

ECRC 2025

Day 1: 23rd June 2025

South Asia Research at the Crossroads: Current World Order, New Horizons and Theorisations

JCB Hall
1st Floor

11:00 - 11:10 AM

CONVENORS' NOTE

By Mursed Alam, Gour College

11:10 - 11:15 AM

OPENING REMARKS

By Swati Guha, Director, ILSR

11:15 - 11:30 AM

GLIMPSES OF ONGOING
RESEARCH PROJECTS AT ILSR
By Sekh Shamim, ILSR

11:30 - 11:50 AM

PLENARY TALK

By Alison Barrett, Country Director,
British Council India

11:50 - 1:25 PM

INVITED SPEAKERS PANEL 1

Moderator: Himadri Lahiri, NSOU

Hia Sen,

Presidency University

Sipra Mukherjee,

West Bengal State University

Projit Bihari Mukharji,

Ashoka University (online)

Asha Singh,

CSSSC, Kolkata



All timings are in IST



1:25 - 2:40 PM

LUNCH BREAK

(Canteen, Ground Floor)

2:40 - 3:20 PM
JCB Hall

KEYNOTE LECTURE

Moderator: Kainaath Ghazal, ILSR

*Looking Sideways
new pathways and significant
geographies for South Asian research*

Francesca Orsini,
SOAS, University of London (online)

3:20 - 3:35 PM

TEA BREAK

3:35 - 4:45 PM

PARALLEL PAPER PRESENTATION SESSION 1

South Asia and the Current World Order

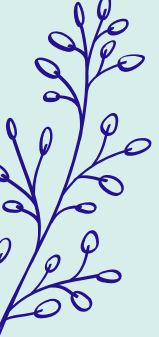
Room A

Moderator:
Manas Dutta, Aliah University

“A Study in Contrasts? History of Hindi Imposition, Gandhi’s ‘culture of sameness’ and Nehru’s intervention”

Rohit Dutta Roy, Assistant Professor & Head,
Dept of History, Sister Nivedita University





“The Hindu Believer’s Identity in Contemporary India: Between Religious Nationalism and Socio-Political Contestation”

Monikinkini Basu, Assistant Professor and Head, Department of English, Sister Nivedita University

"Negotiating Silence and Reclaiming Space: A Critical Examination of Muslim Women in Banu Mushtaq’s Select Stories" (*online*)

Mahamadul Hassan Dhabak, Assistant Professor, B V Raju Institute of Technology

“Fighting for a Future: Soldiering, Labour and Affect in the Wake of India’s Agneepath Scheme”

Moitreya, Independent Researcher

Room B

Moderator:

Seema Ahmed, Lokepara Mahavidyalaya

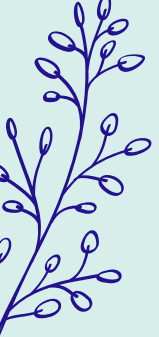
“Insurgent Vernaculars and Counterpublic Textualities: Reading Bratya Basu’s Adamritakatha, Dyutakrirak, and Udbasito Mandas as South Asian Public Humanities Praxis”

Dwipayan Dutta Roy, State Aided College Teacher, Serampore Girls' College

A Critical Analysis of Foreign Policy Choices of Small States in South Asia through the Vulnerability Lens: A Case Study of Maldives and the Sri Lanka 2008-2025

Sayantana Bandyopadhyay, Junior Research Fellow, Jawaharlal Nehru University





“Reimagining Urban Spatiality: The Production of Social Space in Rohinton Mistry’s A Fine Balance”

Abhik Pal, Senior Research Fellow, University of Kalyani

Placing Women in the Biopolitics of Kitchen: Reimagining Oppression and Resistance in Selected Indian Films”

Urvi Sharma, Assistant Professor, Amity University Punjab

Room C

Moderator:

Surabhi Jha, Aliah University

“Samatvam as a Foundational Virtue in Political and Social Ethics” (*online*)

Anushka Tyagi, PhD Candidate, IIT Kanpur

“Commodification of Women in War tradition; A Gendered, Socio-literary Study on Sri Lankan Civil War”

Sakiya Fabin KK, Research Scholar, University of Calicut

Striking Back the Empire: Savagery, Subversion and Decoloniality in At Night All Blood is Black by David Diop

Puja Chakraborty, PhD Research Scholar, University of Burdwan

4:45 - 5:00 PM

TEA BREAK



5:00 - 6:10 PM

PARALLEL PAPER PRESENTATION SESSION 2

Vernacular Modernities, Memory and Identity

Room A

Moderator:

Krishna Shinjinee Deb, ILSR

“Print Against the Grain: Kallol and Vernacular Dissent in South Asian Nation-Making”

Nandini Gayen, PhD Scholar, Banaras Hindu University -

“Magical Realism in Bangla literature & the politics of the relation between Realism and Postcolonial literature”

Bhagyasree Saha, Research Scholar, IIT Mandi

“De-homogenizing novel and the nation: A study of community in Tarashankar Bandopadhyay’s Hansuli Banker Upakatha”

Indra Sankar Ghatak, Senior Research Fellow, IIT Mandi

“Bones of Belonging: Reimagining Cultural Memory, Nomadic Identity and Gender Dynamics in Abhijit Sen’s Magic Bones (1992)”

Farida Parvin, State Aided College Teacher, Gazole Mahavidyalaya, Malda



Room B

Moderator:

Richa Biswas, Jamini Roy College

“Hunger Writes Back: Caste, Gender, and Resistance in Bengali Dalit Women’s Poetry”

Surabhi Jha, ICSSR Postdoctoral Researcher, Aliah University

“Bhaktivinode Thakur and Revival of Gaudiya Vaishnavism in South Asia” *(online)*

Aditi Bose, PhD Scholar, Presidency University

“Transgressing Women and Their Discursive Modalities: Rethinking the Gendered Justice Systems” *(online)*

Achu John, Research scholar, Central University of Kerala.

“Singing Subalterns: Bhojpuri Folksongs and New Horizons in South Asia Studies”

Sonu Sah, PhD Research Scholar, Institute of Language Studies and Research & Jadavpur University, Kolkata

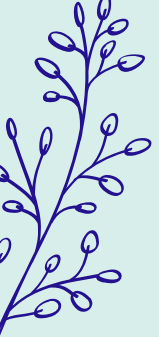
Room C

Moderator:

Auritra Munshi, Raiganj University

“Between Welfare and Wounds: Dalit Women and the Politics of State Recognition in Andhra Pradesh” *(online)*

Ashlesha Madasu, Research Scholar, and **Dr. Soumik Sarkar**, Assistant Professor, Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT)- AP Amaravati



“Epistemologies from the Edge: Politics of Precarity, Bureaucracy, and Belonging as Reflected in Two Char Narratives from Bengal”

Rajanya Ganguly, Assistant Professor, University of Kalyani

“Examining the Absence of Literary Intervention in the Discourses of Anthropocene and Petromodernity in India” *(online)*

Pragnya Parimita Chayani, Assistant Professor, VIT-AP University, Amaravati

Seen, Not Consumed: Decolonial Aesthetics and Refusing Dominant Framing from Kashmir to Belfast *(online)*

Glenn S. Ritchey III, Master of Arts in Literary, Cultural, and Textual Studies, University of Central Florida

Room D

Moderator:

Anurag Mazumder, ILSR and Jamalpur College

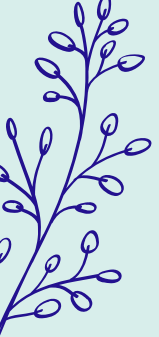
“Reimagining Nationhood: Religion, Identity, and Subaltern Histories in Khwabnama”

Somrwita Ghosh, Assistant Professor, VNR Vignana Jyothi Institute of Engineering and Technology, Hyderabad

“Encountering ‘Tantra’ in Colonial Bengal” *(online)*

Sreya Ghatak, PhD Research Scholar, Presidency University





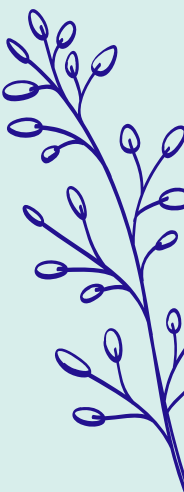
“Hegemony and the Subaltern Voice: A Gramscian Reading of Santhal Identity through Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar” (*online*)

Biswadeb Rajbanshi, Assistant Professor & Doctoral Researcher, Midnapore City College, & **Arpita Raj**, Assistant Professor, Midnapore City College

“A Preliminary Investigation into the Status of Assam Sadri as a Language of Communication” (*online*)

Porixita Kakoty, Research Scholar, Indian Institute of Information Technology Guwahati (IIITG)

END OF DAY 1



ECRC 2025

JCB Hall, 1st Floor

Day 2: 24th June 2025

11:00 - 12:40 PM

INVITED SPEAKERS PANEL 2

Moderator: Uday Kumar Chakraborty,
Former Professor, Jadavpur University

Dripta Piplai,

IIT Kharagpur

Niladri Sekhar Dash,

Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata

Suranjana Barua,

IIIT, Guwahati (IIITG) (online)

Stéphane Dorin,

University of Limoges (online)

12:40 - 1:00 pM

ACADEMIC PRESENTATION BY BRITISH COUNCIL INDIA

1:00 - 2:15 PM

LUNCH BREAK

2:15 - 2:55 PM

KEYNOTE LECTURE

Moderator: Mursed Alam, Gour College

'Indian secularism: a theological enquiry.'

Justin Jones,

University of Oxford (online)

2:55 - 3:10 PM

TEA BREAK



3:10 - 4:20 PM

PARALLEL PAPER PRESENTATION SESSION 3

New Media, Popular Culture and Publics

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Room A

Moderator:
Alekhya Mandal, ILSR

“The Observer Optics: Textual Codifications and Digital Migrations”

Maitrayee Mukherjee, Research Project Fellow, Institute of Language Studies and Research (ILSR), & Guest Lecturer, St. Paul's Cathedral Mission College

“The Sacred in Cyberspace: Postsecular Strategies of Tibetan Digital Expression in Exile”

Priyanka Chakraborty, Assistant Professor, Sister Nivedita University

“Digitality and Space in Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak’s Megacity”

Nabanita Karanjai, PhD Scholar, Bankura University

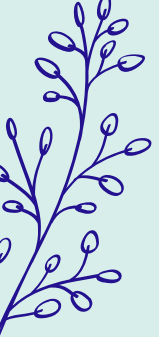
Room B

Moderator:
Olivia Banerjee, Presidency University

“Between Rural and Urban Imaginaries: Cinematic Spaces and Discourses on Sexuality Education” (*online*)

Akshata Selur & Atheena Herbert, Research Scholars, Christ University, Bangalore





“Folk Horror and Fascism: Political Myth in South Asian Streaming Series”

Trisha Das, Research Scholar, Sister Nivedita University

From Silence to Assertion: Deconstructing Women's Roles in Indian Society, through *The Long Silence* by Shashi Deshpande and Netflix Original Films, *Bombay Begums* and *Ajeeb Daastaans*

Niharika Deka, Independent Researcher

Room C

Moderator:

Adrija Bhattacharya, IIT Gandhinagar

“Material and Affective Life-world of South Asian Music: Bengali Pop in Post-Liberalisation India”

Anurag Mazumder, PhD Researcher, ILSR-JU & Assistant Professor, Jamalpur College, University of Burdwan

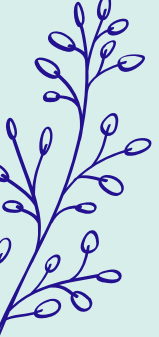
“Kakamina and his Cousins: The Bogeyman in Odia and Western Lullabies” (**online**)

Heba Fatima, Lecturer, Birupa College, Indupur

“Geetabhinoy: An Analytical Study of Modified Form of Musical Jatra-Pala”

Budhan Murmu, Research Scholar, The Sanskrit College and University





“Teaching Equity through Tales: Class, Agency, and Empathy in Leela Majumder’s Naku-Gama and Holde Pakhir Palok”

Dipanwita Nath, Independent Research Scholar, & **Swarnendu Dam**, Doctoral Research Scholar, West Bengal State University

Room D

Moderator:

Arpan Mitra, St. Xavier’s University

“Translingual Capital and Shadow Education: Elite Multilingualism in Post-Pandemic India”

Somrita Banerjee, Senior Research Fellow, IIT Kharagpur

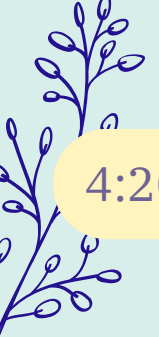
“Vulnerable Indigeneity in Tortoise Under the Earth: Cinematic Echoes of a Lost Lore”

Soma Das, Assistant Professor, RCA Girls' PG College, Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar University, Agra

Representation of Minority Women in Contemporary Indian Bengali Cinema”

Rosona Khatun, PhD Scholar, Aliah University





4:20 - 4:35 PM

TEA BREAK

4:35 - 5:45 PM

PARALLEL PAPER
PRESENTATION SESSION 4

Re-imagining Futures: Environment, Ethics
and Theoretical Interventions

Room A

Moderator:
Maitrayee Mukherjee, ILSR

“The Unfeminine Body: Polycystic Ovary
Syndrome and the Disruption of Normative
Womanhood” (*online*)

Shweta Chaurasia, Research Scholar, Adamas
University

“Cultivating Medicinal Environment: The ‘Built
Realities’ of Cinchona Plantations in North
Bengal Hills”

Dichen Bhutia, PhD Scholar, Presidency
University

“Harbart and the Creation of ‘Human Waste’”

Sweta Sarkar, Research Scholar, IIT Madras

“Surveillance in Transit: The “Aadhar Model” &
India’s Biometric Impact in the Indian Ocean
World”

Mallika Dharmaraj, Research Project Fellow,
Logic(s) Magazine

Room B

Moderator:
Rumeli Mukherjee, ILSR

“Every Node Mirroring the Whole: The Infrastructural Turn to Utopia in Indian Eco-Humanities”

Debadrita Saha, PhD Candidate, Ashoka University, and **Souvik Kar** Assistant Professor, Amity University Kolkata

“River’s Play and Relational Entanglements: Ecology, Planetary and the Everyday in the Hooghly Estuary”

Sohini Chakraborty, Doctoral Student, IIT Delhi

“Visualizing the Anthropocene: South Asian Graphic Novels as Sites of Environmental Critique and Multispecies Solidarity”

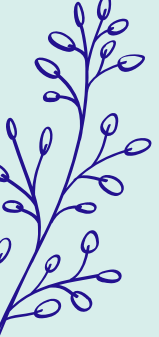
Arpan Mitra, Doctoral Candidate, St. Xavier’s University, Kolkata

Room C

Moderator:
Saptaparni Pandit, PSAGS

“Chronicle of Critical Hours: A Hydrological Reading of Softly Dies a Lake”

Utsa Haldar, Research Scholar, and **Bibek Adhikary**, Assistant Professor, University of Gour Banga



“Climate Agencies and Eco-nightmare: A Critique of Kim Stanley Robinson’s The Ministry for the Future”

Fakrul Molla, Junior Research Fellow, Jamia Millia Islamia

“Indigenous Narratives and Sustainability: Focusing Santhal’s PPlanetary Practices and Sustainable Approach to Environmental Conservation”

Suklal Saren, PhD Research Scholar, Institute of Language Studies and Research (ILSR), Kolkata

“National History and Personal Narratives: Locating Biculturalism and Identity Crisis in the Writings of Tamim Ansary and Khaled Hosseini”

Anwesa Chattopadhyay, Assistant Professor, University of Kalyani

5:45 - 6:30 PM
JCB Hall

ROUNDTABLE/ CLOSING REFLECTIONS

All Research Scholars of ILSR, all
Paper Presenters and the public

END OF DAY 2

