

Exhibitions
Natural History Heritage of India (1st-7th October, 2016)
[CWEH, Kew, BSI, BL and NMNH]

Theme

The Indian Natural History Collections in Botany and Meteorology that comprise the two Exhibitions are a product of the documentation projects of several European colonial empires: British, French, Dutch and Portuguese.

Through the AHRC network, two Exhibitions titled: (1) *Joseph Hooker: Botanical Trailblazer and the Botanical Heritage of India* and (2) *Empire and the Environmental Heritage of India* will be held in Kolkata and Mysore, respectively.

These Exhibitions — besides offering scholars and the general public in India an opportunity to view and access a rich collection — are also intended to set the tone and direction for a range of future research and academic projects. The exhibitions will be inaugurated by two public-facing conferences aimed at involving the wider Kolkata and Mysore public in discussion on environment, climate, science, colonialism and post-colonial landscapes.

The broad theme is aimed at helping us assemble, reconsider and debate fresh frameworks for botanical and meteorological histories of the Indian Ocean region c.1500- c.2000. While mapping and understanding environmental change will be central to the exercise, the contemporary context of climate change and its implications for developing meaningful environmental history narratives will be critical to our discussions in the conference-related discussions in Kolkata and Mysore.



Ministry of Environment, Forest
& Climate Change

CWEH

US
University of Sussex



Contact Us

URL: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/cweh/research/indianocean>

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BMHLOW/>

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Mysore Conference (6th-7th October)
Empire and Environmental Heritage

Venue: Regional Museum of Natural History Mysore
T. Narsipura Road, Near Nandini Milk Dairy, Siddhartha Nagar, Mysuru, Karnataka
570011, India

Registration: October 6th – 1.30 pm to 2.00 pm

Programme

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October 6th
First Session (2.00 pm to 6.00 pm)

(a) Introducing the Exhibition (2.00pm to 3.00 pm)

Dr. Venugopal (NMNH): Welcome note
Dr. Antonia Moon (BL): Introduction
Dr Vinita Damodaran (CWEH, Sussex): About the AHRC Project
Chief Guest: Inaugural Address
Guest of Honour: Address

(b) Indian Natural History Archives (3.00 pm to 4.30 pm)

Antonia Moon (BL): *Resources for South Asian Environmental History at the British Library*
B. R. Ramesh (French Institute): *The Forestry and Conservation Research of the French Institute of Pondicherry*
Subash Chandran (Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore): *Sunset over the Sacred Groves: Endangered Museums of Indian Cultural and Ecological Heritage*

(c) Empire, Natural History and Forestry (4.30 pm to 6.30 pm)

Henry Noltie: *Hugh Cleghorn (RBGE): Indian Forester, Scottish Laird*
Robert Prys-Jones (NHM): *Allan Octavian Hume (1829-1912): The "Pope" of South Asian Ornithology*
Gina Fullerlove (Kew): *Joseph Hooker, Kew and the Plants of India*
Ajit Tyagi (IMD): *The Early History of Meteorology in India*

Book Launch (6.30 pm):

Henry Noltie – *Indian Forester, Scottish Laird: The Botanical Lives of Hugh Cleghorn of Stravithie and The Cleghorn Collection*

Dr Indresha (RMNH) – *Valedictory Note*

High Tea and Nadaswaram (At inauguration and at the end)

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October 7th

Morning Session (10.30 am to 11.30 am)

(d) New Directions for Indian Environmental History

Rohan D'Souza (Kyoto): *Politics at Boiling Point: South Asian Environmental History and the Anthropocene*

Nitin Rai (ATREE): *Impact of Conservation Policy on People and Landscapes*

Shyamal Lakshminarayanan (Independent Scholar): *Values from Victorian Naturalists*

(e) Indigenous Collections (11.30 am to 12.30 pm)

Dr. Darshan Shanker/ Dr Ved (Forum for Revitalisation of Local Health Traditions):

Traditional Knowledge Systems

Anindita Kundu Saha (Curator) and Debojyoti Das (SOAS): *Sundarban Village Archives: Why We Need to Preserve Them?*

Lunch (12.30 pm to 1.30 pm)

Second Session (1.30 pm to 3.30 pm)

(f) New directions for Environmental History

Subir Dey (JNU): *Moving Lives on Moving Lands: The Case of Land Reclamation in Lower Brahmaputra in Colonial Assam, 1900s-1950s*

Vinita Damodaran (CWEH, Sussex): *Post-colonial Botany, The Life of E.K. Janaki Ammal*

Tea Break

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