



14th All India Conference of China Studies

Special Theme: Society and Culture in China

Organised by

Institute of Chinese Studies

&

Cheena Bhavana, Visva-Bharati University

in partnership with

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

院學國中

CONTENTS

CONCEPT NOTE	03
PROGRAMME	04
ABSTRACTS	12
PARTICIPANTS	31
ABOUT THE ORGANIZERS	56

CONCEPT NOTE

OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVE

The **AICCS** is the annual flagship event of the ICS and is intended to generate interest in and strengthen research on China Studies in India, by promoting active networking amongst scholars. Apart from the participation of eminent scholars, the conference also provides a platform for young scholars to present their research. Previous editions of the conference have been held at diverse institutions across the country such as IIM Kozhikode, University of Mumbai and Sikkim University.

The **14th All India Conference of China Studies (AICCS)** will be held virtually by the **Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS)**, New Delhi, **Cheena Bhavana, Visva-Bharati University**, Santiniketan, and **Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS)** India Office from **11 to 13 November 2021**. **Amb. Shivshankar Menon**, Visiting Professor of International Relations, Ashoka University, Sonapat and Chairman, Advisory Board, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi will deliver the **Keynote Address**. The Special Theme this year is ***Society and Culture in China***.

Eminent and young scholars from over 30 institutions of India and abroad, will showcase recent scholarship on various facets of China over 11 sessions spread across three days. The best original paper presented by a young scholar will be awarded the ***Mira Sinha-Bhattacharjea Award***, instituted in memory of Prof. Mira Sinha-Bhattacharjea, a doyen of China Studies in India.

PROGRAMME

DAY ONE: THURSDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 2021

Inaugural Session
12:00 P.M. – 1:30 P.M.

- Vedic Hymn:** Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan.
- Welcome Remarks:** **Ashok Kantha**, Director, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.
- Remarks:** **Peter Rimmele**, Resident Representative to India, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, India Office, New Delhi.
- Opening Remarks:** **Bidyut Chakrabarty**, Vice-Chancellor, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan.
- Convener's Remarks:** **Sabaree Mitra**, Convener, 14th AICCS; Professor, Centre for Chinese and South East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.
- Keynote Address:** **Shivshankar Menon**, Visiting Professor of International Relations, Ashoka University, Sonapat; Chairman, Advisory Board, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.
- “Internal Drivers of China’s External Behaviour”*
- Vote of Thanks:** **Avijit Banerjee**, Co-Convener, 14th AICCS; Professor, Cheena Bhavana, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan.

BREAK: 1:30 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Special Panel I: Family Dynamics in the Twenty-First Century Chinese Society
2:30 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Moderator: **Patricia Uberoi**, Emeritus Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Speakers:

- **Emiko Ochiai**, Professor of Sociology, Graduate School of Letters, Kyoto University, Kyoto.
“Transforming Familialism: Changing Care Regimes and Gender Roles in 21st Century East Asia”
- **Mary E. John**, Professor and Acting Director, Centre for Women's Development Studies, New Delhi.
“Child Marriage: Reflections on India and China”

- **Song Yuanmeng**, PhD Candidate, Kyoto University, Kyoto.

“The Resistance to State-Controlled Reproduction: Varieties of Media Responses to China's Two-Child Policy”

- **Usha Chandran**, Assistant Professor, Centre for Chinese and South East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Adjunct Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

“Family as the Core: The Chinese Society Turning a Full Circle in the Twenty-First Century”

BREAK: 4:00 P.M. – 4:15 P.M.

**Thematic Panel I: Cultural Diversity and Identity Formation
4:15 P.M. – 5:45 P.M.**

Chair: Tejaswini Niranjana, Director, Centre for Inter-Asian Research & Dean, Online Programmes, Ahmedabad University, Ahmedabad.

Speakers:

- **Biatrisha Mukhopadhyay**, PhD Candidate, Center for Chinese and South-East Asian Studies, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

“Intricacies of Religious Identity in China in the Xi Era”

- **Md. Yasin**, PhD Candidate, Centre for East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

“Pravasi Bharatiya and Huáqiáo-Huárén: Explaining the Similarities and Differences of Two Diasporas”

- **Kaustav Padmapati**, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Royal School of Humanities and Social Sciences, The Royal Global University, Guwahati.

“Democratic Transition, New Taiwanese Identity and Queer Rights Movement in Taiwan: Assessing the Linkages”

- **Daveirou Lanamai**, Assistant Professor (Chinese), Department of Foreign Languages, Tezpur University, Tezpur.

“Sinicising Naming Practices of Select Ethnic Minorities in China”

Discussants:

Poonam Surie, Adjunct Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Ritu Agarwal, Associate Professor, Centre for East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

DAY TWO: FRIDAY, 12 NOVEMBER 2021

Special Panel II: Chinese Influence in South Asia 10:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.

Moderator: Shivshankar Menon, Visiting Professor of International Relations, Ashoka University, Sonapat; Chairman, Advisory Board, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi; Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP), New Delhi.

Speakers:

- **Antara Ghosal Singh**, former Research Associate, Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP), New Delhi.

“China’s Approach to South Asia: Characteristics and Lessons”

- **Amish Raj Mulmi**, Author, *All Roads Lead North: Nepal’s Turn to China* (Context India/ Hurst UK 2021), Kathmandu.

“Charm Offensive: Shaping Chinese Perceptions in Nepal”

- **Chulanee Attanayake**, Research Fellow, Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore, Singapore.

“China’s Buddhist Influence in Sri Lanka”

- **Shahtaj Mahmud**, Senior Coordinator, Projects and Program, The Institute of Policy, Advocacy, and Governance (IPAG), Dhaka.

“Myanmar’s Rohingya Crisis and China’s Growing Clout in Bangladesh”

Discussant: Dr. Constantino Xavier, Fellow in Foreign Policy and Security Studies, Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP), New Delhi.

BREAK: 11:30 A.M. – 11:45 A.M.

Thematic Panel II: International Trade and Foreign Policy 11:45 A.M. – 1:15 P.M.

Chair: Alka Acharya, Professor, Centre for East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Honorary Fellow & former Director, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Speakers:

- **Sunaina Bose**, Master’s in Development Studies, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras; Research Associate, Museum of Art and Photography, Bengaluru.

“Turning the Gaze: Understanding the Deployment of the ‘Debt Trap’ Narrative in Western Media”

- **Shree Jain**, UGC Junior Research Fellow, Symbiosis School of International Studies, Symbiosis International (Deemed) University, Pune & **Sukalpa Chakrabarti**, Associate Professor and

Deputy Director, Symbiosis School of International Studies, Symbiosis International (Deemed) University, Pune.

“The Dualistic Trends of Sinophobia and Sinophilia: Impact on Foreign Policy Towards China”

- **Rahul Nath Chaudhry**, Research Fellow, Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi & **Pravin Jadhav**, Assistant Professor, Institute of Infrastructure Technology Research and Management (IITRAM), Ahmedabad.

“Capturing the Growth of Chinese Investment in India”

- **Malini Tantri**, Assistant Professor, Centre for Economic Studies and Policy, Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bengaluru & **Varadurga Bhat**, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru.

“Pollution Intensive Products in India’s Bilateral Trade with China”

Discussants:

Jabin T. Jacob, Associate Professor, Department of International Relations and Governance Studies, Shiv Nadar University, Delhi NCR; Adjunct Research Fellow, National Maritime Foundation, New Delhi.

G. Venkat Raman, Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Management Indore (IIM Indore), Indore; Adjunct Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

BREAK: 1:15 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.

Thematic Panel III: Society and Politics **2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

Chair: Manoranjan Mohanty, Emeritus Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi; Distinguished Professor, Council for Social Development, New Delhi.

Speakers:

- **Prateeksha Tiwari**, PhD Candidate, Centre for East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

“Imagining the Digital Public Sphere in Xi’s China: Looking at the #MeToo Movement through the Eyes of Castells and Habermas”

- **Shruti Jargad**, Research Assistant, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi; Yenching Scholar (2019-2021) Peking University, Beijing.

“Recruitment Strategy of the Chinese Communist Party in the Xi Era”

- **Niharika Ravi**, Student, School of Law, SVKM’s NMIMS (Deemed to be University), Navi Mumbai.

“Feminism, Expansionism, and Population Control in China: How the Utilitarian One-Child Policy is Still a Women’s Rights Nightmare”

- **Snigdha Konar**, PhD Candidate, Centre for Chinese and South-East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

“Womb Politics in China: Abortions, Sterilizations and Surrogacy in Sheng Keyi's Fiction”

Discussants:

Akhil Ranjan Dutta, Professor & Head, Department of Political Science, Gauhati University, Guwahati.

Bhim Subba, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science/ School of Social Science, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad; Visiting Associate Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

BREAK: 3:30 P.M. – 3:45 P.M.

Special Lecture
3:45 P.M. – 4:45 P.M.

Chair: Gautam Bambawale, former Indian Ambassador to China, Bhutan and Pakistan; Distinguished Professor, Symbiosis International University, Pune; Adjunct Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Frank Pieke, Professor of Modern China Studies, Institute for Area Studies, Leiden University, Leiden.

“Governance, Culture and Superpower in the Transformation of Chinese Communist Party Rule”

BREAK: 4:45 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Special Panel III: Social Dimensions and Disruptions Caused by Covid-19 in China and India
5:00 P.M. – 6:30 P.M.

Moderator: Madhurima Nundy, Assistant Director & Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Speakers:

- **Biao Xiang**, Director, Max Planck Institution for Social Anthropology, Halle (Saale).

“Immobilizing Capabilities”

- **Cody Abbey**, Project Manager, Stanford China Center on China's Economy and Institutions, Stanford University, Stanford.

“Tracking the Effects of COVID-19 on Rural China Over Time”

- **Bhim B. Subba**, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science/School of Social Science, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad; Visiting Associate Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

“Serving the People” in Crisis: Pandemic Philanthropy in India and China

- **Sowmiya Ashok**, Independent Journalist, former Beijing Correspondent, Indian Express.

“Algorithmic Governance and the Platform Economy through the Covid-19 Pandemic”

Discussant: Rama Baru, Professor, Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

DAY THREE: SATURDAY, 13 NOVEMBER 2021

Thematic Panel IV: History and Cultural Linkages 10:00 A.M. – 11:45 A.M.

Chair: Kamal Sheel, Professor (Retired) of Chinese, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Speakers:

- **Divya Pokhriyal**, PhD Candidate & Guest Faculty, Department of East Asian Studies, University of Delhi, New Delhi.

“Evolution on Queenship as an Institution in Imperial China”

- **Diki Sherpa**, PhD Candidate, Department of History, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong.

“Native Administration in Early Colonial Hong Kong: Appointing Native Chinese Peace Officers”

- **Tiasangla Longkumer**, PhD Candidate, Centre for Social Medicine and Community Health, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; ICS-HYI Fellow (2017).

“Scientific Medicine in Colonial India and Imperial China: A Study of Rockefeller Foundation Philanthropy in Medical Education”

- **Jana Chaudhuri**, Founder, Institute of Heritage Research; former Deputy Director, Delhi Urban Heritage Foundation, Delhi Development Authority, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India; Fulbright Fellow 2010-2011.

“Historic Urban Landscape Approach: Application in China”

- **Premmi Wahengbam**, PhD Candidate, Department of History, Gauhati University, Guwahati.

“Peking Opera and Shumang Leela: Bridging the Arts”

Discussant: Prof. Madhavi Thampi, Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

BREAK: 11:45 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Thematic Panel V: Social Practices and Cultural Dimensions
12:00 P.M. – 1:30 P.M.

Chair: B. R. Deepak, Professor, Centre for Chinese and South East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Speakers:

- **Subham Dutraj**, PhD Candidate, Sikkim University, Gangtok.

“Confucianism in Application: Retracing the Evolution of Confucian Ideals and Its Practical Implementation in Contemporary Chinese Society”

- **Subhendu Ghosal**, PhD Candidate & Guest Faculty, Cheena Bhavana, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan.

“Voice of Netizens: Understanding China in the New Era”

- **Nishit Kumar**, PhD Candidate, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; ICS-HYI Fellow (2018).

“Mo Yan as China’s Cultural Capital: Why and How”

- **Madhurendra Jha**, Assistant Professor, Department of Chinese Studies, School of Languages, Doon University, Dehradun.

“Involution or Alienation? Visiting the Issue through Jia Zhangke’s ‘Hometown Trilogy’”

Discussant: Amrit Sen, Professor, Department of English, Bhasha Bhavana (Institute of Languages, Literature & Culture), Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan.

BREAK: 1:30 P.M. – 2:15 P.M.

Special Panel IV: Media, Society and Culture in China Today
2:15 P.M. – 3:45 P.M.

Chair: Hemant Adlakha, Associate Professor, Centre for Chinese and South East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Speakers:

- **Ananth Krishnan**, China Correspondent, The Hindu.

“Social Media in the India-China Conflict”

- **Lance Gore**, Senior Research Fellow, East Asian Institute, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore, Singapore.

“Socialism Without Social Development in China: The Consequences at Home and Abroad”

- **Arun Teja Polcumpally**, Research Assistant, Centre for Security Studies, O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat; Doctoral Fellow, Jindal School of International Affairs, O.P. Jindal Global

University, Sonipat & **Vatsala Mishra**, Threat and Risk Analyst for Asia-Pacific region at a financial institution in Pune, India.

“Current CPC Regime’s Extreme Censorship Control Using Technology”

Discussant: **Ravi Bhoothalingam**, Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi; Founder and Chairman, Manas Advisory, Gurgaon.

BREAK: 3:45 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

**Valedictory Session
4:00 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.**

- Chair:** **Sreemati Chakrabarti**, Chairperson and Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.
- Valedictory Address:** **Shih Chih-yu**, National Chair of the Ministry of Education and University Chair of National Taiwan University, Taipei.
- “State and Society in the Studies of China’s Democracy: A Critique of Liberal Resilience”*
- Report of Conference:** **Sabaree Mitra**, Convener, 14th AICCS; Professor, Centre for Chinese and South East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.
- Welcoming Delegates: to the 15th AICCS** **Pahi Saikia**, Associate Professor, Political Science, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, Guwahati.
- Vote of Thanks:** **Chiranjib Sinha**, Assistant Professor, Cheena Bhavana, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan.

Note: Speakers in all the thematic sessions will have 10 minutes to make their presentations, while the Discussants will be allotted 10 minutes to respond. The Chair will take upto 5 minutes to make the opening and concluding remarks. The remaining time will be for Q&A.

In Special Panels, unless otherwise decided by the Chair beforehand, each speaker is requested to confine the presentations to 10-12 minutes, and keep the remaining time for Q&A.

ABSTRACTS

Inaugural Session

Shivshankar Menon, Visiting Professor of International Relations, Ashoka University, Sonipat; Chairman, Advisory Board, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

“Internal Drivers of China’s External behaviour”

In the last decade, China’s Foreign Policy has alienated or worsened relations with most of her neighbours, the exceptions being Pakistan, Cambodia and possibly Russia. Embarking on a nuclear arms race, “wolf warrior” diplomacy and pressing territorial disputes hardly seem likely to serve China in her rivalry with the US. Why has China recently followed a foreign policy course with predictable negative outcomes? The traditional explanations external to China—a shifting international situation, China’s changing global interests, or great power diplomacy—seem insufficient. It may therefore be worth considering whether domestic factors now play a greater role in driving China’s foreign policy than before.

Special Panel I: Family Dynamics in the Twenty-First Century Chinese Society

Emiko Ochiai, Professor of Sociology, Graduate School of Letters, Kyoto University, Kyoto.

“Transforming Familialism: Changing Care Regimes and Gender Roles in 21st Century East Asia”

Care increasingly became an important social issue in East Asia and Southeast Asia — in Japan in the 1990s and in other countries in the 2000s — and social policies adopted to provide care for children and the elderly have been developed in the same period. The first large-scale international comparative study of care in Asia was a project organised by a group which was later published as *Asia’s New Mothers* (2008) in which the author also participated. It covered Mainland China, Thailand, Singapore, Taiwan, Korea and Japan. The study revealed a diversity of care regimes in the Asian region, in spite of the common belief that welfare regimes in Asia are familialistic. This paper is based on a follow-up project conducted in the 2010s which covered Mainland China, Vietnam, Singapore, Taiwan, Korea and Japan focusing on more recent developments. Employing the Care Diamond Model which shows the balance of four sectors of the state, the market, the family and the community, the degrees of de-familialization and, in some cases, (re-)familialization by these sectors of care provision and care finance in each society are examined. To simplify the conclusion, de-familialization of care by the state has been advanced in the three societies of Korea, Japan and Taiwan, while de-familialization of care through the market is dominant in Singapore. The two socialist societies of Mainland China and Vietnam experienced re-familialization of care, reinforcing women’s domestic roles, but the impact is not so drastic as in post-socialist countries in Europe. Asian familialism is transforming into diverse directions.

Mary E. John, Professor and Acting Director, Centre for Women's Development Studies, New Delhi.

“Child Marriage: Reflections on India and China”

In this presentation to the panel on the 'family dynamics in the 21st Century', the re-emergence of Child Marriage as a "harmful practice" (to use the language of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the UN) on global agendas in recent years will be the focus. India is the country with by far the largest numbers of young women who marry below the age of 18 years, and this has been a matter of concern in various agency and state platforms, though without an equal involvement from the women's movement in India today. On the other hand, the situation in China is all but invisible and there is an assumption that child marriage is only of historical significance, with other matters such as the adverse sex ratio, low fertility and so on occupying more public attention. In this connection, this presentation will comment on the presence of under-age marriage in China as it has been brought out in select media articles on the subject. This makes for an interesting comparative look at questions of marriage in India and China that merits further attention.

Song Yuanmeng, PhD Candidate, Kyoto University, Kyoto.

“The Resistance to State-Controlled Reproduction: Varieties of Media Responses to China's Two-Child Policy”

China gradually relaxed its one-child policy starting from 2011, and by 2016 it was officially scrapped, couples were now allowed to have two children. In an attempt to elucidate the new family model proposed by the State and to explore individuals' reactions to it, this paper examines the construction of “family image” in Chinese mass media and social media. The research employs materials from national (People's Daily) and local newspapers (Tongchuan Daily, Shihezi Daily) as well as social media platforms (Weibo tweets, and comments on Weibo tweets), to analyse the interpretation and resistance to China's Two-Child Policy and State-Controlled Reproduction.

The findings revealed that throughout the 2010's, state-controlled newspaper People's Daily has gone through five different stages, to strategise and present the issues related to two-child policy to the public. As a national newspaper, People's Daily employed “expert knowledge,” while local newspapers (Tongchuan Daily, etc.) applied “everyday knowledge” to sway the public opinion more towards a “four-member family”, as a model of state-society promoted ideal. While the mass media representation of planned parenthood neglected financial aspects of parenting, analysis of data collected from Weibo tweets indicated that younger people were more conscious of economic implications. The problems occurred actually when new policies are implemented in local communities. The research findings indicate that citizens are not unconditionally submitting to the state-society promoted family planning ideologies. On the contrary, social media platforms such as Weibo (especially the comments on Weibo tweets) are providing a forum for voicing their views, expressing their fear and critical opinion both directly and indirectly, not only towards family planning policies, but towards the questions on what the state and society should be.

Usha Chandran, Assistant Professor, Centre for Chinese and South East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Adjunct Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

“Family as the Core: The Chinese Society Turning a Full Circle in the Twenty-first Century”

The idea of group-interest above self-interest is the basis of Confucian representation of keeping the family as a centrality in traditional Chinese society. Confucian philosophy of 三纲五常 the 'three cardinal guides' (ruler guides subject, father guides son and husband guides wife) and five constant virtues (benevolence, righteousness, courtesy, wisdom and faith) has governed the social structure of premodern Chinese Society. However, following a century long struggle to do away with it, in past few decades, the importance of "family as a core" as per the Confucian principle in maintaining social stability and controlling the society has come to the fore once again. Xi Jinping is known for focusing on traditional social values in contrast to the CPC's initial pursuit for a modern socialist family. Xi points out, "Traditional family values have been engraved on the minds and melted into the blood of the Chinese people".

This paper will attempt to explore the intricacies of Confucian principle of "family as the core", and the traces of traditional beliefs in the current society by bringing out the findings of studies showing that Chinese people still live by the varied and renewed forms of three cardinal guides and five constant virtues, both within their family and social network. The paper will further examine the steps taken by Chinese government to lay innate importance of keeping "family as the core" as per the Confucian principle, to maintain social stability and order. For doing this, the paper will bring to table the approach, policies and propaganda adopted by the Chinese government in managing matters related to family and extensions of it in the twenty-first century, especially in the past decade and more so during the Covid era.

Thematic Panel I: Cultural Diversity and Identity Formation

Biatrisha Mukhopadhyay, PhD Candidate, Center for Chinese and South-East Asian Studies, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

“Intricacies of Religious Identity in China in the Xi Era”

China has come a long way in terms of financial and technological advancements in the last few decades. Despite scientific advancements and progress of rationalism in the society, belief in old traditions remains one of the driving forces in the Chinese society. Chinese culture is deep rooted in its people. Folk customs and practices are still prevalent in the Chinese society in order to maintain a particular social order by instilling certain moral ethics in human mind and popular concepts. In a communist state like China, the role of religion is quite complicated. With Buddhism, Christianity and Islam being externally introduced religions in China, the original religion of China has always remained a topic of debate. On one hand, aggrandizement of Chinese folk traditions and practices at the global stage serves as a major part of China's cultural diplomacy. On the other hand, religious restraints have always been a significant practice of the Chinese government. In the present Xi Jinping era, a lot of religious curbs have been put in place. It includes ban on public practices of ritualistic activities, orders for the Communist party members to renounce their personal religious beliefs and active guidelines for the adaptation of religions to the patterns of a socialist society. These major policy changes declared by the State Administration for Religious Affairs (SARA) in recent years to consolidate the party's value system have stirred up discussions.

This study aims to explore how different religious groups in China have been at the receiving end of such curbs with regard to religion during the Xi era. The study also looks into if such curbs

have left room for any religious identity of the Chinese people. Will these new policies on religion go in tandem with China's Cultural Diplomacy?

Md. Yasin, PhD Candidate, Centre for East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

“Pravasi Bharatiya and Huáqiáo-Huárén: Explaining the Similarities and Differences of Two Diasporas”

In today's globalised world where geography no longer dictates identity, 'lost actors' are the 'new national assets'. India and China are two emerging Asian giants with many commonalities including a large diaspora community. The combined figure of the two giant diasporas ranges between 80-85 million. While the Chinese Nationalist government established the Overseas Chinese Affairs Council in 1932, India since independence remained aloof making the 'people of Indian origin' alien in a legal sense. Although interactions between Chinese and overseas Chinese were suspected as 'counter-revolutionary' during Cultural Revolution, the post-Mao leadership sought to correct the mistakes by establishing the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of the State Council in 1978. Despite India commencing unstiffening of its policy of impassiveness in the 1980s, the actual change in approaches towards diaspora could only be traced after the submission of the L.M.Singhvi Committee Report in 2002. Both nations acknowledged diaspora as a strategic asset, yet India does not seem to reap its potential fully. While diaspora became President Xi's secret economic weapon, it remains to be seen Prime Minister Modi's initiative of turning 'brain drain' into a real 'brain gain' will reap dividends.

This paper, through a comparative study of the overseas Indians (Pravasi Bharatiya) and overseas Chinese (Huáqiáo-Huárén), begins with a brief discussion of diaspora; then attempts to link the relationship between diaspora and the development of home country. The study further expounds the approaches of both the nations before Xi-Modi era and seeks to answer how do they engage with their diasporas now? What are the similarities and differences in their model of engagement? And finally argues that the diaspora can be looked beyond the lens of remittances and financial flows and India can proactively optimise its strategic goals by decontaminating its policy and institutional apparatus.

Kaustav Padmapati, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Royal School of Humanities and Social Sciences, The Royal Global University, Guwahati, Assam.

“Democratic Transition, New Taiwanese Identity and Queer Rights Movement in Taiwan: Assessing the Linkages”

According to American political scientist Samuel Huntington, the world witnessed the “third wave” of democratization during the period 1970s through the mid-2000. During this period, liberal democracy became the default form of government in many of these newly democratic countries. In the same period, the process of democratization also started in Taiwan. Taiwan's story of democratic transition along with its awareness for liberal principles is fascinating. Over the years, it grew stronger and this island nation became one of the strongest gender equitable liberal democracies in Asia. Two important outcomes of the democratic transition in Taiwan could be identified - emergence of a new Taiwanese identity and a strong movement for LGBTQ rights. Notably, Taiwan became the first Asian country that legalised same sex marriage. In last three decades, countless LGBTQ activists, civil society groups and allies worked tirelessly in Taiwan to change hearts and minds, hold the government accountable, democratize intimacy, and legally transform sexual citizenship in Taiwan.

The demographic shift in Taiwan during 1980's produced a new generation individualistic Taiwanese who had focused heavily on economic progress and better standard of living. In addition to the new Taiwanese identity, a social movement for sexual and gender minorities movement appeared in Taiwan around 1990s since the abolition of Martial Law in 1987. The development of liberal democratic ideas often contributes to social tolerance. After electing the first non-Kuomintang president in 2000, the new generation of Taiwanese have keenly embraced human rights and welcomed multiculturalism based on the principle of self-determination. So, this new Taiwanese identity has been essentially manifested by yearnings for democratisation and liberation from any kind of domination in the name of transitional justice.

While examining the idea of new identity in the context of cross-Strait ties, and various queer activisms in Taiwan, this paper will be a comprehensive and critical understanding of liberal democratic principles and its contribution towards the formation of new identity in Taiwan. Based on constructivist and queer theory, this paper aims to argue that gender equality is the force multiplier democratization as it empowers civil society. Taiwan's case is the example of the double transition to democracy and a liberal gender regime and its projection to world politics.

Daveirou Lanamai, Assistant Professor (Chinese), Department of Foreign Languages, Tezpur University, Tezpur.

“Sinicising Naming Practices of Select Ethnic Minorities in China”

Names are vital components of beinghood and identity. Names may signify social status, gender, religion, indicate one's position in genealogy, time and circumstance of one's birth and reflect hierarchy of social ranks. This realistic linguistic truth maybe the reason that, for numerous communities, names are regarded to be part of the self or soul and naming constitutive of community persona. Therefore, names are terminologies which correspond for cultural entities on account of their assignation on particular bearers, well received by a society, where the members have some understanding of who or what it is to which the name belongs. Naming is a political act, as it is always done to accomplish or establish something else. Naming also reflects power relationships because to be able to name someone or something indicates one's control over that person, place, or thing. Since the 1950's Sinicisation of ethnic minorities in China has become more prominent with the implementation of Ethnic Identification Project of ethnic minorities or shaoshuminzu. Though most of the officially recognised ethnic minorities in China possess distinctive culture, language and religion, they have been experiencing assimilation and acculturation in every aspect of their life. The paper will examine how identity is constructed through socio-cultural context of ethnic minorities naming practices. It will then explore the impact of Han culture and language and transformations in naming practice of selected ethnic minorities in China. The paper will also delve into the politics of naming and its influence on power relations within communities and ethnic groups in China.

Special Panel II: Chinese Influence in South Asia

Antara Ghosal Singh, former Research Associate, Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP), New Delhi.

“China's Approach to South Asia: Characteristics and Lessons”

China is becoming an increasingly influential actor beyond trade, investments and general economic activities, across the world, including India and smaller South Asian countries like Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and the Maldives. With the conception of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in 2013, South Asia has emerged as a “priority zone” for China, housing the highest density of its early harvest projects under the BRI. And with that Chinese influence in the subcontinent has

become more glaring and palpable than ever before. However, there is very little research on how China approaches South Asia and what is its overarching South Asia strategy, if any? When and how it chooses its economic and non-economic tools to further its interest in the subcontinent? What are the hard objectives/intentions behind China's Soft Power Campaign in South Asia? Is it to form a China centric regional order/sphere of influence? Is it to gain strategic access, military facilities? Is it to secure access to new markets? To ensure smooth supply of natural resources, while facing growing uncertainties globally? Is it to quash criticism of or opposition to CCP at the global level? Or, is it to challenge India's rise, by countering India locally and restricting it to South Asia? This paper aims to fill the knowledge gap in this domain and create new knowledge through primary research on how China approaches South Asia, including how China looks at the role of India in the region.

Amish Raj Mulmi, Author, *All Roads Lead North: Nepal's Turn to China* (Context India/ Hurst UK 2021) Kathmandu.

“Charm Offensive: Shaping Chinese Perceptions in Nepal”

While much of the recent focus on China's engagements in Nepal have been on the increasing Chinese economic and political influence in the country, little has been devoted to analysing China's soft diplomacy that has emphasised the shared histories and cultures of the two nations, and shaped the perception of Beijing in Kathmandu and beyond. This qualitative analysis of China's soft diplomacy in Nepal focuses on how Beijing shapes public perceptions in neighbouring countries by highlighting cultural and social links through various events, the semiotics within which China and/or its envoys frame bilateral relations, how neighbours are co-opted in Beijing's international narratives, and how cultural and historical ties with Nepal are imagined within the critical security dilemmas China faces in the Tibetan plateau.

Chulanee Attanayake, Research Fellow, Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore, Singapore.

“China's Buddhist Influence in Sri Lanka”

China's influence and increasing assertiveness in South Asia are primarily analyzed through the lens of hard power. Its increasing economic and security ties with the South Asian countries and ambitious Belt and Road Initiative are often under scrutiny. A less scrutinized factor is how China uses its Buddhist history and Buddhist links to augment its influence in the region. Despite being a self-proclaimed atheist country, China is seen introducing a Buddhist narrative to its diplomacy. Besides using Buddhist principles to emphasize harmonious society, it is actively engaged in promoting Buddhism internationally. It is involved in the Common Text Project undertaken by the International Council of Day of Vesak under the stewardship of Maha Chulalongkorn University in Thailand and active in international Buddhist Organizations such as World Fellowships of Buddhists and the World Buddhist Forum. It hosted the 5th Session of the World Buddhist Forum in 2018 in Fujian with the participation of over 1,000 Buddhists, scholars and representatives from 55 countries and regions.

In Sri Lanka, it has made donations to the various Nikayas to engage the Buddhist clergy and cultivating relations. China's construction of the 350-metre-high tower in Colombo named after Lotus Sutra is interpreted as Beijing taking inspiration from Buddhism to promote its own modern Silk route and appealing to the Sinhala Buddhist majority population in the country.

For a country that officially does not recognize religion, China's level of engagement in Buddhist activities is noteworthy. It is equally interesting how China is curbing Dalai Lama's

engagement in Sri Lanka while supporting the same religion. This indicates how China is slowly using Buddhism as a tool of soft power. Amidst this backdrop, this paper attempts to explore how Buddhism is emerging as an important soft power tool in China's statecraft strategy. It will also explore how China is utilizing this strategy in Sri Lanka. It will also attempt to identify if the use of Buddhism as a tool has helped China realise its foreign policy goals. The paper will use publicly available information to trace China's activities in Sri Lanka. Given the time and opportunity, the author will also attempt to conduct some interviews with selected individuals chosen through purposeful and snowball sampling.

Shahtaj Mahmud, Senior Coordinator, Projects and Program, The Institute of Policy, Advocacy, and Governance (IPAG), Dhaka.

“Myanmar’s Rohingya Crisis and China’s Growing Clout in Bangladesh”

In the recent past, China has taken up roles in mediation and conflict resolution, in regions where it happens to have strategic interests. This visibly increased in 2013, the same year Xi's ambitious Belt and Road initiative was announced, ranging from proactive involvement, limited arbitration to indirect participation. Ever since the humanitarian crisis unfolded in Myanmar's Rakhine State in 2017, more than a million Rohingyas have fled to neighbouring Bangladesh. Lack of decisive action and support from the UN Security Council and the international community, despite its pledges to end mass atrocities in the Rakhine state and facilitate safe repatriation of Rohingyas to their homeland, left Bangladesh hamstrung. China on the other hand, with strong ties and interest in Myanmar, refused to join international condemnation while at the same offering humanitarian assistance and engaging in shuttle diplomacy, to help Bangladesh deal with the crisis. In 2017, China even laid out a 3-point plan to address the crisis, starting with a ceasefire, followed by repatriation, and finally addressing the root cause of the conflict. This has been perceived as a shift away from China's policy of non-interference. However, questions regarding "Chinese intentions" loom large in the international community. Is it genuinely seeking to become a responsible, global superpower, preserving peace, and stability, or is it just another shrewd strategy to expand its sphere of influence and the development narrative that it has been propagating around the world?

Thematic Panel II: International Trade and Foreign Policy

Sunaina Bose, Master's in Development Studies, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras; Research Associate, Museum of Art and Photography, Bengaluru.

“Turning the Gaze: Understanding the deployment of the ‘Debt trap’ narrative in Western Media”

China's engagement with Africa dates back several decades, well into the cold war era. While remnants of this partnership have material manifestations in the form of built infrastructures such as TAZARA railway networks, it is the recent proximity between China and its African partners that has drawn considerable traction from the international community. The turn of the century has seen the establishment of the Forum for China Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) alongside an increased number of Chinese infrastructure projects in Africa, some of which have been speculated to be a part of the mammoth Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). In the backdrop of surging concerns regarding China's 'new scramble for Africa' and its status as the developing world's 'emerging donor', this paper will attempt to understand the ways in which 'debt trap diplomacy' has been used as a framework in western media and diplomatic circles to understand China's engagement with its African partners. Through a textual analysis of English language news reports from Zambia, China and USA and UK, select speeches, reports from corporate consultant firms and white papers, this study will use the

particular case of Zambia's national power and utility company - Zesco, to understand how the narrative around Chinese debt has been deployed in popular media, patterns that emerge from its strategic use, its effect on the global balance of power and the potential it holds to keep China's presence and power within Africa in check.

Shree Jain, UGC Junior Research Fellow, Symbiosis School of International Studies, Symbiosis International (Deemed) University, Pune & **Sukalpa Chakrabarti**, Associate Professor & Deputy Director, Symbiosis School of International Studies, Symbiosis International (Deemed) University, Pune.

“The Dualistic Trends of Sinophobia and Sinophilia: Impact on Foreign Policy Towards China”

Like the Machiavellian prince, in the last few years the middle kingdom has invited both fascination and fear, admiration and contempt. The popular polling data findings reveal nuanced and conflicted phenomenon of “Sinophobia” as well as “Sinophilia” witnessed across the world nations. One view of China is that of an "autocratic," "anti-democratic" regime provoking anxiety and suspicion reflected in a trending wave of anti-China sentiment, evolving into “Sinophobia”, with its prevalence and intensity highlighted in increasing cases of racism and violence toward immigrant Chinese after the novel corona virus outbreak. The growing intensity of Sinophobia is noticed in countries with a barging influx of Chinese investment coming with Chinese land grab and loss of native jobs. However, another view is that of a nation inspiring huge admiration for its economic development and traditional culture. China has been gaining popularity not only for its brands, electronics and educational institutions but also for its language and traditional arts. An increasing number of travelers and students are becoming Sinophile charmed with its unique culture and practices. Research says that such public sentiments and general perceptions are one of the important factors in determining foreign policy preferences and choices of their country.

This research paper provides a glimpse into the correlation between the sentiments of Sinophobia or Sinophilia and the nature of bilateral relations with China. It illustrates multiple cases of how negative public attitude is correlated with aggressive foreign policy posture towards China and vice versa. The study utilizes major world surveys and public opinion polls to gauge the collective public views and perceptions of China and examines its salience in foreign policy decision-making with a pluralist approach.

Rahul Nath Chaudhury, Research Fellow, Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), New Delhi & **Pravin Jadhav**, Assistant Professor, Institute of Infrastructure Technology Research and Management (IITRAM), Ahmedabad.

“Capturing the Growth of Chinese Investment in India”

India noticed an upsurge in Chinese Investment inflows in recent time. These investments include both foreign direct investment (FDI) and portfolio or private equity (PE) investment. The total Chinese FDI inflows which was only a US \$ million until 2010, has touched the value of US \$ 173 million in 2019. Chinese PE investment in India increased from USD 381 million in 2016 to USD 4.6 billion in 2019. Chinese capital which was dominated by State Owned Enterprises (SOE) earlier, have expanded to several private players. Chinese companies have emerged as majority shareholders in several Indian start-up companies particularly in the technology sector. The economic association between them are flourishing ignoring a constant clash in the borders, noticeably in the Doklam and Galwan Valley with a few other minor clashes in different areas. Experts comment, in Galwan Valley, conflict reached to the highest level after the 1962 Sino-India war. The nations are touching new heights of economic relations and a shrinking political and

diplomatic relation at the same time. In this background, the current paper attempts to analyse the growing trade and investment relations between India and China. It tries to capture the nature and motives of Chinese investment and their possible impact in Indian economy. The paper also attempts to examine if the trade and investment relationship has been affected by their deteriorating political association.

Malini Tantri, Assistant Professor, Centre for Economic Studies and Policy, Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bengaluru & **Varadurga Bhat**, Assistant Professor, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru.

“Pollution Intensive Products in India’s Bilateral Trade with China”

Over the years, bilateral trade between India and China has witnessed robust growth. In fact, it was much faster than the growth of overall trade of these two countries. Though many studies have tried to document the trend and pattern of trade between these two giants, not much has been explored about how dirty the trade is between these countries. The pollution haven hypothesis that emerged in the 1990s focuses on the relocation of the polluting industries from developed countries with stringent environmental regulations to developing countries with lax regulations. From a trade perspective, it was studied by analysing the trade data on pollution-intensive products. However, the pattern of trade in pollution-intensive products between the two emerging or developing economies has remained unexplored so far. Our study tries to fill this gap by analysing the trends in bilateral trade between India and China in pollution-intensive industries, using the data collected from the UN Comtrade dataset based on the Standard Industrial Trade Classification (SITC) codes for 1991-2018. Trade indices will be calculated to estimate the comparative advantage, competitiveness, complementarity, net exports, and intra-industry trade. While doing so, we would also explore who is the net importer of pollution-intensive products between India and China. The study assumes importance because of the increased degree of interdependence and the rise in intra-industry trade in different sectors among the developing economies in recent years. The paper also throws light on the environmental policy stringency in India and China. It offers fresh evidence on whether the Pollution heaven hypothesis holds good between the two developing countries.

Thematic Panel III: Society and Politics

Prateeksha Tiwari, PhD Candidate, Centre for East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

“Imagining the Digital Public Sphere in Xi’s China: Looking at the #Metoo Movement Through the Eyes of Castells and Habermas”

Since the turn of the 21st century, informatisation has been the cornerstone of the CPC’s strategy for overall national security, economic, and social development. In early 2021, the number of Internet users in China approached the one billion-mark(Forbes, 2021). As the Internet and mobile communication networks become a fundamental infrastructure of new forms of organisation and social relationships in China, it can be described as what sociologist Manuel Castells termed as a network society, one “whose social structure is made up of networks powered by micro-electronics-based information and communications technologies” (Castells, 2004, p. 4; Interview with Manuel Castells, 2008).

As a result of these developments, online spaces are being widely used by the Chinese netizens to communicate, share, and discuss their thoughts and opinions on matters ranging from

personal to international. This presents a fundamental dilemma in front of the CPC—to promote ICTs for economic development but to prevent their usage for social and political mobilisation.

In this paper, we will analyse the intersections of China’s bustling online spaces with people’s socioeconomic lives to examine the kind of identities, coalitions, and conflicts which arise (Castells, 2004). As the Party-State tightens its control over citizens’ expression in spaces online and otherwise, we will focus on the contours of these online spaces using sociologist Jürgen Habermas’s concept of structural transformation of public spheres (Habermas, 1991).

Shruti Jargad, Research Assistant, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi; Yenching Scholar (2019-2021), Peking University, Beijing.

“Recruitment Strategy of the Chinese Communist Party in the Xi Era”

Chinese Communist Party’s continued resilience as a Leninist organization in the post-economic reforms period has been a topic of much intellectual enquiry. At the same time, internal challenges like ideological weakness, factionalism, corruption, etc., have weakened party organization and maligned public opinion, raising questions on the Party’s legitimacy to rule. Hence, since ascending as the paramount leader, President Xi Jinping has undertaken extensive political reform and party-building campaigns. One such important reform has been in the recruitment of new members. Research has shown that CCP’s recruitment strategy differs, corresponding to broader regime agenda. President Xi, too, while ushering in the ‘New Era’, has focused on reshaping the Party organization and populating it with members who would be loyal to the Party and its ideology.

This essay probes President Xi’s new recruitment strategy for rank-and-file members, who, for a mass organization like the CCP, are crucial to maintaining effective governance at the grassroots while also setting standards of behaviour, according to Party norms, for the larger public. The paper utilises two types of data points: text from the Party documents and membership data between 2009-2020, to give a detailed understanding of the process of recruitment, the policy changes introduced in the Xi era, and their impact. It is shown that the screening for candidates has been tightened to ensure political loyalty, while the trend of incorporating the younger and the more educated candidates continues. However, after a disruptive first phase, when qualitative changes have been introduced and established, recruitment in terms of total numbers has once again gone up since 2016. The last section reflects on the broader agenda of Xi’s regime that is driving and, in turn, being affected by such reforms.

Niharika Ravi, Student, School of Law, SVKM’s NMIMS (Deemed to be University), Navi Mumbai.

“Feminism, Expansionism, and Population Control in China: How the Utilitarian One-Child Policy is Still a Women’s Rights Nightmare”

September 25, 1980 was hailed as a red-letter day for China, for it was on that day that Bonaparte’s sleeping giant awoke to impose near-complete restrictions on reproduction and introduced a stringent and rather infamous one-child policy. In 2016, fears of a rapidly ageing population drove the government to relax the policy to a two-child policy, and further relaxations on reproductive bans in 2021 have enabled the institution of a three-child policy.

China’s regulation of population by imposing authoritarian directives restricting reproductive rights is perhaps best justified by China’s utilitarian ideals, as is its suppression of women’s rights manifesting in its oppression of women’s bodily agency. This paper explores these justifications by connecting the dots between feminist ideas, the one-child policy, and the ideological expansion of population control policies across the world post-1980. It explores the failures of soft law in dealing

with China's archaic and pejorative outlook on motherhood and further seeks to discover whether the idea of population control that was born in China has affected women and populations outside the nation.

Phenomena and subsets of feminism like the May Fourth Feminism Movement in China are briefly explored in the global context herein to discern whether such movements have historically sought to control women more than they sought to liberate them. In this connection, this paper submits that though there have been relaxations in the population control policy in recent times, China continues to use women's bodies as instruments to propel development and expansion of the ideal Chinese society.

Snigdha Konar, PhD Candidate, Centre for Chinese and South-East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

“Womb Politics in China: Abortions, Sterilizations and Surrogacy in Sheng Keyi's Fiction”

Sheng Keyi writes about the plight of women, especially rural women. She had spent considerable time working at a family planning hospital. She wrote about sterilizations, surrogacy, body trade and abortions using combination of realism and surrealism in *Northern Girls* (2008), *The Womb* (2018) and *The Metaphor Detox Centre* (2018). Li Sijiang is forcibly sterilized by the corrupt Family Planning Police and medical practitioners, depriving her of right to reproduce. Zhang Weimei carries surrogate babies facing exploitation in form of social stigma and meagre compensation. Sheng Keyi reveals bio-politics in the Chinese society and shows that women have become scapegoat in the process of reproduction. She states although the One Child Policy has been withdrawn in 2015, Chinese women continue to have no control over their own bodies. China's aging population crisis shows the after-effects of China's One Child Policy. Surrogacy might be a solution to deal with China's population aging problem, which is the result of women postponing marriage, delaying childbirth and preferring one child. In *The Metaphor Detox Centre*, Sheng shows the Chinese government striking a deal with the God of Death to rent wombs of female ghosts to repopulate the town. Needless to say, most of her works have either been banned or have been censored partly in China. The paper connects the content of her novels to debates on China's family planning policies through critical reading of the texts and analysis of ground reality. The paper discusses the exploitation of women (wombs) in order to control population and reasserts the authoritarian grip of the overarching role of the Party in the private space and everyday life of Chinese citizens.

Special Lecture

Frank Pieke, Professor of Modern China Studies, Leiden University, Leiden.

“Governance, Culture and Superpower in the Transformation of Chinese Communist Party Rule”

The CCP cannot be belittled as an autocracy desperate to find ways and means to continue its hold on power. The changes in Party dominance that are currently taking place amount to a fundamentally new ambition. Maoist techniques to instill belief in the Party's sacred mission have come back with a vengeance. The power of the central leadership and especially of Xi Jinping himself is felt much more directly and uniformly all across the country. Most importantly, the Party has assumed direct responsibility for governance. The Party is imposing itself onto the whole of the Chinese nation, its culture and its civilization in ways that have been unheard of since the start of

the reforms. The Party's revamped united front policies on minorities, religions and overseas Chinese, for instance, blur belonging to the Chinese nation and loyalty to the Party and its policies. Moreover, the Party's legitimacy is being shored up by civilizational and even religious claims intended to put its rule on lasting, if not perpetual basis. The Party's new modalities of all-encompassing dominance are a way to turn the Party into the embodiment of the Chinese nation, whose rule can never again be questioned, let alone challenged, priming China to become the strongest power in the world.

Special Panel III: Social Dimensions and Disruptions Caused by Covid-19 in China and India

Biao Xiang, Director, Max Planck Institution for Social Anthropology, Halle (Saale).

“Immobilizing Capabilities”

COVID experiences in India and China show that, effective mobility restrictions rely on organized mobilities that ensure the delivery of essential goods and services whenever needed. Widespread socioeconomic security amongst residents is another precondition for a lockdown to work. So, what would happen if mobility restrictions are imposed in a society that lack these capabilities to sustain immobility? How do we measure for those capabilities?

Cody Abbey, Project Manager, Stanford China Center on China's Economy and Institutions, Stanford University, Stanford.

“Tracking the Effects of COVID-19 on Rural China Over time”

China issued strict nationwide guidelines to combat the COVID-19 outbreak in January 2020 and gradually loosened the restrictions on movement in early March. Little is known about how these disease control measures affected the 600 million people who live in rural China. On the panel, I will present the results of large-scale empirical studies conducted on the socioeconomic effects of quarantine measures implemented in rural China during the pandemic. In one study, we conducted three rounds of interviews with informants from 726 villages in seven provinces, accounting for over 25% of China's overall rural population. The survey collected data on rural quarantine implementation; COVID-19 infections and deaths in the survey villages; and effects of the quarantine on employment, income, education, health care, and government policies. These findings will be supplemented with results of a second survey, which compared the differences in the education received by rural and urban students during school closures in two prefectures of Henan province in central China. Examining the effects of the COVID-19 restrictions on economically vulnerably rural populations in China may help guide other middle- and low-income countries in their containment and restorative processes.

Bhim B. Subba, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science/School of Social Science, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad; Visiting Associate Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

““Serving the People” in Crisis: Pandemic Philanthropy in India and China”

Covid pandemic witnessed a growth of philanthropy across the globe. The crisis shaped the nature of philanthropic outreach and priorities vis-a-vis normal times. Altruism, although not unknown in India and China, is not profound as compared to other countries. However, the present

pandemic situation, India—one of the most affected countries, and China—where first outbreak occurred, observed a surge in philanthropic activities as indicated by reports released by different national and international agencies. This paper/presentation is a preliminary work that will analyse these datasets/studies comparatively and study the process and trends of giving back to the society—'serving the people' by private individuals, family and business charities and government in India and China during disasters in general, and covid pandemic in the present case.

Sowmiya Ashok, Independent Journalist, former Beijing Correspondent, Indian Express.

“Algorithmic Governance and the Platform Economy through the Covid-19 Pandemic”

The long form research essay looks at algorithmic governance and the platform economy through the Covid-19 pandemic with specific focus on the Chinese food delivery platform Meituan. World over, and more specifically in China which went under lockdown as early as January 2020, the food delivery sector saw a massive boom. Food delivery alone raked in the bulk of revenues after Meituan travel vertical was disrupted by the pandemic. By February 2021, the company had hit USD 300 billion market cap making it officially the third-largest tech company in China, averaging 26 transactions per user per year. As of May 2021, it averages about 64 million monthly active users in China so you can imagine the scale.

However, the men and women who kept the cogs in the wheel, turning for companies to gain a larger share of the pie, were themselves deprived fundamentally by the design of the algorithm. Simply put, the algorithm is designed to create animosity between platform users and the delivery riders wherein the platform inherently shifts the pressure of receiving orders and maintaining a smooth flow onto the delivery riders. All this is done without making any effort to regularize their contracts, keeping delivery riders in the realm of "outsourced" riders, and shirking any real responsibility towards worker safety and wellbeing.

The essay compares the situation in China to the platform companies in India and found that in both cases the delivery workers bore the brunt of an already punishing year. As more and more unemployed people, many of them migrants, entered the gig economy, the algorithm inherently fostered an exploitative model that kept the system moving smoothly at the cost of basic labour rights. The essay briefly discusses the way forward in which customers play a larger role by being aware and asking the right questions of platforms while enjoying the ease with which their order is delivered to their doorstep.

Thematic Panel IV: History and Cultural Linkages

Divya Pokhriyal, PhD Candidate & Guest Faculty, Department of East Asian Studies, University of Delhi, Delhi.

“Evolution on Queenship as an Institution in Imperial China”

The normative ideal in Chinese imperial tradition marginalized women to the domestic sphere in the palace. This did not stop powerful women from becoming de-facto rulers who handled the affairs of the state. After the reign of Wu Zetian (690-705) – the only Empress in Chinese history – the imperial court and her successors institutionalized mechanisms to prohibit a woman from ever-amassing absolute authority. They did this by either not appointing the princesses and concubines of emperors to the position of the empress or choosing princesses only from non or lower elite families. This, however, did not put an end to the reign of powerful empresses in China. It is interesting to note how women in power legitimized their rule in a deeply conservative society. Their

long reigns were a direct challenge to the idea of the Son of Heaven and Mandate of Heaven- ideas that were central in Chinese history. How did they dodge the normative tradition which equated female authority with misrule? Did the lineage of the dynasty affect how they treated queenships? It is often argued that women only got a chance to rule when their emperor was ill, dead, or too young to handle the affairs of the state. Female rulership in China was never seen as an ideal, and yet in most occasions tested the limits of what could be. Dowagers tried to legitimize their reign either by invoking religion, tradition or using cosmic titles and vocabulary. Dynastic continuity in China, therefore, owes a lot to female rulership, which was essential during periods of political turmoil at the imperial court. Recent scholarship has emphasized areas that had been previously unexplored or underexplored, such as queenly patronage, political representation, diplomatic activity, and political agency in Chinese history. This paper will make a modest attempt to contribute to the scholarship on the institution of Queenship in China and the relationship between gender and power in Chinese history by highlighting the factors that enabled/affected the evolution of Queenship in China prowess of the empresses themselves.

Diki Sherpa, PhD Candidate, Department of History, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong.

“Native Administration in Early Colonial Hong Kong: Appointing Native Chinese Peace Officers”

After Hong Kong Island was formally ceded to the British government in 1842, native administration posed a serious challenge. Shortage of resources and increasing social tension during the period added to it further. Moreover, the status of Hong Kong as a sovereign crown colony was contested as Qing emperor continue to claim legal jurisdiction over the local population in Hong Kong even after its secession. In the post cession period, asserting sovereignty and securing legitimacy of ‘foreign’ rule remain a major pre-occupation of the British government in Hong Kong. Co-opting ‘natives’ in the colonial administration was intended to achieve these ends. However, Native Chinese Peace Officers which worked on the principle of Chinese Baojia system – a traditional form of neighborhood policing, required reform to suit the colonial needs. This paper will look into the aim and rationales for creating of Native Chinese Peace Officers in Colonial Hong Kong in early 1844.

Tiasangla Longkumer, PhD Candidate, Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; ICS-HYI Fellow (2017).

“Scientific Medicine in Colonial India and Imperial China: A Study of Rockefeller Foundation Philanthropy in Medical Education”

The Oriental Education Commission established in 1909 introduced Rockefeller’s philanthropic activities to China and India. Medical education before the entry of the Rockefeller Foundation (RF) was to a significant extent established by the influence of Japanese imperialism and medical missionaries in China and colonial medicine in India. In colonial India, modern scientific medicine located itself in the British colonial policy of the 19th century. Rockefeller’s framework of medical education followed the famous Flexnerian reforms which emphasised a hospital based curative approach to healthcare. The establishment of Peking Union Medical College (PUMC) with the creation of the China Medical Board in China and the establishment of the All-India Institute of Public Health and Hygiene (AIHPH) aimed to modernize medical education in both the countries. The establishment of PUMC and AIHPH in both its theoretical and technical aspects, did not occur in isolation but framed within a context that favored and condition them. RF entered both China and India at a time when medical education became a point of conflict between colonial control and national sovereignty. Colonial and Imperial powers viewed Chinese and Indians as weak nation with

sick people. In order to challenge this notion, nationalist and medical elites both embraced scientific medicine to rebuild a strong healthy nation. RF's sustained emphasis on science and technology legitimized an American scientific influence and normalized a tradition of intellectual and professional elites in the medical circles of both China and India. Using archival resources, secondary literatures and in-depth interviews, this study attempts to trace the RF's historical development of medical education in China and India in depth, its impact on knowledge construction, role in shaping knowledge production in health and medicine, and the ideological and institutional implications of this knowledge production in the framing of modern scientific medical education in China and India.

Jana Chaudhuri, Founder, Institute of Heritage Research; former Deputy Director, Delhi Urban Heritage Foundation, Delhi Development Authority, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India; Fulbright Fellow 2010-2011.

“Historic Urban Landscape Approach: Application in China”

In 2011, upon years of reviews, discussion and deliberations, the UNESCO adopted the Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscape (HUL), a more inclusive and comprehensive approach to identify and understand the urban values, a key element for sustainable urban development for future cities by going beyond the historic ensemble. The HUL provides platform for a people centered approach where urban heritage acts as a catalyst for socio-economic development and also provides revenues for maintenance, restoration and rehabilitation. According to the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goal 11, cultural heritage management effectively contributes in the making of cities safe, inclusive, resilient and sustainable. This also brings urban heritage to the core of urban planning and further gives a new impetus to the 2011 UNESCO Recommendations on HUL Approach. To implement HUL onto ground reality, the UNESCO World Heritage Institute of Training and Research - Asia Pacific (WHITRAP), Shanghai selected eleven Pilot cities across the region aimed at designing and developing them to strategize heritage management for sustainable future planning and development. The cities from China among these pilot cities included Shanghai, Suzhou (Jiangsu), Tongli (Jiangsu) and Dujiangyan (Sichuan). This paper offers systematic and logical analysis to understand adaptation of the HUL in these Pilot cities of China and makes an attempt to assess the rationale behind selection of these cities. The paper also tries to focus on how HUL has been applied in the four pilot cities as an approach for heritage management, a tool for its application as well as a heritage resource. The author makes a comparative analysis to layout generic principles from the findings for further research. The paper is based mainly on secondary sources.

Premmi Wahengbam, PhD Candidate, Department of History, Gauhati University, Guwahati.

“Peking Opera and Shumang Leela: Bridging the Arts”

Asian performing arts have a history of varied artistic manifestations through ages, mainly due to its multiple cultural interactions. This, in turn, facilitates the building of many similarities and differences in its arts with neighbouring states. Arts evolve taking into consideration various elements of either indigenous or foreign cultures. They contribute substantially to the development and enrichment of many cultural expressions. This paper studies the popular art form of two countries: China and India. China's Peking Opera and India's Shumang Leela are worth studying side by side. Both occupy a prominent place in the theatre world because of their unique features of transvestism, cross-dressing, unisex theatre troupes, and also form a part of traditional folk theatre. Using historical and cultural perspectives, the paper examines any cultural linkages and influences between China and India's North-eastern state of Manipur. By comparing and contrasting

the two theatrical art forms, the paper attempts to trace any existing cultural contact between the two nation-states.

Thematic Panel V: Social Practices and Cultural Dimensions

Subham Dutraj, PhD Candidate, Sikkim University, Gangtok.

“Confucianism in Application: Retracing the Evolution of Confucian Ideals and Its Practical Implementation in Contemporary Chinese Society”

China, as one of the ancient living civilizations in the world, has and is still being shaped by a long, continued history of ideological orientations. In its journey of evolution, the school of thought termed rujia (Confucianism) has been found to have played a critical role in shaping its identity. Not only did Confucianism, as a dominant political philosophical system succeed in emerging as an influential school of thought during the Warring States Period (403-221 BCE), and later as official state ideology during the late Han times (206 BCE-220 CE), but it continued to closely impact the intellectual discourse during the three millennia long imperial rule in pre-modern China, displaying hybrid variants such as “idealistic Confucianism” in Mengzi (371-289 BCE), “naturalistic Confucianism” in Xunzi (298-238 BCE), “yin yang Confucianism” in Dong zhongshu (179-104 BCE), “Daoistic Confucianism” in Yang Xiong (53 BCE-18 CE), followed by its reinterpretation as the School of Principle with philosophers, Han Yu (768-824 CE) and Li Ao (fl. 798 CE) and as Neo-Confucianism or School of Mind under Wang Yang Ming (1472-1529 CE). After almost five decades of Communist persecution from 1919-1979, upon being perceived as the root cause of decadent feudal tendencies, an attempt was made by the ruling Communist Party to revive Confucianism, post Cultural Revolution era (1966-1976) in order to reconstruct China’s cultural identity, a trend termed as “New Confucianism” by philosopher, Tu Weiming. In recent times, Xi Jinping’s administration has drafted mechanisms to inculcate Confucian ideals of harmonious living, humane and righteous governance, sincerity and conscientious in work ethics, and propriety and filial piety in family relations at the domestic front, while projecting its image as a responsible nation-state in the international community. The central argument presented in this paper is that Confucianism has long transcended its status of being just a political system of philosophy, and has permeated deep into the complex matrix of mainland China’s national character and identity. The study would attempt to retrace the evolutionary trajectory of Confucianism from theory into praxis, and examine its application in various aspects of contemporary Chinese society, including political and economic initiatives, cultural practices, and societal trends. The research investigation would employ the historical method of critical analysis here.

Subhendu Ghosal, PhD Candidate & Guest Faculty, Cheena Bhavana, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan.

“Voice of Netizens: Understanding China in the New Era”

Ever since the introduction of worldwide web in 1994, the development of the Internet in China has gathered momentum since then and now China has topped the list of internet users with 829 million internet users as of Dec 2018(CNNIC -Feb2019) in the world and its increasing. Nowadays with the free access to WiFi, Internet has become pervasive and inseparable daily necessity in people’s life, particularly among the youth. The ever-changing technology of the Internet reflected in language is the emerging of myriads of neologisms relative to today’s society. With the rapid progress and easy access to social networking, online communication has become the common occurrence for Chinese netizens, hence the spring up of internet neologisms. These newly coined words adopted by netizens enter the language and provide the vocabularies suitable to the

need of user and reflects much of the innovation and individualism of the netizens themselves. These new expressions mirrors emerging phenomena, fresh changes, and trending fashions in all aspects of social life as well as play an increasingly important role in giving new directions to people's psyche. These newly coined words and expression are formed beyond the boundaries of conventional linguistic regulation and are full of profound social and cultural connotations, which render it necessary to make an inquiry into these terminologies because it offers an ocean of potential for understanding the rooted socio-cultural aspects of present China. Interestingly many occasions these newly coined terminologies face severe censorship of the govt but to everyone's surprise the netizens continue to create innovative ways to express their views, and this race continues. In this paper I will be discussing on 10 newly coined such words or terminologies and its origin which came into popular use in recent few years. The investigation will unveil much the constant change in the Chinese society and people's response to it.

Nishit Kumar, PhD Candidate, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; ICS-HYI Fellow (2018).

“Mo Yan as China's Cultural Capital: Why and How”

It is well-known that in the last few decades China has been increasingly interested in using soft power as one of the components of its diplomatic efforts. It is also well documented that China has been nurturing a desire for Nobel Prize since the 1940s. In the year 2000, Gao Xingjian, an author born in China and later naturalized as French citizen, was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature. The Chinese government responded with strong disapproval accusing the Nobel Committee of ulterior political motive. What is more, Chinese press and academia declared Gao Xingjian to be a French writer. In 2012, China's quest for a Nobel Prize in Literature came to an end when Mo Yan was awarded the Literature Nobel; the Nobel Committee in its citation commended Mo Yan for his hallmark style of hallucinatory realism that fused folktales, history and the contemporary. As was to be expected, the Chinese government and the people, especially in the literary and academic circle, celebrated this as a long overdue honor for Chinese literature. It was also mentioned in the media, before and after the award that considering the rising international stature of China as a strong political power it was time that the award of Literature Nobel was bestowed on a Chinese writer. Though, this award to Mo Yan brought its own share of controversies both at home and abroad, this seemed like a perfect opportunity for the Chinese state to use this achievement for enhancement of its image. In this context, this paper will try to explore the question whether or not Mo Yan could be successfully used by China as cultural capital, if so to what extent.

Madhurendra Jha, Assistant Professor, Department of Chinese Studies, School of Languages, Doon University, Dehradun.

“Involution or Alienation? Visiting the Issue through Jia Zhangke's 'Hometown Trilogy'”

内卷, translated as “involution”, was the buzzword in the Chinese social media in the year 2020. With “involution” two more phenomenon, widely known as the “丧文化”, which can be loosely translated as the “culture of dispiritedness” and the “躺平主义”, loosely translated as “lying flat-ism” gained currency. If “involution” is the issue the urban youth of China is facing in a highly commercialized and competitive China of today, then “dispiritedness” seems to be its symptom and “lying flat-ism” seems to be the cure being adopted by the “dispirited” youth. With such sociological issues being the talk of the town, these questions naturally arise, is “involution” a new issue that the Chinese urban youth is encountering today? Or “involution” in itself is yet another symptom of a larger issue, which is alienation? My inquiry into these questions make me turn towards another form of popular media, that is films. To find the answers I propose to take up the works of Jia

Zhangke, an auteur of the “sixth generation”, the central theme of whose work I describe as “the desultory wanderings of the alienated souls”.

I argue that a critical and close reading of Jia Zhangke’s ‘Hometown Trilogy’, which includes *Xiao Wu*, *Platform* and *Unknown Pleasures* will present us with such youth who in the face of the rapid changes brought by the post-1979 economic reforms were filled with a sense of powerlessness, meaninglessness, normlessness, isolation and self-estrangement, all being the different forms of alienation as proposed by Melvin Seeman. Having done so, I will look into the genesis of the current issue of “involution” and its manifestation in different forms to argue that the Chinese urban youth experiencing “involution” and thereby “dispiritedness”, as a counter of which “lying flat-ism” is being advocated, are experiencing the same subjective feelings of alienation in a given objective sociological environment as experienced by the youth in the ‘Hometown Trilogy’ of Jia Zhangke, thereby concluding that in reel life and in real life, the youth of China can be seen as a subject in crisis, the crisis being alienation.

Special Panel IV: Media, Society and Culture Practices in China Today

Ananth Krishnan, China Correspondent, The Hindu.

“Social Media in the India-China Conflict”

The presentation will analyse the role of social media in the 2020 border conflict between India and China, and how it has changed the information landscape. The focus will be on the Chinese military's use of social media throughout the more than year-long conflict, and how it has been used effectively and successively to mobilise public opinion in China. It will also briefly look at India's responses and challenges. The presentation will look at how the Chinese military, through the selective leaking of images and videos through 'nonofficial' social media handles on both Weibo and Twitter, framed then narrative around the conflict. It will also look at the implications of new legislation in China, such as laws invoking stiff criminal penalties for ‘defaming martyrs’ that were invoked to arrest several bloggers who questioned the military’s accounts, on narrowing the space for alternative narratives.

Lance Gore, Senior Research Fellow, East Asian Institute, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore, Singapore.

“Socialism without Social Development in China: The Consequences at Home and Abroad”

“Socialism with Chinese characteristics”, even in Xi’s “new era”, is a misnomer. China’s “four modernizations”, plus the fifth added recently by Xi—the modernization of the governance and governing capability—are all about statism instead of socialism. Socialism is by definition about the society, but social development in China is severely retarded by the power structure super-imposed on society by the party-state. The omnipresence of the state with a paranoia of losing control has resulted in the shutting down of social space in some areas and its shrinkage in others. That in turn chokes off the spontaneous growth of public morality and serves as disincentives for character-building in the private sphere. The moral dwarfism is manifested in a population embracing an opportunistic culture and adopting behaviours that frustrate the state’s effort at modernizing state governance and establishing the rule of law. It also leads to the corruption of the state by society, and explains in part China’s shortage of soft power abroad.

Arun Teja Polcumpally, Research Assistant, Centre for Security Studies, O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonapat; Doctoral Fellow, Jindal School of International Affairs, O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonapat & **Vatsala Mishra**, Threat and Risk Analyst for Asia-Pacific region for a financial institution in Pune, India.

“Current CPC Regime’s Extreme Censorship Control Using Technology”

Increasingly, citizens of China (excluding the XUAR region) have voluntarily given up their freedom in return of stability and security. Also, what seems a constraint to us might be a normal thing for the Chinese not worth discussing. Apart from what western scholars talk about, China seems to be very peaceful regarding the censorship within its media. What made them so patient? Is that the threat by the regime or getting oppressed is there in their psyche? The answer to these questions is that it is both. Further, it has been substantiated from the historical trace of censorship which has been normalized in Chinese society. Various regions of China such as Xinjiang have experienced extreme forms of censorship irrespective of the constitutional rights provided to their citizens. Social credit system is strictly implemented and the application used by the people of Xinjiang in providing the social credit monitors the dutifulness. In order to paint a surreal image of the China or its near future, one has to read George Orwell’s “1984.” As a recent article has espoused the close similarities between Orwell’s dystopian novel 1984, and also with German Democratic Republic’s intelligence agency – commonly known as *Stasi*. The impact of vague definitions of national security and a total censorship of thoughts and media has caused in the words of James Leibold – “Husbands to mistrust their wives; sisters their brothers; Uyghurs other Uyghurs; and Party officials one another.” It will not be wrong to say in the words of Alejandro Jodorowski - *“Birds Born in a Cage think flying is an illness.”*

Valedictory Session

Shih Chih-yu, National Chair of the Ministry of Education and University Chair of National Taiwan University, Taipei.

“State and Society in the Studies of China’s Democracy: A Critique of Liberal Resilience”

The notion of “authoritarian resilience”, designed to explain how, by institutionalizing and professionalizing political control, the Chinese Communist Party seems to have nullified the expectation that civil society will rise to democratize the regime, reflects a libertarian anxiety about any alternative cosmology that denaturalizes the state of nature assumed by liberalism. The talk will attempt to present a critical translation of democracy between Chinese and Western thought, informed respectively by Confucianism and liberalism. In addition, a relational lens sensitizes the way in which the population and its leaders are related and explains why Confucian leaders care about being benevolent even without a power-limiting autonomous society. Specifically, a comparison of the social contract theory and the analogy of a “natural (or heavenly) contract” is intended to critique the imagined dichotomy between the state and society in libertarian China studies. The critical translation as well as the comparative critique reveals a cyclical view of history that neither romanticizes nor demonizes democracy, authoritarianism, or China.

PARTICIPANTS

Inaugural Session



Ashok K. Kantha, Director, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Ashok K. Kantha joined as the Director of the Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi on 31st March, 2017. A career diplomat, he was Ambassador of India to China until January 2016. Prior to this, he was Secretary (East) at Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi with responsibility for about 65 countries in India's extended neighborhood. His previous assignments include High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka and Malaysia, Consul General in Hong Kong, Deputy Chief of Mission in Kathmandu (Nepal), and Joint Secretary (East Asia) in Ministry of External Affairs. Earlier, Kantha served in different capacities at Indian Missions in Singapore, China and the USA, and at headquarters in New Delhi. In his diplomatic career spanning over 38 years, Kantha specialized in Asian affairs, with a particular focus on China. Apart from three assignments in China, he served as Joint Secretary (East Asia) and Director (China) at Ministry of External Affairs for periods of four years each, closely involved in the formulation and implementation of India's foreign policy in respect of China and East Asia. He has an advanced certificate in Chinese language from National University of Singapore. Kantha joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1977.



Peter Rimmele, Resident Representative to India, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, India Office, New Delhi.

Peter Rimmele is currently the Resident Representative of Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Office, India. He has a First Law Degree from Freiburg University, as well as a Second Law Degree from the Ministry of Justice Baden-Württemberg, Germany and a M.A. in Geography. After working as a jurist, judge and lecturer, he took public office as Ministerialrat, Head of Division at the State Ministry of the Interior in Saxony, Germany, from November 1991 on until 2000. There he first served in the Police and Security and later in the Local Government Department. On behalf of the German Foreign Ministry, he served in East Timor as Registrar General, Head of Civil Registry and Notary Services (UNTAET), and became later the principal Advisor for Governance Reform for GIZ (German International Cooperation) to the Ministry of Administrative Reform and the Anti-Corruption-Commission of the Republic of Indonesia, where he served for 7 years. He then moved to Rwanda, also as Principal Advisor Good Governance/Justice Program. Earlier he was Resident Representative Lebanon, Director of Rule of Law Program Middle East North Africa, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung



Bidyut Chakrabarty, Vice-Chancellor, Visa-Bharati University, Santiniketan.

Formerly a professor of Political Science, University of Delhi, Bidyut Chakrabarty who obtained his PhD from the London School of Economics and Political Science (UK) has been a prolific writer, with many books, published by globally-reputed publishers. He is an authority in Public Administration; he is widely cited for his original contribution to Gandhi's social and political thought; his book on the ideas of Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. is also widely-appreciated text; his book on coalition politics has received accolades for its distinctive approach to the phenomenon. He has a large number of articles, published in refereed academic journals with high impact factor.

He was also the nominee of the President of India for the JNU Executive Council (2015-2017); he is also a member of the Board of Studies, Nabakrushna Chaudhury Institute, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar.

An acclaimed academic, Professor Chakrabarty also held various academic assignments (Visiting Professor) in various renowned universities across the globe. Besides having brief stints as a Visiting Professor in the UK, Australia and Singapore, he was the first occupant of the Mahatma Gandhi Chair for Global Nonviolence at James Madison University, Virginia, USA. Recently, he was appointed the DAAD Professor in Germany, housed in the University of Hamburg.



Sabaree Mitra, Convener, 14th AICCS; Professor, Centre for Chinese and South East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Sabaree Mitra has been teaching Chinese Language, Literature and Culture in Jawaharlal Nehru University, since 1990. Her basic training has been in Chinese Language and Literature and her research interest includes contemporary Chinese literature, criticism and cultural history. Prof. Sabaree Mitra has presented papers in National and International Conferences, and has published research articles in many peer-reviewed academic journals of international repute. Her books include *Purbadiganter Kabita: Samakaleen tin china kabir ek jhalak* (2002), a collection of contemporary Chinese poetry translated into Bengali, *Literature and Politics in 20th century China: Issues and Themes* (2005), and *Chinese Women Writers and Gender Discourse (1976-1996)* (2008). In the last few years her interdisciplinary work has explored themes such as: "Body as a Site of Struggle and Resistance in the Asian Women's Writings: A Study of Chinese and Bengali Fiction since the 1970s", "Making of a 'People's Culture': Discourse & Praxis in China", "The Chinese Experience of Theorizing Women through Intercultural Dialogue: Contribution of Li Xiaojiang", "Tagore and Bengal's Social Modernity: Bringing Women to the Cultural Mainstream", and "Tagore's Path for Women's Emancipation: A Comparative Perspective with the Chinese Experience". Prof. Mitra is an Honorary Fellow in the Institute of Chinese Studies, and a member of the Editorial Board of *China Report*. She was the Chairperson of the Indian Expert Group, that compiled the *Encyclopedia of India-China Cultural Contacts* on behalf of the Ministry of External Affairs, GOI, in collaboration with the Chinese scholars. She is also a member of the Joint Study Group of the BCIM Economic Corridor instituted by the Ministry.



Shivshankar Menon, Visiting Professor of International Relations, Ashoka University, Sonapat; Chairman, Advisory Board, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Shivshankar Menon is an Indian diplomat, who served as National Security Adviser to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. He had previously served as the Foreign Secretary, the top diplomat in India. Prior to that, he was Indian High Commissioner to Pakistan, and Sri Lanka and ambassador to China and Israel. He is the author of *India and Asian Geopolitics: The Past, Present (2021)* and *Choices: Inside the Making of Indian Foreign Policy (2016)*.



Avijit Banerjee, Co-Convener, 14th AICCS; Professor, Cheena Bhavana, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan.

Avijit Banerjee is the Associate Professor & Head of the Department of Chinese Language & Culture (Cheena Bhavana) Visva-Bharati University. Dr. Banerjee has done his graduation, postgraduation and Ph.D. in Chinese language and literature from Visva-Bharati. He studied in China at Beijing Language University from Sept.1996 to July 1997 under the India-China Bilateral Cultural Exchange Programme. He was awarded a scholarship for attending a Short-Term Teacher's Training Programme held at Beijing Normal University, China from 9 July to 12 August 2007. He also has authored many articles and chapters in several volumes and co-edited a Chinese language book '中国青年眼中的印度' "zhongguo qingnian yanzhong de yindu" "India in the eyes of the Chinese Youth" in April 2016. Dr. Banerjee's research interest includes Chinese language and India-China cultural studies. He has also attended and presented papers in many international conferences in various cities of China.



Patricia Uberoi, Emeritus Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Patricia Uberoi is currently Emeritus Fellow at the Institute of Chinese Studies. Formerly, she was Professor of Social Change and Development at the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi, and editor of the journal, *Contributions to Indian Sociology*. Her writings are focused primarily on issues of family, kinship, marriage, sexuality and gender, and on India–China comparative studies. Among her published works are *Freedom and Destiny: Gender, Family and Popular Culture in India* (2006) and the edited / co-edited volumes, *Family, Kinship and Marriage in India* (1993), *Social Reform, Sexuality and the State* (1996), *Tradition, Pluralism and Identity* (1999), *Anthropology in the East: Founders of Indian Sociology and Anthropology* (2007), *Marriage, Migration and Gender* (2008), and (with Emiko Ochiai) *Asian Families and Intimacies* (Sage Benchmarks in Sociology, 4 vols, 2021).



Emiko Ochiai, Professor of Sociology, Graduate School of Letters, Kyoto University, Kyoto.

Emiko Ochiai (落合恵美子) is Professor of Sociology at Kyoto University, Japan. She is a family sociologist, family historian, and historical demographer and has been active in the field of gender studies. Her areas of interest are gender, family and the intimate sphere from historical and comparative perspectives. Her recent projects cover welfare state and migration to capture the simultaneous transformations in private lives and public institutions. Her English publications include *Asian Families and Intimacies*, 4 vols. (co-edited with Patricia Uberoi, Sage, 2021), *Transformation of the Intimate and the Public in Asian Modernity* (co-editorship with Hosoya Leo Aoi, Brill, 2014), *Asian Women and Intimate Work* (co-editorship with Aoyama Kaoru, Brill, 2013), *Asia's New Mothers* (co-editorship with Barbara Molony, Global Oriental, 2008), *The Stem Family in Eurasian Perspective: Revisiting House Societies, 17th-20th Centuries* (co-editorship with Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux, Peter Lang, 2009), and *The Japanese Family System in Transition: A Sociological Analysis of Family Change in Postwar Japan* (1997, LCTB International Library Foundation).



Mary E. John. Professor & Acting Director, Centre for Women's Development Studies, New Delhi.

Mary E John is Professor and currently Acting Director at the Centre for Women's Development Studies, New Delhi. She was Director of the Centre from 2006-2012 and before that the Deputy Director of the Women's Studies Programme at the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi from 2001-2006. Major earlier publications include *Discrepant Dislocations: Feminism, Theory and Postcolonial Histories* and *Women's Studies in India: A Reader*. In 2021 the co-edited volume *Women in the Worlds of Labour: Interdisciplinary and Intersectional Perspectives* and her new book *Child Marriage in an International Frame: A Feminist Review from India* have been published. She was the co-chair of a Task Force set up by the University Grants Commission to look into sexual harassment on Indian campuses and brought out the report *Saksham*:

Measures for Ensuring Safety of Women and Programmes for Gender Sensitization on Campuses (2013).

Song Yuanmeng, PhD Candidate, Kyoto University, Kyoto.



Song Yuanmeng, (宋圆梦) is currently pursuing PhD at Kyoto University, majoring in sociology both in Masters and PhD. She earned her Bachelor's degree at Zhejiang University of Technology in China, majoring in Japanese. Her research interest is mainly centered around the promotion process of two-child policy, and now the three-child policy in China, with a special focus on how the people in general perceive this policy and how they react to it. She has done research on the implementation of two-child policy, and people's reaction to it, by comparing reports in different Chinese media. At present she is engaged in a study to compare family planning in China, Japan and other countries to find the special features and the changes in bio-politics in China as a socialist country.

Usha Chandran, Assistant Professor, Centre for Chinese and South East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Adjunct Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.



Usha Chandran is Assistant Professor of Chinese at the Centre for Chinese and South East Asian Studies, JNU and Adjunct Fellow, the Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS), Delhi. She holds a PhD in Chinese on Gender issues in China from JNU. Her major research interests include gender and language, women's subjectivity in literature; birth of "new women" with modernity, gender issues in China and comparison with India, gendered impact of Covid-19 and sociological methodologies to approach social issues in China. Major publications include book chapters in Chinese; *Changing Image of Women in India and China - Drawing a few Parallels and Differences*, in Wei Guoying and Ma Yinan (Ed.), 'Essays from Asian Women's Forums- Gender Equality and Women's Development', Beijing University Press, 2013 and *Whatever Happened to Lu Xun's Nora*, in Chang Zhouqu et al (Ed.), 'Lu Xun in the Eyes of the World', CASS, 2016. In English; *A Women's World*, in Ira Pandey (Ed.) 'India China Neighbours Strangers', 2010, *Women's Share in the Sky at the 19th Party Congress: Outlook at the 19th Party Congress*, in Manoranjan Mohanty (Ed.), 'China at a Turning Point: Perspective after the 19th Party Congress'. Currently working on editing a volume on *Gender in Language and Expression*.

Thematic Panel I: Cultural Diversity and Identity Formation



Tejaswini Niranjana, Director, Centre for Inter-Asian Research & Dean, Online Programmes, Ahmedabad University, Ahmedabad.

Tejaswini Niranjana is Director, Centre for Inter-Asian Research, and Dean, Online Programmes. Before coming to Ahmedabad University, she was Professor and Head, Department of Cultural Studies, Lingnan University, Hong Kong, and Director, Centre for Cultural Research and Development. She is co-founder of the Centre for the Study of Culture and Society, Bangalore, which offered an innovative inter-disciplinary PhD programme from 2000-2012. During 2012-16, she headed the Centre for Indian Languages in Higher Education at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, and was Indian-language advisor to Wikipedia. Professor Niranjana is the author of *Siting Translation: History,*

Post-structuralism and the Colonial Context (University of California Press, 1992), *Mobilizing India: Women, Music and Migration between India and Trinidad* (Duke UP, 2006), and *Musicophilia in Mumbai: Performing Subjects and the Metropolitan Unconscious* (Duke UP, 2020). Her most recent edited volumes include *Genealogies of the Asian Present: Situating Inter-Asia Cultural Studies* (Orient Blackswan, 2015) with Wang Xiaoming; and *Music, Modernity and Publicness in India* (Oxford University Press, 2020). For her translations from Kannada into English, she has won the Central Sahitya Akademi Award, the Karnataka State Sahitya Akademi Award, and the DSC Prize for South Asian Literature. She won the 2021 National Translation Award for Prose for her English translation of the book *No Presents Please: Mumbai Stories*, an anthology of short stories in Kannada authored by Jayant Kaikini. The award is given by the American Literary Translators Association. She is curator of the Saath-Saath Project, a musical collaboration between Indian and Chinese performers: <http://saathsaathmusic.com/>, and producer of three documentary films based on her music research (directed by Surabhi Sharma).



Biatrisha Mukhopadhyay, PhD Candidate, Centre for Chinese and South-East Asian Studies, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Biatrisha Mukhopadhyay received a bachelor's degree in Chinese Language and Literature in 2013 from Centre for Chinese and South-East Asian Studies, School of Language Literature and Culture Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University. She pursued advanced learning course in Chinese language from Beijing Language and Culture University (BLCU) in 2014-15 under the scholarship offered jointly by Ministry of Human Resource and Development and China Scholarship Council. She also completed her M.A. in Chinese Language and Literature in 2016 from CCSEAS, JNU in 2016. She participated as a delegate in the Visiting Program for Young Sinologists (VPYS), organized by the Ministry of Tourism and Culture of PRC in September 2018. She was awarded M.Phil degree from JNU in 2019 for her dissertation "*A Study of Ancestor Worship and Relevant Rituals in Contemporary Chinese Culture*". Her research paper titled "*Concept of Rituals and Traditional Practices in Chinese Culture*" is published in 2020 in the book "*Understanding China in the 21st Century: Language, Culture, Society and Foreign Affairs*" (ISBN: 817026453-7) She is presently enrolled as a Ph.D. Research Scholar at CCSEAS, JNU. Her research interest areas include Chinese Culture and Society, Folk Customs, Traditions, Religion and Rituals.



Md. Yasin, PhD Candidate, Centre for East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Md Yasin is a PhD candidate at the Centre for East Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi. His research focuses on the history of China in the United Nations, China's UN policy and Self-Image. He also submitted his M. Phil in the same centre in 2017 titled "*China's Participation in United Nations Peacekeeping Operations, 2002-16*". In July 2017, he completed a one-month-long BRICS program at Fudan University, Shanghai. After completing his B.A. and M.A. in Chinese language, literature and culture from JNU, Yasin did a Post Graduate Diploma at Beijing Language and Culture University on a joint scholarship by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (India) and China Scholarship Council. He qualified

India's National Eligibility Test, with a Junior Research Fellowship (2015), and taught Chinese at Indian Universities such as Aligarh Muslim University, Apeejay Stya University and Doon University. From September 2018 – July 2020, he was a visiting fellow at Central China Normal University (Wuhan) and Peking University, and currently a visiting scholar at Harvard University on ICS-HYI fellowship. His recent publications have appeared on the websites of the *Institute of Chinese Studies* (ICS) and *Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement* (NIICE).



Kaustav Padmapati, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Royal School of Humanities and Social Sciences, The Royal Global University, Guwahati, Assam.

Dr. Kaustav Padmapati is currently working as an Assistant Professor at Department of Political Science, Royal School of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Assam Royal Global University, Guwahati, Assam. He teaches Political Science and International Relations at graduate and undergraduate level. He was also a guest faculty at Centre for South East Asian Study, Gauhati University. Previously, he also worked as Programme Officer at the Foreign Policy Division of Ananta Aspen Centre in New Delhi. Dr. Kaustav is a recipient of the Fulbright Nehru Doctoral Fellowship and was associated with the Center for Asian Studies, School of International Service, American University, Washington DC, USA as Visiting Fulbright Research Scholar and Adjunct Faculty. Kaustav holds a PhD. and M.Phil. in American Studies from the Center for Canadian, US & Latin American Studies, SIS, JNU, New Delhi. His research areas include China, Taiwan, East Asia, and Southeast Asia, ASEAN, US Foreign Policy, International relations, gender and alternative sexuality.



Daveirou Lanamai, Assistant Professor (Chinese), Department of Foreign Languages, Tezpur University, Tezpur.

Daveirou Lanamai is currently Assistant Professor (Chinese), Department of Foreign Languages and Research Scholar at the Department of Cultural Studies, Tezpur University, Assam. She completed her post-graduate degree from Centre for Chinese and South East Asian Studies, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Some of her publications include chapters and articles namely 'Parallels and Contrasts in the Popular Folklore of the Chinese and the Nagas' and 'Contested Borders and Borderlands in Northeast India: (IL)Legitimate Claims of Naga Identity Assertion'.



Poonam Surie, Adjunct Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Poonam Surie is an Adjunct Fellow at the Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi; an author, educator and Independent Researcher. Living across different continents has provided a diverse perspective and versatility to her writing. She has written about social welfare in India and China, and as an author about the philosophical underpinnings of civilizations, religion and contemporary Chinese society. She has presented papers at many national and international conferences.



Ritu Agarwal, Associate Professor, Centre for East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies.

Ritu Agarwal is an Associate Professor at Centre for East Asian studies, School of International Studies, JNU. She holds a Ph.D. in Chinese studies from University of Delhi. She completed her M.A. in Political science, JNU. Her Doctoral work explored the micro-level agrarian transformation in Yunnan province and she is currently engaged in questions of provincial transformation especially in Yunnan. Her research interests are: rural political economy, urbanization, gender studies and provincial politics. Dr. Ritu Agarwal studied Mandarin Chinese from Beijing language and Culture University, Beijing. She was a visiting scholar to Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences, Kunming, and visiting fellow to Yunnan Minzu University and Yunnan University recently. She was also affiliated to Chinese University of Hong Kong and East Asia Institute, National University of Singapore, Singapore to collect material for her research work.

Special Panel II: Chinese Influence in South Asia



Shivshankar Menon, Visiting Professor of International Relations, Ashoka University, Sonapat; Chairman, Advisory Board, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi; Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP), New Delhi.

Shivshankar Menon is an Indian diplomat, who served as National Security Adviser to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. He had previously served as the Foreign Secretary, the top diplomat in India. Prior to that, he was Indian High Commissioner to Pakistan, and Sri Lanka and ambassador to China and Israel. He is the author of *India and Asian Geopolitics: The Past, Present (2021)* and *Choices: Inside the Making of Indian Foreign Policy (2016)*.



Antara Ghosal Singh, former Research Associate, Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP), New Delhi.

Antara Ghosal Singh was formerly a Research Associate at the Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP), New Delhi. Her area of research includes China-India relations, China-India-US triangle, China in South Asia, Chinese foreign policy, China's domestic development among others. She is a graduate from Tsinghua University, School of Public Policy and Management, People's Republic of China and has been a Chinese language fellow at National Central University, Taiwan. Prior to CSEP, she has worked at Delhi Policy Group, National Maritime Foundation, Manohar Parrikar Institute of Defence Studies and Analysis (MPIDSA) and has a list of publications in national/international peer-reviewed journals, magazines, and newspapers. Before starting her career in academics, she has worked as a journalist with the Times of India and the Deccan Chronicle Group. She is also an alumna of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication. She speaks Bangla, Hindi, English, and Mandarin Chinese.



Amish Raj Mulmi, Author, *All Roads Lead North: Nepal's turn to China* (Context India/ Hurst UK 2021).

Amish Raj Mulmi is a Nepali writer based out of New Delhi. He is the author of *All Roads Lead North: Nepal's Turn to China* (2021). He is consulting editor at Writers' Side Literary Agency. Previously, he was digital editor at Juggernaut Books, and had also worked as commissioning editor with Hachette India and as a columnist at The Kathmandu Post. His writings have been published in Scroll.in, TheWire, New Indian Express, Himal Southasian, Mint, and National Geographic Traveller.



Chulanee Attanayake, Research Fellow, Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore, Singapore.

Chulanee Attanayake is a Research Fellow at Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS), National University of Singapore. She obtained her PhD from Central China Normal University in Wuhan, China. Prior to joining ISAS, she served as the Director (Research) of Institute of National Security Studies Sri Lanka – the national security think-tank under the Ministry of Defence, Sri Lanka. Her research areas include China and South Asia, Politics and Geopolitics in the Indo-Pacific, and Sri Lanka's Foreign Relations.



Shahtaj Mahmud, Senior Coordinator, Projects and Program, The Institute of Policy, Advocacy and Governance (IPAG), Dhaka.

Shahtaj Mahmud is the Senior Coordinator – Projects and Program at The Institute of Policy, Advocacy, and Governance (IPAG). With a degree in Economics from North South University in Dhaka, Shahtaj has undertaken proposal/bid/ concept note preparation, research, data analysis, data collection and collaborated with organizations such as CARE Austria, McKinsey on projects during her employment with IPAG. Prior to joining IPAG, she was working in both the project management and business development units at e.Gen Consultants Ltd., sister concern of IPAG. As a result, she is well versed and experienced in managing projects of donor organizations including the Asian Development Bank (ADB), World Bank, USAID in areas of smart agriculture, gender, education, and trade. She has handled cross country teams in some of her projects with team sizes ranging from 8 – 15, and was involved in stakeholder, quality, and scope management.



Constantino Xavier, Fellow in Foreign Policy and Security Studies, Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP), New Delhi.

Constantino Xavier is a Fellow in Foreign Policy and Security Studies at CSEP, and a Non-resident Fellow at the Brookings Institution. He leads the Sambandh Initiative on Regional Connectivity, which examines India's political, security and economic relations with the South Asian neighbourhood. He is currently writing a book on how democratic values influence India's foreign policy, with case studies on Nepal, Sri Lanka and Myanmar based on new archival sources and interviews. He is also part of several policy dialogues between India, the European Union and other Indo-Pacific powers, and frequently comments for the media. Dr. Xavier's research has been published in various journals and books, including *Asian Policy*, the *Oxford Handbook on Indian Foreign Policy*, and the *Routledge Handbook of China-India Relations*. He has taught and

lectured at various universities, as well as at Indian training institutions, including the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, the Foreign Service Institute, and the National Defence College. He received research awards from the United States Fulbright program and the Indian Council for Cultural Relations and holds a Ph.D. in South Asian studies from the Johns Hopkins University.

Thematic Panel II: International Trade and Foreign Policy



Alka Acharya, Professor, Centre for East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Honorary Fellow & former Director, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Alka Acharya is a professor of Centre for East Asian Studies (Chinese Studies) School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU). She was the Director and Senior Fellow at the Institute of Chinese Studies. She was Editor of the quarterly journal China Report (New Delhi) from 2005-2013. She was nominated by the Indian government as a member of the India-China Eminent Persons Group (2006-2008) and member of the National Security Advisory Board of the Government of India for two terms (2006-2008) and (2011-2012). She has authored a book China & India: Politics of Incremental Engagement, published in 2008. Her current research focuses on India-China-Russia Trilateral Cooperation and the Chinese strategic response to the post-cold war regional architecture, with special reference to China's neighborhood. She has been teaching courses on Chinese Foreign Policy and Political Economy to the Masters and M.Phil students and guiding doctoral research since 1993. Twelve scholars have so far been awarded a doctoral degree under her supervision. She is the joint editor of the book Crossing A Bridge of Dreams: 50 years of India-China, published in 2002, has contributed chapters to many books and regularly features in the Economic and Political Weekly.



Sunaina Bose, Masters in Development Studies, Indian Institute of Technology-Madras, Chennai; Research Associate, Museum of Art and Photography, Bengaluru.

Sunaina Bose is a Research Associate at the Museum of Art and Photography, Bangalore. She received her Master's degree in Development Studies from the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras. She has previously worked with the Institute of Chinese Studies and Feminism in India and has written for Postscript (EPW) and The Curious Reader. Her research interests lie at the intersection of postcolonial studies, development states and mass media.



Shree Jain, UGC Junior Research Fellow, Symbiosis School of International Studies, Symbiosis International (Deemed) University, Pune.

Shree Jain is a UGC Junior Research Fellow at the Symbiosis School of International Studies, Symbiosis International (Deemed) University, Pune. Her doctoral research investigates China's hard and soft power policy in India's neighborhood. Her areas of interest are India-China relations, Chinese diplomacy and Chinese language (Mandarin). Mrs. Shree Jain has worked as Ad-hoc Assistant Professor at the Department of Political Science, Ahmednagar

College. Her latest publications include: Shree Jain. "Chinese Ouvre." Defence & Security Alert. December 2020. Vol 12, Issue 03; and a few other web-based articles on issues of international relations, diplomacy and world politics.



Sukalpa Chakrabarti, Associate Professor & Deputy Director, Symbiosis School of International Studies, Symbiosis International (Deemed) University, Pune.

Presently Associate Professor (International Relations & Public Policy) & Deputy Director at the Symbiosis School of International Studies, Symbiosis International (Deemed) University, Pune. Dr. Sukalpa Chakrabarti has been teaching across specializations in politics, international relations and international business & economy at UG to PG levels since 2001 and has been in the senior level of academic administration for over eight years now. Her areas of interest are International Relations, Global Political Economy, Geopolitical Risk Analysis, Politics & Public Policy. Dr. Chakrabarti is widely published and has chaired and presented papers at various international and national conferences.

Recent publication: Chakrabarti S. (2021) COVID-19, Food Protectionism, and India's Policy Response. In: Erokhin V., Tianming G., Andrei J.V. (eds) Shifting Patterns of Agricultural Trade. Springer, Singapore. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-3260-0_22



Rahul Nath Chaudhury, Research Fellow, Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi.

Rahul Nath Choudhury is currently serving as a Research Fellow at the Indian Council of World Affairs. His primary research interest includes foreign direct investments, multilateralism, political economy, geo-economics and digital trade. Rahul has diverse experience of working in both the public and the private sector in academia and the industry in various capacities. He has contributed to numerous book chapters and academics journals.



Pravin Jadhav, Assistant Professor, Institute of Infrastructure Technology Research and Management (IITRAM), Ahmedabad.

Dr. Pravin Jadhav is working as an assistant professor at the Institute of Infrastructure, Technology, Research, and Management (IITRAM), an Autonomous University established by the Government of Gujarat. Pravin has published and presented multiple research papers in the fields of Business Economics, International Business, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), Infrastructure planning and Management. His articles are regularly published in book chapters, cases, and blogs. He serves as a reviewer for various Scopus indexed and ABDC listed journals. He is also serving as an advisor and board of studies member for some colleges and universities. He was awarded with a young achiever award for his commendable work on FDI and has received best paper awards at two international conferences.



Malini Tantri, Assistant Professor, Centre for Economic Studies and Policy, Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bengaluru.

Malini L. Tantri is with the Centre for Economic Studies and Policy at the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bengaluru, India. Her areas of specialisation include international trade and development, trade facilitation, doing business, India–China studies, Special Economic Zones, trade and gender, and food security. Her works have been published by leading national and international publishers. She was a visiting scholar with the Schulich School of Business, York University, Canada. As part of her consultancy work with GIZ–Lao, Dr. Tantri assisted the Government of Lao PDR (National Committee on SEZ) with the draft of the Prime Minister’s Decree on SEZs. Besides this, she has worked with many funding agencies in India.



Varadurga Bhat, Assistant Professor, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru.

Varadurga Bhat is currently working as Assistant Professor at the Department of Economics, CHRIST University, Bengaluru, India. Her areas of specialisation include trade and environment, and renewable energy. Her research interests include international trade, trade facilitation, energy economics, environmental economics, climate change, and sustainable development. She has published articles with national and international publishers.



Jabin T. Jacob, Associate Professor, Department of International Relations and Governance Studies, Shiv Nadar University, Delhi NCR; Adjunct Research Fellow, National Maritime Foundation, New Delhi.

Jabin T. Jacob is Associate Professor at the Department of International Relations and Governance Studies at the Shiv Nadar University, India and Adjunct Research Fellow at the National Maritime Foundation, New Delhi. He was formerly Fellow and Assistant Director at the Institute of Chinese Studies, Delhi and Associate Editor of the journal China Report. His research interests include Chinese domestic politics, China-South Asia relations, Sino-Indian border areas, Indian and Chinese worldviews, and centre-province relations in China. He is a member of the editorial boards of various academic journals and his latest publication is a co-edited volume titled, China’s Search for ‘National Rejuvenation’: Domestic and Foreign Policies under Xi Jinping (2020). Some of his work can be found at <https://indiandchina.com/>.



G. Venkat Raman, Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Management Indore (IIM Indore); Adjunct Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

G. Venkat Raman is currently an Associate Professor in the Area of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Management, Indore. Venkat is a Sinologist and is one of those rare Indian academics who has completed his doctoral studies from the School of Government in China’s premier University, Peking University, Beijing. Venkat is a fluent Mandarin speaker. He has also worked in Beijing as a professional for two years and eight months. Venkat offers courses like Understanding China, Geo-political Perspectives in Business, and Business Ethics at PG (post-graduate) level. In the UG (under-graduate) level, Venkat offers courses like International Relations, Power Rivalries and Global Governance in the Twenty-First Century. He is also a Business Excellence

assessor and has been part of the Business Excellence assessment team under the auspices of the Confederation of Indian Industries. He has been a visiting Fellow in the BRICS centre, Fudan University, Shanghai, and visiting Faculty in ICN Nancy, France. His areas of research interest are China's interface with Global Governance and Business Ethics pedagogy.

Thematic Panel III: Society and Politics



Manoranjan Mohanty, Emeritus Fellow & former Chairperson, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi; Distinguished Professor, Council for Social Development, New Delhi.

Manoranjan Mohanty was a Professor of Political Science and Director, Developing Countries Research Centre at University of Delhi where he taught Comparative Politics, Chinese Politics and Research Methodology. Currently he is a Distinguished Professor at the Council for Social Development, New Delhi (www.csdindia.org) where until recently he edited the CSD-Sage journal Social Change. He is a social scientist, China scholar and a peace and human rights activist with research interest in the study of Political Economy of China, India and global transformation. He is an Emeritus Fellow of the Institute of Chinese Studies, (www.icsin.org), its founding member and former Chairperson. He is also the Emeritus Chairperson, Development Research Institute, Bhubaneswar, the research wing of Gabeshana Chakra (www.gabeshanachakra.org) of which he was the founder-president. He has had academic assignments in many institutions abroad including in California, Beijing, Moscow, Lagos, Copenhagen and Oxford. He has done extensive research on modern China and India including on the Chinese Revolution, the Political Economy of China, People's Movements in India and Poverty in Odisha. He has authored, among others, The Political Philosophy of Mao Zedong(1978, 2009, Hindi edition 1979, 2010)); Red and Green: Five Decades of the Maoist Movement in India(2014 incorporating Revolutionary Violence published in 1977); Contemporary Indian Political Theory(2000); Ideology Matters: China from Mao Zedong to Xi Jinping(2016, Hindi edition 2021) . His publication based on a thirty-year study of China's reforms with focus on Wuxi is China's Transformation: The Success Story and the Success Trap (Sage: 2018), Hindi edition Cheenka Kayapalat (Sage Bhasha, 2020). He has been a part of a number of national and international research projects and academic initiatives leading to research papers and edited or coauthored volumes such as Chinese Revolution: Comparative Perspectives (1993); People's Rights: Social Movements and the State in the Third World (1998); Class, Caste and Gender(2004);Grass-roots Democracy in India and China (2007); Weapon of the Oppressed: An Inventory of People's Rights in India (2009); India: Social Development Report 2010(2010); A Fistful of Dry Rice: Land, Equity and Democracy: Essays in Honour of D Bandyopadhyay (2012); Building a Just World: Essays in Honour of Muchkund Dubey(2015); Exploring Emerging Global Thresholds: Towards 2030(2017); China at a Turning Point: Perspectives after the Nineteenth Party Congress (2019); and Migration,Workers and Fundamental Freedoms: Pandemic Vulnerabilities and States of Exception in India (2021). He has contributed to many Handbooks and Encyclopaedias the latest being the essay, Inequality: Perspective from the Global South in Oxford

Handbook of Global Studies(2020). He has published books and articles in Odia as well. He has been an active member of the People's Union for Democratic Rights, Delhi since its inception and also of Pakistan-India People's Forum for Peace and Democracy. He is part of the Bandung Spirit Network (www.bandungspirit.org) and a founding member of the Global University of Sustainability (<http://our-global-u.org>).



Prateeksha Tiwari, PhD Candidate, Centre for East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Prateeksha Tiwari is a doctoral scholar at the Centre for East Asian Studies at School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University. Her research interests include technology-society relations, rural China and education for social development.



Shruti Jargad, Research Assistant, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi; Yenching Scholar (2019-2021), Peking University, Beijing.

Shruti Jargad is a research assistant at the Institute of Chinese Studies. She completed Masters in Chinese Politics and IR from the Yenching Academy of Peking University in 2021. She also has a Masters in political science from Jawaharlal Nehru University. Her research interests include theories of authoritarianism, issues of domestic governance and the CPC.



Niharika Ravi, Student, School of Law, SVKM's NMIMS (Deemed to be University), Navi Mumbai.

Niharika Ravi is a student of law and a HaqSePeriod Fellow at PeeSafe. She is also a Student Writer Fellow at The Leaflet and has previously written short and long pieces for other organisations and publications like Mumbai University's Sambhasan, The Bidesia Project, and the Indian Society for Artificial Intelligence and Law. She has presented research articles and papers at conferences organised by Kirit P. Mehta School of Law in Mumbai, Tamil Nadu National Law University, Kerala Law University, and BSK Legal Solicitors and Advocates. Niharika has a penchant for research in fields like gender studies, environment, history, and international polity. When she isn't hunting for the next opportunity to write about these, she enjoys Bharatanatyam and the company of animals.



Snigdha Konar, PhD Candidate, Centre for Chinese and South-East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Snigdha Konar is a Ph.D. scholar at the Centre for Chinese & Southeast Asian Studies in Jawaharlal Nehru University. She has completed her Bachelor's as well as Masters's in Chinese language. Her research interests include Chinese language and literature & human rights issues.



Akhil Ranjan Dutta, Professor & Head, Department of Political Science, Gauhati University, Guwahati.

Akhil Ranjan Dutta, Professor and Head, Department of Political Science, Gauhati University, Assam, India is one of those social scientists of India's Northeast whose research has been motivated by political and cultural aspirations of people at the grassroots. A familiar face in Assam's intellectual circle, Professor Dutta is known for his endeavours to build an organic link between academia and the larger society, a passion born of his academic trajectory. His political, cultural and ideological orientations have been moulded by his early encounters with the common citizen's struggles in the rural setting of his childhood in a remote village of Assam's Lakhimpur district, his subsequent exposure to the diverse, secular and inclusive academic and cultural atmosphere of Cotton College, Guwahati, and the rich and progressive intellectual setting of the University of Delhi.

A bilingual author (in Assamese and English) and a political commentator, Professor Dutta is closely connected with the social and cultural movements in Northeast India, and is a popular columnist in several leading Assamese dailies. He is a regular commentator and contributor on Assam's politics in leading national and international journals and television channels including the *Economic & Political Weekly* & *Al Jazeera*, and serves as Executive Editor of *Natun Padatik*, a socio-cultural magazine published from Guwahati. A passionate advocate of interdisciplinary social science scholarship, Professor Dutta presently serves as the honorary Chairperson of *Brahmaputra Institute of Research and Development (BIRD)*, Guwahati, India, and is the President of the Social Science Research Community (SSRC), India- *Transcending Boundaries for Sustainable Alternatives*. In his two decades of teaching at Gauhati University, he has also served the Gauhati University Teachers' Association (GUTA) as its General Secretary for three tenures, as its Vice President for two tenures and as its President in the year 2019-20.

A Rotary World Peace Fellow (2009) at the Rotary International Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand, Professor Dutta led the Indian Think Tank Delegation to China in June, 2017 on the invitation of the Chinese Embassy in India and the Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi. Professor Dutta also received visiting fellowships at the Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi in March 2017 and in the Department of Political Science, the University of Delhi in March 2020. Professor Dutta is also the recipient of the Second Bhabananda Dutta Memorial Social Science Research Award 2020.

Apart from his research publications in reputed international journals like *Social Change*, *Studies in Indian Politics* and *Advances in Applied Sociology* Professor Dutta has authored and edited several books both in Assamese and English. Some of his significant edited volumes include *Human Security in North East India: Issues & Policies* (Ed. 2009); *Political Theory: Issues, Concepts and Debates* (Ed. 2011); *Culture, Ideology, Politics* (Ed. 2012); *Indian Politics: Issues, Institutions and Processes* (Ed. 2013); *The Conscientious Statesman: Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya in Assam Legislative Assembly* (Ed. 2015) and *Asomor Jatiya Jivanat Lakshminath Bezbaruah Aru Anyanya Prabandha* (Assamese, 2015). Prof. Dutta's new book is 'Hindutva Regime in Assam: Saffron in the Rainbow', Sage Publications, (2021).



Bhim Subba, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science/ School of Social Science, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad; Visiting Associate Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Bhim Subba (蘇斌) is a Visiting Associate Fellow at the ICS. He has recently submitted his PhD dissertation in the Department of East Asian Studies, University of Delhi. He was an ICS-HYI Visiting Fellow and spent a year at Harvard University for his doctoral research (2016-17). He is a Political Science major from the Centre for Political Studies, JNU, Delhi. From 2015-16, he was affiliated with the Mandarin Training Center, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei, ROC where he pursued language study and independent research. As a recipient of a Confucius Institute Scholarship, he was also enrolled at Harbin Normal University, Heilongjiang, PRC pursuing Mandarin language training. His research interests include comparative political theory, Chinese politics and India-China comparatives.

Special Lecture



Gautam Bambawale, former Indian Ambassador to China, Bhutan and Pakistan; Distinguished Professor, Symbiosis International University, Pune; Adjunct Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies.

Ambassador (Retd) Gautam Bambawale is an Adjunct Fellow at Institute of Chinese Studies. He was a member of the Indian Foreign Service from 1984 to 2018. He was India's Ambassador to Bhutan, Pakistan and China. Bambawale was stationed in Washington DC in 2004-07 during the Indo-US nuclear deal which transformed ties between the two countries. He has been India's first Consul General in Guangzhou (China) 2007-09. He was Director of the Indian Cultural Centre, Berlin 1994-98. Ambassador Bambawale worked in the Prime Minister's Office 2002-04. At the Ministry of External Affairs he was Joint Secretary for East Asia from 2009-2014. Bambawale has dealt with China for 15 years of his 34-year diplomatic career. Ambassador Bambawale is currently Distinguished Professor, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Symbiosis International University, Pune.



Frank Pieke, Professor of Modern China Studies, Leiden University, Leiden.

Frank N. Pieke (1957) studied Cultural Anthropology and Chinese Studies at the University of Amsterdam and the University of California, Berkeley, where he received his Ph.D. in 1992. After lectureships in Leiden and Oxford, he took up the Chair in Modern China studies at Leiden University in 2010. In Oxford, Pieke set up and directed the University of Oxford's China Centre. In Leiden, he was co-founder and first executive director of the Leiden Asia Centre. Between 2018 and 2020, he was the director of the Mercator Institute for China Studies (MERICS) in Berlin. This academic year he is in Uppsala as a fellow at the Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study.

Pieke's own research revolves around governance in China and the evolution of the Chinese Communist Party, Chinese globalization and the impact of China on Europe. His current project is entitled "The rise of China and the consequences of superpower", which asks how China's emerging superpower status will change China. His most recent books are *The Good Communist* (2009) and *Knowing China* (2016), both published by Cambridge University Press. Earlier this year he and Koichi Iwabuchi published edited volume titled *Global East Asia* with the University of California Press in 2021.

**Special Panel III:
Social Dimensions and Disruptions Caused by Covid-19 in China and India**



Madhurima Nundy, Assistant Director & Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Madhurima Nundy is Fellow at the Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS), Delhi, India. She holds a PhD in Public Health from the Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Her areas of interest include health service systems, health policies, comparative health systems and inequalities in health. She has several publications and has been a regular contributor to policy analysis in the area of public health in China and India. Her most recent publication by Routledge (with Rama V. Baru) is titled *Commercialisation of Medical Care in China: Changing Landscapes* (2020).



Biao Xiang, Director, Max Planck Institution for Social Anthropology, Halle (Saale).

Biao Xiang 项飙 is Director of Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Germany. Xiang's research addresses various types of migration in China, India and other parts of Asia. Xiang is the winner of the 2008 Anthony Leeds Prize for his book *Global Bodyshopping* and the 2012 William L. Holland Prize for his article 'Predatory Princes'. His 2000 Chinese book *跨越边界的社区* (published in English as *Transcending Boundaries*, 2005) was reprinted in 2018 as a contemporary classic, and *自己作为方法* (*Self as Method*, co-authored with Wu Qi) was ranked the Most Impactful Book 2020. His work has been translated into Japanese, French, Korean, Spanish, German and Italian.



Cody Abbey, Project Manager, Stanford China Center on China's Economy and Institutions, Stanford University, Stanford.

Cody is a project manager at the Stanford Center on China's Economy and Institutions (SCCEI). He specifically manages research projects related to education technology and mental health and has co-authored over 12 papers that have been published in reputed academic journals. Before SCCEI he was part of the inaugural class of the Yenching Academy at Peking University and completed his bachelor's degree in public policy at Princeton University, where he wrote his thesis about urban and rural attitudes towards reform of China's college entrance examination. He has also held internships at the U.S. Consulate in Chengdu and CNN's Beijing bureau. With a long-held interest in education equity, he previously earned a teaching license in Mandarin Chinese and has served as a volunteer teacher in rural China.



Bhim B. Subba, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science/ School of Social Science, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad; Visiting Associate Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Bhim Subba (蘇斌) is a Visiting Associate Fellow at the ICS. He has recently submitted his PhD dissertation in the Department of East Asian Studies, University of Delhi. He was an ICS-HYI Visiting Fellow and spent a year at Harvard University for his doctoral research (2016-17). He is a Political Science major from the Centre for Political Studies, JNU, Delhi. From 2015-16, he was affiliated with the Mandarin Training Center, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei, ROC where he pursued language study and independent research. As a recipient of a Confucius Institute Scholarship, he was also enrolled at Harbin Normal University, Heilongjiang, PRC pursuing Mandarin language training. His research interests include comparative political theory, Chinese politics and India-China comparatives.



Sowmiya Ashok, Independent Journalist, former Beijing Correspondent, Indian Express.

Sowmiya Ashok is an independent journalist based in Chennai. She was part of the first cohort of the China India Visiting Scholars Fellowship 2020-21 at Ashoka University. She reported from Beijing for The Indian Express in 2019. Through her stories she attempted to convey a broader understanding of China and the Chinese people to give Indian readers engaging insights beyond the official bilateral frame. She reports on China, tech and the environment and also studies Mandarin. She tweets @sowmiyashok



Rama V. Baru, Professor, Centre of Social Medicine, and Community Health, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Rama V. Baru is Professor at the Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, Jawaharlal Nehru University, and an Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, Delhi, India. She is also an Honorary Professor at the India Studies Centre, Central China Normal University, Wuhan, China. Her major areas of research interest include commercialisation of health services, infectious diseases, comparative health systems and health inequalities. She is the author of four books: Private Health Care in India: Social Characteristics and Trends (1998); School Health Services in India: The Social and Economic Contexts (2008); and Medical Insurance Schemes for the Poor: Who Benefits (2015). Her most recent publications by Routledge is a book (with Madhurima Nundy) titled Commercialisation of Medical Care in China: Changing Landscapes (2020), and another a co-edited volume (with Anuj Kapilashrami) titled Global Health Governance and Commercialisation in India: Actors, Institutions and the Dialectics of Global and Local (2018). She has contributed to many edited volumes and peer-reviewed journals. She is currently a member of the Ethics Committee at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), the Technical Appraisal Committee for Health Technology Assessment, the Department of Health Research, the Ministry of Health, the Government of India and the Scientific Advisory Group, Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi.

Thematic Panel IV: History and Cultural Linkages



Kamal Sheel, Professor (Retired) of Chinese, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Kamal Sheel did his Ph.D. in Chinese history and studies at the University of Wisconsin – Madison, USA and learned Chinese language at the National Taiwan University and Fu-Jen Catholic University, Taipei, Taiwan. He has taught in Panjab University, Chandigarh and Banaras Hindu University. He has also been Fellow and Visiting Faculty in USA (Yale and Wisconsin), Taiwan (Academia Sinica), Denmark (Copenhagen), China (Peking and Nanjing) and Singapore (National University), India (IIT- BHU, Somaiyya and Sikkim). His area of interest is Social and Intellectual History of Modern China and India-China Interactions. His major publications are *Peasant Society and Marxist Intellectual of China* (Princeton 1989 & 2015), and *Thirteen Months in China* (Oxford 2017) jointly with Anand Yang and Ranjana Sheel. His forthcoming work is an annotated translation of Kang Youwei's travelogue to India. He is currently a Honorary Fellow of the Institute of Chinese Studies.



Divya Pokhriyal, PhD Candidate & Guest Faculty, Department of East Asian Studies, University of Delhi, Delhi.

Divya Pokhriyal is a PhD scholar and guest lecturer of Chinese history at the Department of East Asian Studies, Delhi University. She completed her MA in East Asian Studies from the same department. She holds a Bachelor's degree in History from Miranda House, Delhi University. Her research interests include but are not limited to succession politics and women rulers in Chinese history, East Asian politics in the 19th century, and the impact of colonialism on socio-economic developments in China. She has published journal articles and book chapters on these subjects.



Diki Sherpa, PhD Candidate, Department of History, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong.

Diki Sherpa is a PhD Student in the department of History, Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). Before she joined CUHK as a post graduate research student, she spent one year learning mandarin in National Chengchi University in Taipei, Taiwan. She completed her MPhil Degree from Delhi University, department of History.



Tiasangla Longkumer, PhD Candidate, Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; ICS-HYI Fellow (2017).

Tiasangla Longkumer is currently a doctoral student at Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, Jawaharlal Nehru University and a China-India Visiting Fellow at Ashoka University. She was also a HYI-ICS Fellow before she joined Ashoka. Her research interests span across public health, medical humanities, social medicine and history of science.



Jana Chaudhuri, Founder, Institute of Heritage Research, former Deputy Director, Delhi Urban Heritage Foundation, Delhi Development Authority, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India; Fulbright Fellow 2010-2011.

Jana Das Chaudhuri is an Architect and Heritage Management Specialist. She left her position of Deputy Director (Architect), Delhi Development Authority (Heritage Zone), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India (2007-2020) to found Institute of Heritage Research (IHR), a watch dog and a think tank for Policy Research on Heritage Management that scrutinizes, designs and advocates people centered approach to urban heritage management. Jana received the Fulbright Fellowship 2010-2011 to pursue doctoral and professional research in Planning, Historic Preservation and Sustainability in the US. Jana currently works internationally with Our World Heritage Foundation (OWH) as part of its Sustainability Team and is Coordinator of its Asia Pacific Regional Workshops. She is Member Council of Architecture (India), UNESCO World Heritage Institute of Training and Research – Asia Pacific and ICOMOS (India) and is part of its Working Group on Climate Change and Heritage.



Premmi Wahengbam, PhD Candidate, Department of History, Gauhati University, Guwahati.

Premmi Wahengbam is a keen cultural enthusiast. She completed her graduation and masters from the Department of History, University of Delhi. She is the recipient of *Shri Barat Ram Mahajan Memorial Prize* for Consistently Good Academic Performance in B.A. (Hons.) History Part I and II Combined for the year 2013-14 from Indraprastha College for Women, University of Delhi. She has completed Level 1 and Level 2 Certificate Course of Persian Language in 2016-17 from the Culture House of the Islamic Republic of Iran, New-Delhi.

To learn her cultural roots better, she now focusses on cultural studies from a historical angle, to know how culture plays a vital role in strengthening a feeling of togetherness. At present, she is pursuing her Ph.D. from the Department of History, Gauhati University, Assam. Her focus area is performing arts and ShumangLeela.



Madhavi Thampi, Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Madhavi Thampi is an Honorary Fellow at the Institute of Chinese Studies, and former editor of its journal *China Report*. She was an Associate Professor at the Department of East Asian Studies in Delhi University, where she taught Chinese History. Her publications include the monograph *Indians in China, 1800-1949* (2005). She has also co-authored (with Brij Tankha) *Narratives of Asia from India, Japan and China* (2005), as well as a book entitled *China and the Making of Bombay* (with Shalini Saksena, 2009). She edited the volume *India and China in the Colonial World* (2005, 2010). She recently coordinated a project to catalogue materials related to modern China in the in the National Archives of India, and is working on a history of relations between India and China during World War II based on archival materials. National Archives of India, and is working on a history of relations between India and China during World War II based on archival materials.

Thematic Panel V: Social Practices and Cultural Dimensions



B.R. Deepak, Professor, Centre for Chinese and South East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Prof. B. R. Deepak is Professor of Chinese and China Studies at the Centre of Chinese and Southeast Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India. He is recipient of many scholarships and awards including the prestigious Nehru and Asia Fellowship, and India-China Cultural Exchange fellowship for his doctoral and advanced studies in the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and Peking University, Beijing, respectively. He is the author of *India and China 1904-2004: A Century of Peace and Conflict* (2005), *India-China Relations in first half of the Twentieth Century* (2001); *China: Agriculture, Countryside and Peasantry* (2010), and *Chinese Poetry: From 11th Century BC to 14th Century AD* for which he has won China Special Book Award in 2011; *India-China Relations: Civilizational Perspective* (2012); *India-China Relations: Future Perspectives* (2012). Prof. Deepak has been a visiting fellow at the University of Edinburgh, UK and Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing China, and have delivered lectures in the Free University of Berlin, Bonn University, University of Heidelberg, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing Foreign Studies University, Sichuan University, and Haerbin Normal University.



Subham Dutraj, PhD Candidate, Sikkim University, Gangtok.

Mr. Subham Dutraj, is a Ph.D. scholar at the Department of Chinese, School of Languages and Literature, Sikkim University, exploring the political, social, and cultural dynamics of Sino-Indian Relations during the Tang times. His research interest includes Chinese intellectual history and pre-modern India-China relations. He has received his Bachelor's (Honors) and Master's Degree in Chinese from Sikkim University and has been awarded silver medal and gold medal for scoring the highest percentage of marks for the Bachelor's and Master's program respectively. He has also been awarded the 'Student of the Year Award '2017-2018/ 2018-2019' and stood first position in Friendship Cup Chinese Language Competition Kolkata 2015.



Subhendu Ghosal, PhD Candidate & Guest Faculty, Cheena Bhavana, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan.

Subhendu Ghosal has completed his graduation and masters in Chinese Language from Department of Chinese Language and Culture (Cheena-Bhavana), Visva-Bharati. He has pursued one-year advance diploma in Chinese Language and Culture from Anhui University China. Subhendu is currently pursuing Ph.D in Chinese at Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan and also working as a Guest Faculty at Department of Chinese Language and Culture, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan. He has presented papers in various national and international conferences in India and also Contributed a chapter entitled "Dragon-Elephant dancing on the stage of mutual benefits and cooperation (互利合作大舞台- 龙象共舞显神威)" in the book "China through the eyes of Indian Youths (印度青年眼中的中国) (page No.195). His area of interest includes Chinese language, Chinese Culture, Chinese Society, Chinese Politics.



Nishit Kumar, PhD Candidate, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; ICS-HYI Fellow (2018).

Nishit Kumar is a Doctoral Candidate at the Centre for Chinese and South East Asia Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India. His proposed Ph.D. thesis title is “China and the Nobel Prize: Reception and Impact of the Literature Prize to Mo Yan”. Generally, his area of research interests is Contemporary Chinese literature, Chinese *huaju*(话剧), politics of art and literature, etc. He received his Under-graduation and Masters in Chinese language, literature and culture from Centre for Chinese and South East Asia Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India. He completed his M.Phil. from the same department and title of his M.Phil. dissertation is ‘Evolution of *Huaju* (话剧) in Modern China: A Study of Select Works, 1907 -1949’.



Madhurendra Jha, Assistant Professor, Department of Chinese Studies, School of Languages, Doon University, Dehradun.

Madhurendra Jha is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Chinese Studies, Doon University, India. As a recipient of the ICS-HYI fellowship, he was a visiting fellow at Peking University and Harvard University for the academic years 2016-17 and 2017-18 respectively. He is pursuing his Ph.D. from CCSEAS, Jawaharlal Nehru University on the works of the Chinese film director Jia Zhangke. He has also been involved with the India-China Translation Program and the SCO translation project, under which he has published Wang Shuo’s 看上去很美 (Looks Beautiful) in Hindi as *Dikhne Mein Khoobsurat* and Rajinder Singh Bedi’s *Ek Chadar Maili Si* (Ordained by Fate) in Chinese as 天意注定. His third book, the Hindi translation of Wang Meng’s 青春万岁 (Long Live Youth) is under publication.

Special Panel IV: Media, Society and Culture Practices in China Today



Hemant Adlakha, Associate Professor, Centre for Chinese and South East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Hemant Adlakha is Associate Professor of Chinese, Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi. He is also Vice chairperson and Honorary Fellow with the Institute of Chinese Studies, Delhi. His areas of research include political discourse in the PRC and modern Chinese Literature and Culture. He is a member, International Editorial Committee, International Society for Lu Xun Studies, Seoul (ROK). His articles have appeared in *China Report*, *The Diplomat*, *Japan Times*, *Encyclopaedia of Race and Racism*, 2nd Edition, Washington etc. His co-translation of Lu Xun’s prose poetry collection from Chinese into Hindi has been published by the NBT in November 2019.



Ananth Krishnan, China Correspondent, The Hindu.

Ananth Krishnan is the China correspondent for The Hindu. In 2019, he was a Visiting Fellow at Brookings India. He was previously the Beijing-based Associate Editor at the India Today Group until August 2018. He has lived in Beijing since 2009, earlier reporting for The Hindu. His reporting in China has taken him to all but three of China's 33 provinces and regions. His interests include India-China relations as well as Tibet, Xinjiang and ethnic minorities in China. Before moving to China, Ananth was based at The Hindu's headquarters in Chennai. He has authored a book titled "India's China Challenge" (HarperCollins, 2020).



Lance Gore, Senior Research Fellow, East Asian Institute, Lee Kuan Yee School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore, Singapore.

Lance Gore is Senior Research Fellow at the East Asian Institute, National University of Singapore. His research interests and publications span a wide range of topics on China and East Asia, such as the Chinese Communist Party, industrial relations, elite politics, the People's Liberation Army, Chinese environmental politics, the metallurgic and energy industries, public and private entrepreneurship in mainland China, economic bureaucracies, cadre performance assessment, local state economic behaviour. He previously taught at Bowdoin College and the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy of Tufts University in the United States. He is the author of Chinese Communist Party and China's Capitalist Revolution: The Political Impact of Market (Routledge 2011) and published widely in international journals such as Polity, The New Political Economy, The China Journal, Problems of Post-Communism, Journal of Contemporary China, Chinese Journal of Comparative Law, East Asia: An International Quarterly etc. He is also associate editor of China: An International Journal.



Arun Teja Polcumpally, Research Assistant, Centre for Security Studies, O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonapat; Doctoral Fellow, Jindal School of International Affairs, O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonapat.

Arun Teja Polcumpally is currently a doctoral fellow at Jindal School of International Studies. He is also a Research Assistant at Center for Security Studies (CSS). He formerly had a brief stint as an Editor at Jindal Center for Global South. He also holds the Research advisor post at *The digital future.in* and *ADSCV foundation*. His area of research is the impact of emerging digital technologies like AI, Block Chain on the global power structure. Author can be contacted at atpolcumpally@jgu.edu.in



Vatsala Mishra, Threat and Risk Analyst for Asia-Pacific region in a financial institution in Pune.

Vatsala Mishra is working as a threat and risk analyst for Asia Pacific region in a financial institution in Pune, India. She holds a Masters degree in International Studies from Christ University, Bangalore. She has initially worked as a research intern in Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS) in New Delhi, India. She takes deep interests in Chinese media censorship and surveillance. She has published a few articles such

as Understanding Chinese Media Censorship: From Ming to Jinping and Liberty Has Been Taken Away From Hong Kong.

Ravi Bhoothalingam, Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi; Founder and Chairman, Manas Advisory, Gurgaon.

With a B.Sc Hons in Physics from St. Stephen's College, Delhi, Ravi holds an M.A. in Experimental Psychology from Cambridge University, UK, as also an AMP from the Harvard Business School. He was trained by famed scientist and Sinologist Joseph Needham in Psycholinguistics, the Scientific Method and Chinese culture.

His 32-year career in industry in India and abroad includes stints as President of The Oberoi Group of Hotels, Head of Personnel Worldwide with BAT plc, London, Managing Director of VST Industries Ltd., Hyderabad and Director of ITC Ltd., Kolkata.

Ravi Bhoothalingam has served as an independent director on several corporate boards including those of Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Ltd., Sona Koyo Steering Systems Ltd. and Kuoni India Ltd. He has been a member of the Court of Governors of the Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad and on the Advisory Boards of Genesis India Ltd and Transearch India. For 7 years, he was a Moderator certified by the Aspen Institute, Colorado, USA for its Aspen Leadership Seminars in India. Currently, he is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, London, Honorary Fellow at the Institute of Chinese Studies, Delhi and on the Editorial Boards of China Report and World Affairs. He serves on the Board of Governors of the Global Risk Management Institute, Gurgaon, India, and is a member of the China Core Group of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

Ravi is Founder & Chairman of Manas Advisory, a Consultancy practice which focuses on Top Management Coaching, integrating psychological science with on-ground management experience. This approach clarifies perceptions, stimulates creativity and helps to resolve differences. Ravi has written extensively about how the application of science and psychology can enhance understanding between India and China.

Ravi has travelled widely and led expeditions in China, Mongolia and Myanmar.

He can be reached at: sush.ravi@gmail.com or +91-9811112666.

Valedictory Session



Sreemati Chakrabarti, Chairperson and Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.

Sreemati Chakrabarti, Editor, *China Report* and Chairperson of the Institute of Chinese Studies, is former Professor of Chinese Studies at the Department of East Asian Studies, University of Delhi. She has also been Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Delhi; Head of the Department of East Asian Studies for three terms and Director of the Institute of Chinese Studies (2009-2012). Currently she is also an Honorary Fellow of the Institute of Chinese Studies, Delhi. She was a Visiting Faculty at Central China Normal University,

Wuhan, China in 2018. She has a Master's degree in Regional Studies- East Asia from Harvard University and holds a Doctorate in Political Science from Columbia University. She has authored three books: *China and the Naxalites*, *Mao, China's Intellectuals and the Cultural Revolution* and a National Book Trust volume titled *China*. She has also edited *Higher Education in China: Select Perspectives* and co-edited *Taiwan Today*. In addition, she has published several articles in journals, magazines and newspapers and contributed chapters to books. Several television channels have invited her to speak on China and East Asia related issues. In 2010 she was conferred "China-India Friendship Award" by Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao.



Shih Chih-yu, National Chair of the Ministry of Education and University Chair of National Taiwan University, Taipei.

Chih-yu Shih is currently teaching China studies, anthropology of knowledge, and international relations theory in the National Taiwan University. Professor Shih who coached inter-mural basketball for 18 years, with 10 national titles under his belt, has been himself an evergreen leaguer in the inter-mural basketball in Taiwan, with one second runner-up in the national competition on his record and two champions in the regional competitions. Saturday Gathering on Chinese Affairs held weekly in his apartment and office enters the 30th year in 2021. Determined to recollect and re-present intellectual heritage in Asia, he has devoted throughout his academic career to researching, teaching, and writing on the cultural and political agency of human society in Asia. Professor Shih's publications consistently challenge the mainstream views on the law of human behavior and gather evidence of human agency from ethnic communities, developing countries, people under poverty, and so on. Since the beginning of the 21st century, he has led a transnational project to compare scholarship on China from various continents, tackling the deep, ontological foundation that girds mutual constitution of China scholar, China Scholarship, and China. He and his transnational teams has carried out over 500 oral history interviews (<http://www.china-studies.taipei>)



Pahi Saikia, Associate Professor, Political Science, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, Guwahati.

Pahi Saikia is an Associate Professor of Political Science in the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, Assam, India. Prior to joining IIT Guwahati Pahi served as a Lecturer in the Department of Political Science, University of Victoria, Canada. A recipient of the Canadian Commonwealth Fellowship and Scholarship, she completed her PhD from McGill University Canada. Her major areas of specialization are International Relations and Comparative Politics with regional areas of expertise in South Asia.

ABOUT THE ORGANIZERS

The **Institute of Chinese Studies**, New Delhi is an institution engaged in and committed to interdisciplinary research on China. Apart from the annual **AICCS**, the Institute undertakes various collaborative research programs and multilateral initiatives with prominent institutions in India and abroad, and brings together leading and upcoming scholars through multiple fora. Among its many legacies, it has been conducting the iconic **Wednesday Seminar** for over 50 years and publishes **China Report**, a peer-reviewed quarterly journal on China and East Asia, currently in its 56th year of publication.

Visva-Bharati was founded by **Rabindranath Tagore** in 1921 and was declared a central university and an institution of national importance by an Act of Parliament in May 1951. **Cheena Bhavana** (Department of Chinese Language and Culture) was established by Rabindranath Tagore and **Tan Yun-Shan** in 1937 to strengthen India-China civilizational dialogue. Over the years, the institution has been engaged in knowledge-building and exchange of scholars that has deepened the cultural understanding between India and China.

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) is a German foundation established in 1955, with its headquarters at Sankt Augustin near Bonn, and also in Berlin. Through political education and counselling, the foundation campaigns worldwide for peace, freedom and justice. Its principal aim is to preserve and promote liberal democracy and strengthen international dialogue. The **KAS India Office** was established more than 50 years ago and it has been working with Indian partner institutions such as **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)**, The Energy Research Institute (TERI) and the **Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS)**.