

**Tenth Annual Research and Orientation Workshop on Cities, Migrants and Insecurities**

Organised by  
**Calcutta Research Group**  
in collaboration with  
**European Master in Migration and Intercultural Relations (EMMIR), Carl von Ossietzky Universität, Oldenburg, Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR), and FGHR**

**18-22 November 2025**  
**Venue: The Sojourn, Hotel, Kolkata**

**18 November 2025 (Day 1)**

**4:00 pm-5:00 pm: Registration**

**5:00 pm-7:00 pm: Inaugural Session**

**Chair: Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury, Professor, Rabindra Bharati University, & CRG, Kolkata, India.**

**5:00 pm-5:05 pm: Welcome Address: Shyamalendu Majumdar, Director, CRG, Kolkata, India.**

**5:05 pm-5:20 pm: Introducing the Workshop: Paula Banerjee, IDRC Endowed Chair, Centre on Gender and Forced Displacement, Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, Thailand, & CRG, Kolkata, India, and Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury**

**5:20 pm-5:30 pm: Introduction by Participants**

**5:30 pm-7:00 pm: Inaugural Lecture**

**Speaker: Mahalaya Chatterjee, Professor, University of Calcutta, & Member, CRG, Kolkata, India.**

**Lecture Title: Future of the Metropolis: The Kolkata Case**

**7:00 pm-9:00 pm: Welcome Dinner**

19 November 2025 (Day 2)

**9:00 am-9:30 am: Registration**

**9:30 am-10:30 am: Module A Lecture: Gender and Urban Insecurities**

**Speaker: Samata Biswas**, *Assistant Professor, The Sanskrit College and University, & CRG, Kolkata, India.*

**10:30 am-11:00 am: Tea Break**

**11:00 am-12:30 pm: Paper Presentations by Participants of Module A** [Each Participant will have 15 minutes to present their papers, followed by discussion/Q+A]

**Discussant: Samata Biswas**

**Presenters:**

1. **Anisha Bhattacharjee**, *Tezpur University, Tezpur, India.* **Women and Right to Sanitation in Urban Slums: A Socio-Legal Study of the Slum Settlements in Guwahati.**
2. **Athina Ahmed**, *SIMEC Research Centre, Dhaka, Bangladesh.* **Gendering Chayer** **Adda: Placemaking and the Invisibility of Women in Dhaka's Tea Stall Culture.**
3. **Md. Eftiaz Hossain**, *SIMEC Research Centre, Dhaka, Bangladesh.* **Digital Insecurities: Addressing Technology-Facilitated Violence Against Migrant Women in Urban Bangladesh.**
4. **Rabina Chatterjee**, *Heritage Law College, Kolkata, India.* **From Widowhood to Sex Work Migration, Stigma and the Search for Emancipation.**

**12:30 pm-1:30 pm: Lunch Break**

**1:30 pm-3:00 pm: Paper Presentations by Participants of Module A, continued** [Each Participant will have 15 minutes to present their papers, followed by discussion/Q+A]

**Discussant: Samata Biswas**

**Presenters:**

5. **Sekh Shamim**, *Institute of Language Studies and Research, Kolkata, India.* **Negotiating Urban Space: Queer Security and Print Culture in Kolkata.**
6. **Shreya Das**, *The Sanskrit College and University, Kolkata, India.* **A Nineteenth-Century Debate Around Possession of Children by Prostitutes.**
7. **Syifa Salsabila Nasution**, *Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, Thailand.* **From Regulation to Closure: The Impact of Policy on the Multidimensional Vulnerability of Sex Workers in Surabaya's Dolly District.**

**3:00 pm-3:30 pm: Tea Break**

**3:30 pm-5:00 pm: Creative Session**

**Discussant: Samata Biswas**

**5:00 pm-6:30 pm: Special Lecture**

**Chair: Paula Banerjee**

**Speaker: Thomas Spijkerboer, Professor, Ghent University, Belgium.**

**Lecture Title: Exclusionary urban zoning: the limits and potential of European human rights law**

### 20 November 2025 (Day 3)

**9:00 am-9:30 am: Registration**

**9:30 am-10:30 am: Module B Lecture: Climate, Epidemiological Insecurities and the City**

**Speakers: Debashree Chakraborty, Research and Programme Associate, CRG, Kolkata, India, and**

**Shatabdi Das, Assistant Director, CRG, Kolkata, India.**

**10:30 am-11:00 am: Tea Break**

**11:00 am-1:00 pm: Paper Presentations by Participants of Module B** [Each Participant will have 15 minutes to present their papers, followed by discussion/Q+A]

**Discussants: Debashree Chakraborty and Shatabdi Das**

**Presenters:**

1. **Manami Bhadra, Gujarat University, Ahmadabad, India. Insecurities of climate vulnerability and the social-emotional well-being of people dwelling in the Sundarbans: Renegotiating policy perspectives.**
2. **Menaka Das, Fakir Mohan University, Balasore, India. Climate Change, migration patterns and socio-economic insecurities: A study of Bhadrak and Bhubaneswar in Odisha.**
3. **Nima A.M., St. Aloysius College, Thrissur, India. Urban Ecological Disasters and Epidemic Imaginaries in A Cloud Called Bhura.**
4. **Oishika Basak, Interdisciplinary Researcher, Kolkata, India. Conceptualising Heat Injustice: Understanding and adapting to heat stress in Kolkata, India.**
5. **Paromita Adhikary, Presidency University, Kolkata, India. Migrant Bodies Under Surveillance: Climate, Labour and Disease in Nineteenth-Century Assam Tea Plantations (1840-1900).**

**1:00 pm-2:00 pm: Lunch Break**

**2:00 pm-3:30 pm: Creative Session**

**Discussants: Debashree Chakraborty and Shatabdi Das**

**3:30 pm-4:00 pm: Tea Break**

**4:00 pm-5:30 pm: Special Lecture**

**Chair: Shyamalendu Majumdar**

**Speaker: Roshan Rai, Development Practitioner, DLR Prerna, Darjeeling, India.**

**Lecture Title: Living the climate crisis in Darjeeling**

**5:30 pm-6:00 pm: Film Screening: Calcutta, A Migrant City**

### 21 November 2025 (Day 4)

**9:00 am-9:30 am: Registration**

**9:30 am-10:30 am: Module C Lecture: Migrants, Insecurities and Sanctuary Cities**

**Speaker: Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury, Professor, Rabindra Bharati University, & CRG,**

*Kolkata, India.*

**10:30 am-11:00 am: Tea Break**

**11:00 am-12:30 pm: Paper Presentations by Participants of Module C [Each Participant will have 15 minutes to present their papers, followed by discussion/Q+A]**

**Discussant: Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury**

**Presenters:**

1. **Ajmol Hussain Laskar, National Institute of Technology, Silchar, Assam. The Politics of Indigeneity and Immigrants: The Postcolonial State Practices and the Ethnopolitics of Migration in Assam.**

2. **Anandu Sunil, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, India. Enterprise, Ethnicity and Urban Space: A study of Rajasthani Migrants in Kochi's Mobile Accessories Market.**

3. **Richa Vasistha, Goswami Ganesh Dutta Sanatan Dharma College, Chandigarh, India. Migrant Children and Barriers to Education: A Study of Chandigarh.**

4. **Rituparna Roy, Assam University, Silchar, India. Sanctuary in Transition: Migratory Population and Insecurities in Moreh, Manipur.**

**12:30 pm-1:30 pm: Lunch Break**

**1:30 pm-3:00 pm: Paper Presentations by Participants of Module C, continued [Each Participant will have 15 minutes to present their papers, followed by discussion/Q+A]**

**Discussant: Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury**

**Presenters:**

5. **Subhrajit Sen, Independent Multimedia Journalist, Kolkata, India. Bengali Women Migrant Workers: Gender, Urban Insecurity and the Politics of Prejudice.**

6. **Nirmal Kumar Upreti, Prajwol Bastakoti and Sundar Thing, Forum for Nation Building, Kathmandu, Nepal. Reframing Protection: Local Justice and the Making of Sanctuary Spaces for Migrants in Nepal**

7. **Madhubanti Talukdar, CRG, Kolkata, India. Envisioning the Future of the City: Housing and Urban Imaginaries in post-1960s Kolkata.**

**3:00 pm-3:30 pm: Tea Break**

**4:00 pm-6:00 pm: Book Discussion [*Biopolitics from Below: Crisis, Conjecture,***

***Rupture*, by Ranabir Samaddar, CEU Press, 2025]**

**Chair: Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury**

**Discussants: Arup K. Sen, CRG, Kolkata, India,**

**V. Ramaswamy, Member, CRG, Kolkata, India,**

**Samata Biswas**

**22 November 2025 (Day 5)**

**9:00 am-9:30 am: Registration**

**9:30 am-11:30 am: Presentations by EMMIR Students** [Each Participant will have 15 minutes to present their papers, followed by discussion/Q+A]

**Chair: Paula Banerjee**

**Discussants: Payel Rai Chowdhury, Assistant Professor, Rabindra Bharati University, India, and Sucharita Sengupta, Volkswagen Foundation Post-Doctoral Fellow, O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat & CRG, Kolkata, India.**

**Presenters:**

1. **Lucía Fernández Ríos, EMMIR Programme, University of Oldenburg, Oldenburg, Germany. Migration and the right to a healthy environment: experiences of migrants in West Bengal, India.**
2. **Madison Kelly, EMMIR Programme, University of Oldenburg, Oldenburg, Germany. Sanctuary Cities in the Global North and South: A Comparative Study of Boston and Kolkata.**
3. **Marion Martins Antunes, EMMIR Programme, University of Oldenburg, Oldenburg, Germany. Exit and Voice in Postcolonial Bangladesh: Youth Disillusionment, Protest and Migration Aspirations.**
4. **Gabriela Rubiano Polanco, EMMIR Programme, University of Oldenburg, Oldenburg, Germany. Protection from below across the Global South: Post-partition Refugee Camps in Bengal and Community Self-Protection in Colombia.**
5. **Isabela Velasco Pons, EMMIR Programme, University of Oldenburg, Oldenburg, Germany. Forced displacement and irregular economies: The case study of Myanmar. What role do migration policies play in shaping these irregular economies of displacement in the Myanmar-Thailand border region?"**
6. **Lara Vieira da Silveira, EMMIR Programme, University of Oldenburg, Oldenburg, Germany. The City as a Border: Sanctuary and Exclusion in Kolkata's Migrant Neighbourhoods.**

**11:30 am-12 pm: Tea Break**

**12 pm-1:30 pm: Rapporteurs' Reports Presentations: Parallel Sessions**

**Room 1: Parallel Session 1: Report Presentations for Module A & EMMIR**

**Moderator: Sucharita Sengupta**

**Room 2: Report Presentations for Module B & C**

**Moderator: Rajat Kanti Sur**

**1:30 pm-2:30 pm: Lunch Break**

**2:30 pm-3:30 pm: Evaluation Session: Remarks by Workshop Evaluators**

**Chair: Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury**

**Evaluators: Debolina Seth, Professor, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, India.**

**Swati Guha, Director, Institute of Language Studies and Research, Kolkata, India.**

**3:30 pm-4:30 pm: Transfer to EZCC Campus from Hotel Sojourn**

**4:30 pm-5:30 pm: Valedictory Lecture**

**Chair: Ranabir Samaddar, Professor Emeritus, CRG, & CIFAR Fellow, Kolkata, India.**

**Speaker: Anita Patil Deshmukh, Director-Programs and Principal Investigator in Partners for Urban Knowledge Action and Research (PUKAR), Mumbai, India.**

**Lecture Title: Climate Hazards, Cities and Urban Poor**

**5:30 pm-5:55 pm: Workshop Certification Distribution Ceremony**

**Chair: Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury**

**5:55 pm-6:00 pm: Vote of Thanks: Debashree Chakraborty**

**\*\* This schedule is tentative and subject to last minute changes**