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Julie Hanlon by Pechchi Pallam at the hill site Samanar Mallai

Exploring the ancient Jain heritage of Madurai, Tamil Nadu by Julie Hanlon

In the summer of 2016 I traveled to Tamil Nadu in southern India on an AIIS Junior Research Fellowship to conduct 10 weeks of intensive archaeological survey of a series of Jain hill sites in Madurai district. This archaeological survey represented the final phase of my dissertation research, which incorporates spatial and statistical analyses of
continued on page 4

Duke Historian Sumathi Ramaswamy Elected Next President of AIIS

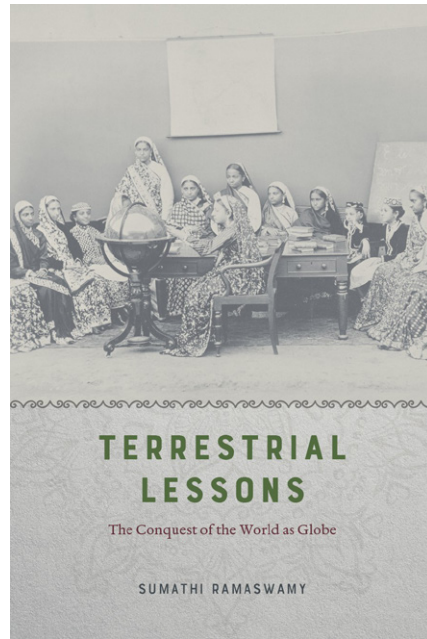
Sumathi Ramaswamy, a professor in the Department of History at Duke University, was elected as the next president of AIIS by the delegates from AIIS member institutions. Professor Ramaswamy will succeed Philip Lutgendorf on July 1, 2018.



Professor Ramaswamy is a cultural historian of South Asia and the British Empire. Over the course of her academic career, her research has focused on linguistics and language politics, gender studies, spatial studies and the history of cartography, visual studies and the modern history of Indian art, and more recently, digital humanities. Two recent works are *Husain's Raj: Visions of Empire and Nation* (Mumbai: Marg, 2016) and *Terrestrial Lessons: The Conquest of the World as Globe* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, September 2017). In the next few years, she expects to be busy on two new projects. With a five-year Anneliese Maier Research Award from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in Germany, she is working on a collaborative digital humanities exhibit titled "No Parallel? The Fatherly Bodies of Gandhi and Mao." Building on her work in the last decade as a Program Officer for the Ford Foundation in its New Delhi Office, she is also engaged in a multi-site project, "Giving and Learning," on educational philanthropy in colonial and postcolonial India.

Her connections to the AIIS are broad and deep, going back to her early days as a graduate student when she received a Junior Fellowship. Since then, every one of her projects, including her new work on Tamil educational philanthropy, has been supported by Senior Fellowships from the AIIS. As a Program Officer for the Ford Foundation, she worked closely with the AIIS in many capacities, including making a grant to ARCE for a project on music and the Indian diaspora. She has been serving on the AIIS Board of Trustees since 2015.

Born and raised in India, Professor Ramaswamy has a Bachelor's degree in History from Lady Shri Ram College in New Delhi, and a Master's and Master of Philosophy Degree in History (with a specialization in ancient Indian history) from Jawaharlal Nehru University. She also has a Master's degree in Anthropology from the University of Pennsylvania, and received a Ph. D. in History from the University of California at Berkeley. Prior to her current appointment at Duke, she taught at Penn and at the University of Michigan. Along the way, she has served as Director for the Center for South Asian Studies at the University of Michigan, for the North Carolina Consortium of South Asian Studies, and for the Center for South Asian Studies at Duke. Currently, she is Co-Director for the India Initiative at Duke, where she has also served as Interim Chair of the Department of History.



The cover of Sumathi Ramaswamy's latest book

Looking forward to her year as President-Elect (2017-2018) and later, as President, Professor Ramaswamy writes, “At a recent Trustees meeting I attended as a member of the Board, I was reminded again of the exceptional singularity of the AIIS as an institution founded by academics for the advancement of academics, *and* governed by academics. This is an extraordinary achievement indeed, all the more worthy of recall for having lasted for more than half a century. Over the past fifty years, while the funding of language training, graduate research, and faculty scholarly advancement remains its critical mission, the AIIS has also succeeded in establishing an important footprint in India with its two research centers in Gurugram that enable access to critical resources in the areas of art, archaeology, and music to scholars both in India and abroad, resources that might well otherwise be outside our reach, even irredeemably lost. Most recently, the AIIS has also extended its reach and work into US undergraduate education with its support for study abroad programs, as well as partnerships with NGOs in India. Good stewardship over the past number of years has enabled a strong institution. Nonetheless, we are operating in an environment—in the US, in India, and more globally—that is only going to get more demanding, especially for the arts, the humanities, and the interpretive social sciences, the fields in which the Institute has established itself as a significant presence. But every challenge also gives us an opportunity to rethink creatively and to consider possibilities that might not have been hitherto apparent or available. New configurations inevitably produce new players with whom we can ally, as well as emergent intellectual formations and concerns that we can make our own. As President-Elect, and then as President, I look forward to working with the elected Trustees and the talented staff in place to continue to do what we have done so well, and also advance in new directions and augment. I am deeply honored to have been elected to lead this remarkable organization, following in the footsteps of admirable colleagues who have helped steer the Institute from strength to strength.”



Bernard Bate Tamil Language Student Scholarship Awarded to Julie Edelstein

Julie Edelstein, a graduate student in the Department of Religion at Syracuse University, was awarded the Bernard Bate Tamil Language Student Scholarship. This scholarship was established by the friends and colleagues of the late Professor Bernard Bate to honor his memory. Professor Bate died unexpectedly and tragically in 2016. Julie Edelstein will be participating in the AIIS summer 2017 Tamil program in Madurai and has also been awarded a fellowship to participate in the 2017-2018 academic year language program. She had previously participated in the AIIS Tamil program for the summers of 2015 and 2016.

continued from page one

archaeological and epigraphic materials and textual analysis of classical Tamil literature in an attempt to understand the socio-economic role of Jains and Jain monastic communities in Tamil Nadu during the Early Historic Period (c. 400 BCE up to 600 CE).

The earliest evidence of Jainism in south India consists of a series of lithic inscriptions in Tamil-Brahmi script found in caves located along the granitic hill ranges to the east and west of Madurai. Epigraphists such as I. Mahadevan (*Early Tamil Epigraphy: From the Earliest Times to the Sixth Century A.D.* 2003) date these inscriptions to the 2nd century BCE (after the reign of the Mauryan emperor Ashoka). However, archaeological excavations in Tamil Nadu and Sri Lanka have recovered ceramics bearing Tamil-Brahmi and Brahmi inscriptions from contexts radiocarbon dated to as early as 5th century BCE. This suggests that the Jain inscriptions in Tamil-Brahmi likely predate the 2nd century BCE, and may perhaps be as early as 3rd or 4th century BCE.

In the 19th century, when the caves were first encountered by British and Indian epigraphists the

history of their occupants had long been forgotten. People residing in these areas referred to the hills generically as *pañcapāṇṭava malai* (hills of the Five Pandavas) – a reference to the Pandavas of the Mahabharata epic – and the beds within them as *pañcapāṇṭava paṭukkai* (beds of the five Pandavas), regardless of the actual number of beds in the caves. Even today villagers residing in the areas around these caves are not fully aware of their historical significance.

To some extent, this is no surprise, as today Jains constitute a small minority in Tamil Nadu, representing a little over 0.1% of the population. Many people in Tamil Nadu, indeed many people in India, are not even aware that Jains still exist in the state. This invisibility is compounded by the dominant narratives of Tamil history which circumscribe most discussions of Jainism in Tamil Nadu to a single period between 300 and 600 CE, outside of which Jains are thought to have had little significant influence on “Tamil culture.” However, the archaeological, epigraphic, and literary records demonstrate otherwise.



Jain hill site at Perumal Malai

Specifically with regard to the caves, both the inscriptions and ceramics discovered during survey on the surface of the hills indicate that they were occupied during the Early Historic period. The caves are concentrated on a series of granitic inselbergs to the east and west of Madurai (then the ancient capital city of the Pandyas) and are of two forms: long erosional caves carved into the hillside by wind and

water and small rock shelters under large granitic boulders formed by similar erosional processes.

The Jains who first occupied these caves were likely wandering ascetics, following ancient monastic prescriptions that require Jain monks to travel for eight months out of the year and rest for four months during the monsoon season. Such spaces would have

been ideal retreats during the monsoon, as the bare rock ensured that daily activities could be conducted without violence to living creatures – a necessity for Jain monks who adhere strictly to the principle of ahimsa, or non-violence.

The caves were later modified with drip ledges to direct rain water down and prevent it from running into the caves. Within the caves, series of beds were also carved into the rock. Some sites, such as Kongarpuliyankulam, have caves with as many as 63 beds. It is here, in the modified spaces of the caves, that donative inscriptions were carved. These inscriptions are generally short in nature and highlight the name of the donor who provided funds for the carving of the caves, often referred to as *palli*, a term meaning hermitage or place of worship.

Archaeological survey of Jain sites at Tirupparankundram, Samanar Malai, Perumal Malai, Vikkiramangalam, and Mettuppatti revealed the presence of additional architectural features, such as

postholes indicating the presence of organic superstructure, rock-cut stairs, rock-cut channels to divert rain water away from the beds, as well as natural springs and carved rock pools that would have ensured year-round availability of water. Moreover, stone and brick foundations discovered in close proximity to the caves at Samanar Malai and Mettuppatti indicate the presence of other permanent structures. Based on archaeological excavations at the Early Historic Jain hill site of Mangulam (published in Sitharam Gurumurthi et al., eds., *Mankulam Excavations 2007*), such foundations may represent the remains of meeting halls or prayer halls.

Additional caves, many located along the base of the hills, were also discovered during archaeological survey. Some of these caves contained rock-cut beds, but without inscriptions, and many had blackened ceilings suggesting that they may have been used for cooking. Surface finds recovered during survey consisted primarily of ceramics and lithics dating to the Early Historic and Medieval periods.



Canyon carved through Perumal Malai from granite quarrying

Overall, the architectural, epigraphic, and archaeological evidence documented during the survey suggest that although the caves may have initially been occupied as monsoon retreats, the Jain monks soon transformed them into permanent monastic residences. Moreover, it is clear that the monks utilized large extents of the hills, expanding their daily activities beyond the caves. Geospatial

analysis of these hills, particularly in reference to their proximity to other Early Historic sites and ancient routes of trade, suggests that these sites may have served as significant landmarks for navigation and that the monks benefited greatly from donations from merchants residing in local market centers and those traveling to and from the capital city of Madurai.

Lastly, it is important to note that the Jain hill sites in Madurai district are in a precarious state of preservation. These sites are under continuous threat of destruction by legal and illegal quarrying operations. Although many have signs indicating that they are protected by the Archaeological Survey of India or the Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology, they are left unguarded and unattended. At every Jain hill site surveyed, granite quarrying has removed large sections of the hills. As noted above, because the Jain monks occupied large portions of each hill, not merely the caves bearing Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions, it is quite possible that such quarrying operations have destroyed other archaeological and epigraphic evidence. In fact, this has already happened at Samanar Malai, where quarrying destabilized the cliff face, causing the top of a boulder to come crashing down, smashing all of the beds on the northwestern side of the hill.

The Madurai Jain Heritage center (<http://madurajainheritage.com/>) was founded in 2009 as part of an effort to protect these sites and raise awareness about their historical significance. However, despite several lawsuits, granite companies continue to quarry in the areas around the sites, often clandestinely.

My research this summer was supervised by Dr. T. Dharmaraj of Madurai Kamaraj University and Dr. Vandana Sinha of the AIIS Center for Art & Archaeology. Permission for the survey was granted by the Archaeological Survey of India. I also received continual guidance from epigraphist Dr. V.

Vedachalam, formerly of the Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology, and logistical assistance and support from Ms. P. Soundrakohila and Mr. A. Janagarajan of the AIIS Tamil Language Program center in Madurai. In addition, my Tamil language training at the Madurai center as part of the AIIS Academic Year Tamil Language Program in 2008-2009, has been an indispensable asset in carrying out all phases of this research project (e.g. reading and translating classical Tamil literature, reading and translating Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions, traveling through Tamil Nadu and speaking with professional colleagues and acquaintances met during field work).

Overall, this summer's archaeological survey and subsequent analysis of surface finds has brought to light important new information regarding the Jain monastic occupation of the granitic hills around Madurai. Geo-spatial analysis of the Jain hill sites, in conjunction with the contents of the Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions, suggests close connections between early Jain monastic communities and merchants. These relationships, as well as the transition of Jain monks from these hilly retreats to the growing court culture of the Pandyas of Madurai will be explored in more detail in my dissertation, which I aim to defend at the University of Chicago in Autumn of 2017.

Julie Hanlon is a graduate student in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Chicago. She was the recipient of the Daniel H. H. Ingalls Memorial Fellowship.



Language and the Power of Place: Encountering Prakrit at Deccan College in Pune by Corbett Costello

The summer of 2017 marks a personal milestone for me as an AIIS language student. Beginning with my first language program in the fall of 2009, this summer represents a culmination of language study which has taken me from the *rasa*-filled registers of modern standard Hindi in Rajasthan to the pre-modern poetics of Prakrit and Apabhraṃśa in Maharashtra. On the occasion of the third and final installment of my program of Prakrit study at Deccan College in Pune this summer, I would here like to reflect on my personal experience encountering language and especially its inextricable connection with place.

I am sure like many other AIIS language program alumni, my interest in Indian languages and literature began not through an encounter with a physical place but

rather with a text. In my particular case, the text – or, to be more precise, text-artifact – was a richly illustrated Pāla-era Buddhist manuscript I used to ponder over while working at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City where I had the unique opportunity to contemplate the museum's vast collection of objects and cultivate various intellectual curiosities. Indeed, this particular object of curiosity would serve as the major catalyst to proceed into a whole new disciplinary direction beyond the space of the gallery and into the halls of academia where on a grant from the museum I proceeded to enter into a Master's degree program at Columbia University with a special focus on Sanskrit studies. I was here further encouraged to supplement my study of Sanskrit with a modern Indian language in order to advance my overall linguistic facilities and so after

attaining a sound grammatical grounding in Hindi at Columbia I was finally in a position to apply for an AIIS language fellowship for the purpose of taking part in the academic year program in Jaipur. It was here among the dedicated instructors at the Hindi Institute where I would soon discover that the pedagogic approach to language learning was conceived as much more than a mere grammatical or lexical exercise but, just as important, as an experiential enterprise as well.

In the subsequent years since my initial immersion into the AIIS Hindi language program I continued to take

advantage of the intellectual and institutional resources of AIIS by engaging with a spectrum of Indian languages available for study. I believe such a curriculum of comprehensive language study – ranging from the ancient (Prakrit) and medieval (Apabhraṃśa) to the modern (Hindi) – has given me a unique perspective on the benefits of participation within the structured environment of the various AIIS programs, a system of scholarly support which has continued to serve as a key component undergirding my university studies as I advance in my particular field.



Corbett Costello and Dr. Vimala Bafna in Pune

Presently I am a PhD candidate at the University of Washington in the Asian Languages and Literature Department focusing my research on the study of Jain textuality with a special emphasis on the overlapping contexts of literary production, commerce, and consumption in the geo-cultural zone of Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh. On the basis of my comparative studies of the languages outlined above I have become particularly interested in tracing links between classical and vernacular domains of textual production and consequently want to highlight how established linguistic and literary practices – especially those emerging in forms of late Apabhraṃśa – impacted the development of some of the earliest attested examples of Hindi.

In the same way that any text is always situated in a unique context, I would say that the most enduring feature of the linguistic landscapes in which I have had residency as an AIIS student is the close linkage between language, language community, and the localized cultural geography within which they are actually embedded. Similarly framing my overall 'verbal' encounter with the language has been its regionalized visual representation.

In particular I remember well the mosaic of streets and signage within the old quarters of Jaipur with their alluring interplay of architecture and orthography. The site of Jaipur has been of further benefit to me with regard to the access it has provided to other local institutions such as the Apabhraṃśa Sāhitya Academy, the Prākṛta Bhāratī Academy, and the Sanjay Sharma Research Institute which serve as valuable repositories of North Indian literary and material culture.

As mentioned, in addition to Jaipur, my AIIS experience has been further extended to include the city of Pune, Maharashtra, where the Prakrit program is held on the grounds of the Deccan College campus. The close connection between provenance and language practice is especially relevant here with regard to Prakrit study for it was here in the context of grammatically mapping Middle Indo-Aryan dialects where Indian scholars first began to conceive of regional or local language (*prākṛta*) as a distinct socio-linguistic category distinguishing it from translocal language (*saṃskṛta*) usage. The strategic location of Pune has been especially beneficial to my studies as this region is quite literally situated within the

bedrock of some of the oldest attested examples of Prakrit with the surrounding landscape of mountains and caves amply inscribed with an abundance of epigraphs in the language. Under the auspices of AIIS I have here at Deccan College had the advantage of receiving individual instruction with experienced professors from Pune University (Dr. Rajashree Mohadikar and Dr. Vimala Bafna) as well as having my coursework complemented through a series of guest lecturers from places such as Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute.

In the final analysis, immersion in the AIIS language program has presented the opportunity for me to encounter territories beyond the text. In addition to the practical applications of language acquisition, my experience has been a proverbial inner and outer immersion in which I have been compelled to rethink language as a locus through which to foster both personal and cultural contacts. In other words, immersion in the program definitely facilitates the interface between people and place. Ultimately, this is something that I will always remain reflective of as I continue my own personal and professional development in this field.



Northwestern University Joins AIIS as Newest Member Institution

AIIS is pleased to welcome its newest member institution, Northwestern University. Northwestern has been undergoing a notable expansion in the field of South Asian Studies in recent years. In 2013, Northwestern established a Department of Asian Languages and Cultures that intends to soon offer a graduate program. The Department features a full four-year curriculum in Hindi-Urdu and well as extensive interdisciplinary courses. In addition, the departments of Religious Studies, History, and Art History have full-time, tenured or tenure-track faculty whose research and curricular offerings focus on India. The New Global Humanities Initiative (founded in 2015) has enhanced Northwestern's research, teaching, and programing about India. The Department of Radio, Television, and Film had been running a two-year, two-part project on the *Sounds of South Asia*. During 2015-2016, it organized a lecture series with invited scholars including ethnomusicologist and former AIIS fellow Amanda Weidman from Bryn Mawr College; this year it hosted a workshop on the Sounds of South Asia to prepare an edited volume. Northwestern University Press has a new Global Humanities Translation Prize that has awarded a prize and publishing contract for the translation of a Hindi novel into English under the title *The Tale of the Missing Man* (translated by University of Chicago faculty members Jason Grunebaum and Ulrike Stark).

Current Northwestern faculty include several scholars who participated in AIIS language programs and received AIIS fellowships. Department of Asian Languages and Cultures Chair Laura Brueck participated in the AIIS summer Hindi program while a graduate student at the University of Texas. She then carried out a senior short-term fellowship in 2012-2013 for the project "Jasusi Upanyas: The Hindi Detective Novel in Late 20th Century India." Daniel Majchrowicz, an assistant professor in Asian Languages and Cultures, participated in both the summer and academic year Urdu program and was awarded an academic year language fellowship, funded by the U.S. Department of Education. David Boyk, who currently teaches courses on Hindi-Urdu language, literature, and film at Northwestern, is an alumnus of the Critical Languages Scholarship (CLS) Urdu program, operated by AIIS in Lucknow. Most recently, Robert Linrothe, associate professor in the Department of Art History, carried out a senior fellowship in 2016-2017 for the project "Donor Portraits on 9th-13th Century Sculpture in Eastern India." Professor Linrothe's fellowship was funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.



AIIS/Ashoka University Research and Teaching Fellowships

AIIS recently announced a new research and teaching fellowship opportunity for senior scholars in collaboration with Ashoka University, Sonapat, Haryana. In addition to support for full time research, this fellowship gives senior scholars an opportunity to teach for three-and-a half months (if offering an undergraduate class), or for six weeks (if offering a mini-course for Ashoka's Young India Fellows post-graduate program). Ashoka University is seeking senior scholars to augment its permanent faculty in a range of fields. The teaching commitment entails traveling to the University two days a week for class meetings and office hours, with the option of residing on or near the campus. It will be augmented by a period of funded research, which may be taken before or after the University course. This opportunity is being offered for the first time for the AIIS 2017 fellowship competition.

AIIS Co-Sponsors Mountstuart Elphinstone Conference in Mumbai

Jnanapravaha Mumbai was the site of the conference “Mountstuart Elphinstone: Between Local and Global Forces” on April 20-21, 2017. The conference, which was organized by Professor Shah Mahmoud Hanifi of James Madison University, brought together 28 scholars from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka and the United States.




Participants at the Mountstuart Elphinstone Conference April 2017

The purpose of the conference was to examine the enduring intellectual and political impact of Mountstuart Elphinstone (1779-1859) through consideration of the knowledge formations he represented and those he engaged in South Asia. Elphinstone is most widely recognized for his highly transformative tenure as Governor of Bombay (1817-29) and his influential *History of India* (1841). While he is well-known as a foundational figure in the early intellectual and political history of British India, Elphinstone is less widely recognized as a pioneer in the field of Afghanistan Studies. His prominence in the latter field results from his service as the first British emissary to the Kabul Kingdom (1808-10) and his subsequent authorship of *An Account of the Kingdom of Caubul* (1815) that represents the first modern scholarly consideration of the geographic space that became the political space of Afghanistan. During the course of two days, participants compared shared histories and divergent historical experiences arising from a) the production and institutionalization of colonial knowledge formations during the imperial era; b) the simultaneous destabilization and reinvigoration of colonial knowledge formations in the context of nationalism and national education programs; and c) the emergence of trans-national intellectual communities and scholarly networks in the contemporary period of neo-liberal globalization.

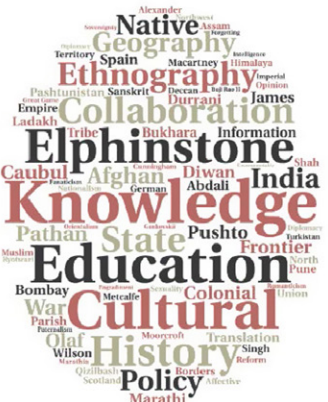
The full program can be found at the web site: <http://sites.jmu.edu/elphinstone/sessions/> Program sessions included: Knowledge and Geography of a Greater Bombay? Elphinstone's Legacy; A Knowing Power—Bourgeois Ideology and Colonial Surveillance; Empire at the Frontier (Parts I and II); The Politics of Imperial Knowledge Teaching/Denying Empire/History; Appropriating the West, Discarding Empire; and The Persistence of History at the Frontier. Among the presentations were “Parallel Prestige Languages: English and Marathi in Higher Education

in Urban Maharashtra” by Jessica Chandras, a graduate student at George Washington University and participant in the AIIS summer and academic year Marathi programs in Pune; “Afghanistan as Intellectual Capital in Anglo-American Imperial Knowledge Formations: Comparing Mountstuart Elphinstone’s *Account of the Kingdom of Caubul* and Louis Dupree’s *Afghanistan*” by Shah Mahmoud Hanifi, who will begin his term as AIIS trustee in July 2017; “Measuring Up: Land Revenue, Native Surveyors, and the State in Early Colonial Bombay” by Prachi Deshpande, who held an AIIS fellowship, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities in 2008-2009; and “The Enlightened Scholar-Soldier-Administrator? Mountstuart Elphinstone’s Debate with James Mill on the Foundations of Company Empire” by Spencer Leonard, who participated in the AIIS academic year Marathi program and also held an AIIS junior fellowship in 2008. The keynote address was given by Shekhar Krishnan whose presentation was entitled “From Pathan Menace to Frontier Gandhi: Afghans in Early 20th Century Bombay City” Professor Krishnan, now at the National University of Singapore, held an AIIS fellowship from 2010-2011.




International Conference II
Mountstuart Elphinstone
 between Local and Global Forces

Colonial Knowledge, National Histories and Regional Realities in South Asia



Taking as its rubric Mountstuart Elphinstone (1779-1859) around which to constellate the themes of colonialism, knowledge production and ideology, multiform social and political geographies, and colonial liberalism and its crisis, this conference will convene at Mumbai academics and public intellectuals from all over the world, but especially from across South Asia-India, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. There we will explore the enduring intellectual and political impact of Elphinstone considered in the broadest sense, as a presiding figure over the historical nexus that was the 19th century Bombay Presidency and as a central figure in the history of the British administrative knowledge production of India and Afghanistan.

20th and 21st April, 2017
 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM
 Jnanapravaha Mumbai
 3rd Floor, Queens Mansion,
 G. Talwatkar Marg, Fort
 Mumbai – 400 001
 (022) 22072974 / 75
 info@jp-india.org
 For more information visit: www.jp-india.org
 Registration Fee: INR 500/-



The conference was capped by a walking tour on April 22 that was led by Alisha Sadiakot who worked with the Principal of Elphinstone College, Dr. Madhuri Kagalkar, the Director of the Maharashtra State Archives, Dr. Dilip P. Balsekar, and the Honorable Secretary at the Asiatic Society of Mumbai, Dr. Vispi Balaporia, to provide the conference delegation with opportunities to interact with faculty and staff members in public spaces, classrooms, and behind-the-scenes in closed stacks, workrooms and conservation/preservation/digitization areas of these prestigious and influential institutions.

The conference produced transnational and global scholarly synergies and networking opportunities already or soon yielding intellectual dividends including an edited book and multiple future collaborations among individual and institutional sponsors, contributors and participants. Planning is already underway for similar forthcoming conferences in the coming years in both Peshawar, Pakistan, and Kabul, Afghanistan.

Professor Hanifi, who described the conference as “magical and meaningful” noted, “The conference simply could not have occurred were it not for the awe-inspiring support of the AIIS Office in New Delhi where the administrative talents of Purnima Mehta,

Rajender Kumar and others were constantly on display as they successfully navigated a number of anticipated requirements and unexpected hurdles involved in organizing an international conference of such scope in Mumbai. The most hospitable conference venue was Jnanapravaha Mumbai, an institution well-known to many in the AIIS orbit, where the Director Dr. Rashmi Poddar and her impressive staff including Rohit Goel, Shloka Nath, Andre Baptista and Sharon Rodrigues spared no energy to make participants and attendees alike feel at home and while providing first-class professional accommodations for two full days of activity.”

Event partners and co-sponsors included Elphinstone College, Jnanapravaha Mumbai, AIIS, the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Center for Global Engagement at James Madison University, the Council of American Overseas Research Centers, the American Institute of Afghanistan Studies, American Institute of Pakistan Studies, American Institute of Bangladesh Studies and the American Institute of Sri Lankan Studies.

2017 AIIS Junior Fellows Conference Honors Rudolphs

by Philip Lutgendorf

The annual AIIS Junior Fellows Conference, held January 12-13, 2017, brought together thirteen young AIIS scholars currently pursuing their dissertation research in India, for stimulating exchange with each other and with senior scholars. As always, there were lively presentations and discussions on humanities and social science Ph.D. projects—on topics ranging from the seventh century Sanskrit prose narratives of Dandin to an ethno-geographic study of the burgeoning private security guard industry in contemporary Delhi—that revealed the vitality of emerging scholarship. This year's Conference had the additional special goal of honoring the lives and scholarly contributions of Lloyd I. Rudolph and Susanne Hoeber Rudolph, longtime University of Chicago faculty in Political Science, eminent scholars of India and mentors of numerous researchers, and the recipients of several AIIS fellowships.

With this in mind, and with the generous collaboration of the University of Chicago

Center in Delhi, the first day of the Conference was held at that splendid facility, just off Connaught Place on Baba Kharak Singh Marg. It began with morning and early afternoon sessions in which Junior Fellows gave brief presentations on the progress of their research projects, receiving feedback from senior mentors who included Professors Robert Goldman and Sally Sutherland Goldman (University of California, Berkeley), William Pinch (Wesleyan University), Sumathi Ramaswamy (Duke University), and Rick and Cathy Asher (University of Minnesota). These closed sessions—which continued on Friday in the conference room at AIIS's Gurgaon campus—were followed on Thursday afternoon at the Chicago Center by two special events that were open to the public and were well attended: a keynote address by Dr. Pratap Bhanu Mehta, President of the Centre for Policy Research in Delhi, and a dazzling performance of Hindustani music and Kathak dance by current AIIS Senior Creative and Performing Arts Fellow Vineet Vyas and his wife, Bageshree Vaze.



Vineet Vyas and Bagashree Vaze perform at the University of Chicago Center

Dr. Mehta's hour-long talk on "The Crisis of Liberal Democracies: Some 'Rudolphian' Reflections" combined a brilliant overview and appreciation of the Rudolphs' corpus of work—focusing on what Mehta termed their "realist romanticism" and emphasis on "intermediate associational life" as a bulwark against state

absolutism—with a trenchant analysis of recent, disturbing trends in the politics of several major nations (including India and the US). After an ensuing Q & A, lively discussion continued over tea.

Vineet Vyas, who held an AIIS performing and creative arts fellowship in 2016-2017 for a project on the history and repertoire of the Banaras Gharana of tabla to which he belongs, is a former student of Kishan Maharaj and now a Toronto-based artist who regularly performs with some of the most renowned names in Hindustani classical music. Bageshree Vaze, a student of Kathak legend Jai Kishan Maharaj, is both a dancer and an accomplished Hindustani

vocalist who has released three successful CDs. Accompanied by local Delhi artists Sami Ullah Khan (vocals and harmonium) and Mohamed Nasir Khan (sarangi), Vineet and Bageshree offered a high-voltage dialogue of music and dance that memorably demonstrated the ideal “marriage” of Kathak’s choreography and footwork to the resounding *taals* of the tabla.



The American Institute of Indian Studies is Pleased to Announce that the Following Scholars have been Awarded Fellowships to Carry Out their Projects in India in 2017-2018:

Adam Auerbach, an assistant professor in the School of International Service at American University, was awarded a senior short-term fellowship to carry out his project, “Dream of a Complete Town: Small Town Governance and Development in India.” Professor Auerbach’s fellowship is funded by a grant from the U.S. State Department Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) through the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC).

Shalini Ayyagari, an assistant professor in the Department of Music at the University of Pittsburgh, was awarded a senior fellowship to carry out her project, “Small Voices Sing Big Songs: A Transmedia Documentary Film Project.” Professor Ayyagari’s fellowship is funded by a grant from the ECA through CAORC.

Erin Benay, an assistant professor in the Department of Art History at Case Western Reserve University, was awarded a senior short-term fellowship to carry out her project, “Italy by Way of India: Routes of Devotional Knowledge in the Early Modern Period.” Professor Benay’s fellowship is funded by a grant from the ECA through CAORC.

Kristin Bloomer, an associate professor in the Department of Religion at Carleton College, was awarded a senior fellowship to carry out her project, “Family Gods and Changing Places in Tamil Nadu.” Professor Bloomer’s fellowship is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and by a grant from the ECA through CAORC.

Brian Cannon, a graduate student in the Department of South Asia Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, was awarded a junior fellowship to carry out his project, “Keepers of Status, Then and Now: Alternative Histories of Caste in North India, c. 1660-1980.” Mr. Cannon is the recipient of the Metcalf Fellowship in Indian History. Mr. Cannon’s fellowship is funded by a grant from the ECA through CAORC.

Anindita Chatterjee, a graduate student in the Department of Geography, Environment and Society at the University of Minnesota, was awarded a junior fellowship to carry out her project, “Bitter Pill: Patent Regimes, Imitation and Innovation in the Indian Pharmaceutical Industry.” Ms Chatterjee is the recipient of the Vina Sanyal Research Award.

Manisha Desai, a professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Connecticut, was awarded a senior fellowship to carry out her project, “From Mathura to Nirbhaya and Beyond: Theory and Praxis in Feminist Organizations Working to End Violence Against Women in Neoliberal India.” Professor Desai’s fellowship is funded by a grant from the ECA through CAORC.

Samuel Frantz, a graduate student in the Department of Political Science at George Washington University, was awarded a junior fellowship to carry out his project, “The Political Economy of Non-State Services in North India.” Mr. Frantz’s fellowship is funded by a grant from the ECA through CAORC.

Michele Friedner, an assistant professor in the Department of Comparative Human Development at the University of Chicago, was awarded a senior short-term fellowship to carry out her project, "Disability, Diversity and Affirmative Action in Urban India." Professor Friedner's fellowship is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Tejaswini Ganti, an associate professor in the Department of Anthropology at New York University, was awarded a senior short-term fellowship to carry out her project, "Thinking in English, Speaking in Hindi: The Politics of Language in the Bombay Film Industry." Professor Ganti's fellowship is funded by a grant from the ECA through CAORC.

Kenneth George, a professor in the Department of Anthropology at Australian National University, was awarded a senior fellowship to carry out his project, "Work is Worship: Religion, Craft and Infrastructure in Contemporary India." Professor George's fellowship is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Kashi Gomez, a graduate student in the Department of South and Southeast Asian Studies at the University of California, Berkeley, was awarded a junior fellowship to carry out her project, "The Lady Dindima: Gender, Family Networks and the Transmission of Sanskrit." Ms Gomez is the recipient of the Ludo and Rosane Rocher Research Fellowship in Sanskrit Studies. Ms Gomez's fellowship is funded by a grant from the ECA through CAORC.

Mallory Hennigar, a graduate student in the Department of Religion at Syracuse University, was awarded a junior fellowship to carry out her project, "India's Buddhist Renaissance: Ambedkarite Dalits and the Triratna Buddhist Community." Ms Hennigar is the recipient of the Rajendra Vora Fellowship for the Study of Society and Culture in Maharashtra. Ms Hennigar's fellowship is funded by a grant from the ECA through CAORC.

Samantha Iyer, an assistant professor in the Department of History at Fordham University, was awarded a senior short-term fellowship to carry out her project, "The Poverty of Plenty: The Politics of Food in India, Egypt and the U.S., 1870s to 1970s." Professor Iyer's fellowship is

funded by a grant from the ECA through CAORC.

Puninder Singh Jaitla, a graduate student in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Michigan, was awarded a junior fellowship to carry out his project, "Living the Word: Language and Experience in Sikh Devotional Practice." Mr. Jaitla's fellowship is funded by a grant from the ECA through CAORC.

Hillary Langberg, a graduate student in the Department of Asian Studies at the University of Texas, was awarded a junior fellowship to carry out her project, "Invoking the Goddess: The Place of Female Deities in Mahayana Indian Buddhism." Ms Langberg is the recipient of the Daniel H.H. Ingalls Memorial Fellowship. Ms Langberg's fellowship is funded by a grant from the ECA through CAORC.

Amanda Lanzillo, a graduate student in the Department of History at Indiana University, was awarded a junior fellowship to carry out her project, "Technologies of Production, Networks of Consumption: Awadhi Muslim Artists, 1857-1947." Ms Lanzillo is the recipient of the Kumkum Chatterjee Memorial Fellowship in Indian History. Ms Lanzillo's fellowship is funded by a grant from the ECA through CAORC.

Alexander Lee, an assistant professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Rochester, was awarded a senior fellowship to carry out his project, "Policing in India: The Politics of Justice in a Poor Democracy." Professor Lee's fellowship is funded by a grant from the ECA through CAORC.

Pamela Lothspeich, an associate professor in the Department of Asian Studies at the University of North Carolina, was awarded a senior fellowship to carry out her project "Regional Ramlilas in Bareilly and Almora." Professor Lothspeich's fellowship is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Akanksha Misra, a graduate student in the Department of Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies at the University of Washington, was awarded a junior fellowship to carry out her project, "Articulating Desire: Gender and Sexuality in Schools in India and Turkey."

Deepthi Murali, a graduate student in the Department of Art History at the University of Illinois, was awarded a junior fellowship to carry out her project, "The Politics and Transculturality of Decorative Arts in Kerala, 1750-1875." Ms Murali is the recipient of the Asher Family Fellowship.

Navine Murshid, an associate professor in the Department of Political Science at Colgate University, was awarded a senior short-term fellowship to carry out her project, "Bengali Muslims: Foreigners Within India?"

Kirin Narayan, a professor in the Department of Anthropology at Australian National University, was awarded a senior fellowship to carry out her project, "Rethinking Creativity with Vishwakarma's Family." Professor Narayan's fellowship is funded by a grant from the ECA through CAORC.

Rupal Oza, an associate professor in the Dept of Women and Gender Studies at Hunter College, was awarded a senior short-term fellowship to carry out her project, "Gender and Power in Rural Haryana." Professor Oza's fellowship is funded by a grant from the ECA through CAORC.

Iva Patel, a graduate student in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Iowa, was awarded a junior fellowship to carry out her project, "Taming of the Mind: Practice and Pedagogy in the Bhakti Lyrics of the Swaminarayan Sect." Ms Patel's fellowship is funded by a grant from the ECA through CAORC.

Sarah Saddler, a graduate student in the Department of Theatre Arts and Dance at the University of Minnesota, was awarded a junior fellowship to carry out her project, "India's Corporate Theatre Culture Industry: Performance and Neoliberal Labor." Ms Saddler's fellowship is funded by a grant from the ECA through CAORC.

Vijayeta Singh, a graduate student in the School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs at Northeastern University, was awarded a junior fellowship to carry out her project, "Protests Over Power: The Impact of Land Acquisition Struggles on Energy Megaproject Viability in Jharkhand." Ms Singh is the recipient of the Thomas W. Simons Fellowship.

Shreyas Sreenath, a graduate student in the Department of Anthropology at Emory University, was awarded a junior fellowship to carry out his project, "Untouchability in India's IT City: Urban Waste and the Materiality of Power in Bangalore." Mr. Sreenath is the recipient of the Joe Elder College Year in India Junior Fellowship. Mr. Sreenath's fellowship is funded by a grant from the ECA through CAORC.

Margherita Trento, a graduate student in the Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago, was awarded a junior fellowship to carry out her project, "Writing Christianity in Early Modern South India, 1606-1759." Ms Trento is the recipient of the Rachel F. and Scott McDermott Fellowship.

Vaishnavi Tripuraneni, a graduate student in the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin, was awarded a junior fellowship to carry out her project, "A Political Ecology of Agrarian Debt Crop Choices and Smallholder Livelihoods in South India." Ms Tripuraneni is the recipient of the Joseph W. Elder Fellowship in the Social Sciences.

Archana Venkatesh, a graduate student in the Department of History at Ohio State University, was awarded a junior fellowship to carry out her project, "The Lady Doctor and the Nation: Women, Medicine and Reproductive Politics in Twentieth Century Tamil Nadu." Ms Venkatesh is the recipient of the Thomas R. Trautmann Fellowship.

Naomi Worth, a graduate student in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Virginia, was awarded a junior fellowship to carry out her project, "The Body Within a Body: Consciousness and the Mind-Body Relationship in Indian and Tibetan Buddhism." Ms Worth's fellowship is funded by a grant from the ECA through CAORC.

Scholars at the Intersection of South Asian and Africa Studies Colloquium Held at Howard University
by Jazmin Graves

The Scholars at the Intersection of South Asian and African Studies (SISAAS) Colloquium convened on Saturday, April 8th, 2017 at Howard University in Washington, D.C. The date and location of the first SISAAS Colloquium were altogether a propos. Fortuitously, the Colloquium ran concurrently with the death anniversary celebrations of the African ancestor-saints of the Sidis, Indians of African ancestry, in Gujarat and Maharashtra. As an African diasporic community in India festively commemorated its founding fathers and mothers, SISAAS participants had the remarkable opportunity to honor the renowned Dr. Joseph E. Harris, Professor Emeritus of History at Howard University, whose visionary 1979 conference at Howard, “Global Dimensions of the African Diaspora” and pioneering work on the African Diaspora in Asia, blazed a trail that has led the way for scholars for nearly four decades.

The SISAAS colloquium was co-sponsored by AIIS. Other co-sponsors were the American Institute of Pakistan Studies, American Institute of Sri Lanka Studies, University of Wisconsin Center for South Asia, University of Chicago Committee on Southern Asian Studies, Mid-Atlantic Consortium—Center for Academic Excellence, Syracuse University South Asia Center, University of Washington South Asia Center, Columbia University South Asia Institute, University of Texas South Asia Institute, Cornell University South Asia Program, and the South Asia Summer Language Institute. Critical logistical support was provided by Professor Arlene Maclin of Howard University.



Dr. Joseph E. Harris and Dr. Jeanne Toungara, photo credit Kali TV

Building upon the foundation laid by Dr. Harris, panelists offered their insights at considerable depth individually, and great breadth collectively, engaging one another and SISAAS attendees in lively, thought-provoking discussions that continued between intermissions and sowed seeds for future flowering. At the start of the Colloquium, keynote speaker Dr. Sheila S. Walker, executive director of Afrodiaspora, Inc., encouraged the next generation of scholars to pay close attention to the connections linking the African diaspora in both the Indian Ocean and Atlantic worlds. From the veneration of Ethiopian saints, to the playing of *ngoma* drums, to the question of the etymology of the word “*gungarale*” (“kinky” or “curly”) in the phrase *gungarale bal* (“kinky hair”) in Hindi, Dr. Walker boldly highlighted the parallels between African diasporic peoples in India and Brazil.

Following this demonstration of the interconnectedness of the vast expanse of the global African diaspora, speakers on the Language Training & Research Opportunities Panel directed students and educators to nationally-based and

overseas courses in foreign language instruction, as well as scholarships and fellowships that would facilitate future research in the fields of South Asian and African studies, and their intersections. These presentations piqued the interest of audience members of diverse academic and professional backgrounds, from college students to retired educators seeking to introduce such opportunities to students at the high school level.

Presenters on the Roots and Routes: Labor and Migration in the Indian and Atlantic Ocean Worlds Panel brought the discussion of the global African diaspora into greater focus by collectively providing an overview of the history of the African dispersal to Arabia, South Asia, and the Caribbean. Panelists framed select stills from this panoramic view for detailed consideration while participants eagerly contemplated these portraits, raising insightful questions to penetrate more deeply into the dense terrain that the panelists expertly traversed.



Dr. Jeanne Tougara, Dr. Alaine Hutson, Dr. Omar Ali, Dr. John McLeod, Dr. R. Benedito Ferrão, photo credit Kali TV

Themes raised during the keynote address became pronounced once more during the second half of the Colloquium. Key elements of Sidi cultural identity as an African diasporic community were foregrounded during the screening of an excerpt of Dr. Amy Catlin-Jairazbhoy's fascinating documentary, *From Africa... to India: Sidi Music in the Indian Ocean Diaspora*; its scenes formed a vivid visual dialogue with the video clips of African-Indian and Afro-Brazilian musical performance presented during the keynote address. In the Cultures in Circulation: Music, Religion and Film in Diasporic Contexts Panel discussion that followed, an audience member of Afro-Puerto Rican heritage exchanged personal reflections on identity with panelist Hamid Sidi, a member of the Sidi (African-Indian) community of Ratanpur, Gujarat, honing in on commonalities of experience among peoples of African descent in both the Indian Ocean and Atlantic Ocean worlds. Punctuating this discussion, Dr. Pashington Obeng affirmed the necessity of shedding more light on the histories and presence of peoples of African descent in Asia, while one scholar-participant emphasized the parallel necessity for researchers to devote their labor towards benefiting such communities.

In this dynamic environment of intellectual cross-fertilization, panelists and participants surveyed the contours of the intersections of African and South Asian histories, cultures, religions and political economies. From the popularity of blackface minstrel shows in 19th century India to the echoes of *ragas* in the music of John Coltrane, to Bollywood in Africa; from theorization on the workings of plantation systems in terms of "Caribbeanity" to explorations of worship of the Hindu goddess Kali in the Caribbean; from literary representations of African-ness as Goan-ness to the examination of the concepts of race, color and identity in South Asia; from the deprecation of African heritage in Arabia to the social and political ascension of elite Africans in India, each presentation raised intellectually provocative points that will inspire academic inquiry and investigation for years to come.

Discussions are already underway to plan a follow-up conference to be hosted by Georgetown University in April 2018.

Jazmin Graves is a graduate student in the Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. She conceived SISAAS and was the primary organizer of the symposium. She participated in the AIIS summer 2016 Urdu program and returns to India for summer 2017, this time to participate in the AIIS Gujarati program in Ahmedabad. Her doctoral dissertation project will focus on the Indo-Muslim devotional tradition surrounding the Sidi ancestor-saints.

AIIS 2017 Book Prizes Awarded to Radhika Govindrajan and to Diane Coffey and Dean Spears

The Edward Cameron Dimock, Jr. Prize in the Indian Humanities was awarded to Radhika Govindrajan for *Animal Intimacies: Interspecies Relations in India's Central Himalayas*

Animal Intimacies, which will be published by the University of Chicago Press, asks what it means to live a life that is knotted with other lives for better or worse. Through an ethnographic exploration of multispecies relationships in India's Central Himalayan state of Uttarakhand, the book traces how these knots of connection produce a sense of relatedness between human and nonhuman animals. The book argues that to understand these entanglements of human and nonhuman lives as constituting forms of relatedness is to acknowledge that one is not made alone, but through the enactment of relations – both desirable and undesirable – with a host of other beings whose paths crisscross one's own in ways that defy the integrity of bodies, subjects and communities. One of the main arguments of the book is that the experience of relatedness is not restricted to humans alone, but is shared by nonhuman animals. Animals are not just a symbolic foil for human representation, but subjects whose agency, intention, and capacity for emotion are crucial in shaping the relationships they share with humans. Throughout the book Professor Govindrajan charts how relatedness – the relational unfolding of life – is expressed and experienced in varied ways by different animals along the continuum in the course of their fleshly entanglements with one another. Instead of focusing on human entanglements with a single species, this book follows the lives of a variety of animals across different species, allowing it to complicate and disaggregate the all-too-capacious category of animal in ways that permit a recognition of the diversity of experiences and subjectivities among different animals.

Animal Intimacies follows multispecies relatedness as it emerges across a number of different terrains: through the ritual sacrifice of goats, an act of violence that is increasingly critiqued by animal-rights activists and has become the subject of legislation; right-wing political and religious projects of cow-protection that are frustrated by the fact that the bodies of cattle are too wayward and distinct to be contained within a stable and homogenous symbol; a contemporary politics of exclusion and belonging that has been sparked by the sudden and unwelcome appearance of monkeys translocated from cities to mountain villages where they feed circulating anxieties about the loss of cultural identity; wild boar whose protection by the state under conservation laws is contested by villagers on the grounds that the history of these animals' wildness is fluid and contingent; and, bears who are believed to abduct and have sex with women, a tale of queer crossing that blurs the boundaries between species. Each of these chapters will trace a different form of relatedness, paying particular attention to how it is shaped by different animal lives within and across species that are engaged by people, and what kind of material and affective labor that engagement entails. In the Epilogue, the book turns to what the violent connection between leopards and the dogs they eat can illuminate about the nature of relatedness and its possibilities. Through its exploration of these grounded multispecies relationships, *Animal Intimacies* brings a novel perspective to longstanding themes of scholarly interest in South Asia, including environmental and agrarian change, religious politics, popular Hinduism, gender hierarchy and female sexuality, and the relationship between the postcolonial state and its margins.



Radhika Govindrajan is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Washington. She received a Ph.D. in Anthropology from Yale University, an M.A. in Modern History from the Jawaharlal Nehru University, and a B.A. in History from Delhi University. She teaches courses on environmental anthropology, multispecies ethnography, comparative religion, and South Asia. Her articles have appeared in *American Ethnologist*, *Comparative Study of South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East*, and *RCC Perspectives*. She was awarded the 2016 General Anthropology Division's Exemplary Cross-Field Scholarship Award and the 2016 Anthropology and Environment Section's Junior Scholar Award. She is currently working on two new projects: the first examines the nature of democratic village

politics in Uttarakhand, and the second examines contemporary projects of regionalism in the Himalayas, with a focus on Nepali migrants to the region. Professor Govindrajan was awarded an AIIS Junior Fellowship to conduct her dissertation research in 2010-2011.

The Joseph W. Elder Prize in the Indian Social Sciences was awarded to Diane Coffey and Dean Spears, joint authors of *Where India Goes: Abandoned Toilets, Stunted Development, and the Costs of Caste*

Where India Goes addresses the questions: Why are children in India shorter, on average, than poorer children in sub-Saharan Africa? Why are Muslims in India more likely to survive childhood than Hindus? Above all, why is open defecation so persistently, stubbornly high in rural India — and what can be done to accelerate the switch to the sort of health-promoting latrines which are widely used in the rest of the developing world? In their book, Coffey and Spears develop evidence that poor sanitation is an important determinant of the poor health outcomes of India's children, and that the continuing relevance of the purity, pollution, and untouchability norms of the caste system keeps open defecation alive today despite decades of government latrine construction programs. The book takes the reader on a tour through Indian villages, survey statistics, and government offices — ultimately, inviting the reader to join in thinking about the crucial open policy question: in a context where poor health is so enduringly tied to social inequality, what can state programs and policies do to help?

The members of the AIIS Publication Committee noted the book's dramatic ethnographic case studies and well-documented statistical arguments as being of great potential value to both policy makers and general readers unaware of the magnitude and public health implications of the lack of toilets and the practice of open defecation in much of South Asia. The Committee also remarked on the particular relevance of the issue to the career and social service of sociologist Joe Elder, Emeritus Professor at the University of Wisconsin, in whose name the prize was established.

Where India Goes will be published by Harper Collins India.



Diane Coffey is an Assistant Professor of Sociology and Population Research at UT Austin and a visiting researcher at the Indian Statistical Institute in Delhi. She earned her Ph.D. in Public Affairs and Demography from Princeton University. She studies social influences on health in India. One area of her research focuses on consequences of discrimination against young women for nutrition during pregnancy, child survival, and child growth. She also studies the causes and consequences of widespread open defecation in rural India.

Dean Spears is an Assistant Professor of Economics at UT Austin, where he is an affiliate of the Population Research Center, and is a visiting economist at the Indian Statistical Institute in Delhi. He earned his Ph.D. in Economics from Princeton University. He is a development economist and economic demographer who studies early-life health and human capital formation, environmental economics, and population.

Diane Coffey and Dean Spears co-founded and co-direct a research non-profit called r.i.c.e., (research institute for compassionate economics), which works towards evidence-based policy for child health and human development in India.

THE AIIS BOOK PRIZE



In order to promote scholarship in South Asian Studies, the American Institute of Indian Studies (AIIS) announces the award of two prizes each year for the best unpublished book manuscript on an Indian subject.

- THE EDWARD CAMERON DIMOCK, JR. PRIZE IN THE INDIAN HUMANITIES
- THE JOSEPH W. ELDER PRIZE IN THE INDIAN SOCIAL SCIENCES

PRIZE

- + \$2500 Subvention for the press publishing the manuscript.

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- + Junior scholars who have received the PhD within the last eight years (2009 and after) are eligible.
- + Must be the first book by the author.
- + Unrevised dissertations are not accepted.
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- + Applicants need not have held any AIIS fellowship nor studied in an AIIS language program
- + Manuscripts published before the annual submission deadline are not eligible.
- + Manuscripts under review or under contract with a press are eligible.

HOW TO APPLY

Send ONE pdf and ONE paper copy of your manuscript, postmarked NO LATER THAN **September 30, 2017**, to:

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Queries and pdfs may be sent to aay@uw.edu

Please note: in view of the expectation that the prize will be announced in the resulting publication (in the form of an inserted prize page before the title page), manuscripts that go into print before the prize notification will become ineligible. It is the responsibility of authors with manuscripts under contract to inform their press about these guidelines.



Workshop: Transforming your Dissertation into a Book Sponsored by AIIS and other SA regional groups

Sponsored by the several organizations devoted to the study of South Asia, this workshop aims to help a select number of recent PhDs re-vision their doctoral dissertations as books. Applications to participate are due by July 15, 2017. Participants must arrange their own transport and lodging to Madison, Wisconsin for the Annual Conference on South Asia in October.

Participants submit their book prospectus and a chapter for the mentors and other participants to read before the conference. Participants discuss each other's projects, and to try to find sites where the project could be pushed to engagement with broader issues and a wide readership. Faculty mentors also contribute their own suggestions.

For selection: Required is an email containing a current CV; the dissertation abstract, its table of contents, and its first chapter plus a *draft book prospectus*. Please submit your documents as a SINGLE PDF FILE to Professor Wadley by midnight, July 15, 2017 (wadleysusansnow@gmail.com).



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