

Y-SASM 2021

THE EVERYDAY STATE

# YOUNG SOUTH ASIA SCHOLARS' MEET 2021

02-05 June 2021

**GRADUATE INSTITUTE, GENEVA**

**Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy  
Anthropology and Sociology | International History and Politics**

To register for the event, please write to us at :

[y.sasmconf@googlemail.com](mailto:y.sasmconf@googlemail.com)

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## Why the Everyday State?

Everyday forms of state formation reveal how the state manifests itself while also elucidating how people engage with the state. This conference seeks to unpack the role and authority of the state in everyday lives, with a particular focus on South Asia. A careful unpacking of the everyday state, through an interdisciplinary approach, would enable us to gauge the complexity and paradoxes of state power and the ways in which it affects everyday life and the art of governance.

Current developments in South Asia suggest the need to pay close attention to not only the processes in which contemporary forms of Foucauldian governmentality may manifest but also expose the limits, fissures, and frictions of governmental rationality. The history and specificities of South Asia provide ample scope to investigate the distinct yet intertwined means through which colonial and post-colonial everyday state has reconstituted itself alongside the development of peculiar kinds of governmental rationality.

In recent decades, scholars have approached the study and theorization of the everyday state by focusing on the production and circulation of bureaucratic documents, the role of archival records in categorizing populations and rendering them visible, the flow of labor and capital, the conceptualization and nature of citizenship, and the ways in which colonial institutions materialized the state, resulting in the production of specific kinds of knowledges. With a focus on South Asia, Y-SASM 2021 provides an interdisciplinary forum for a vibrant discussion on these issues by building on, and extending, the existing scholarship.

Consequently, for the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of Y-SASM, we feature **8 panels** that examine and explore the strategies, processes and practices employed by the everyday state—both material and symbolic. These papers also draw attention to how populations resist, negotiate and/or intervene in such processes and practices.

Y-SASM 2021 will be held online, on 02-05 June, with the support of the Graduate Institute's *Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy*, and the Departments of *Anthropology and Sociology*, and *International History and Politics*.

To attend the event, please write to us at:  
[y.sasmconf@googlemail.com](mailto:y.sasmconf@googlemail.com)

Y-SASM 2021

# Full Program

## DAY 1

02 June 2021 | Wednesday

<b>CET: 09:15 to 10:15</b> <i>IST: 12:45 pm to 1:45 pm</i> <i>EST: 3:15 am to 4:15 pm</i> <i>PST: 00:15 am to 1:15 am</i>	Introduction   Inauguration   Opening Remarks
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### Session 1

**CET: 10: 30 am to Noon**

*IST: 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm*

*EST: 4:30 am to 6:00 am*

*PST: 1:30 am to 3:00 am*

<b>Panel 1</b>  <b>Everyday State and Adivasi-Dalit Politics</b>  <b>Chair:</b> <b>Dr Shaila Seshia Galvin</b>	Dalits or Untouchables? The Shortsightedness of Contemporary Dalit Politics and Discourses	<b>Kuber Nag</b> PhD Candidate, IIT-Hyderabad
	Seeking autonomy from the state: Dispossession and resistance among Adivasis of India and Bangladesh	<b>Dr Dalel Benbaabali</b> Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, University of Oxford

<b>CET: Noon to 1 pm</b> <i>IST: 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm</i> <i>EST: 6:00 am to 7:00 am</i> <i>PST: 3:00 am to 4 am</i>	Lunch
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<b>CET: 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm</b> <i>IST: 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm</i> <i>EST: 7:00 am to 8:00 am</i> <i>PST: : 4:00 am to 5:00 am</i>	Meet and Greet
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### Session 2

**CET: 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm**

*IST : 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm*

*EST: 8:00 am to 10:30 am*

*PST: 5: 00 am to 7:30 am*

<b>Panel 2</b>  <b>Constructing Narratives: Media and the Everyday State</b>  <b>Chair:</b> <b>Dr Lipin Ram</b>	Narratives in the New Media: An Engagement with Caste Politics in Kerala	<b>Sonima Jacob</b> PhD Candidate, MG University- Kottayam
	Politics and Poetics of Hindi Cinema: Everyday State and its Representation	<b>Simona Sarma</b> PhD Candidate, TISS-Mumbai
	Reclaiming spaces and understanding women's struggle in Kashmir	<b>Yogesh Mishra</b> Independent Researcher
	Beyond the Statist View on Secularism and Non-Religion: Shifting Positionality and Time in Sylhet, Bangladesh	<b>Mascha Schulz, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Halle &amp; ERC-2018-COG 'Religion and Its Others in South Asia and the World (ROSA)</b>

CET: 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm  
 IST : 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm  
 EST: 10:30 am to Noon  
 PST: 7:30 am to 9:00 am

Mixers/ Informal  
 Gatherings |  
 SpatialChat (TBC)

**CET: Noon to 1 pm**  
 IST: 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm  
 EST: 6:00 am to 7:00 am  
 PST: 3:00 am to 4:00 am

Lunch

## DAY 2

03 June 2021 | Thursday

**CET: 10 am onwards**  
 IST: 1:30 pm onwards  
 EST: 4:00 am onwards  
 PST: 1:00 am onwards

Meeting Room Opens  
 (Logistics)

**CET: 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm**  
 IST: 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm  
 EST: 7:00 am to 8:00 am  
 PST: 4:00 am to 5:00 am

Virtual Hangout Sessions/ Meet  
 and Greet

**CET: 2:00 pm to 3:45 pm**  
 IST: 5:30 pm to 7:15 pm  
 EST: 8:00 am to 9:45 am  
 PST: 5:00 am to 6:45 am

**Keynote Lecture**  
**Dr Ranabir Samaddar**

### Session 3

**CET: 10:30 am to Noon**  
 IST: 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm  
 EST: 4:30 am to 6:00 am  
 PST: 1:30 am to 3:00 am

**CET: 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm**  
 IST: 7:30 pm to 10:00 pm  
 EST: 10:00 am to Noon  
 PST: 7:00 am to 9:00 am

Mixers

<b>Panel 3</b>  <b>Caste, Class,          Labour and the          Everyday</b>  <b>Chair:</b> <b>Dr Lucy          Dubochet</b>	Bringing Back the Waste In: Caste, Labour and Everyday State in India	<b>Aparna          Agarwal</b> D.Phil Scholar, University of Oxford
	The Craftsmen and their Unions : exploring the relationship of Firozabad's glass workers to the political through a historical anthropology of labor.	<b>Dr Arnaud          Kaba</b> Post-doctoral Fellow, CeMIS, Göttingen

## DAY 3

04 June 2021 | Friday

**CET: 1:00 pm to 1:15 pm**  
 IST: 4:30 pm to 4:45 pm  
 EST: 7:00 am to 7:15 am  
 PST: 4:00 am to 4:15 am

Meeting Room Opens  
 (Logistics)

### Session 4

**CET: 1:15 pm to 2:45 pm**

*IST: 4:45 pm to 6:15 pm*

*EST: 7:15 am to 8:45 am*

*PST: 4:15 am to 5:45 am*

<b>Panel 4</b>  <b>Penal Punishments and the Everyday State</b>  <b>Chair:</b> <b>Dr Nitin Sinha</b>	State of Punishment and State of Labour: Indian Subcontinent, c. 1750s-1870s.	<b>Nabhojeet Sen</b> PhD Candidate, University of Bonn
	J. F. Stephen and the Emergence of Jurisprudence on Free Speech in India	<b>Dr Sunny Kumar</b> Assistant Professor, Delhi University, New Delhi
	Regulation, Repression and the Everyday State: Convict Transportation to Andamans	<b>Dr Suparna Sengupta</b> Assistant Professor, Hansraj College, University of Delhi, New Delhi

Coffee Break	15 minutes
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### Session 5

**CET: 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm**

*IST: 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm*

*EST: 9:00 am to 11:00 am*

*PST: 6:00 am to 8:00 am*

<b>Panel 5</b>  <b>Infrastructure, Materiality and the State</b>	Fluvial Government: Oil and the Everyday State in India	<b>Sarandha Jain</b> PhD Candidate, Columbia University- New York
	Dukaans, Portals and Database: Encountering	<b>Srividya Balasubramanian</b>

<b>Chair:</b> <b>Dr G Balachandran</b>	the aspirational State in rural Indian digitization projects	<b>PhD Candidate, University of Leipzig,</b> <b>Affiliate Member, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle</b>
	The Youth Hostel Association of Indian, the Politics of Leisure, and the Shaping of Indian Youth During the Long 1950s	<b>Tom Wilkinson</b> PhD Candidate, London School of Economics

<b>Fluid Coffee Break</b>
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### Session 6

**CET: 5:00 pm to 7 pm**

*IST: 8:30 pm to 10:30 pm*

*EST: 11: 00 am to 1:00 pm*

*PST: 8:00 am to 10:00 am*

<b>Panel 6</b>  <b>Mobility and the Everyday State</b>  <b>Chair:</b> <b>Dr Christine Lutringer</b>	Migration and State Citizenship Policy: Everyday mediation of Bengali-speaking Muslim migrant workers in Mumbai	<b>Debangana Baruah</b> PhD Candidate, TISS- Mumbai
	The Migration of Women from Nepal for Domestic Work to the Gulf States and the Impact of Nepal Government's Policies Banning Out-Migration for Domestic Work	<b>Sayam Mktan</b> PhD Candidate, University of Cincinnati



## DAY 4

05 June 2021 | Saturday

**CET: 10 am onwards**  
*IST: 1:30 pm onwards*  
*EST: 4:00 am onwards*  
*PST: 1:00 am onwards*

Meeting Room Opens  
(Logistics)

### Session 7

**CET: 10:30 am to Noon**

*IST: 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm*  
*EST: 4:30 am to 6:00 am*  
*PST: 1:30 am to 3:00 am*

<b>Panel 7</b> <b>Memes and the everyday state</b>	Memetic (sub)politics, contesting publics: Everyday engagement with the state through memes in India	<b>Krishanu Bhargav Neog</b> <b>PhD Candidate, JNU-Delhi</b>
	<b>Chair:</b> <b>Dr Prabhat Kumar, CSDS</b>	<b>Dr Sujith K G</b> <b>Assistant Professor,</b> <b>National Institute of Fashion Technology-Kannur</b>

**CET: Noon to 1:00 pm**  
*IST: 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm*  
*EST: 6:00 am to 7:00 am*  
*PST: 3:00 am to 4:00 am*

Lunch

### Session 8

**CET: 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm**

*IST: 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm*  
*EST: 7:30 am to 8:30 am*  
*PST: 4:30 am to 5:30 am*

## Roundtable Nationalism, COVID-19 and the Everyday State

**CET: 2:30 pm to 3:00 pm**  
*IST: 6:00 pm to 6:30 pm*  
*EST: 8:30 am to 9:00 am*  
*PST: 5:30 am to 6:00 am*

Coffee Break

### Session 9

**CET: 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm**

*IST: 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm*  
*EST: 9:00 am to 10:30 am*  
*PST: 6:00 am to 7:30 am*

<b>Panel 8</b> <b>Bureaucratic Representations, Records and the Everyday State</b>	The Issue with Re-fashioning State as a Customer Care Service; Digitization of Land Record System in Pakistani Punjab	<b>Asad ur Rehman</b> <b>PhD Candidate, Ecole Des Hautes en Sciences Sociale- Paris</b>
	<b>Chair:</b> <b>Rusha Das</b>	<b>Brian T. Cannon</b> <b>PhD Candidate,</b> <b>University of Pennsylvania</b>
	Politicising the Electoral Roll: Assam in 1979-1985 and 2014-2019	<b>Shabnam Surita</b> <b>PhD Candidate, Institut für Orient- und Asienwissenschaften, Universität Bonn</b>

<b>CET: 4:45 pm to 5:45 pm</b> <i>IST: 8:15 pm to 9:15 pm</i> <i>EST: 10:45 am to 11:45 am</i> <i>PST: 7:45 am to 8:45 am</i>	Concluding Remarks
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<b>CET: 6:00 pm onwards</b> <i>IST : 9:30 pm onwards</i> <i>EST: Noon onwards</i> <i>PST: 9:00 am onwards</i>	Mixers/ Informal Gatherings   SpatialChat (TBC)
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# Y-SASM 2021



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