

## Seventh Critical Studies Conference

### MIGRANT ASIAs: REFUGEES, STATELESSNESS & MIGRANT LABOUR REGIMES

17-19 November 2022  
Venue: Hotel Monotel, Kolkata

17 November 2022

4:30pm–5:00pm: Registration & Tea

5:00pm–5:30pm: Inaugural Session

Chair: Shyamalendu Majumdar, *Calcutta Research Group and Sivanath Sastri College, India*

5:00pm–5:10pm: Welcome Address

Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury, *Calcutta Research Group and Rabindra Bharati University, India*

5:10pm–5:30pm: Introducing the Conference

Ishita Dey, *Calcutta Research Group & South Asian University, India*

5:30pm–5:40pm: Self Introduction by the Conference Participants

5:40pm–6:30pm: Keynote Lecture

“Medicalisation of Racism and Classism in the Context of Migration”

Speaker: Sevasti Trubeta, *University of Applied Sciences, Magdeburg-Stendal, Germany*

18 November 2022

9:00am–9:30am: Registration

9:30am–11:00am: Parallel Sessions

Room 1: Panel 1A-Seeing Like a State

Chair and Discussant: Arup K. Sen, *Serampore College, and Calcutta Research Group, India*

Panellists:

1. Ajeet Kumar Pankaj, *Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, India*; Manish K. Jha, *TISS-Mumbai, India*; Saima Farhad, *University of Kashmir, India*; and M. Ibrahim Wani, *University of Kashmir, India*

“Document’ and North-Indian Labour Migrants: Governing Labour Mobility in Manipur”

2. Baidehi Das, *University of Hyderabad, India*

**“Exploring ‘recent histories’ of Re-Bordering Along Indo-Bangladesh Border: Stories Emerging from Villages Lying Along Porous Borders of North Twenty-Four Parganas in West Bengal”**

**3. Yojak Tamang, *Institute of Development Studies Kolkata, India***

**“The Seasonal Migrant Labourers Living on the Edges of the State”**

## **Room 2: Panel 1B-Seeing Like a State**

**Chair and Discussant: Anup Shekhar Chakraborty, *Netaji Institute for Asian Studies, and Calcutta Research Group, India***

### **Panellists:**

**1. Sonika Gupta, *IIT Madras, India***

**“Tibetan Rehabilitation in Arunachal: Local State and Geopolitical Anxieties”**

**2. William Singh, *Pachhunga University College, India***

**“Border Crossings in Mizoram: Desirables and Unwanted Communities”**

**3. Santi Sarkar, *Vidyasagar University, and Calcutta Research Group, India***

**“The Politics of Populist Policies in West Bengal”**

**11:00am–11:30am: Tea Break**

**11:30am–1:00pm: Parallel Sessions**

## **Room 1: Panel 2A-Metamorphosis of the Migrant: State, Migration and Identity Politics**

**Chair and Discussant: Manish K. Jha, *Calcutta Research Group and TISS, Mumbai, India***

### **Panellists:**

**1. Rajarshi Dasgupta, *Jawaharlal Nehru University, India***

**“Metamorphosis of the Migrant: State, Migrant and Identity Politics”**

**2. Anasma Gayari, *Jawaharlal Nehru University, India***

**“A Cosmopolitan Race: Representations of Northeast Migrants in Delhi- NCR”**

**3. Krishanu Bharagava Neog, *Jawaharlal Nehru University, India***

**“Migrant as Political Entrepreneur”**

**4. Bidhan Golay, *Sikkim University, India***

**“The Migrant at Home: A Case of the Gorkha Conundrum”**

## **Room 2: Panel 2B-Climate Migration: Documents and Distractions**

**Chair and Discussant: Nirmal Kumar Mahato, *Vidyasagar University, and Calcutta Research Group, India***

### **Panellists:**

**1. Sampurna Das, *University of Delhi, India***

**“Thin documents, Thick claims: Reflections of Liminal Citizenship in the Floodplains of Assam, India”**

**2. Upasana Ghosh, *Indian Institute of Public Health, India, and Debojyoti Das, India***

**“Climate Refugees: Health and Livelihood in the Bay of Bengal – India and Bangladesh”**

**3. Sohini Sengupta, *TISS-Mumbai, India***

**“Indian Droughts, Drought Policy and Climate Change”**

**1:00pm–2:00pm: Lunch Break**

**2:00pm–3:00pm: Special Lecture**

**“A Critical Genealogy of the Forced Migratory Labour in the Asian Mediterranean Sea”**

**Speaker:** Joyce C.H. Liu, *National Chiao Tung University, Taiwan*, and Jonathan Parhusip, *National Chiao Tung University, Taiwan*

**Chair:** Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury

**3:00pm–3:30pm: Tea Break**

**3:30pm–5:00pm: Panel 3-Partition: Texts and Contexts**

**Chair and Discussant:** Samir Kumar Das, *University of Calcutta*, and *Calcutta Research Group, India*

**Panellists:**

**1. Anindya Sen**, *Assam University, India*, and **Debashree Chakraborty**, *Calcutta Research Group, India*

**“Partition, Migration and Identity Formation: Narratives from Southern Assam”**

**2. Anushmita Mukherjee**, *North Bengal University, India*

**““Those forgotten after Partition’: Migration and Identity in Debesh Roy’s Select Works”**

**3. Samata Biswas**, *The Sanskrit College and University*, and *Calcutta Research Group, India*

**“What Does the Border Mean for Children? Narratives from the Indo- Bangladesh Borderlands in Manjira Saha’s *Chhotoder Border*”**

**5:00pm–5:15pm: Tea Break**

**5:30pm–6:15pm: Jayanta Dasgupta Memorial Lecture**

**“Gig Economy and Migration - The Future of the Work or of Precariat?”**

**Speaker:** Lydia Potts, *Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg, Germany*

**Chair:** Shibashis Chatterjee, *Jadavpur University, India*

**19 November 2022**

**9:00am–9:30am: Registration**

**9:30am–11:00am: Parallel Sessions**

**Room 1: Panel 4A-Solidarity and Agency: Case Studies**

**Chair and Discussant:** Sahana Basavapatna, *Calcutta Research Group, India*

**Panellists:**

**1. Rajat Kanti Sur**, *Calcutta Research Group, India*

**“Solidarity for Survival: Cooperative Building as a Method to Overcome Vulnerability”**

2. Joseph K. Lalfakzuala, *Government T. Romana College, India*  
“People’s Response to the Influx of Myanmar Refugee in Mizoram: Implication and Limitation of the State policy”
3. Deeksha, *TISS-Mumbai, India*  
“On the move for Care: Conceptualising Migration for Healthcare in Asia”

#### **Room 2: Panel 4B-Labour and Transition: Then and Now**

**Chair and Discussant:** Ishita Dey, South Asian University, India

##### **Panellists:**

1. Raj Kumar Thakur, *Assam University, India*  
“‘Coolie’ Question in the Age of Transition, the 1940s to 1960s”
2. Kamal Thapa Khsetri, *National Human Rights Commission, Nepal*  
“Protection of Nepalese Workers in India and Nepal”
3. Rituparna Datta, *Calcutta Research Group, India*  
“Coolies, Climate and the Territories of Mobility”

**11:00am–11:30am: Tea Break**

**11:30am–1:00pm: Parallel Sessions**

#### **Room 1: Panel 5A-Migration and Refugee Issues in and around Central Asia: A Socio-Cultural Perspective**

**Chair and Discussant:** Mahesh Ranjan Debata, *Jawaharlal Nehru University, India*

##### **Panellists:**

1. Ritika Joshi, *University of Delhi, India*  
“The Silk Road Migration Trend: Past & Present”
2. Nandini Bhattacharya, *Calcutta Girls College, India*  
“Labour Migration and its Social Impact on Post-Soviet Tajikistan: An Overview through Cinematic Lenses”
3. Kalyani Yeola and Veena Ramachandran, *Birla Institute of Technology and Science-Pilani, India*  
“Redefining Statelessness and the State: A Case Study of the Tibetan Youth in Exile in India”
4. Rajarshi Chakrabarti, *Jawaharlal Nehru University, India*  
“The Afghan Refugee Issue in the Aftermath of the Taliban Takeover”

#### **Room 2: Panel 5B-Climate Migration: Crisis and Resources**

**Chair and Discussant:** Sohini Sengupta

##### **Panellists:**

1. Nirmal Kumar Mahato, *Vidyasagar University, India*  
“Climate Migrants, Resource Scarcity and the Sustainability Issue: The Case of Jungle Mahals Region”

**2. Shatabdi Das, *Calcutta Research Group, India***  
**“Kolkata and Climate Crisis”**

**1:00pm–2:00pm: Lunch**

**2:00pm–3:30pm: Parallel Sessions**

**Room1: Panel 6A-Citizenship and Rights to the City**

**Chair and Discussant: Nasreen Chowdhury, *University of Delhi, and Calcutta Research Group, India***

**Panellists:**

- 1. Gorky Chakraborty, *IDSK, India, and Samik Chowdhury, IDSK, India***  
**“Navigating Precarity-Analysing Multiple Narratives of Citizenship in Assam”**
- 2. Johnny KD, *IIT Kanpur, India, and Ankita Singh, National Institute of Education Planning and Administration, India***  
**“Urban Renewal in City’s Life and its Impact on Slums and Slum Dwellers – A Case Study of Noida City”**
- 3. Gulzina Daniyarova, *Osh State University, Kyrgyzstan***  
**“EEU: Problems and Perspectives of Labour Migrants from Kyrgyzstan to Russia”**

**Room 2: Panel 6B-Asian Mobilities**

**Chair and Discussant: Ruchira Goswami, *West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences, India***

**Panellists:**

- 1. Ali Dad Mohammadi, *Porsesh Research and Studies Organisation, Afghanistan***  
**“The Tragedy of Overload: Suppression to Exodus of Afghan Hindus and Sikhs (1992-2021)”**
- 2. Amin Ghadimi, *Osaka University, Japan***  
**“The Irony of Nations: Shirin Nezamafi and the Migrant’s History of the Present”**
- 3. Anita Sengupta, *Asia in Global Affairs, and Calcutta Research Group, India***  
**“The Pandemic and Governance in Central Asia”**

**3:30pm–4:00pm: Tea**

**4:00pm–5:30pm: Valedictory Lecture**

**“The War in Ukraine and the Global Compacts in Changing Conjuncture”**

**Speaker: Ayse Caglar, *University of Vienna, and Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna, Austria***

**Chair: Ranabir Samaddar, *Calcutta Research Group, India***

**5:30pm-5:40pm: Distribution of Certificates**

**5:40pm-5:55pm: Remarks from Participants and Collaborators**

**5:55pm-6:00pm: Vote of Thanks: Shatabdi Das**

**Farewell Dinner**