INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

THE GLOBAL SOUTH ASIAN DIASPORA

PROGRAMME
(PROVISIONAL)
THURSDAY 2ND JUNE

9:00 A.M.-10:30 A.M.

PANEL 1: The Civilizational Heritage

1. Title: Notes Toward an Indo-Caribbean Philosophy
   Presenter: Burton Sankeralli
   Affiliation:

2. Title: What’s in a Indian Diasporic name?
   Presenter: Prinnath Gooptar
   Affiliation: PhD Candidate, University of Trinidad and Tobago.

3. Title: Outsider-Insider: Views of Indo Guyanese Culture from a close colonial distance
   Presenter: John Mair
   Affiliation: Senior lecturer in journalism and broadcasting, The University of Coventry and
   Associate Fellow, Yesu Persaud Centre for Caribbean Studies, Warwick University, United
   Kingdom.

4. Title: Retention and Invention in Bhojpuri Diasporic Music Culture: Perspectives from India,
   Fiji, and the Caribbean
   Presenter: Peter Manuel
   Affiliation: Professor, Music Department, Graduate Center of the City University of New York

9:00 A.M.-10:30 A.M.

PANEL 2: The Historical Context

1. Title: A Passage From India: Up-country Tamils as a Diaspora Next-Door in Sri Lanka
   Presenter: Daniel Bass
   Affiliation: Assistant Professor of Anthropology & Religious Studies
   Lynn University, Boca Raton, Florida, USA

2. Title: Challi Holland: the emigration of Hindustanis from Surinam to the Netherlands
   Presenter: Chan E.S. Choenni
   Affiliation: Lalla Rookh Academic Chair, Free University Amsterdam
   Amsterdam

3. Title: Diasporic Bridges: Reciprocity and the Indian indentured labor diaspora
   Presenter: Amitava Chowdhury, Ph.D.
Affiliation: Department of History, Queen’s University, Kingston, ON, Canada.

4. Title: Healthcare and the spread of ankylostomiasis among indentured Indians in Trinidad and British Guiana in the 20th century.
Presenter: Karishma Nanhu
Affiliation: MPhil candidate in the History of Science, Medicine and Technology University of Oxford.

10:30 A.M.-10:45 A.M.

TEA BREAK

10:45 A.M.-12:15 P.M.

PANEL 3: Cultural reconstruction in diasporic communities: resistance, accommodation and survival

1. Title: Ethnic Histories: The Development of an Indocentric Narrative of Trinidad & Tobago's History
Presenter: Bridget Brereton
Affiliation: Professor, Department of History, The University of the West Indies (St. Augustine Campus)

2. Title: Artifacts of East Indians in Belize: Remembering the Past to Secure the Future
Presenter: Ms. Sylvia Gilharry Perez and Dr. Kumar Mahabir
Affiliation: Chairman, Corozal Organization of East Indian Cultural Heritage (COEICH) and Assistant Professor, University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT)

3. Title: Caste-Based Communal Organizations: Promoting a Cultural Identity or Segregation?: A Case Study of the Natal Rajput Association in Kwazulu/Natal
Presenter: Kalpana Hiralal
Affiliation: Historical Studies, School of Anthropology Gender and Historical Studies, Howard College, University of Kwazulu/Natal, South Africa.

4. Title: In respect of Kean Gibson's essays on Hinduism and Hindus in Guyana
Presenter: Veda Mohabir
10:45 A.M.-12:15 P.M.

PANEL 4: Embodied Rhythms and Poetics

1. Title: Calypso and Krishna’s Flute: The Woman’s Moving Body in Indo-Caribbean Rhythm Culture*
   Presenter: Ananya Jahanara Kabir
   Affiliation: Senior Lecturer in Commonwealth and Postcolonial Literatures, School of English, University of Leeds, UK.

2. Title: Chutney Bacchanal: Re-constructing South Asian Culture in the Key of Rum
   Presenter: Darrell Baksh
   Affiliation: Darrell Baksh is currently reading for the Master of Philosophy degree in Cultural Studies at The University of the West Indies, Trinidad.

3. Title: Enacting Cultural Representation: Writing and Dancing the Doubly Displaced Gujarati East African in Britain*
   Presenter: Maya Parmar
   Affiliation: PhD Postgraduate University of Leeds, School of English.

4. Title: Pichakaaree: Creating an Indo-Trinidadian poetic tradition
   Presenter: Sharda Patasar
   Affiliation: PhD Postgraduate, The University of Trinidad and Tobago.

LUNCH 12:15 P.M.-1:00 P.M.

1:15-3:00 P.M.

PANEL 5: Family/Institutional Histories and Biographies

1. Title: THE 1896 NON PARIEL UPRISING IN BRITISH GUIANA - THE UNKNOWN STORY
   Presenter: Rampersaud Tiwari
   Affiliation: Independent Researcher, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada.

2. Title: Reverend Samuel Ramsaran –His Life and Ministry 1892-1960
   Presenter: H Joy Norman nee Sankarsingh
   Affiliation: Independent Researcher and Author, Essex, UK

3. Title: Stars of Science
Presenter: Sally Radford and Jo-Anne Sewlal  
Affiliation: Bridgefield Observatory, UK and Caribbean Academy of Sciences- Trinidad & Tobago & The University of the West Indies, Trinidad & Tobago

1:15-3:00 P.M.

PANEL 6: Leadership and Power relations in the South Asian Diaspora

1. Title: East Indian Leadership in the 1930s  
Presenter: Feriel Nissa Kissoon  
Affiliation: PhD Postgraduate at King’s College University of London

2. Title: From “Black” to “Brown”: Minority Discourse and Indians in South Africa  
Presenter: Jordache A. Ellapan  
Affiliation: University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.

3. Title: Rise of Caribbean Leaders, Governance and Relations with the Electorate in Guyana, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago.  
Presenter: Kerry Sumesar-Rai  
Affiliation: Lecturer, Government, The University of the West Indies, Trinidad.

4. Title: Seeking a Space in the Politics: Muslim Efforts to Join the Political Process in Pre-Independent Guyana And Trinbago  
Presenter: Brinsley Samaroo  
Affiliation: Senior Research Fellow, University of Trinidad and Tobago, Barataria.
FRIDAY 3\textsuperscript{RD} JUNE

9:00 A.M.-10:30 A.M.

PANEL 7: Gender issues in the South Asian diaspora: Critical challenges of feminism and masculinity

1. Title: Hindustani women in the Netherlands: new challenges ahead.
   Presenter: Binarai Choenni-Makhan
   Affiliation: Netherlands

2. Title: The myth of boundaryless careers: Experiences of highly skilled Indian IT professionals.
   Presenter: Hannelore Roos
   Affiliation: Interculturalism, Migration and Minorities Research Centre (IMMRC), Faculty of Social Sciences, K.U.Leuven (Belgium).

3. Title: Hinduism in Translation: Guyanese Hinduism in New York City
   Presenter: Rupa Pillai
   Affiliation: Department of Anthropology, University of Oregon.

4. Title: Beyond Bollywood – Alternative female subject positions in the context of Hindi film reception in Trinidad
   Presenter: Hanna Klien
   Affiliation: PhD Postgraduate, University of Vienna.

9:00 A.M.-10:30 A.M.

PANEL 8: Voices from the South Asian Diaspora: On V.S. Naipaul

1. Title: Interrogating Nation and History: Naipaul’s Journeys to India
   Presenter: Nivedita Misra
   Affiliation: Assistant Professor, Satyawati College (E), University of Delhi, Delhi, India.

2. Title: V.S. Naipaul’s Perception of India: Critical Assessment
   Presenter: Chaman Lal
   Affiliation: Visiting Professor on Hindi Chair, The University of the West Indies

3. Title: Endless Traveler: The Failed Search for National Belonging in V. S. Naipaul’s \textit{The Mimic Men}
   Presenter: Matt Hurwitz
   Affiliation: Doctoral Candidate, Department of English, University of New Hampshire.
10:30 A.M.-10:45 A.M.
TEA BREAK

10:45 A.M.-12:15 P.M.

PANEL 9: Voices from the South Asian Diaspora

1. **Title:** Unveiling cultural space: A study of home and self in Monica Ali’s *Brick Lane*
   **Presenter:** Ujjwal Jana
   **Affiliation:** Assistant Professor, Department of English, Pondicherry University, India.

2. **Title:** Indian, East Indian, and Indo-Trinidadian: cultural douglarisation in Trinidadian fiction.
   **Presenter:** Kevin Baldeosingh
   **Affiliation:** Journalist and Author

3. **Title:** Migration in the Fiction of Rabindranath Maharaj
   **Presenter:** Frank Birbalsingh
   **Affiliation:** Professor Emeritus, York University, Canada

4. **Title:** *Hum na Jani, Kuch na Bol: Being and Becoming IndoCaribbean in Like Heaven*
   **Presenter:** J. Vijay Maharaj
   **Affiliation:** Part-time lecturer in the Department of Liberal Arts, Faculty of Humanities and Education, the University of the West Indies.

10:45 A.M.-12:15 P.M.

PANEL 10: South Asians in Popular Culture and the Media

1. **Title:** Mira Nair's Diaspora Aesthetic
   **Presenter:** Amardeep Singh
   **Affiliation:** Associate Professor, English, Lehigh University.

2. **Title:** Mauritian Bhojpuri Music*
   **Presenter:** Babita Thannoo
   **Affiliation:** University of Leeds, UK.
3. **Title:** Is sexual freedom the be-all and end-all of life? Widening the discussion on the transition from chutney to chutney-soca in Trinidad and Tobago.
   **Presenter:** Brenda Gopeesingh
   **Affiliation:**

4. **Title:** Insider-Outsider: C.N. Sharma and his role as the voice of the people on Guyanese television
   **Presenter:** John Mair
   **Affiliation:** Senior lecturer in journalism and broadcasting, The University of Coventry and Associate Fellow, Yesu Persaud Centre for Caribbean Studies, Warwick University, United Kingdom.

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**LUNCH 12:15 P.M.-1:00 P.M.**

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**1:15-3:00 P.M.**

**PANEL 11: South Asian Religions in the Diaspora**

1. **Title:** "For God and Country, or is it, "For my Country, and then God?' Missionaries and East Indians in Trinidad."
   **Presenter:** Aneil Sook Deo
   **Affiliation:** E-mail: Founder and Administrator, Holistic Institute of Education (Consulting, and Promoting the Arts and Truth in Academic Research)

2. **Title:** Giving life to the God: Reconstruction of Hindu identity of Indian Diaspora in USA
   **Presenter:** Dr. Annapurna Devi Pandey
   **Affiliation:** Lecturer, Anthropology, University of California, Santa Cruz, California 95064

3. **Title:** From Stage to Screen: The Ramayana in South East Asia
   **Presenter:** Shubhra Tripathi
   **Affiliation:** Professor and Head, Dept. of English, Govt. MVM College, Bhopal, India.

4. **Title:** Adaptations to Modernity: Recent Trends in Surinamese Hinduism
   **Presenter:** Narinder Mohkamsing
   **Affiliation:** Assistant Professor Hinduism, Leiden Institute for Religious Studies, Faculty of Humanities, Leiden University, The Netherlands.
1:15-3:00 P.M.

PANEL 12: Diaspora Influences on South Asia

1. **Title:** Sarnam se Bharat: the repatriation and re-adjustment of indentured labourers from Suriname to India  
   **Presenter:** Chan E.S. Choenni  
   **Affiliation:** Lalla Rookh Academic Chair, Free University Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

2. **Title:** North India from Past to Present: A Study of the Diasporic Roots of West Indian Immigrants  
   **Presenter:** Ghan Shyam  
   **Affiliation:** Associate Professor, Department of History, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, U.P., India.

3. **Title:** Engaging the Diaspora: An Assessment of India’s New Policy  
   **Presenter:** P. Sahadevan  
   **Affiliation:** Professor of South Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, INDIA.
SATURDAY 4TH JUNE

9:00 A.M.-10:30 A.M.

PANEL 13: Economic Enterprise & Technology in the South Asian diaspora

1. **Title:** The Commercial Banking Sector in Trinidad: The Indian Experience  
   **Presenter:** Sean Ng Wai  
   **Affiliation:** Lecturer, Cipriani College of Labour and Cooperative Studies and UWI.

2. **Title:** DIASPORA BONDS AND THE CARIBBEAN: Tapping into Innovative Financing Mechanisms  
   **Presenter:** Jwala Rambarran* and Prakash Ramlakhan**  
   **Affiliation:** *Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Infinity Financial Engineering, Trinidad & Tobago  
   **Lecturer in Banking and Finance, Department of Management Studies, UWI, St. Augustine

3. **Title:** Technology changes and adaptations in the cultural and religious practices of the Trinidadian Indian Diaspora  
   **Presenter:** Pandit Prakash Persad  
   **Affiliation:** Associate Provost, Science, Engineering & Technology and Other Science Related Units University of Trinidad and Tobago.

9:00 A.M.-10:30 A.M.

PANEL 14: The Abolition of Indenture

1. **Title:** ‘Cannot be Mended but Ended’: Indian Nationalists and the Abolition of Indenture System  
   **Presenter:** Amit Kumar Mishra  
   **Affiliation:** Centre for Study of Indian Diaspora, University of Hyderabad.

2. **Title:** ’More than discourse and shame: indentured women's lives in Fiji as the progenitor of abolition worldwide’*  
   **Presenter:** Emma Alexander-Mudaliar  
   **Affiliation:** Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of Winnipeg, Canada.

3. **Title:** To be or not to be “Coolies” – The Movement towards the Abolition of Indian Indentured Labour  
   **Presenter:** Radica Mahase  
   **Affiliation:** College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago.
1:00 P.M.-6: P.M.

FILM COMPONENT

VENUE: NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, PORT OF SPAIN