

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 an Indian Diasporic name?

Presenter: Primnath 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

Affiliation: The Canadian Guyanese Centre for Human Rights and Social Justice.

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: Ferial 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. Ellapen

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 3RD 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 *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.

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

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