



IBIES workshop: Indo-European Studies: Encounters and Entanglements

Panel 1) Historical encounters: *Manifested and Subterranean Mentalities*

Archisman Chaudhuri (Leiden University)

Aurangzeb's Deccan campaigns and the Dutch: an entangled Indo-European world

Drawing upon ingredients primarily from the VOC (Dutch East India Company) archive, my PhD thesis researches the economic impact of Aurangzeb's military campaigns in the Deccan and South India (1682-1707) on the Coromandel Coast- a littoral famous in the Indian Ocean for its prized textiles. The long, vibrant presence of the VOC in Coromandel produced a rich repertoire of literature. Confronted by an expanding empire in the context of these wars, the VOC reports range from missions to negotiate with the Mughal apparatus to letters written by their interpreters posted in the Mughal army. Their general observations paint a picture of troubled times: an empire fighting enemies on many fronts loomed large on the horizon of European settlements. To explore such an entangled Indo-European world, I choose two case-studies of Dutch-Mughal encounters: firstly, the embassy of Johannes Bacherus to Aurangzeb (1688) which reinstated the Dutch privileges in northern Coromandel and secondly, the visit by Pieter Calandrini and William Oosterharen to Aurangzeb's general Zulfiqar Khan (1698) which however left the Dutch disappointed. With contrasting results, these encounters help us rethink the connections between warfare and economy in South Asia, reflect on what made and unmade the relations between a landed empire and a seaborne trading company, and how these were portrayed in the contemporary literature.

Mahmood Kooria (Leiden University)

Courts in the Archives: Cultural Translations of Islamic Law

Serious academic engagements with Islamic law proliferated in the western Europe by the late nineteenth century, and a range of source materials collected from East Africa to Southeast Asia via

different channels worked as foundational treasures for the new intellectual turn. The historiography of Islamic law in the West since then stood hand in hand with the extra-academic careers of particular Orientalist scholars in the Muslim world which facilitated their scholarship by amassing many common and uncommon manuscripts on Islamic law. An initial stage in the Islamic legal historiography was thus entangled between a translation drive and an opposing scholarly trend. Briefly looking at the contributions of each of German and Dutch translators of prominent Islamic law-books in the late-nineteenth century, this presentation will explore how their archival choices mis-informed their scholarship with regard to the Islamic legal traditions. It will explore how their “natural” selections of particular manuscripts defined and defied the future course of the scholarship until they were to be redressed a century later.

Byapti Sur (Leiden University)

The ‘Just’ Imperialists: The Mughal and the Dutch Empires in 17th-Century India

It was in the seventeenth century in the Indian Ocean that the formal empire of the pompous Mughals encountered the informal imperialists in the officials of the Dutch East India Company (*acronym*: VOC). Years of debates and discussions in the existent historiography have only highlighted the animosity between these two, while ignoring largely their commonalities as imperial minds. How did these two worlds interact with each other as empires? Did it work in remarkably similar ways or were there particular distinctions? In a quest for finding answers to these questions, my paper has looked into a comparative understanding of the Dutch and the Mughals in two ways. Firstly, the ideas and behaviour of an individual imperialist – the Dutch official Hendrik Adriaan van Reede (who was the only one to have a tomb for his grave that was built in a hybrid architectural style combining Indo-Saracenic and Baroque elements) has been studied in comparison to the Mughals. I have argued that Van Reede was copying the imperial attitude of the Mughals as benevolent rulers protecting their subjects. This was reflected in his efforts of involving locals in his projects like the *Hortus Malabaricus* while simultaneously stereotyping them as servile and ignorant. His intentions were to project himself as their guardian much like the patrimonial style of Mughal rule in India. Secondly, by comparing the Dutch official reports as well as the Mughal narratives on certain regions like Bengal as being corrupt and difficult, I show how both these empires legitimized their dominance by tainting the other. Lauren Benton’s theory of the imperial motives behind stereotyping areas as lawless has been used for this explanation. In the end by making a comparative analysis of two seemingly

different empires that nevertheless operated on the same space, this paper contributes to research on early modern perceptions of imperial mentalities and behaviours across the globe.

Panel 2) Memory, testimony, home

Isha Dubey

The 'Urdu-Speakers' in Bangladesh and the Idea of Home: A Study of Muslim Migration to East Pakistan from Bihar; 1938 – 1975.

The Partition of the Indian subcontinent in 1947 involved one of the biggest and most colossal dislocations of people in contemporary history. Recent historiographical scholarship on it has shifted focus from the 'high politics' of the times to understanding its complexity and continuing impact on the identity of the South Asian region. This PhD project falls within this latter strand of Partition history by focusing on the narratives of the double displacement experienced by the Urdu-speaking Muslims who migrated from the Muslim-minority province of Bihar after communal riots in 1946 and then collectively suffered an almost three decade long period of statelessness which ended only in 2008. Through its three sections structured around the theoretical themes of 'Migration and agency', 'nationalism and its other' and 'diasporic consciousness and displacement' the thesis looks at the how the Urdu-speaking community has negotiated with its identity across generations and at different historical moments as a minority, migrants, refugees, Pakistanis, 'privileged' *Muhajirs*, collaborators in the 1971 Liberation War, stateless camp-dwelling stranded Pakistanis and finally as Bangladeshis who still await full assimilation with the Bengali mainstream.

Gopinath Mandal (Milan)

Testimony: Reductionism vs Anti-reductionism

In the tradition of western epistemology, philosophers primarily focused on intuition, perception, and memory as a beliefs making instrument and attempting to analyze their functional structure. However, during the same time, philosophers devoted very less attention to testimony, although in our everyday lives, we greatly depend on testimony as much as on intuition, perception, and memory. Since childhood, we learn several things from the testimony. Thus, testimony is an essential source of our knowledge. Therefore, philosophers are recently paying considerable attention on epistemology of testimony and its epistemic significance is being completely appreciated. The fundamental issue of epistemology of testimony is how does the hearer ascribes trustworthiness to the speaker, whether the

hearer has good reason to ascribe the trustworthiness to the speaker, how we can justify ourselves to trust what is reported by other, and whether we should have any justification for forming our beliefs on the basis of speaker's assertion. On the basis of this issue, epistemologists are divided into two major groups such as Reductionism and Anti-reductionism. In my dissertation I will discuss both reductionism and Anti-reductionism.

Prakruti Ramesh (Aarhus)

Cartoons, Public Space, and the Making of a Regional Imaginary

Goa, a state in southwest India famous for its tourism, is popularly imagined as an enclave of hedonism in what is seen as a relatively conservative, Hindu-majoritarian national context. I argue that one way in which this image of Goa is perpetuated is through the prominent public display and commemoration of cartoonist Mario Miranda's work. This presentation will offer a reading of some of his visualisations, examining them for the Goa they depict, and the Goa that they elide. I contend that Mario Miranda's cartoons convene an image of a "bygone Goa" – an idyllic, pastoral, Portuguese Goa – that is congruent with a reputation that the Goa State Tourism Department is keen on investing in. However, there is a growing and perceptible distance between the Goa represented in Mario's cartoons and the Goa that increasingly 'confronts one's senses': a Goa transformed by processes of unplanned urbanisation, mass tourism and mining. What does the state endorsement of these pastoral images signify about its acts of public memory-making? What does it signify about the future and past that it imagines for itself?

Panel 3) Economic developments and entanglements

Shravana Kumar (Bremen University of Applied Sciences)

Efficiency Evaluation of Seaport Functions: A Case Study of Indian Major Seaports

Seaports play the role of pivotal nodes in trade oriented supply chains. With the LPG (Liberalization, Privatization and Globalization) initiative that was implemented in India in 1991, India has been able to better integrate itself with the global economy with trade being a significant contributor to economic growth. These economic reforms have in turn placed emphasis on the efficient operation of Indian seaports. This paper uses a disaggregated approach to efficiency evaluation in order to calculate the relative efficiency of each step of the production process of Indian Major Seaports for each of the financial years from FY2010 to FY2014. This has been done using output – oriented Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA) in order to calculate the efficiency index scores using the CCR and BCC models to obtain

the efficiency under the constant returns to scale, varying returns to scale assumptions and the resulting scale efficiency. A Malmquist DEA has also been applied for these years in order to calculate the total factor productivity (TFP) change, technological change, technical efficiency change and scale efficiency change for each step of the port production process. The berthing efficiency, loading and unloading efficiency and the cargo handling and warehousing efficiency that have been evaluated are then used to give suggestions on the overall relative efficiency of Indian Major Seaports.

Sunayana Maiti (Aarhus University)

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, and National Planning in India: The Decade after Independence

India chose the paradigm of planning after gaining independence which was shaped by Nehruvian perceptions of 'self-reliance' and 'national development'. Jawaharlal Nehru himself a student of natural science believed that planning represented a scientific approach. Nehru considered planning by his government through successive Five Year Plans and in this he increasingly involved the scientists as 'experts' as they were the practitioners of science. The path that independent India chose was of rapid industrialization that would solve the immediate needs of the country i.e. cure of poverty, hunger, insanitation etc. Independent India saw the development of a chain of national laboratories under the aegis of CSIR system with S.S.Bhatnagar as its Director. The craze for 'Big Science' in those days to meet the 'immediate needs' and the path of rapid industrialization led much of Government fund flow to these elite laboratories hampering the fund of universities which were the cradle of pure science. Due to the pressure of industrialists who saw the national laboratories as user departments to solve their problems for short-term gains, most of the scientists in these laboratories had to incline towards applied research. Indian science was moving towards technology based science rather than cultivating pure science. While planning our future the early leaders and scientists could not anticipate many things which our generation is facing. Today research in universities is in a dwindling state baring few exceptions. Perhaps the planners of our future could not make proper distinction between science and technology. This essay tries to find out the roots of such condition by emphasizing on the development of science in India focusing on CSIR and Planning Commission during the period 1947 – 1958 and tries to show how science got incorporated in the 'development debate' as a tool for planning India's future while itself remained unplanned.

Sayanjit Guha (University of Warsaw)

Assessment of problems and strategic tools to sustain commitment of sales professionals: A study on Indian Private Banking sector

This research aims to study the various practice modules related to motivation and commitment in sales force management with a vision to sustain commitment of the sales professionals. The main purpose of this research will be to find out the factors which stimulate the sales people's mind and the level of commitment with the targets and turn over. It is often noted that salespeople suffer from burn out. Excessive pressure to sell might be one cause of it. In contrast, the present section is entrusted with exploring issues of sustained sales personnel commitment as one of the facets of the present study. The scope of this study will include different important theories on motivation and organisational commitment. An extensive review is conducted of the existing literature and the completed research works align to the subjects. The concerned variables are assessed, and the interaction between them and the impact on the final variable are ascertained. There are certain anomalies detected in the course of the investigation and it is found that although the issues of incentives and bonuses are attended in some of the models and theories, in other theories these are considered as only the satisfiers but not the ultimate motivators. All these are put in order to bridge the gaps between satisfiers and motivators. By highlighting and assessing the problems related to commitment of sales professionals, the author has primarily taken into consideration the gap which exists between motivations & demotivation of sales professionals and also between the theory & business practice of the private banking institutions operating in India.

Panel 4) Beyond India and Europe: International Relations

Jayashree Balasubramanian (Aarhus University)

A case study of Academic and Cultural challenges of International students in a Social Sciences University, Mumbai, India

Internationalization, the circulation of Knowledge in two ways i.e., inward and outward- mobility of staff, faculty and students is an initiative for enriching both human and financial resources in research Institutions. Internationalisation (Knight 2004) is "the process of integrating an international, intercultural or global dimension into the purpose, functions or delivery of post-secondary education". Internationalization of Education is an idea that originally meant to help students develop international understanding and intercultural skills with the goal of preparing students to be active in a globalizing world. Presently, its definition has broadened to include cross-border institutions and programmes that

contribute to mobility of students and faculty (De Wit 2008). Internationalisation is a process of integrating an international, intercultural or global dimension into the purpose, functions or delivery of post-secondary education (Knight 2004).

International students are important to the national economy, as they contributed almost \$19 billion dollars in the 2009-10 academic year, with much of this money coming from abroad (Fischer 2011). The degree to which the international students adjust is the key to reducing their stress and helping them more readily adapt to the new environment as they come from different countries, religious and political systems and share a common platform which is identified as a group (Misra Castillo 2004).

The aim of the study is to develop and build an environment conducive to the growth of internationalisation and encourage both academic and cultural exchanges across different developed and developing nations. Therefore, in this study we focus on the ability of students to adjust both academically and culturally in the environment of the host institution. While adjustment refers to an immediate outcome, we will aim at studying the process of adaptation which is a dynamic process and can be considered a long term outcome of the adjustment that the international students undergo on a daily basis.

Keerthi Kumar (Warsaw University)

The European Union and Conflict Resolution: A Case Study of the Democratic Republic of Congo (2002-2015)

The key objective of my thesis is to analyse the European Union's engagement with the Democratic Republic of Congo and to evaluate its role in conflict resolution. It makes a case study of the Democratic Republic of Congo where the EU has been actively engaged in conflict resolution since the early 2000s. Democratic Republic of Congo stands apart from the rest of the countries where the EU has been involved as it was the first country to which the EU sent a military mission without the interference of the NATO or the United States and therein lies the uniqueness of the DRC. The study analyses the various military and civilian missions that the EU has launched in the country. In the process, the EU's crisis management capabilities and its civil-military coordination will also be examined. This will enable in finding a response to the question of whether the EU is an efficient security provider to the security consumer, the DRC. The study will adopt the Realist framework to comprehend the EU's role and answer the question: What are the motivations and intentions behind the EU's intervention in the Democratic Republic of Congo?

Dolly Bhardwaj (University of Warsaw)

Factors which influence Foreign Policy of Bhutan

My topic for the workshop discusses the primary factors which play a major role in shaping the foreign policy of Bhutan. How Bhutan, a tiny landlocked country and the youngest democracy in the world gets influence by the behavior and interest of the big powers, its neighbors India and China. I have tried to look into many facets of Bhutan to understand, such as Location, Political institutions, Security, Economy and Gross National Happiness. Bhutan, also called Druk Yul is a Himalayan Buddhist Kingdom in South Asia located between India and China. Bhutan is a small landlocked country with limited economic scope and military power. Bhutan was never colonized unlike its neighboring countries. Bhutan was also spared from any absolute percussion from the two world wars and the cold wars, which led to major instability and alignments.

The friendship between the world's smallest and largest democracy, Bhutan and India is evident and talk over since many decades. Bhutan has always kept its distance from China after the *Tibet issue* but as *China is becoming the fastest growing world power, Bhutan can no longer ignore and have to play the role of a balancer more cautiously now.*