

THE ANNUAL KATHMANDU CONFERENCE ON NEPAL & THE HIMALAYA

22-24 July, 2015, Hotel Shanker, Lazimpat

Social Science Baha, The Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies,
Britain-Nepal Academic Council & the Centre for Himalayan Studies, CNRS

SCHEDULE

Day 1: 22 July (Wednesday)

SESSION 1: 9–10:30 am

HALL A		HALL B	
Opening Remarks: Basanta Thapa, Vice-Chair, SSB Gerard Toffin, CNRS		Opening Remarks: David Gellner, Chair, BNAC Heather Hindman, Incoming President, ANHS	
Panel A1 Dukha at Home and Abroad: Nepali Transnational Labour Migration		Panel B1 Politics and Indigeneity	
Chair: Gerard Toffin Distinguished Emeritus Director of Research, CNRS, Paris		Chair: David Gellner Professor of Social Anthropology, School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography, University of Oxford	
Jeevan Raj Sharma Lecturer in South Asia and International Development, University of Edinburgh	Bodies in Search of Freedom: Suffering, Structural Violence and Symbolic Violence Amongst Marginal Nepali Migrants	Prem Chalaune Lecturer, Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology, Tribhuvan University	The Politics behind Indigenous Rhetoric in Nepal
Anna Stirr Assistant Professor of Asian Studies, University of Hawaii- Manoa	Mediating the Migrant Experience: <i>Dukha</i> , <i>Viraha</i> , and Nostalgia in Nepali Lok Dohori Songs	Jailab Rai Lecturer (Anthropology), Central Department of Sociology Anthropology, Tribhuvan University	Social Space of Indigenous Peoples in Forestry Sector Public Discourses in Nepal
BREAK: 10:30 – 11:00 am (refreshments will be served in the dining hall)			

HALL A		HALL B	
Panel A2		Panel B2	
Youth in New Nepal		Religion, Secularism and the Nepali State	
Chair: Mallika Shakya Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, South Asian University, New Delhi		Chair: Chiara Letizia Professor of South Asian Religions University of Québec	
Aidan Seale-Feldman PhD Candidate, University of California, Los Angeles, USA	Adolescent ‘Mass Hysteria’ in Post-Conflict Nepal: Ethnographic Impressions	Dannah Dennis PhD Candidate in Anthropology University of Virginia	Buddha was Born in (Secular) Nepal: Claims and Counter-Claims of Nepali National Identity
Ravindra Palliyaguruge Lecturer, Political Science, Department of Social Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka	Bullet Vs ‘Bullet’: An Ethnographic Study of the Perceptions of Youths in Transition Nepal	Ram Tiwari Master of Law, Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Religion and Modernizing Imperatives of the Nepali State
Heather Hindman Associate Professor, University of Texas at Austin	Gari Khana Deu - Let us Live! How Transnational Youth Navigate a Provisional Nepal	Luke Wagner Department of Sociology, Yale University, USA	Agents of Other States: Debating Secularism and Negating Agency in Nepal

LUNCH: 12:30 – 1:30 pm (served in the dining hall)

SESSION 3: 1:30– 3:00 pm

HALL A		HALL B	
Panel A3		Panel B3	
Climate Change and Food Security		Situated Bodies in Masculinized Power: Analyzing Women’s Struggles for Citizenship, Education and Bodily Integrity in Nepal	
Chair: Heather Hindman Associate Professor, University of Texas at Austin		Chair: Pratyoush Onta Director of Research, Martin Chautari	
Tara Nath Pande Advisor, Women and Environmental Development Organization (PWEDO)	Application of Appropriate Technology and Practices for Food Security and Livelihood Improvement	Surabhi Pudasaini Founder, Galli Galli	Writing Gendered Citizenship: Rights and Tactical Alliances in Nepal’s Constitution Drafting
Floriane Clement Researcher, Institutional and Policy Analysis, International Water Management Institute (IWMI-Nepal), Kathmandu	Deliberative Governance on Vulnerability to Climate Change: Voices from Madhesi Farmers	Lokranjan Parajuli Program Coordinator, Democracy and Governance Research Unit, and Editor, Publication Program, Martin Chautari, Kathmandu	Educating Women for Men’s Sake: Discourses of Female Education in Late Rana Nepal
Man Khattri PhD Scholar at Tribhuvan University	Climate Change, Food Sovereignty, Crops, Livestock Production Among the Lobas of Nepal	Seira Tamang Director of Research, Martin Chautari, Kathmandu	The Hindu State, Women’s Activism and The Cultural Coding of Sexual Violence and Impunity in Nepal

BREAK: 3 - 3:30 pm (refreshments will be served in the dining hall)

HALL A		HALL B	
Panel A4		Panel B4	
Water Security, Ecosystem Services and Livelihoods in the Himalayas		Emerging Political Dynamics in Nepal	
Chair: Dinesh Paudel South Asia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS) Nepal and Appalachian State University		Chair: Laurie A. Vasily Executive Director, United States Education Foundation (USEF) Nepal	
Devendra Chauhan, Vishal Singh, Anvita Pandey, Rajesh Thadani & Centre for Ecology, Development and Research (CEDAR), India	Sustainability of Water Supply in Hill Towns in The Himalayas	Richard Bownas Assistant Professor, Political Science, University of Northern Colorado	Between Synergy and Co- optation: Dalits and Maoists Before, During and After the ‘People’s War’
Ngamindra Dahal Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS), Nepal		Ratna Bishokarma Sociology student, Tribhuvan University	
Kamal Devkota, Hemant Ojha, Kaustuv Raj Neupane, Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS), Nepal	Negotiating Water Security: Dynamics of Up and Down Stream Water Management in Two Small Towns in Nepal’s Himalaya	Mahendra Lawoti Professor, Department of Political Science, Western Michigan University	Elections and Under- representation in Democratizing Nepal: Electoral laws, party system and patronage, and weak mobilization of marginalized groups
Bhaskar Vira & Eszter Kovacs University of Cambridge			
Chetan Agarwal, Centre for Ecology, Development and Research (CEDAR), India	Water Catchments and Water Users: Zoning, Negotiations and Other Mechanisms for Water Security in The Urbanizing Himalayas		
Tikeshwari Joshi & Kaustuv R. Neupane Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS), Nepal			
BREAK: 5 - 5:30 pm (refreshments will be served in the dining hall)			
KEYNOTE ADDRESS: 5:30 pm			
HALL B			
Tanka Subba Vice-Chancellor, Sikkim University		Nepalis without Nepal: Migration, Livelihood and Identity	
Moderator: Kanak Mani Dixit Ex-Com member, Social Science Baha, and Founding Editor, <i>Himal Southasian</i>			

Day 2: 23 July (Thursday)

SESSION 5: 9 – 10:30 am

HALL A		HALL B	
Panel A5		Panel B5	
Nepal in Transformation: Changing Women's Roles and Responsibilities		Societal Conflict and Post-Conflict Trends	
Chair: Meena Poudel Policy and Programme Advisor, International Organisation for Migration (IOM)		Chair: Jeevan Raj Sharma Lecturer in South Asia and International Development, University of Edinburgh	
Meena Acharya Senior Advisor, SAHAVAGI	The National Market Under a Federal System, Ensuring Equal Playing Field for Women	Prakash Bhattarai PhD in Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand	Effectiveness of Third-Party Coordination in Conflict Resolution: Evidence from Nepal
Madhuri Rana Singh Visiting Faculty, Department of Conflict Peace and Development Studies, Tribhuvan University	Breaking the Silence Shrouding Violence against Women & Girls: Socio-Political Accountability towards Women's Human Rights	Prabin Nanicha Shrestha MA in Conflict, Peace and Development Studies, Tribhuvan University	'Music for Peace' Discourse and Local Understanding in Post-Conflict Nepal
Binda Pandey Deputy Member of ILO Governing Body from Workers' Group	Participatory Democracy and Federalization of The Country – What does it mean for Feminist Political Agenda	Sandeep Basnyat PhD student, Department of Tourism, University of Otago, New Zealand	Labour Movements and The Tourism Industry: Do They Have Historical Nexus in Post-Conflict Nepal?

BREAK: 10:30 – 11:00 am (refreshments will be served in the dining hall)

SESSION 6: 11:00 am – 12.30 pm

HALL A		HALL B	
Panel A6		Panel B6	
Cultural Investigations and Politics		Land and Politics in Nepal: Anthropological Investigations	
Chair: Hari Sharma Social Science Baha		Chair: Katharine Rankin Professor of Geography, University of Toronto	
Ramawatar Yadav Former Vice-Chancellor, Purbanchal University, Nepal	A Hitherto Undiscovered and Unstudied Hand-Copied Newari Manuscript of a Maithili Bārahamāsā Song Composed by King Jagatprakāsamalla (1643-1673 CE) of Nepal: Preliminary Analysis	Jacob Rinck Doctoral Student, Socio-cultural Anthropology, Yale University	Land Reform, Social Change and Political Cultures in Nepal's Tarai
Gerard Toffin Distinguished Emeritus Director of Research, CNRS, Paris	Politics of Culture and Ethnic Museums in Nepal	Sujit Shrestha Emory University, USA	Making and Un-making 'Sukumbasi': Contestations over Naming in Kathmandu's Urban Politics
Anne Mocko Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies	Who Sees the Sacred Vest? Ritual, Politics, and The Recasting Bhoto Jatra during Nepal's Interim Period	Amy Leigh Johnson Doctoral Student, Anthropology, Forestry and Environmental Studies, Yale University	"Tharu-Pahadi Bhaai Bhaai": Imagining Federalism in Sundar Sudurpaschim

LUNCH BREAK: 12:30 – 1:30 pm (served in the dining hall)

Day 2		SESSION 7: 1:30 – 3:00 pm		23 July	
HALL A			HALL B		
Panel A7			Panel B7		
Investigating Technology-Society Links in Nepal: An Eclectic Proposition			Identity Politics: Old and New		
Chair: Yogesh Raj Martin Chautari			Chair: Sambriddhi Kharel Social Science Baha		
Birat Ghimire Universal Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd	Policy of Repair: MHP Development in Nepal	Shyam Krishna Shrestha Consultant Country Coordinator, Terre des hommes Germany Southasia Program	Identity Issue of Dhaugoda Newar after Unification of The Bhaktapur Kingdom in Nepal		
Sambeg Panthi Pokhara University		Anita Shrestha PhD Scholar, Department of Sociology, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur			
Nischal Regmi Martin Chautari	An Insight into ICT's Energy Consumption and its Implications	Krishna P. Adhikari Research Fellow, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Oxford	New Identity Politics and the 2012 Collapse of Nepal's Constituent Assembly: When The Dominant becomes 'Other'		
Shailesh B. Pandey Senior Researcher, Martin Chautari		David Gellner Chair, Britain-Nepal Academic Council			
Harsha Man Maharjan Researcher, Media Research Unit, Martin Chautari	Rise and fall of High Level Information Technology Commission in Nepal	Kumar Khadka PhD Student, International Conflict Management Program, Kennesaw State University, Georgia	Contemporary Identity Politics in Nepal: the Madhes Uprising and Their Rise as one of the Major Players in National Politics		
BREAK: 3 –3:30 pm (refreshments will be served in the dining hall)					

Day 2		SESSION 8: 3:30 – 5:00 pm		23 July	
HALL A			HALL B		
Panel A8			Panel B8		
Citizen and the State			Engaging with Higher Education Reforms in Nepal		
Chair: Mahendra Lawoti Professor of Political Science, Western Michigan University			Chair: Tanka Subba Vice-Chancellor, Sikkim University		
Prapanna Maskey Master's Degree in Philosophy, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur	Issues and Impact of Social Security and Citizenship on Nepali Society	Pramod Bhatta Director of Research, Education Research Unit, Martin Chautari, Kathmandu	Affiliation as Privatization: Trajectories of University Expansion in Nepal		
Khem Shreesh, Sanjay Sharma & Rooja Bajracharya Independent Researchers	'Numbering of the people': 100 Years of Census in Nepal and National Discourse	Devendra Uprety, Pratyoush Onta, Lokranjan Parajuli Martin Chautari, Kathmandu	How Not to Make New Universities		
Pawan Kumar Sen Interdisciplinary Analysts, Patan Dhoka, Lalitpur	Nepal's Transformation from Monarchism to Republicanism: In Views of General Public	Pratyoush Onta, Krishna Adhikari, Lokranjan Parajuli, Devendra Uprety Martin Chautari, Kathmandu Ramesh Rai Tribhuvan University	The Saga of a Transition: The Efforts to 'Rightsize' Tribhuvan University in Post-Panchayat Nepal		
<i>BREAK: 5-5:30 pm (refreshments will be served in the dining hall)</i>					
PUBLIC PANEL SESSION: 5:30 pm					
HALL B					
Panelists:			Earthquake 2015 and Social Scientists: Reflections from the Field and Afar		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bhaskar Gautam Martin Chautari • Mallika Shakya South Asian University • Austin Lord Cornell University • Jeevan Baniya Social Science Baha 					
Moderator: David Gellner , University of Oxford					
<i>This panel discussion has been partially supported by The Asia Foundation</i>					

Day 3: 24 July (Friday)

SESSION 9: 9 – 10:30am

HALL A		HALL B	
Panel A9		Panel B9	
Politics and the Local		Literature, Politics and Boundaries	
Chair: Dambar Chemjong Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, Tribhuvan University		Chair: Ramawatar Yadav Former Vice-Chancellor, Purbanchal University	
Raktim Patar Assistant Professor of History, Gargaon College, Sivasagar, Assam	Village Administration among the Tiwa: A Discourse on The Loroship	Ajapa Sharma M.A Modern History, Jawaharlal Nehru University	Modernity Multiplied: B.P Koirala's Women Between Literature and Politics
Tashi Tshering Ghale 'Dolpo' Social Science Baha	The Contested Local Elections	Mallika Shakya Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, South Asian University, New Delhi	Belonging and Border in the Twentieth Century Nepali Novels
Sanjaya Mahato PhD Fellow at Graduate School for Social Research (GSSR), Polish Academic of Sciences, Warsaw	Social Costs and Benefits of Party Switching in Nepal	Catherine Warner PhD, South Asian History, University of Washington, Seattle	Exile, Sovereignty, and the Place of Palpa in the Making of The India- Nepal Borderland (c. 1790 to 1816)

BREAK: 10:30am– 11:00 pm (refreshments will be served in the dining hall)

SESSION 10: 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

HALL A		HALL B	
Panel A10		Panel B10	
Home and Away		Modernity and Change in Nepali Society	
Chair: Bandita Sijapati Research Director, Centre for the Study of Labour and Mobility, Social Science Baha		Chair: Seira Tamang Director of Research, Martin Chautari	
Balram Uprety Assistant Professor in English, St. Joseph's College, Darjeeling	Presenting The Absence: A Contrapuntal Reading of the Maita in Nepali Teej Songs	Gita Neupane PhD candidate in Sociology, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Hawaii	Men's Perspectives on Sexual Harassment against Women in Public Space in Kathmandu
Laxmi Dhungel PhD candidate, Kathmandu University School of Arts	Women Educational Migrants Return to Nepal and Their Role in Transforming Society 'Gharki Le Ghar Garnu, Marda Le Chari Khanu'	Shreemanjari Tamrakar, MPhil Student in Sociology, Tribhuvan University Tracy Ghale Research Associate, Social Science Baha Sanjay Sharma Independent Researcher	'Maybe it's just a phase': Parental Reaction to Non- heterosexuality
Andrew Nelson Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, University of North Texas	Between Social Evil and Social Necessity: The Dual Meaning of Kathmandu Dalāls	Sabin Ninglekhu Member, Editorial Board, <i>New Angle: Nepal Journal of Social Science and Public Policy</i>	The City as a Bourgeois Desire

LUNCH BREAK: 12:30pm– 1:30 pm (served in the dining hall)

HALL A		HALL B	
Panel A11		Panel B11	
Health and the Mind		Reflections from the Eastern Tarai	
Chair: Anne Mocko Assistant Professor, Concordia College		Chair: Pramod Bhatta Director of Research, Martin Chautari	
Nawaraj Upadhaya Health Net TPO, The Netherlands and Ministry of Public Health, Afghanistan	The Role of Mental Health and Psychosocial Support NGOs: Reflections from Post Conflict Nepal	Miranda Weinberg PhD Candidate, Educational Linguistics and Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania	Schooling Languages: Investigating Language-in-Education Policies and Educational Aspirations in Jhapa District, Nepal
Ashley K. Hagaman PhD Candidate, Anthropology and Global Health, School of Human Evolution and Social Change, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, MPH	Suicide Surveillance and Health Systems: How Nepali Institutions Frame a Growing Public Health Burden	Madhu Giri PhD in Anthropology, Tribhuvan University	Becoming a Musahar and Making Space: Storytelling as an Art of Telling History in Eastern Tarai
Uden Maharjan Thammasat University, Thailand			

BREAK: 2:30-3:00pm (refreshments will be served in the dining hall)

SESSION 12: 3:00 – 5:00 pm

HALL B

Panel B12

Society in the High Himalaya

Chair: Rajendra Pradhan Member, Social Science Baha, and Dean, Nepa School of Social Sciences and Humanities	
Katsuo Nawa Professor of Cultural Anthropology, Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, The University of Tokyo	On 'Thumcharu': The Concept of 'Tradition' in Byans, Far Western Nepal
Samuele Poletti PhD candidate, Department of Social Anthropology, University of Edinburgh	Being in the Shadow of Death: Existential reflections on Mortality as a Modality of Being-in-the-world in the Sinja Valley of Western Nepal
Sonam Lama Returning expert, Nepal Transportation and Development Research Centre, Centre for International Migration and Development (CIM), German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ), Kathmandu	MANI, The Hidden Valley of Happiness at a Crossroads (documentary, 40 mins)

BREAK: 5-5:30pm (refreshments will be served in the dining hall)

PUBLIC SESSION: 5.30 PM

HALL B

Speakers: Shamik Mishra and Deepak Aryal Madan Puraskar Pustakalaya	1934 Earthquake Revisited: A View from the Archives
Moderator: Pratyoush Onta	

This presentation has been partially supported by The Asia Foundation