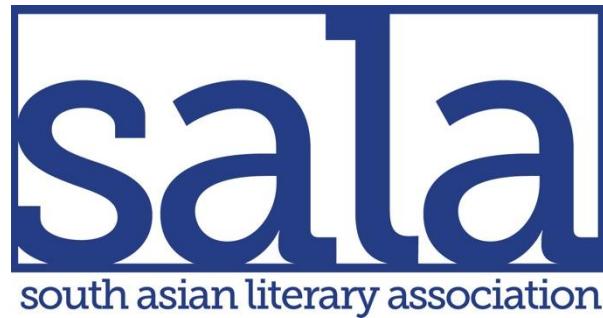


**SOUTH ASIAN LITERARY ASSOCIATION
2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**



**SOUTH ASIAN LITERATURES IN THE WORLD
January 6-7, 2019
theWit Chicago
201 N. State St. Chicago, IL 60601
USA**

**Conference Co-Chairs: Madhurima Chakraborty, Columbia College Chicago
Nalini Iyer, Seattle University**

DAY 1: SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 2019

7:30 AM: REGISTRATION DESK OPENS

8:00-8:20 AM: CONFERENCE COMMENCEMENT

Wilde

- John C. Hawley, SALA President
- Madhurima Chakraborty, Conference co-chair. "South Asian Literatures in the World."

SESSION 1: 8:30-9:45 AM

Wilde

Locating the Inventions of South Asia—Opening Plenary (Roundtable)

Chair: Nalini Iyer, Seattle University

- Neilesh Bose, University of Victoria
- Rajani Sudan, Southern Methodist University
- Susan Andrade, University of Pittsburgh
- Ana Cristina Mendes, University of Lisbon, Center for English Studies
- Waseem Anwar, Forman Christian College, Lahore

SESSION 2: 10:00 -11:15 AM

2A *Wilde*

Gender, Environment, and Crisis in South Asian Graphic Narratives (Roundtable)

Chair: Kavita Daiya, George Washington University

- Kavita Daiya, George Washington University. "Migration Stories."
- Anuja Madan, Kansas State University, "The Art of Amruta Patil."
- Lopamudra Basu, University of Wisconsin-Stout. "Postcolonial Masculinities in Sarnath Banerjee's Novels."
- Sukanya Gupta, University of Southern Indiana. "Sarnath Banerjee's *All Quiet in Vikaspuri* as Text/Image Activism & Cli-Fi."
- Nidhi Shrivastava, University of Western Ontario. "*Priya's Shakti*: Recasting of Familiar Mythological Constructs in Order to Criticize Rape Culture."

2B Dickinson

The Politics of Kashmir

Chair: Abdollah Zahiri, Seneca College

- Rituparna Mitra, Marlboro College. "The Ghazal and the Gathering of World's in Ali's 'The Country Without a Post office'"
- Wafa Hamid, Lady Shriram College for Women, University of Delhi. "'Discourses of Silence': (Re)Writing Cashemere, Kashmir, Kashmir in Agha Shahid Ali's Poetry."
- Upasana Dutta, University of Chicago. "The Broken Body, the Stuttering Image: Malik Sajad's *Munnu: A Boy from Kashmir*."
- Prithwa Deb, Debraj Roy College, Golaghat, Assam. "Nation, Identity and Body: Reading the Disputed Boundaries in Contemporary South Asian Graphic Narrative."

2C Churchill

Aravind Adiga and the Contours of South Asia

Chair: Waseem Anwar, Forman Christian College, Lahore

- Md. Rezaul Haque, St. John's University, New York. "Going beyond the Binary of Self and Other: The Case of South Asian English Fiction."
- Matthew Nelson, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. "My Shanghai": China and Fantasies of Futurity in Adiga's *Last Man in Tower*"
- Amrita De, SUNY Binghamton. "Of Regional, Homosocial Interactions and the act of 'Writing Itself Into Being': Locating *The White Tiger* in South Asian literary imagination."
- Ambreen Hai, Smith College. "Indian and Sri Lankan Connections and Disconnections: Male-Male Servant-Employer Relations in Aravind Adiga's *White Tiger* and Romesh Gunasekera's *Reef*."

SESSION 3: 11:30-12:45

3A Wilde

The Indian Ocean and the Past Present of Empire

Chair: Pallavi Rastogi, Louisiana State University

- Nienke Boer, Yale-NUS College. "Oceanic Tales, Imperial Legacies: Robinson Crusoe in the

Indian Ocean.”

- Sean M. Kennedy, CUNY-Grad Center. “Corruption: A Pre-History From Fanqui-Town.”
- Usha Rungoo, SUNY Purchase. “The Shipping Container and the Human Cargo Ship: Bridging (Neo)Colonial Histories in Amal Sewtohol’s *Made in Mauritius*.”
- Nelofer Qadir, University of Massachusetts, Amherst. “Kifa Urongo’: Structures of Unfreedom in Paradise.”

3B Dickinson

South Asia in Conflict: The Ethics and Politics of Postcolonial Witnessing

Chair: Kavita Daiya, George Washington University

- Amanda Lagji, Pitzer College. “The Enduring Spectacle of the Aftermath: Embodying the Blast in *The Association of Small Bombs* “
- Purnima Bose, Indiana University. “History and Rumor in Mohammed Hanif’s *A Case of Exploding Mangoes*.”
- Saumya Lal, University of Massachusetts, Amherst. “Precarious Empathy and the Crisis of Witnessing in Mirza Waheed’s *The Collaborator*.”
- Maryse Jayasuriya, University of Texas at El Paso. “Ethics and Empathy in Sri Lankan Representations of Refugees.”

3C Churchill

South Asian Waterways: Contemporary Migratory and Sexual Flows

Chair: Christopher Ian Foster, Jackson State University

- Christopher Ian Foster, Jackson State University. “From A. R. F. Webber’s Sunlit Western Waters to Shani Mootoo’s Gulf of Paria: On the Intersection of Migration and Sexuality in South Asian Caribbean Literature.”
- Rahul K. Gairola, Murdoch University. “Peering Outside of the Pink Tent: Postcolonial DH along the Queer Rim of the Indian Ocean.”
- Respondent: Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, Columbia University.

1:00- 2:00 PM—LUNCH

SESSION 4: 2:15-3:30 PM *Wilde*

Professionalization Panel I: Publications: Challenges and Opportunities (Roundtable)

Chair: Nalini Iyer, Incoming Editor, *South Asian Review*

- John C. Hawley, Professor, Santa Clara University
- Ranjit Arab, Senior Acquisitions Editor, University of Iowa Press
- Rebecca Guest, Managing Editor, Arts & Humanities Journals, *Taylor and Francis*
- Sage Milo, Development Editor, Digital Resources, *Taylor & Francis*

SESSION 5: 3:45-5:00 PM, *Wilde*

The World of South Asian Literature: A Creative Writing Panel

Chair: Madhurima Chakraborty, Columbia College Chicago

- Mary Anne Mohanraj, University of Illinois Chicago. "Putting Sri Lankans in Space."
- S. Shankar, University of Hawai'i. "Challenges of Literary Invention: Writing in English What is Outside English."
- Samrat Upadhyay, Indiana University. "Translating South Asia"
- Amin X. Ahmad, Northwestern University. "Sex, Lies, and Bad Guys: Writing the Immigrant Suspense Novel."
- Oindrila Mukherjee, Grand Valley State University. "This or That?: The Conundrum of Writing Contemporary South Asia."

5:15-6:15 PM: GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING, *Wilde*

6:15-7:30 PM: DINNER ON YOUR OWN

7:30-9:30 PM: *HUMARA MUSHAIRA*

Chair: Amritjit Singh, Ohio University

DAY 2: MONDAY, JANUARY 7, 2019

7:30 AM: REGISTRATION DESK OPENS

SESSION 6: 8:00-9:15 AM

6A *Wilde*

Professionalization Panel II: Altered Expectations in Uncertain Times (Roundtable)

Chair: Moumin Quazi, Tarleton State University; Aniruddha Mukhopadhyay, Texas A&M University-Kingsville

- Aniruddha Mukhopadhyay, Texas A&M University-Kingsville. "Going on the Job Market as an International Grad Student"
- Anuja Madan, Kansas State University. "My First Two Years on the Tenure-Track."
- Cynthia Leenerts, East Stroudsburg University. "Stickin' to the Union: Solidarity in the Face of Uncertain Times."
- Robin E. Field, King's College. "Planning your Long-Term Career Arc"
- Moumin Quazi, Tarleton State University. "A New Professor's Changing Expectations for New Faculty."

6B *Dickinson*

South Asia and Diasporas before World War II

Chair: Nalini Iyer, Seattle University

- Prabhjot Parmar, University of the Fraser Valley. "'The corner of a picture'": Literary Representations of Indian Soldiers in the Great War."

- Clara A.B. Joseph, University of Calgary. "The Account of Priest Joseph (1502): Why an Indian Christian Text Does (Not) Matter."
- Abdollah Zahiri, Seneca College (King Campus). "South by the Southwest: Ghadar Activists in Iran in the 1930's and 1940's."
- Amrita Mishra, University of Texas at Austin. "Indenture's Intimacies: Effects of early Indian Nationalism in *Raise the Lanterns High* and *Sea of Poppies*."

6C Churchill

Transnational Circulations of South Asia

Chair: Maryse Jayasuriya, University of Texas at El Paso

- Supurna Dasgupta, University of Chicago. "The 'slithering fish': Feeding the Global 'Popular' through South Asian Anglophone Poetry."
- Sayanti Mondal, Illinois State University. "Picturing Experience: Performing Transnational Identity in Bhajju Shyam's *The London Jungle Book*."
- Bhavya Tiwari, University of Houston. "Going Beyond English: World Literature and South Asian Literature."
- Sohinee Roy, North Central College. "Playhouse: Art and Politics in the Bildung of a Child."

SESSION 7: 9:30-10:45 AM

7A Wilde

Situating South Asian Anglophone Literature in the World: The Oxford History of the Novel in English, Volume 10. (Roundtable)

Chair: Alex Tickell, The Open University

- Rajeswari Sunder Rajan, New York University. "The Novel of India."
- Ruvani Ranasinha, King's College. "Novels of Sri Lanka: Feminist Readings of Conflict within the 'Global' Economy of South Asian fiction."
- Kavita Daiya, George Washington University. "Gender, Sexuality, and the Family in South Asian Fiction."
- Charlotta Salmi, Queen Mary, University of London. "Picturing South Asia: The Rise of the Regional Graphic Narrative."

7B Dickinson

Interrogating the Space of Transnationalism

Chair: Robin E. Field, Kings College.

- Sagnika Chanda, University of Pittsburgh. "The Mexican and South Asian Telemigrant: Transnational Immigrant Labor and Internet Utopianism in *Sleep Dealer* and Digital India."
- Sritama Chatterjee. "As if a map had been redrawn in front of us': Reading Spatiality, Aesthetics of Slowness, and Ethics of 'Worlding' in Benjamin's *Goat Days*."
- Robin E. Field, King's College. "Space and Temporality in Jhumpa Lahiri's 'Third and Final Continent'."
- Kay Sohini Kumar, Stony Brook University. "Across Borders and In-Between Spaces."

7C Churchill

Connecting in Margins

Chair: Meghan Gorman-DaRif, University of Texas at Austin

- Pallavi Rastogi, Louisiana State University. "The Chinese World in South Asian Literature."
- Meghan Gorman-DaRif, University of Texas at Austin. "Decentering Division: Representations of Indian-Kenyan Solidarity in Contemporary Anglophone Fiction"
- Muhammad Waqas Halim, Information Technology University, Lahore & Asad Ahmad Khan, Heidelberg University. "The Untold Story of Resistance in Balochistan: Voices of dissent in Balochi Short Stories of Anees Sharif."
- Amelie Daigle, Boston College. "Tangible Gains and Intangible Losses: Global Inequity and Labor Migration in Ratika Kapur's *The Private Life of Mrs. Sharma* and Laila Lalami's *Hope and Other Dangerous Pursuits*."

SESSION 8: 11:00 AM-12:15 PM

8A Wilde

The Subaltern in Context

Chair: Aniruddha Mukhopadhyay, Texas A&M University-Kingsville

- Fouzia Rehman Khan, Sardar Bahadur Khan Women's University. "Can the Subalterns Sketch? A Critical Semiotic Analysis of the Novel *Munnu. A Boy from Kashmir*."
- Anjali Singh & Rajiv Ranjan Dwivedi. Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University. "Studying Postcolonialism in Dalit Narrative: A Critical Take on Sushila Takbhura's Autobiography *Shikenje Ka Dard*."
- Aniruddha Mukhopadhyay, Texas A&M University-Kingsville. "Disconcerting Dalit Masculinity in Daya Pawar's *Baluta*."

8B Dickinson

The Unwanted

Chair: Anuja Madan, Kansas State University

- Tavleen Purewal, University of Toronto. "'Final Humiliation': Opaque Relations of Shame in Kiran Desai's *The Inheritance of Loss*."
- Binod Paudyal, Northern Arizona University. "Undesirability: Refugees and the Undocumented in South Asian Diasporic Literature."
- Shazia Rahman, Western Illinois University. "Postcolonial International Conflict Through an Animal Studies Lens."
- Sreyashi Ray, University of Minnesota. "Pachyderms, Tribals and the Precarity of Postcolonial Animality: A Comparative Reading of Mahasweta Devi's Fiction."

8C Churchill

Resistance, Borders, Conflict in South Asian Literature

Chair: Rahul K. Gairola, Murdoch University

- Nudrat Kamal, Habib University, Karachi. "Borders, Diaspora, and Belonging: Tracing the Conceptualization of Home in South Asian Partition Fiction."
- Md. Alamgir Hossain, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. "University, Neoliberalism, and the Undercommons: Resistance in Mohsin Hamid's *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*."
- Asif Iqbal, Michigan State University. "Partition of East Bengal in Shahidulla Kaiser's *Sangsaptak*."
- Arun Kumar Pokhrel, Oklahoma State University. "Global Subaltern Spaces: Landscape, Community, and Historical Memory in Kiran Desai's *Inheritance of Loss*."

12:15 - 1:15 LUNCH.

- Discussion group on Neil Lazarus's *The Postcolonial Unconscious (Wilde)*
- Open session lunch (*Dickinson*)

SESSION 9: 1:30- 2:30 PM

9A Wilde

Pakistani Literatures in the World

Chair: Amritjit Singh, Ohio University

- Waseem Anwar, Forman Christian College, Lahore. "Pakistani English Literatures in the World: Center-Margin Dialectic and Alternative Epistemologies in Shahid Nadim's Plays."
- Zakia Reshid Ehsen, Riphah International University, Pakistan "Falling Through the Cracks: Neoliberalism and Power Constructs in Nadeem Aslam's novel *A Blind Man's Garden*."
- Sushil Sivaram, Rutgers University. "(Re)Staging the Postcolonial in the World: The Jaipur Literature Festival and the Pakistani Novel."
- Masood Raja, University of North Texas. "National Expectations, Metropolitan Market and Pakistani Writing in English."

9B Churchill

Genre Innovations

Chair: Cynthia Leenerts, East Stroudsburg University

- Hans-Georg Erney, Georgia Southern University. "Stung by a Charso-Bee: Daljit Nagra's Transnational *Ramayana* Retelling."
- Hella Bloom-Cohen, St. Catherine's University. "The Case of Victoria and Abdul: Archival Creative Nonfiction and the Violent Romance of Highbrow Cinema."
- Anwasha Maity, University of Wisconsin-Madison. "Technoscience and the Global South: Postcolonial Science Fiction (SF) from Bangladesh."
- Titas De Sarkar, University of Chicago. "The Lives of the Lowly—Postcolonial Youth and the Problem of Genre."

SESSION 10: 2:30- 3:45 pm

10A Wilde

Cosmopolitanism and South Asian Identity

Chair: John Hawley, Santa Clara University

- Brant Moscovitch, St. Anthony's College, University of Oxford. "Cosmopolitanism and the Rise of Anti-Colonial Internationalism, 1919-1939."
- Sarah Beth Mohler, Truman State University.. "Russian Literary Imagination's Influence on South Asian Literature: A Close Analysis of Tolstoy's Influence on Seth and Mueenuddin."
- Arnab Dutta Roy, University of Connecticut. "Cosmopolitanism and Tradition: A Critique of U.R. Ananthamurthy's *Samskara*."

10B Dickinson

The Global Salman Rushdie

Chair: Moumin Quazi, Tarleton State University

- Ana Cristina Mendes. University of Lisbon. "Globetrotting Shakespeare: *The King Lear* Intertext in Preti Taneja's *We that are Young* and Salman Rushdie's *The Golden House*."
- Romy Rajan, University of Florida. "Neoliberalism and the Return of Religion in Salman Rushdie's *The Moor's Last Sigh*."
- Pennie Ticen, Virginia Military Institute. "Updating the Interregnum: Salman Rushdie's 'Anti-Chutnification' in *The Golden House*."

10C Churchill

Community and Belonging

Chair: Prathim-Maya Dora-Laskey, Alma College

- Prathim-Maya Dora-Laskey, Alma College. "More than Kin(d): Building Community and Solidarity in Arundhati Roy's *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness*."
- Ruma Sinha, Syracuse University. "Living Among the Dead: The Graveyard as Site of Affiliation and Antagonism in *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness*."
- Manju Dhariwal, LNM Institute of Information Technology. "Gender, Narration and Nation: A Critical Rereading of Alka Sarawgi's *Kali katha: Via Bypass*."

4:00-5:00 PM Dickinson

Graduate Student Caucus

5:00-6:30 PM: CONFERENCE KEYNOTE & AWARDS CEREMONY

- John Stratton Hawley. Barnard College, Columbia University. "Verbal Icon, Iconic Word: Surdas Between Poem and Painting"

7:00- 9:00 PM CONFERENCE BANQUET (TICKETS REQUIRED)

Venue: Gaylord Restaurant 100 E Walton St, Chicago, IL 60611

SPECIAL THANKS TO SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY AND COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE CONFERENCE.