Power, Public Culture and Identity: Towards New Histories of Mumbai

6 - 7 January 2017

Department of History, University of Mumbai Venue - Alkesh Dinesh Mody Auditorium, University of Mumbai, Kalina Campus

Presenters and Participants - Kaushik Bhaumik | Vanessa Caru
Preeti Chopra | M.D. David | Mariam Dossal | Naresh Fernandes
Kishor Gaikwad | Danish Khan | Shekhar Krishnan | Jim Masselos
Abigail McGowan | J.V. Naik | Jesse Palsetia | Dinyar Patel | Simin Patel
Aneesh Pradhan | Robert Rahman Raman | Murali Ranganathan
Anupama Rao | Nikhil Rao | Juned Shaikh | Ashwini Tambe | Erica Wald

Convenors - Manjiri Kamat | Prashant Kidambi | Rachel Dwyer



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The past two decades have seen a rich and varied body of scholarly research on Mumbai that has significantly enriched our understanding of its complex history. This new research has investigated a range of themes such as the world of business and the urban working classes, urban politics and public culture, patterns of land use and built heritage, housing and domestic space, caste and communities, advertising and visual culture. Building on the perspectives generated by this emergent historiography, the proposed conference brings together scholars working on Mumbai to present research papers on themes such as the urban built environment; power and politics; public culture; collective identity; crowds and popular culture; and the rhythms of everyday life.

In exploring these themes, the conference also seeks to celebrate and honour the works of Jim Masselos, one of the most distinguished historians of Bombay/Mumbai and of India's urban modernity. For those who work on the city, and for many historians of urban South Asia, Masselos's writings have been a constant source of inspiration. Indeed, in many ways his writings anticipated the recent 'urban turn' and its concerns. This can be seen from his accounts of the making of nineteenth-century Bombay: the world of the 'moholla', Muslim identities, nationalist politics, and the interplay between the past and the present within urban space and time.

The conference is being hosted by the Department of History, University of Mumbai and is supported by the University of Leicester and SOAS, University of London.



Conference Presenters

Preeti Chopra (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Jesse Palsetia (University of Guelph)

Simin Patel (Historian, Mumbai),

Erica Wald (Goldsmiths, University of London)

Ashwini Tambe (University of Maryland)

Shekhar Krishnan (National University of Singapore)

Abigail McGowan (University of Vermont)

Prashant Kidambi (University of Leicester)

Aneesh Pradhan (Musician and Scholar, Mumbai)

Kaushik Bhaumik (JNU, Delhi)

Dinyar Patel (University of South Carolina)

Robert Rahman Raman (University of Goettingen)

Danish Khan (University of Oxford)

Vanessa Caru (Centre for South Asian Studies, Paris)

Anupama Rao (Barnard College, Columbia University)

Kishor Gaikwad (University of Mumbai)

Juned Shaikh (University of California, Santa Cruz)

Nikhil Rao (Wellesley College, Boston, MA)

Murali Ranganathan (Independent Scholar and writer, Mumbai)

Manjiri Kamat (University of Mumbai)

Conference Participants

Jim Masselos (University of Sydney); Rachel Dwyer (SOAS, University of London); Mariam Dossal (Formerly University of Mumbai); J.V.Naik (Formerly University of Mumbai); M. D. David (Formerly University of Mumbai); Naresh Fernandes (Editor, Scroll.in); Martin Halliwell (University of Leicester)

Conference Convenors

Manjiri Kamat: mnkamat@yahoo.com Prashant Kidambi: pk64@leicester.ac.uk

Rachel Dwyer: rd3@soas.ac.uk

Registration

Scholars wishing to register for this event may send an email to mumbaiconference2017@gmail.com

Images courtesy Jim Masselos

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