INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

THE GLOBAL SOUTH ASIAN DIASPORA
(June 1-4, 2011)

The University of the West Indies

PROGRAMME

Further Information: http://sta.uwi.edu/conferences/11/gsad/
THURSDAY 2\textsuperscript{ND} JUNE (Learning Resource Centre, UWI)

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

PANEL 1: The Civilizational Heritage (LRC 1)

1. Title: Notes Toward an Indo-Caribbean Philosophy  
   \textbf{Presenter}: Burton Sankeralli  
   \textbf{Affiliation}: Trinidad and Tobago Philosophical Society

2. Title: The Salience of Surinamese Hindostanis  
   \textbf{Presenter}: Ruben Gowricharn  
   \textbf{Affiliation}: Tilburg University, The Netherlands

3. Title: Outsider-Insider: Views of Indo Guyanese Culture from a close colonial distance  
   \textbf{Presenter}: John Mair  
   \textbf{Affiliation}: The University of Coventry and Yesu Persaud Centre for Caribbean Studies, Warwick University, United Kingdom.

4. Title: Challenge to teach Hindi in Guadeloupe  
   \textbf{Presenter}: Fred Négrit  
   \textbf{Affiliation}: Guadeloupean Council for Indian Languages, Guadeloupe

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

PANEL 2: The Historical Context (LRC 2)

1. Title: A Passage From India: Up-country Tamils as a Diaspora Next-Door in Sri Lanka  
   \textbf{Presenter}: Daniel Bass  
   \textbf{Affiliation}: Department of Anthropology & Religious Studies, Lynn University, Florida, USA

2. Title: Museums in India  
   \textbf{Presenter}: Mohan Gautam  
   \textbf{Affiliation}: Asian Studies, Leiden University, The Netherlands

3. Title: Diasporic Bridges: Reciprocity and the Indian indentured labor diaspora  
   \textbf{Presenter}: Amitava Chowdhury  
   \textbf{Affiliation}: Department of History, Queen’s University, Ontario, Canada

4. Title: ‘Absent without leave’: East Indians on the Spanish Main in the late nineteenth century  
   \textbf{Presenter}: Michael Toussaint  
   \textbf{Affiliation}: Department of History, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine
10:30 A.M.-10:45 A.M.
TEA BREAK (for registered participants)

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

PANEL 3: Cultural reconstruction in diasporic communities: resistance, accommodation and survival (LRC 1)

1. **Title:** Ethnic Histories: The Development of an Indocentric Narrative of Trinidad & Tobago's History  
   **Presenter:** Bridget Brereton  
   **Affiliation:** 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:** Sylvia Gilharry Perez* and Kumar Mahabir**  
   **Affiliation:** Corozal Organization of East Indian Cultural Heritage (COEICH)* and University of Trinidad and Tobago**

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 (LRC 2)

1. **Title:** Calypso and Krishna’s Flute: The Woman’s Moving Body in Indo-Caribbean Rhythm Culture  
   **Presenter:** Ananya Jahanara Kabir  
   **Affiliation:** 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:** The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine.

3. Title: Pichakaaree: Creating an Indo-Trinidadian poetic tradition  
**Presenter:** Sharda Patasar  
**Affiliation:** The University of Trinidad and Tobago

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

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**LUNCH 12:15 P.M.-1:00 P.M. (For Paper Presenters, Faculty of Social Sciences Lounge)**

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

**PANEL 5: Micro-Histories: Family and Individual Biographies (LRC 1)**

1. Title: The 1896 Non-Pariel Uprising in British Guiana- The Unknown Story  
**Presenter:** Rampersaud Tiwari  
**Affiliation:** Independent, Ontario, Canada.

2. Title: Reverend Samuel Ramsaran –His Life and Ministry1892-1960  
**Presenter:** H Joy Norman nee Sankarsingh  
**Affiliation:** Independent, Essex, UK

3. Title: Forging a New Community: The Indian Diaspora in Saint Lucia, 1859-1903  
**Presenter:** Kyneata Joseph  
**Affiliation:** University of the Southern Caribbean, Trinidad and Tobago

4. Title: What’s in an Indian Diasporic name?  
**Presenter:** Primnath Gooptar  
**Affiliation:** University of Trinidad and Tobago
1:15-3:00 P.M.

PANEL 6: Leadership and Power Relations in the South Asian Diaspora (LRC 2)

1. **Title:** East Indian Leadership in the 1930s  
   **Presenter:** Feriel Nissa Kissoon  
   **Affiliation:** King's College, University of London, UK

2. **Title:** The East Indian problem and the British political agenda for the independence of Trinidad and Tobago in 1962  
   **Presenter:** Darius Figueira  
   **Affiliation:** Department of Behavioural Sciences, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine

3. **Title:** Rise of Caribbean Leaders, Governance and Relations with the Electorate in Guyana, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago  
   **Presenter:** Kerry Sumesar-Rai  
   **Affiliation:** Department of Government, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine
FRIDAY 3RD JUNE (Learning Resource Centre, UWI)

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

PANEL 7: Gender issues in the South Asian diaspora: Critical challenges of feminism and masculinity (LRC 1)

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

2. Title: From Indianisme to Creolité: The transition from chutney to chutney-soca.  
   Presenter: Brenda Gopeesingh  
   Affiliation: The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine

3. Title: Up Against a Wall: Muslim Women’s Struggle to reclaim Masjid space in Trinidad and Tobago  
   Presenter: Rhoda Reddock  
   Affiliation: The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine

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

PANEL 8: Islam in the South Asian Diaspora (LRC 2)

1. Title: Seeking a Space in the Politics: Muslim Efforts to Join the Political Process in Pre-Independent Guyana and Trinbago  
   Presenter: Brinsley Samaroo  
   Affiliation: University of Trinidad and Tobago

2. Title: Religio-Cultural and Social Dynamics among Indo-Caribbean Muslims  
   Presenter: Abdul Nafey  
   Affiliation: Centre of Canadian, US and Latin American Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India

3. Title: Institutionalizing Islam: Conflict and Community Building in the South Caribbean 1920-1950  
   Presenter: Halima Sa’adia Kassim  
   Affiliation: Institute of Critical Thinking, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine
10:30 A.M.-10:45 A.M.
TEA BREAK (for registered participants)

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

PANEL 9: Voices from the South Asian Diaspora (LRC 1)

1. Title: Migration in the Fiction of Rabindranath Maharaj
   Presenter: Frank Birbalsingh
   Affiliation: York University, Canada

2. Title: *Hum na Jani, Kuch na Bol: Being and Becoming IndoCaribbean in Like Heaven*
   Presenter: J. Vijay Maharaj
   Affiliation: Department of Liberal Arts, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine

3. Title: Kahe gaile bidesh – Why did you go overseas?: A people’s history of Indian migration on both sides of the ocean
   Presenter: Maurits S. Hassankhan
   Affiliation: IMWO/Dept. of History, University of Suriname.

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

PANEL 10: South Asians in Popular Culture, Media and Material Culture (LRC 2)

1. Title: Mira Nair’s Diaspora Aesthetic
   Presenter: Amardeep Singh
   Affiliation: Department of English, Lehigh University.

2. Title: Insider-Outsider: C.N. Sharma and his role as the voice of the people on Guyanese television
   Presenter: John Mair
   Affiliation: The University of Coventry and Yesu Persaud Centre for Caribbean Studies, Warwick University, United Kingdom

3. Title: The Jewellery Industry among East Indians in Trinidad
Presenter: Salima Ali
Affiliation: University of Trinidad and Tobago

LUNCH 12:15 P.M.-1:00 P.M. (For Paper Presenters, Faculty of Social Sciences Lounge)

1:15-3:00 P.M.

PANEL 11: South Asian Religions in the Diaspora (LRC 1)

1. Title: Giving life to the God: Reconstruction of Hindu identity of Indian Diaspora in USA
   Presenter: Annapurna Devi Pandey
   Affiliation: Department of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Cruz, USA

2. Title: Adaptations to Modernity: Recent Trends in Surinamese Hinduism
   Presenter: Narinder Mohkamsing
   Affiliation: Leiden Institute for Religious Studies, Leiden University, The Netherlands

3. Title: A Century of Roman Catholic work among East Indians in Trinidad: 1845-1945
   Presenter: Thomas Harricharan
   Affiliation: Independent, Trinidad and Tobago

1:15-3:00 P.M.

PANEL 12: Voices from the South Asian Diaspora: On V.S. Naipaul (LRC 2)

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

2. Title: V.S. Naipaul’s Perception of India: Critical Assessment
   Presenter: Chaman Lal
   Affiliation: The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine

3. Title: Indian, East Indian, and Indo-Trinidadian: cultural douglarisation in Trinidadian fiction.
   Presenter: Kevin Baldeosingh
   Affiliation: Independent
SATURDAY 4TH JUNE (Learning Resource Centre, UWI)

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

PANEL 13: Economic Enterprise, Science & Technology in the South Asian diaspora (LRC 1)

1. **Title:** The Commercial Banking Sector in Trinidad: The Indian Experience  
   **Presenter:** Sean Ng Wai  
   **Affiliation:** Cipriani College of Labour and Cooperative Studies and The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine

2. **Title:** DIASPORA BONDS AND THE CARIBBEAN: Tapping into Innovative Financing Mechanisms  
   **Presenter:** Jwala Rambarran* and Prakash Ramlakhan**  
   **Affiliation:** Infinity Financial Engineering, Trinidad & Tobago* and Department of Management Studies, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine**

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, St. Augustine

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

PANEL 14: The Abolition of Indenture (LRC 2)

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, India

2. **Title:** ‘More than discourse and shame: indentured women's lives in Fiji as the progenitor of abolition worldwide’  
   **Presenter:** Emma Alexander-Mudaliar  
   **Affiliation:** 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. (NAPA Building, Port of Spain)

FILM COMPONENT

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

Featured Film Docs
Richard Fung, Dhalporie Diaspora (Trinidad)
Pat Mohammed, Coolie Pink and Green (Trinidad)
Peter Manuel, Tassa Thunder (USA)
Martin Raymond, Mungal Patasar (Trinidad)
Yao Ramesar, Jahaji Mai Journey to Ganga Mai (Trinidad)
Kamalo Deen, Munradin of Gasparillo (USA)
Ali Kazimi, Continuous Journey (USA)
Jordache Ellapen, Cane/Cain (South Africa)
Annapurna Pandey, Homeland in the Heart: A study of Oriya diaspora in the USA (USA)
Corozal Organization of East Indian Cultural Heritage (COEICH), Artifacts of East Indians in Belize: Remembering the Past to Secure the Future (Belize)