23 January 2006
 Newsletter 57 - 17 November 2005
 Newsletter 56 - 20 October 2005
 Newsletter 55 - 22 September 2005
 Newsletter 54 - 15 August 2005
 Newsletter 53 - 30 June 2005
 Newsletter 52 - 19 May 2005
 Newsletter 51 - 19 April 2005
 Newsletter 50 - 18 March 2005
 Newsletter 49 - 21 February 2005
 Newsletter 48 - 20 January 2005
 Newsletter 47 - 23 December 2004
 Newsletter 46 - 25 November 2004
 Newsletter 45 - 2 November 2004
 Newsletter 44 - 5 October 2004
 Newsletter 43 - 17 September 2004
 Newsletter 42 - 27 August 2004
 Newsletter 41 - 15 July 2004
 Newsletter 40 - 15 June 2004
 Newsletter 39 - 11 May 2004
 Newsletter 38 - 14 April 2004
 Newsletter 37 - 10 March 2004
 Newsletter 36 - 17 February 2004
 Newsletter 35 - 27 January 2004
 Newsletter 34 - 7 December 2003
 Newsletter 33 - 13 November 2003
 Newsletter 32 - 13 October 2003
 Newsletter 31 - 12 September 2003
 Newsletter 30 - 12 August 2003
 Newsletter 29 - 11 July 2003
 Newsletter 28 - 12 June 2003
 Newsletter 27 - 13 May 2003
 Newsletter 26 - 17 April 2003
 Newsletter 25 - 17 March 2003
 Newsletter 24 - 12 February 2003
 Newsletter 23 - 21 January 2003
 Newsletter 22 - 19 December 2002
 Newsletter 21 - 15 November 2002
 Newsletter 20 - 24 October 2002
 Newsletter 19 - 26 September 2002
 Newsletter 18 - 6 September 2002
 Newsletter 17 - 9 August 2002
 Newsletter 16 - 11 June 2002
 Newsletter 15 - 13 May 2002
 Newsletter 14 - 8 April 2002
 Newsletter 13 - 14 February 2002
 Newsletter 12 - 8 January 2002
 Newsletter 11 - 5 December 2001
 Newsletter 10 - 23 October 2001
 Newsletter 9 - 12 September 2001
 Newsletter 8 - 22 August 2001
 Newsletter 7 - 18 July 2001
 Newsletter 6 - 12 June 2001
 Newsletter 5 - 9 May 2001
 Newsletter 4 - 4 April 2001
 Newsletter 3 - 1 March 2001
 Newsletter 2 - 1 February 2001
 Newsletter 1 - January 2001

attractiveness of the European Higher Education system and third country cooperation and partnerships. The new programmes for mobility activities will start during the academic year 2012–2013. The scholarship programme is open for students on undergraduate, master, doctoral and post-doctoral level as well as for university staff in academic or administrative positions from Asia to Europe only.



ERASMUS MUNDUS Action 2- Partnerships Lot No. 9 (corresponding to Lot 12 in 2011!) is primarily devoted to South Asia, where the proposals should include universities in at least three of the following group A countries: Afghanistan, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan, and Bangladesh; besides at least two of the following group B countries: Sri Lanka, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Philippines, Thailand, China, and North Korea. Four projects were selected, among them a continuation of the EMEA project, coordinated by Lund University.

Lot No. 10 (corresponding to Lot 13 during in 2011!) on the other hand is primarily devoted to South-East Asian countries, but also also gives the possibility to include Sri Lanka, India and/or Maldives as group B countries. Four projects were selected, out of which at least one includes Indian universities.

Lot No. 11 is devoted to India. Four projects were selected, among them the IBIES project, coordinated by Aarhus University, Denmark. The Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) in Stockholm is a partner in two of the other India lots.

Full information about the 2012 selection of India and Asia Regional Erasmus Mundus mobility programmes.

• **Biggest ever European Commission Calls for funding research and international cooperation projects**

In the end of July 2012, the European Union announced the biggest ever set of calls for proposals for research under its Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). In total of €8.1 billion (INR 56,700 crores) this worldwide call will support projects and ideas that will tackle issues such as human health, protecting the environment and finding new solutions to growing challenges linked to urbanisation and managing waste. The funding makes up the lion's share of the EU's research budget for 2013. Out of the total funding, €4.8 billion is dedicated to thematic research priorities like health, bio-technology, social sciences, transport etc. Around €2.7 billion has been allocated to cement Europe's place as a world class destination for researchers, mainly through individual grants from the European Research Council (€1.75 billion), and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (€963 million) for training and mobility. A large number of the calls for proposals are open to South Asian researchers and research institutions. [More information and application deadlines.](#)



• **Massive EU information seminar programme throughout India**

Over a three week period, 10–28 September 2012, the European Union and its Member States are organising together 36 information seminars throughout India (see map) to raise awareness among Indian research stakeholders about the opportunities that they can offer for research and innovation cooperation with India. 53 European Science and Technology counsellors and representatives of research organisations from Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the European Research Council, Euraxess Links India, the European Business and Technology Centre as well as from the Delegation of the European Union, will make some 155 presentations in 31 key research and innovation hot spots in India over a three-week period. In addition, five thematic sessions will also be organised and focus on biotechnology, industrial research, sustainable transport, ICT and health. Indian participants in cooperation programmes with Europe will also present their experience and lessons learnt.



The web site for the information campaign, <http://tinyurl.com/EUawareness>, includes the detailed programme of each information event. Participation is free but requires a registration (see web site).

As part of this occasion, a compendium including all European mobility schemes for

Indian researchers and students interested to go to Europe – for example through the Erasmus Mundus mobility programmes ([see information](#)); a compendium of partner search tools; and a booklet of testimonies of researchers who have been involved in research with European partners, will be made available to all participants.

[More information about the EU information seminars across India.](#)

• Swedish School of Textiles signs MoU with Indian product development organisation

Representatives for the Indian National Centre for Design and Product Development (NCDPD)



visited Stockholm and the Swedish capital of textiles Borås in early April 2012. On this visit, organised by Invest Sweden, the four member senior team of directors were introduced to Swedish textile know-how, design, and materials technology primarily through the [Swedish School of Textiles](#) (Textilhögskolan) in Borås.

An MoU was signed, and according to [Sweden Express](#), the quarterly newsletter of the Embassy of Sweden in India, the intent of the MoU is already being implemented with a next round of exchanges in Sweden and/or India in the area of design already discussed and expected to take place during the fall 2012.

The Swedish School of Textiles is considered one of Europe's most interesting education and research arenas. Kenneth Tingsvik, International coordinator at the Swedish School of Textiles, is positive towards the agreement that primarily aims at facilitating an exchange of students, and letting Swedish students make project work in India. [More information.](#)

• South Asian Arts Group holds inaugural meeting at Norwich

The newly formed South Asian Arts Group (SAAG) based in the UK, invites participants to its inaugural meeting to be held on 13th November 2012 under the auspices of the Sainsbury Institute for Art in Norwich. SAAG is an informal



network of academics, curators, artists and arts professionals, who share an interest in the arts and visual/material cultures of South Asia and the diaspora. SAAG provides a space for interaction, conversation and exchange for people interested in South Asian arts in the UK. Through an annual gathering – held at a different location in the UK each year – participants of SAAG will foster contacts, partnerships and friendships with a view to building interactions across different disciplines and approaches to South Asian arts. The inaugural event is free and will be organised on a 'first come, first served' basis. Participants will however need to meet their own subsistence, accommodation and transport costs. The meeting is being organised by Daniel Rycroft (University of East Anglia) and Sarah Turner (University of York). The programme for the day will depend on the range and number of participants. It will begin at the Education Studio, Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts (UEA) and continue at the South Asian Decorative Arts and Crafts Collection (SADACC, Norwich) for a public talk by Rosemary Crill. The emphasis will be on sharing ideas and views on current projects and issues, as pertaining to individuals and institutions.

[More information.](#)

• Best master thesis award to Norwegian South Asian studies researchers

In June 2012, the Norwegian research network Asia-nettverket announced two winners to this year's competition for best master thesis on an Asian



topic. The first winner is Maria Sørli Berntsen from the Department of [Social Anthropology at the University of Bergen](#). She wrote about "*Challenging the Gaze: A Study of a Socially Conscious Photographic Initiative Based in Dhaka, Bangladesh*". The other winner is Ann Kunish from the Department of Cultural Studies and Oriental Languages at the University of Oslo. Her master thesis was on "*Readings From Between the Lines: A Functionalist Approach to the Translation of Classical Chinese Poetry*". Maria Berntsen shared some thoughts about her work at the Asia Network's summer meeting on 16 June 2012. Ann Kunish was in the US, and sent the organisers some thoughts on her work – [read them here](#). At the same time,

another Norwegian researcher, Anna Marie Nicolaysen who is currently affiliated to the University of Connecticut recently finished her doctoral thesis in Anthropology entitled *"Empowering Small Farmers in India through Organic Agriculture and Biodiversity Conservation"* and available at <http://www.asianettverket.no/library/pdf/78.pdf>.

• **Nordic Institute of Asian Studies gets new location in Copenhagen**

The **Nordic Institute of Asian Studies (NIAS)** has recently received an extension of its contract with the Nordic Council of Ministers, for a new three year period starting in January 2013 and lasting until the end of 2016. In connection to this extension NIAS is moving to a new location, namely to the Social Science Campus, Centre for Health and Society at Copenhagen University. The move will take place in August 2012, and the new address of NIAS will be at Öster Farimagsgade 5, DK - 1353, Copenhagen, Denmark. The NIAS library will also move to the new location, and will be located as an independent part of the central social science library on campus.



NIAS is a research institute located at Copenhagen University, funded in part by the governments of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden via the Nordic Council of Ministers and in part directly by the Nordic scholarly community. NIAS works to encourage and support Asian studies in the Nordic countries as well as actively participating in the international scholarly community in its own right. SASNET has an established collaboration with NIAS – on one hand through its website, and on the other hand in collaborating to organise the Nordic Conference on South Asian Studies for Young Scholars.

• **More information about South Asia related research at Swedish and Nordic universities**

See SASNET's page, <http://www.sasnet.lu.se/research-community-news>

Educational News

• **Other educational news connected to South Asian studies all over the World**

See SASNET's page, <http://www.sasnet.lu.se/education-news>

Seminars and Conferences in Scandinavia

• **2012 World Water Week focuses on Water and Food Security**

The **2012 World Water Week** in Stockholm will be held 26–31 August 2012. The theme for 2012 is "Water and Food Security". As usual, the 22nd World Water Week is organised by the **Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI)**. Welcome to register now for your participation in the 2012 World Water Week in Stockholm.

The World Water Week is the leading annual global meeting place for capacity-building, partnership-building and follow-up on the implementation of international processes and programmes in water and development, with large relevance to South Asia. The conference is filled with plenary sessions, seminars, workshops, side events and special activities. The Scientific Programme Committee (SPC) planning for the conference was for many years chaired by Prof.

Jan Lundqvist at SIWI (previously at the **Dept. of Water and Environmental Studies**, Linköping University), but from this year the chairman position is taken over by Dr. Torkil Jönch-Clausen. Venue: Stockholm International Fairs and Congress Center (Stockholmsmässan) in Älvsjö, 9 km south of central Stockholm. [Full information about the 2012 World Water Week.](#)

Several seminars at the 2012 WWW are of South Asia interest, for example a seminar on *"Micro-irrigation and Integrated Food Security Strategies in India, Guatemala, Madagascar"*, convened by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and co-organised by Orissa Tribal Empowerment and Livelihood Programme; and a seminar on www.agriwaterpedia.info and Open Data Systems for Water and



Sanitation", convened by Akvo Foundation, and co-convened by the India Water Portal. One full-day seminar on 28th August is entitled "Eye on Asia: Food and Water Security". It is convened by the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Finally, the Water and Sanitation Program (WSP) convenes a seminar on "Managing the Vulnerable Water-Food Nexus in the Andes and Himalayas", with input from among others the Kathmandu based International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD).

Among many side events during the World Water Week, Stockholm Resilience Centre (SRC) organizes a late afternoon event entitled "Safeguarding Water Resilience for Food Security in the Anthropocene". It is co-convened by [Beijer Institute of Ecological Economics](#) in Stockholm, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) and University of Osnabrück and its Institute for Environmental Systems Research (USF).

• **Anthony D'Costa's new book to be launched at CBS**



The Asia Research Centre at the Copenhagen Business School (CBS) invites to a public launch of the latest book edited by Professor Anthony D'Costa, "Globalization and Economic Nationalism and Asia". The event will take place on 11 September 2012,



15.00 – 18.00, at CBS. The book in focus aims at challenging the popular view that with globalization either the role of the state becomes redundant or that states are unable to purposefully intervene in the economy. The book argues that since most states pursue national interests, which largely include economic development, they work with national business and often intervene on their behalf to create internationally competitive industries. Contributors from Asia and elsewhere present wide-ranging arguments and demonstrate that states in Asia are active in shaping trade, investment, technological, industrial, and financial outcomes. Countries covered include India, China, South Korea, Singapore, Japan, and the East Asian region as a whole.

The book launch event starts at 15.00 with a welcome by the Dean of Research at CBS, Prof. Alan Irwin. It continues with a short speech by Prof. Kjeld Erik Brødsgaard, Director of the Asia Research Centre at CBS. Other speakers will be Prof. Rory Miller, University of Liverpool and coeditor of Journal of Latin American Studies, as well as Associate Professor Jørgen Pedersen, Aarhus University who will talk about "India: Economic Nationalism as a Road to Growth and Development?". The programme finishes with a reception that will last until 18.00.

Venue: Copenhagen Business School, room PH408, Porcelænshaven 24, 2000, Frederiksberg, Denmark

Everyone is wellcome. Please register free of charge at arc.int@cbs.dk

• **Stockholm University organises International Educational for Rural Transformation Symposium in India**



The Forum for Asian Studies at Stockholm University co-organizes the 3rd

International Educational for Rural Transformation (ERT) Symposium, that will take place 15 – 17 October 2012 at the Maharaja Sayajirao University in Vadodara, Gujarat, India. The theme for the 2012 symposium will be "Education for



Rural Transformation (ERT) – Good Practices from National and International Perspectives". The present and ongoing three-year comparative research study on Education for Rural Transformation (ERT) is coordinated by Professor Vinayagum Chinapah at the [Institute of International Education \(IIE\)](#), Department of Education, Stockholm University, in collaboration with Dr. Zhao Shangwu, Professor Zhou Nanzhao, and Dr. Pushpanadham Karanam at the Dept. of Educational Administration, MS University, Baroda. The aim is to critically examine the concept, policy and practice of education for rural transformation in China and India from a comparative perspective using both qualitative and quantitative research methods. Thus the 3rd Symposium is a follow-up to the two symposia held in Stockholm, Sweden in 2010 and Chengdu, China

in 2011.

For more information please contact Prof. [Vinayagum Chinapah](#), or visit the [Stockholm University webpage](#).

• Oslo conference on Imagining Multiple Indias in India and beyond

The [Museum of Cultural History, University of Oslo](#) organises a three day conference on "*The Indian Phantasm: Imagining Multiple Indias in India and Beyond*" 10–11 December 2012. Venue: Museum of Cultural History, Frederiksgate 2, Oslo.

The idea is to identify and analyze the multiple narratives, representations and imaginaries of contemporary India, both within and beyond its borders. Papers featuring analysis of Indian material culture, consumer goods, Bollywood and other Indian film production, calendar art, fashion, posters, photography, soap operas, advertising, music videos, TV-shows, theater, performance, religious expressions and spiritual tourism are particularly welcome. The idea is to get a grasp of what the phantasm of contemporary India might consist of and how it could be creatively approached in ethnographic research and what it can tell us about the current Indian postcolonial condition. The conference will feature several ethnographic movies and therefore theoretical papers on ethnographic filmmaking and the use of photography and image in ethnography are also of interest. Featured ethnographic movies include *Flyover Delhi* by Paolo Favero & Angelo Fontana (2004), *India Deluxe: Dreams of Luxury, Realities of Life* by Tereza Kuldova & Arash Taheri (2012), and *Beggars of Lahore* by Sheba Saeed (2010). Other invited speakers include Rachel Dwyer, Sanjay Srivastava, Caroline Osella, and Jean-Claude Galey. Abstracts should have been submitted before 1 August 2012. [More information](#).



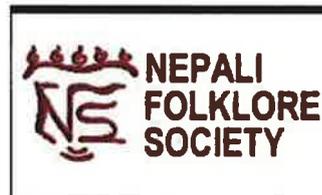
• Information about South Asia related lectures and seminars

See SASNET's page, <http://www.sasnet.lu.se/lectures-in-scandinavia>

Conferences and workshops outside Scandinavia

• 4th International Nepali Folklore Congress in Kathmandu

The [Nepali Folklore Society](#) based in Kathmandu organizes its 4th International Folklore Congress on 17–19 August 2012. It will be an academic forum for researchers, teachers, as well as practitioners working in different disciplines such as folkloristics, sociology, anthropology, geography, culture, history, linguistics, literature, musicology, tourism,



computer engineering/science (especially working in the field of technologies related to intangible cultural heritage). The focus of the 2012 Congress will be on intangible cultural heritage within folklore and folklife studies. The theme is "*Folklore and Folklife Studies: Special focus on Intangible Cultural Heritage*". Subthemes of the congress include, but are not limited to – Folklore, Folklife and Intangible Cultural Heritage; – Folklore and Development Issues; – Folklore, Gender and Power; – Folklore, Creative Writing and Poetry; – Folklore and Performing Arts; – Folklore, Identity and Inclusion; – Folklore and Information Technology, and many more. Abstracts should have been submitted before 30 May 2012. [Full information](#).

• Young Scholars Economics Academy on Dynamics of Migration in Geneva



The Swiss foundation for Ecology and Economy – [oikos Foundation](#), in collaboration with the [Graduate Institute's Programme for the Study of Global Migration](#) in Geneva, organizes the oikos Young Scholars Economics

Academy to take place 19 – 24 August 2012 in Geneva, Switzerland. The topic of the conference is "*The Dynamics of Migration*" and junior scholars (PhD students, as well as graduates) are invited to submit papers on one of the following topics related to

migration: – remittances and development; – Poverty and economic inequality; Health, education, and saving; Climate change and the environment; Institutional and technological change; Cultural identity; Labor markets and intellectual capital; Trade and foreign direct investment. Deadline for abstract submission was 15 May 2012. [Read the full call for papers.](#)

• SAARC conference on Archaeology of Buddhism in South Asia

The SAARC International Seminar on 'Archaeology of Buddhism: Recent Discoveries in South Asia' will be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, 22–24 August 2012. It is supposed to focus on



Buddhist sites and remains that have been worked up during the last six decades or so. It would include both kinds of papers – straightforward ones that just report archaeological finds; but will also have a second part to it that interrogates the methodological/ theoretical frameworks within which archaeological work is carried out. Venue: Buddhist Cultural Centre, Colombo.

The SAARC Cultural Centre invites all the Member States to send a minimum of four nominations (maximum 10 persons can be nominated by a member State) from amongst the experts and academicians of their country. The SAARC Cultural Centre would also accept the participation of other experts from the region (other than the nominees of the respective SAARC Member States) as well as from those residing outside the SAARC Region provided they are able to meet their travel and accommodation expenses to attend the Conference. The last date for sending the nominations was 10 June 2012. [More information.](#)

• IIAS Summer Programme on World Wide Asia: Asian Flows, Global Impacts

The International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS) organizes its second Summer Programme at Leiden 27 August – 1 September 2012. The theme will be "World Wide Asia: Asian Flows, Global Impacts". IIAS runs the programme in partnership with the Leiden Global Interactions Group (LGIG) at Leiden University.

It starts with a four-day master class followed by a two-day international conference. The aim is to critically explore Asian migrations as a globalizing force. The flows of people, goods, capital and ideas within and from the Asian continents have been transforming the global landscape for centuries. Arguably, this influence has become more recognizable and acute in the present day. The study of Asian mobilities can provide important insights into the conditions, processes and effects of globalization and historical global forms.



The programme will be run by three leading scholars in the fields of global migration history, the history of globalization, and modern Asian history. They include Prof. [Radhika Singha](#) from Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) in New Delhi.

PhD candidates and advanced research masters students worldwide whose work deals with some aspect of Asian migration are invited to participate.

The programme will close with a two-day conference on the same theme of Asian migrations, featuring international scholars. Students who participate in the Summer Programme will be given opportunities to meet and interact with the conference panellists and a select number of students may be invited to present their research in one of the conference sessions. All students will be invited to attend the conference and participate in the discussions.

[Full information about the 2012 IIAS Summer Programme.](#)

• Ananda Coomaraswamy Memorial Conference on Asian Art and Culture

The [Centre for Asian Studies at University of Kelaniya](#), Sri Lanka, organises



Från: Lars Eklund <lars eklund@sasnet.lu.se>
Ämne: SASNET Extra News 5 November 2012
Datum: 5 november 2012 14:07:17 CET
Till: sasnetnewsletter 27/9 <sasnet@sasnet.lu.se>

SASNET Swedish South Asian Studies Network

Ashok Kaul new ICCR Professor at University of Gothenburg

Ashok Kumar Kaul, Professor of Sociology at Banaras Hindu University (BHU) has been selected to become the first Visiting Indian ICCR Professor at the University of Gothenburg in Sweden. He will join the position in January 2013, and stay for six months. His contact person in Gothenburg is Professor Åke Sander at the [Department of Literature, History of Ideas, and Religion](#). Prof. Kaul has a doctorate from BHU, and thirty years of lecturing and research experience at a number of universities in India and internationally.

Originally coming from Kashmir, Prof. Kaul has written a book entitled "*Kashmir: Fractured Nativity (Closed Options, Open Possibilities)*". It was published by German publisher VDM in 2009, and an edited version "*Kashmir: Contested Identity*" was published by Rawat Publications in India in 2011. [More information about the book.](#)

SASNET Director Anna Lindberg visited University of Edinburgh

On 25 October 2012, SASNET Director Anna Lindberg was invited to give a talk at the [Centre for South Asian Studies at the University of Edinburgh](#), as part of their weekly seminar series. She spoke to faculty members and students on the topic, "*Can There Be Dowry in Progressive Kerala?*" The illustrated talk was followed by a lively discussion session. Dr. George Palattiyil of the School of Social Work at Edinburgh University chaired the session. Professor Roger Jeffery, Chair of the [European Association for South Asian Studies](#), also participated.

The Centre for South Asian Studies in Edinburgh is a highly reputed center attracting students from all over the world to their programs at the undergraduate, masters, and Ph.D. levels. Two of those students, Supurna Banerjee and Deborah Menezes, had participated in a [Ph.D. workshop](#) organized by SASNET in September 2012.

SASNET seminar on the Baltistan Movement and the Role of Pop Ghazals

On Thursday 15 November 2012, at 12.30, Associate Professor Jan Magnusson, School of Social Work, Lund University holds a SASNET lunch seminar on "*The Baltistan Movement and the Political Power of Pop Ghazals*", focusing on on the political role of pop ghazal music in Baltistan, an area in the western Himalayas on both sides of the border between India and Pakistan. It will be the third SASNET Brown Bag seminar for the fall semester 2012, held in collaboration with Arbetarnas Bildningsförbund (ABF) Lund, and Lunds konsthall. Venue: Konsthallen, Mårtenstorget 3, Lund.

Dr Magnusson will talk about his research on the political role of pop ghazal music in Baltistan. This region in the western Himalayas is characterized by its blend of Muslim Shi'ite and Tibetan culture, and its vernacular Tibetan dialect. The Balti pop ghazals are modern versions of an Arabic poetic tradition and present an alternative narrative of local history and belonging that is situated in a Himalayan rather than South Asian context. The pop ghazals have become symbolic in local resistance against attempts of India and Pakistan to integrate the Balti people in the postcolonial nationstates and are at the core of the so called Baltistan Movement's activities. [See the seminar poster.](#)

Rina Sunder Sand from EnteringINDIA visited SASNET

On October 23 2012, Rina Sunder Sand, founder and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the organisation EnteringINDIA visited SASNET to discuss the possibilities for future collaborations. As a native Indian raised in Norway, fluent in Hindi, Punjabi and Norwegian, Rina is equally at home in the Indian culture as in Scandinavia. Her cross-cultural insights led her to found EnteringINDIA, through which she provides cultural workshops and coaching for Scandinavian companies wishing to do business in India.

Rina has held several highly appreciated lectures and workshops in the past on those matters and we look forward to cooperating with her on future events here at Lund University.

See EnteringINDIA's website at www.enteringindia.com.

Copenhagen lecture series on the Political Economy of Transition in India

The Asia Research Centre at Copenhagen Business School (CBS) organises a public postgraduate student lecture series on "*The Political Economy of Transition in India*" during the month of November 2012. The lecture series is arranged in cooperation with Contemporary South Asian Studies at Oxford University; and the Centre of Development Studies at Cambridge University, UK. The lectures take place over the course of five Thursdays, and every time from 10.00 till 12.00. Lecturers include Dr. Mathew McCartney, Oxford University, who will speak about "*Liberalization and the Role of the State in India 1980-2012*"; Dr. Shailaja Fennell, Cambridge University, who will speak about "*Challenges and Opportunities for Indian Agriculture in a Globalized Food Market*"; Professor Anthony D'Costa, Asia Research Centre, CBS, who will speak about "*Compressed Capitalism and the New India*"; Professor Sebastian Morris, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad and current ICCR Visiting Professor in Indian Studies at CBS, who will speak about "*The Politics and Economics of Public Service Failure in India and the New Mantra of PPPs*"; and Professor Barbara Harriss-White, Oxford University, who will speak about "*Capitalism and the Common Man – The Big Problem of Self-Employment In India*". Venue: Copenhagen Business School, Dalgas Have 15, Frederiksberg. [Full information.](#) [See the seminar series poster.](#)

Pamela Price lectures on Autonomy, Clientage and Morality in Rural India

Pamela Price, Professor of South Asian history at the University of Oslo, gives a lecture on "*Autonomy, Clientage and Morality in India's 'Deepening Democracy' – A View from Rural South India*", on Monday 5 November 2012, 13.15 – 15.00 at the Bergen Resource Centre for International Development. Professor Price joins in the recent efforts of scholars of Indian politics to explore meanings of democracy and concepts of leadership shared by voters in localities. In a context of increasing voter demands for better performance in governance and the desire to elect "good" leaders, how do politicians try to present themselves as moral? Professor Price has published widely on both historical and contemporary politics and forms of authority in India. Her publications include the book *Kingship and Political Practice in Colonial India* (Cambridge, 1996) and, more recently, the co-edited volume *Power and Influence in India: Bosses, Lords and Captains* (Routledge, 2011). [More information.](#)

Kaushik Roy holds Aarhus University First ICCR Lecture on India

Dr. Kaushik Roy, ICCR Visiting Professor to Aarhus University, Denmark, lectures on "*Democracy and its Perils in South Asia*" on Tuesday 6 November 2012, at 14.15. It will be the First Aarhus University ICCR Lecture on India. Venue: Building 1455, Room 127, Jens Chr. Skou's Vej 1, Aarhus. [More information on Dr. Roy's lecture.](#)

Dr. Roy is Reader in History at Jadavpur University, Kolkata and Research Fellow at the Peace Research Institute in Oslo (PRIO). Dr. Roy has published extensively on warfare and military history in a broad social context both within South Asia and globally. His latest book "*Hinduism and the Ethics of Warfare in South Asia*" will be published by Cambridge University Press in December 2012. Other publications include "*War, Culture and Society in Early Modern South Asia, 1740-1849*" (Routledge, 2011) and the edited volume "*War and Society in Colonial India*" (Oxford University Press, 2010).

Uppsala seminar on rock and mountain myths in early Vedic texts

On Wednesday 7 November 2012, 15.15–16.45, Christiane Schaefer, Senior Lecturer in Comparative Indo-European Linguistics at the [Department of Linguistics and Philology](#), Uppsala University, holds an open lecture on "*Myth and literary imagery of rock and mountain in Early Vedic texts*". The seminar is organised by the Forum For South Asia Studies at Uppsala University (FSAS).

Dr. Schaefer's research interests are mainly in the field of Vedic linguistics and literature, Tocharian, and language contact in Central Asia. In her lecture she will

3

2

1

Från: Jonathan Stoltz <jonathan.stoltz@sasnet.lu.se>
Ämne: SASNET Extra, November 23, 2012
Datum: 23 november 2012 15:03:46 CET
Till: "<sasnet@sasnet.lu.se>" <sasnet@sasnet.lu.se>

SASNET Swedish South Asian Studies Network

SASNET lecture with Anders Fänge on Afghanistan: The current situation and the future beyond 2014

SASNET, together with The Swedish Committee for Afghanistan (SCA) in Lund, and Sensus studieförbund, is organising a lecture on "Afghanistan: The current situation and the future beyond 2014", with one of Sweden's foremost experts on Afghanistan, Anders Fänge, on Thursday, November 29, at 18:00. It will take place at Lunds stadsbibliotek (Lund City Library), in the Atriumgården. The lecture will be held in Swedish.

Fänge, a journalist and long-standing manager of the Swedish Committee for Afghanistan, is among Sweden's foremost experts on Afghanistan. He was one of the first journalists who reported from that country after the Soviet invasion in 1979 and has since been involved in humanitarian activities in Afghanistan and has reported on the often very severe living conditions of the Afghan people.

In his role as a manager of the Swedish Committee for Afghanistan, Fänge has been a pioneer in developing its projects in agriculture, healthcare, and education, and has been a driving force behind the functional nationwide school system in Afghanistan today. He has also been engaged in securing education for girls and women.

In addition to Afghanistan, he has also worked over the past 30 years in Ethiopia for Save the Children, in Central Asia for the Red Cross, and in Somalia and the West Bank for the UN. He holds an honorary doctorate from Umeå University.

Recently returned from Afghanistan, Anders will share his thoughts and reflections on the current situation in the country, and how its development might look beyond the year 2014. [See seminar poster \(in Swedish\).](#)

Andrea Nightingale held SASNET/UPF lecture on Political Development in Nepal

Dr. Andrea Nightingale from the School of Global Studies, University of Gothenburg, gave an highly interesting SASNET/UPF talk on "Naya Nepal? The practices and challenges of local democracy in the Federal Republic of Nepal" on November 21, 2012. The seminar was jointly organised by SASNET and the Association of Foreign Affairs at Lund University (UPF). [See seminar poster.](#)

From 1 October 2012, Andrea Nightingale works at the [Human Ecology section at the School of Global Studies](#), University of Gothenburg. Before that she has been affiliated to the Dept. of Geography at University of Zurich, Switzerland, and recently been Lecturer in Environmental Geography at University of Edinburgh, Scotland. Dr. Nightingale has been doing research work in Nepal for 25 years. Mostly she has been working on community forestry and social equity (gender, caste, class in particular), but more recently she has also been studying the political transition in Nepal.

Seminar abstract: Nepal is at a turning point as it emerges from violent conflict (1996-2006) to write a new constitution (2008-present) and establish a federated Republic. Everywhere, people from all different backgrounds insist that democracy cannot arrive without equality, and they referred to gender, caste, ethnic equality and opportunities for employment as the domains requiring particular reform. In the present context there are real struggles for authority as this 'new' consciousness intersects with older and new forms of patronage. These issues are placed within the wider context of political change in Nepal, emphasizing the post-2006 period but linking it to changes that stem back as far as 1951. There are three main themes addressed in this talk: i.) What constitutes 'democratic practice' in the context of highly uneven power relations? ii.) How does the culture of 'kura milaune', or 'compromise' in Nepal produce very particular forms of 'democracy'? And iii.) What contexts are most important for changing how people understand democracy? While not surprising for long-term observers in Nepal, our findings show how donor investment intersects with local power dynamics. Resource governance projects become a site of competition for authority, opportunities for patronage and personal gain, as well as sites of infrastructure development and community building.

Professor Gunnel Cederlöf gave inaugural lecture in Uppsala

On November 16, 2012, Gunnel Cederlöf, newly installed Professor at the Department of History, Uppsala University, gave an inaugural lecture on the theme "On Time and Space: To Control an Empire with a Map", about the British Lieutenant Robert Boileau Pemberton's use and creation of maps over South Asian in the 19th century. [Watch the lecture here \(in Swedish\).](#)

Professor Cederlöf's work spans the environmental, legal and colonial history of early modern and modern India and the British Empire. It focuses on questions of the formation of governance and subject rights at the time when the British Empire formed in Asia. More specifically it enquires into the role of commerce, law and property, and the enabling and constraining conditions of climate and ecology. She has also taken an interest in the history of mission from the perspective of Indian social and economic history. Professor Cederlöf chairs the Forum for South Asia Studies at Uppsala University and coordinates the Uppsala University and Calcutta University student and teacher exchange programme.

Successful SASNET seminar on Women, Peace, and Security in Afghanistan

Former Swedish Ambassador to Pakistan and Afghanistan, Ann Wilkens, held a well attended lecture on "Women, Peace, and Security in Afghanistan" at DomkyrkoForum in Lund on Wednesday, November 14, 2012. The seminar was organised by SASNET in collaboration with the Lund Afghanistan Committee and Sensus Studieförbund. [See the seminar poster.](#)

Ann Wilkens is currently a member of the advisory panel of the Afghanistan Analysts Network and the author of a number of papers on the Pakistan/Afghanistan region, including "Missing the Target: A report on the Swedish Commitment for Women, Peace, and Security in Afghanistan", which has just been published online. [Go for the report.](#)

Ambassador Wilkens began with a detailed summary of the newly-released report, followed by a brief question-and-answer session. She then presented a broader backdrop to the difficulties facing the region, explaining the multi-ethnic composition of Afghanistan, the roles played by neighbouring countries, and other factors creating a complex challenge to military and civilian forces working to develop peace and security for the country and its marginalized women. A second lively question-and-answer session concluded the evening.

Seminar abstract: One of the pretexts for legitimizing the 2001 military intervention in Afghanistan was the need to secure human rights for women. Sweden's position at the time was that there could be no peace in Afghanistan unless women obtained such rights. In support of this objective, Sweden has increased its bilateral development aid every year until Afghanistan has become Sweden's largest recipient of such assistance.

Severe barriers still prevent women in Afghanistan from attending school, participating in society, and assuming a role in their country's political life—including peace negotiations. However, it is unclear whether Sweden will maintain its dedication to Afghan women as the country undergoes a military transition. There is grave concern that women's rights may be displaced by other issues as international priorities are reshuffled. [Read more.](#)

Alnarp symposium on Agro-ecosystems in Pakistan

The Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) holds a one day symposium on agro-ecosystems in Pakistan at its Alnarp Campus on Wednesday 28 November 2012, 12.00 – 17.30. This mini-symposium highlights agricultural sciences in Pakistan, the challenges and opportunities. It furthermore aims to identify areas of collaboration of research in Pakistan and Sweden. Venue: Crafoordsalen, Navet, SLU Alnarp.

The direct incentive for the initiative is the fact that SLU and other Swedish universities have hosted a large number of PhD students over the last five years. Many of these new PhDs will return back to Pakistan and set up their own research group.

The symposium gives an opportunity for these PhDs to present future directions of their research to a broad audience and to shape collaborative contacts. A keynote talk will be held by Professor Farooq from the Faculty of Agriculture at [Faisalabad University of Agriculture](#). Dr Farooq has a broad experience and a



Från: Lars Eklund <Lars.Eklund@sasnet.lu.se>
Ämne: SASNET News Extra 3 December 2012
Datum: 3 december 2012 15:37:53 CET
Till: Lars Eklund <Lars.Eklund@sasnet.lu.se>

SASNET Swedish South Asian Studies Network

December 6th SASNET lunch seminar on Indian research culture vs. Swedish and Australian

Assistant Professor Emily Baird from Lund Vision Group at the Dept. of Biology, Lund University holds a SASNET lunch lecture on "Swedish-Australian perspectives on research collaboration with India" on Thursday 6 December 2012, 12.30–13.30. Venue: Lunds konsthall, Mårtenstorget 3. See conference poster. <http://www.sasnet.lu.se/sites/default/files/baird.pdf>

This is the fourth and final SASNET Brown Bag seminar for the fall semester 2012, as usual held in collaboration with Arbetarnas Bildningsförbund (ABF) Lund, and Lunds konsthall.

Dr. Baird is involved in an exciting research project on the acrobatic maneuvers of insects, a project carried out in collaboration with the National Centre for Biological Sciences, Tata Institute of Fundamental research in Bangalore. More information about the project. <http://www.sasnet.lu.se/node/58874/#flight>

The frequent interactions, both in Lund and in Bangalore, not only gave interesting scientific results, but also gave an interesting insight into how culture affects approaches to scientific research. Given Dr. Baird's experience of being a researcher in both Australia and Sweden, this insight has helped her to have a broad understanding of research culture in different environments and to identify both advantages and shortcomings of different approaches.

SASNET organises Brown Bag lunch seminars in collaboration with ABF, Sweden's largest adult liberal education association, and the municipal art gallery of Lund (Lunds konsthall). As usual, lectures are given by eminent Lund University researchers working on South Asia related projects, and are held once a month on Thursdays. See the full Programme for the fall 2012 (as a pdf-file) <http://www.sasnet.lu.se/sites/default/files/u4/brownbagfolderht2012.pdf>

In the No 7/2012 issue of Lund University magazine LUM, journalist Ingela Björck wrote an article on the seminar series. Read the article. <http://www.sasnet.lu.se/sites/default/files/u4/lumomsasnet2012.pdf>

Lars Eklund back at SASNET office in Lund after six weeks South Asia tour

During the period 20 October till 30 November 2012, SASNET deputy director Lars Eklund has been away from the SASNET office at Lund University.

Lars has enjoyed some free time with his family in Kolkata, interspersed with festivals, musical performances and other cultural activities including a wedding, but he has of course also interacted with SASNET networking partners at the prime universities in Kolkata – Calcutta University, Jadavpur University, and Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Calcutta. A meeting was held with Jadavpur University Vice Chancellor Souvik Bhattacharya on November 26th.

Lars set up a small SASNET office at his Sardar Sankar Rd residence in Kolkata.

During the period 27 October – 5 November he worked for SASNET, making a contact journey to Varanasi, Kanpur and Delhi, with visits to the Swedish study centres in Varanasi, the Banaras Hindu University (BHU), IIT Kanpur, the South Asian University in Delhi, and other networking partners. In Delhi, he participated in the sixth Nobel Memoria Week, organised by the Swedish Embassy, and had meetings with the Ambassador Harald Sandberg, and the Growth Analysis representative Andreas Muranyi. In mid-November, Lars also visited Kathmandu for five days, and meetings were organised at Tribhuvan University, and meetings with Nepalese networking partners.

Detailed reports on all meetings will soon be posted on SASNET.

Lars Eklund, Deputy Director/Webmaster

SASNET – Swedish South Asian Studies Network
Lund University
Scheelevägen 15 D
SE-223 70 Lund
SWEDEN

+46 (0)46 222 73 40

the Ananda Coomaraswamy Memorial Conference on Asian Art and Culture on 8–10 September 2012. The conference coincides with the 135th birth anniversary and 65th death anniversary of Ananda Coomaraswamy, renowned Ceylonese philosopher and metaphysician, as well as a pioneering historian and philosopher of Indian art (particularly art history and symbolism). He was an early interpreter of Indian culture to the West.



[Full information about the conference.](#)

• Fourth annual Indo-Global Education Summit

The Indus Foundation, a non-profit making educational organization dedicated to the promotion of higher education in India, organises the fourth annual Indo-Global Education Summit in Hyderabad, India, 7–11 September 2011. Indo-Global Education Summit 2012 is a unique event which is being organized in India as a sequel to the highly successful Education Summits held in 2009, 2010, and 2011. The Summit 2012 will have sessions on collaborative research programs, joint / dual degree programs, twinning & transfer programs, faculty & student exchange programs, study abroad in India programs, distance education programs, vocational education programs, and other academic partnerships. There will be separate sessions for student recruitment. An important feature of the Summit would be visits to well established and prominent Indian educational institutions.



Major fields covered would be Engineering & IT, Business & Management, Life Sciences & Biomedicine, Natural Sciences, Arts & Humanities, Social Sciences, and Educational Technology. There will be one-on-one meetings between representatives of Indian institutions and those of foreign universities for forging academic collaborations. The Summit 2012 is specifically designed for university presidents, vice-chancellors, provosts, deans, enrollment / recruitment officers, and their executive-level team members.

[More information about the Indo-Global Education Summit 2012.](#)

The US-based Indus Foundation has a network of offices in India covering the major cities including Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Bangalore, Chandigarh, Chennai, Eluru, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Jalandhar, Kakinada, Kanpur, Kochi, Kolkata, Ludhiana, Lucknow, Meerut, Mehsana, Nagpur, Nashik, New Delhi, Noida, Panchkula, Pilibhit, Pune, Sambalpur, Surat, Thane, Trivandrum, Udaipur, Vadodara, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Vijayawada, and Visakhapatnam. Over the years, the Foundation has emerged as a leading recruiter of well-qualified and financially able Indian students for study in foreign universities.

• Second Nepal and Himalayan Studies Conference at Fetzer Center

The Second Conference of the Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies (ANHS) will be held at the Fetzer Center on the campus of Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan, USA, in conjunction with the 61th Annual Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs, 21–23 September 2012. The format of the conference will include traditional panel with presentations by four panelists and a discussant; workshops around papers presented; roundtable discussions on a topic of broad interest; and panels on a recent significant publication or film. [More information.](#)



• Dallas Conference on Muslim Cultures of South Asia

The US-based South Asia Research and Information Institute (SARII) and the Dept. of Asian Studies at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, USA, organise a one day conference on 22 September 2012 on "*Cities, Courts and Saints: Muslim Cultures of South Asia*". Venue: McCord Auditorium, Dallas Hall, Southern Methodist University.

The conference brings together six leading specialists of Indo-Muslim history and culture who will present new perspectives on the way Muslim traditions contributed to forms of religious life, social etiquette, music, and art of the Indian subcontinent.



The following six topics will be in focus: *"Bengal, Gujarat, and the Deccan: New Indo-Muslim Courts of the 14th-15th Centuries"*, *"Mughal Letters and Mughal Lives: A Brahman Munshi at Shah Jahan's Court"*, *"Sufism and Kingship in the Mughal Empire: From Babur (d. 1530) to Jahangir (d. 1627)"*, *"The Begum of Bhopal: A Muslim 'Queen' holds Court in Colonial India"*, *"From One Empire to Another: The City of Delhi, 1707-1858"*, *"The Social History of Song Collections: Awadh, Delhi, and Hyderabad (circa 1800)"*. [Download abstracts](#).

Participation is open and free of charge including a lunch bag, but registration is required by 15 September 2012. [Full information](#).

• Singapore workshop on South Asian Diaspora Engagement in South Asia

An international workshop on *"Diaspora and development – South Asian Diaspora Engagement in South Asia"* will be held in Singapore 25–26 September 2012. It is being organised by the [Institute of South Asian Studies \(ISAS\)](#), part of the National University of Singapore.



The workshop will explore the various forms and fields of diaspora engagement that include entrepreneurship, philanthropy, international relations, portfolio investment, remittances, advocacy, peacebuilding, trade such as in ethnic goods, political engagement, socio-cultural linkages and religious or spiritual movements, amongst many other categories that all have potential for advancing growth in South Asia. Some of the specific questions that the workshop will address are – what is the relationship between diaspora engagement and development; what is the structure of diaspora engagement in South Asia?; – What are the existing diaspora engagement policies in South Asian countries individually and how could they be regionally integrated?, and more. The workshop targets empirically based papers involving South Asian countries (i.e. Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) and South Asian diaspora members/communities/groups living and working across the globe. [Full information](#).

• Third Borderlands Research Conference to be held in Singapore

The 3rd Conference of the Asian Borderlands Research Network will be held in Singapore 11–13



October 2012. The theme for the 2012 conference will be *"Connections, Corridors, and Communities"*. The conference is organized by the Asia Research Institute of the National University of Singapore; International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS), the Netherlands; the Asian Borderlands Research Network; in collaboration with the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore. It is convened by Prof. Prasenjit Duara, Asia Research Institute of the National University of Singapore, Prof. Tansen Sen, Nalanda-Sriwijaya Centre at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Dr. Tina Harris and Prof. Willem van Schendel, University of Amsterdam, and Dr. Erik de Maaker, Leiden University, Netherlands.

Venue: University Hall, National University of Singapore, Lee Kong Chian Wing, 21 Lower Kent Ridge Road.

Extensive land and maritime networks have crisscrossed Asia for centuries, providing the basis for encounters between diverse ethnic, linguistic, economic, religious, and political groups. Today, developments such as new infrastructural projects, an increase in media access, and renewed interest in shaping cross-border cultural identities serve to both underscore these long-standing linkages and create new forms of connections across Asia.



During the 3rd Asian Borderlands Research Conference in Singapore, presentations will address continuities and ruptures along routes and borders in Asia, broadly related to the theme, Connections, Corridors, and Communities. The keynote speaker will be David Ludden (*photo*), Professor of Political Economy and Globalization in the Department of History at New York University, USA.

[More information about the conference](#).

• KKH involved in designing Khoj Contemporary Art Intensive course in Delhi

[Khoj International Artists' Association](#) in India announces a call



for applications for "Khoj Contemporary Art Intensive", which will be held in New Delhi 1–9 December 2012. Designed in association with the [Royal School of Art \(KKH\)](#) in Stockholm, Sweden, the course is aimed at young curators, writers, critics, artists and art professionals. The course will specifically focus on developments in art practice and theory since 1989. The nine-day course is divided into four modules and focuses on areas in art theory and criticism that are generally overlooked in academia.



Khoj International Artists Association was established in 1997. It has built an international reputation for outstanding alternative arts incubation. It plays a central role in the development of experimental, interdisciplinary and critical contemporary art practice in India, constantly challenging the established thinking about art. Through a variety of programmes including workshops, residencies, exhibitions, talks and community art projects, Khoj has supported the experimentation of many leading Indian artists before their international acclaim. Over 200 Indian and 400 International Artists from countries such as Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, Uganda, Kenya, Turkey, Pakistan, Japan, China, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Thailand, Korea, UK, Germany, France, Mexico and America have been through KHOJ.

Four modules will form the core of the Khoj Contemporary Art Intensive course: – The Three Phases of Institutional Critique and Beyond (taught by Amanda Newall); – Media Art Histories (taught by Leon Tan); – From Performance to Participation via Performativity (taught by Ola Johansson); – From Conceptual Art to Experience Design (taught by Ronald Jones). Application is possible only for Indian nationals. Deadline for applications is 22 August 2012.

[More information about the course.](#)

• Coimbatore conference on Governance and Sustainable Development

Amrita University in Coimbatore, India, and Deakin University, Australia jointly organise



an International Conference on "*Governance and Sustainable Development: Building Commerce and Communities*" to take place in Coimbatore 10–13 December 2012. The principal goal of the conference is to provide a forum for stimulating debate and exchange of ideas by exploring the latest developments in the governance of sustainable development from a variety of perspectives including environmental sustainability, social enterprise, corporate governance, legal pluralism, and social investment. The conference will appeal to academics, professionals from both business and non-profit entities, and policy makers. Thus papers are currently invited in the following four areas:

- Environment Sustainability, Carbon Emissions and Climate Change Impacts
- Women, Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- Social Investment, Community Development and Indigenous Communities
- Social Audit, Reporting and Ethical Decision-Making

Deadline for submission of papers is 15 September 2012. [Full information.](#)

• Ankara conference on Salman Rushdie and his work

The Department of Foreign Language Education at the Middle East Technical University (METU) in Ankara, Turkey, organises its 20th conference on British Novelists to take place 13–14 December 2012 in Ankara. The theme of this year's conference is "*Salman Rushdie and His Work*". Rushdie became famous with his novel "*Midnight's Children*" published in 1981 and his work since has been combining magical realism with historical fiction, being concerned with the many connections, disruptions and migrations between East and West.



Keynote speaker will be Abdulrazak Gurnah, Professor of English and Postcolonial Studies, University of Kent, UK. The organisers invite 250-word abstracts for 20-minute presentations on any aspect of Salman Rushdie's work. Deadline for submitting abstracts is 13 September 2012.

[More information.](#)

• 7th International Conference on Mycorrhiza in New Delhi

The seventh edition of the International Conference on Mycorrhiza will take place 6 – 11 January 2013 at India Habitat



Centre, New Delhi, India. The conference is organised by The Indian Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) in collaboration with the Mycorrhiza network. The title of this edition of the conference is "Mycorrhiza for All – an Under Earth Revolution". The summit would cover various aspects of mycorrhizal symbiosis and their role in a wide range of areas covering ecosystem dynamics, nutrient cycling, gene expression, metabolic regulation, reclamation technologies, and more. Registration should be done before 30 September 2012 and done through the official conference website: <http://www.teriin.org/events/icom/>



Scholars interested to present papers should send their abstracts by 1 October 2012.

• Hyderabad conference on India in World Affairs: The Next Decade

The Osmania University in Hyderabad, India organises an international conference on "India in world Affairs: The



**Osmania University Centre
for International Programmes**

Next Decade" to take place 22 – 24 January 2013 in Hyderabad, India. The conference is proposed both to reflect the manner in which India is negotiating its position on the emerging global issues in the world community and to pool together current scholarship shaping India's position on these issues. The objective is to bring into focus India's policy options and a critical evaluation of their salience. The main themes of the conference are thus: – The World in India – India in the World; – India and her Neighbours; – West Asia and India; – India and the sub-Saharan Africa; – India and the Americas-North and South; – India and Europe; – India and Asia: Japan and China; – South East Asia; – India and the emerging international scenario-choices and options. Deadline for submitting abstracts is 1 September 2012. [Full information.](#)

• International Seminar on Sacred Places to be held in Allahabad

The Society of Pilgrimage Studies organises an international seminar on "Sacred Places – Cosmological Power and Environment Issues" in Allahabad, India on 5–7 February 2013. The seminar is organised in connection to the occasion of Kumbh Mela 2013, a Hindu bathing festival held every twelfth year at Allahabad, attracting more than 40 million



pilgrims from all over the world. The seminar will focus on the cosmological power of and environmental issues at sacred places, besides the esoteric as well as outer meaning of the heritage associated with them. Concrete themes in focus will be: – religion-environment interaction; – theories and approaches to pilgrimage studies; – cosmic geometry and power of sacred places; – pilgrim circulation and economy; – pilgrimage archetype, hierarchy and pattern; – spatiality of time and temporality of space; – rituals, functionaries and festivities; – sects, saints and monastic organizations; – cultural symbolism; – environmental issues at pilgrimage places; and problem of pollution in the holy rivers. Abstracts of 500 words are accepted by October 2012. The Society of Pilgrimage Studies is an Indian registered academic charity that focuses on the interdisciplinary study of sacred places and journeys in all religions and countries. [More information about the Allahabad seminar.](#)

• Papers invited for 2013 British Association for South Asian Studies Conference in Leeds

The British Association for South Asian Studies (BASAS) conference 2013 will be hosted by the University of Leeds 3–5 April 2013. Panel suggestions and papers are now invited for this important annual conference. Proposals are welcome from the full range of disciplines reflected with the broad membership of BASAS. Deadline for submitting panel and papers proposals is 1 December 2012. [More information about the 2013 BASAS conference.](#)



[See the programme for the previous BASAS conference](#), held in London in April 2012.

• Vienna conference on Ethnicity and Cultural Identities of Northeast India

The Department of South Asian, Tibetan and Buddhist Studies at the University of Vienna, Austria, invites papers for an International Conference on "Negotiating Ethnicity: Politics and Display of Cultural Identities in Northeast India". The conference aims at examining changes of collective identities and ethnicity in various parts of Northeast India, as well as look at



practices related to ethnicity and cultural identities. Northeast India is the political unit defined by the Indian Government as the "North Eastern Council", which includes the eight states of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim. Proposals from scholars working in a variety of disciplines, including, but not limited to, history, sociology, economics, anthropology and cultural studies are welcome to submit research paper proposals. The conference will take place during 3 days in the first week of July 2013. Deadline to submit paper abstracts is September 2012. The organisers expect around 40 participants half of whom from India. The organisers cover travel fares and lodging for all speakers and discussants. [Full information.](#)

• Other conferences connected to South Asian studies all over the World

See SASNET's page, <http://www.sasnet.lu.se/conferences/conferences>

Business and Politics

• Information about South Asia related business and politics in Sweden

See SASNET's page, <http://www.sasnet.lu.se/news-sources/swedish-politics-and-business-related-south-asia>

South Asia related culture

• 12th edition of River to River Florence Indian Film Festival

The 12th edition of River to River Florence Indian Film Festival will be held 7-13 December 2012 in



Florence, Italy. The festival accepts

2011 and 2012 features, shorts and documentaries from and about India. [Submissions are done online](#) by 30 September 2012.

The River to River festival, under the Patronage of the Embassy of India in Rome, is the first festival in the world entirely devoted to films from and about India. New for this year is that besides the Bitebay Audience Award, the festival announces the new "Piaggio Foundation Award" for the feature film category. The jury of the award will be composed by a special committee of the Piaggio Foundation. The award, given to the director of the winning feature film by the President of Piaggio Vehicles Private Ltd of Pune, will be the new Vespa LX125 just launched on the Indian market. Deadline for accreditations is 20 November 2012. Last minute accreditations can be done from 7 December 2012 at the festival venue. [Full information on the festival website.](#)

• Information about South Asia related culture in Sweden/ Scandinavia

See SASNET's page, <http://www.sasnet.lu.se/cultural-events>

[New and updated items on SASNET web site](#)

- A New India?: Critical Reflections in the Long Twentieth Century

A New India?: Critical Reflections in the Long Twentieth

Century, volume edited by **Anthony D'Costa**, Professor in Indian Studies and Research Director at the Asia Research Centre, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark. A critical examination of the notion of a 'new' India by exposing the many economic, social, and political contradictions that are integral to contemporary India, aimed at scholars and advanced students of contemporary India, comparative politics, and development studies; the intelligent and curious reading public interested in the rise of India. Includes foreword by Deepak Nayyar and chapters by Anthony P. D'Costa on "*New Interpretations of India's Economic Growth in the Twentieth Century*"; Kunal Sen on "*Continuity and Change: Notes on Agriculture in 'New India'*"; and Nitya Rao on "*The 'New' Non Residents of India: A Short History of the NRI*". Anthem Press, London, December 2010.



A paperback edition of the book is released in August 2012. [More details here.](#)

The book will be officially launched in September 2012.

• Swedish departments where research on South Asia is going on

This month there was 1 new department added to SASNET's list:

‡ [Centre for Environment and Sustainability \(GMV\)](#), Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg,
(in collaboration with University of Gothenburg)

Constantly added to the list of research environments at Swedish universities, presented by SASNET. The full list now includes nearly 300 departments, with detailed descriptions of the South Asia related research and education taking place! See the full list of departments here: <http://www.sasnet.lu.se/institutions/research-environments>

• Useful travelling information

Look at our [Travel Advice](#) page. Updated travel advises from the The British Foreign & Commonwealth Office about safety aspects on travelling to the countries of South Asia.

Best regards

Lars Eklund

Deputy director/webmaster

SASNET/Swedish South Asian Studies Network

SASNET is a national network for research, education, and information about South Asia and is based at Lund University. Its aim is to promote a dynamic networking process in which Swedish researchers cooperate with their counterparts in South Asia and around the globe.

The SASNET network is open to all branches of the natural and social sciences. Priority is given to interdisciplinary cooperation across faculties, and more particularly to institutions in the Nordic countries and South Asia. SASNET believes that South Asian studies will be most fruitfully pursued as a cooperative endeavour among researchers in different institutions who have a solid base in their mother disciplines.

The network is financed by Lund University.

Postal address: SASNET – Swedish South Asian Studies Network,
Scheelevägen 15 D, SE-223 70 Lund, Sweden

Visiting address: Ideon Research Park, House Alpha 1 (first floor, room no. 2040), in the premises of the Centre for East and South East Asian Studies at Lund University (ACE).

Phone: + 46 46 222 73 40

E-mail: sasnet@sasnet.lu.se

Web site: <http://www.sasnet.lu.se>

Subscribe to the newsletter by sending an email to sasnet@sasnet.lu.se!