Abstracts

Experiencing the new terrains of illness and health seeking in low income urban India
Lesley Branagan
Institut für Ethnologie, Leipzig Universität/ Macquarie University

In low-income Delhi neighbourhoods, people’s efforts to negotiate illness and health seeking are shaped by kinship, class, gender, urbanisation and social segregation, as well as the dramatic increase in privatised health care. This creates new forms of exclusion and caring labour for families. The current discontinuities of institutional and family care spur people to improvise new ways to access care, and to forge different kinds of agency to shape the future within chronic illness. This ethnographic doctoral study draws primarily on medical anthropology and kinship studies.

“The Common Space” - ethical, social, and practical aspects in Anupam Mishra’s contemporary water philosophy
Ricki Levi
Porter School of Environmental Studies, Tel-Aviv University

Anupam Mishra (1948-2016) was an Indian water conservationist and a Gandhian activist. He worked on revitalizing water traditions in India (mainly the state of Rajasthan) based on Gandhian values of simplicity, solidarity, mutual-dependence, TEK (traditional ecological knowledge) and practices, and commons-based resource management. He explored traditional practices and technologies of water harvesting and conservation, presenting water as both physically and mentally a "common space”.

Student politics in nascent West Pakistan and the making of the nation-state
Sadia Bajwa
Seminar für Südasienstudien, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

This presentation is about the politically engaged student in nascent Pakistan. Based on a dissertation chapter-in-writing, it will look specifically at students in West Pakistan and their contributions to public debates from across the ideological spectrum in the first twenty years of Pakistan’s existence. It will show how their stories of resistance against an increasingly authoritarian state – on issues of academic, national, and even international character – are also windows into the making of that very state and the nation it was supposed to embody.

The evolution and implementation of India’s municipal solid waste management agenda over the past three decades – The example of Delhi
Katharina Paterok
Seminar für Südasienstudien, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

This presentation focuses on the evolution and implementation of India’s municipal solid waste management (MSWM) agenda between 1986 and 2016, with the example of Delhi’s solid waste management. By analysing existing MSWM policies and programmes as well as related stakeholders and their alliances, an attempt is being made to identify underlying dynamics and create a better understanding of the power-relations and political processes behind decision-makings and about drivers of change in Delhi’s waste economy.