

## Centre for World Environmental History

### Workshop on Environmental History and Politics of South Asia

May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Fulton 201, 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.



Caption: Balkumar Rathiya and his family, residents of Sarasmal village in the central Indian state of Chhattisgarh, stand at the edge of their property, which abuts a giant Jindal Steel open-cast coal mine. The corporation has taken over the family's land. Sami Siva for Al Jazeera America

This interdisciplinary workshop linked to the Centre for World Environmental History at Sussex addresses the environmental history and politics of South Asia from the early modern period. Environmental History has been described as the study of species both other and our own in terms of the interactions with the world around them. The study of long term histories of environmental change and responses to these have important implications for policy in this age of climate change and in the context of what has been termed the Anthropocene. By seeking to engage with an interdisciplinary group of scholars with specialisms in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh this training workshop will update early career researchers on developments in Environmental History, Historical Climatology and Environmental politics and build links with policy and environmental justice activism. It will help early career scholars to develop professional career pathways and provide indispensable training for a world that is rapidly being transformed by climate and environmental change.

We hope to include archivists of natural history collections of the British Library, Dr Antonia Moon and Dr Penny Brook, Prof Rob Allan from the Met office leading historical climatologist specialising in Atmospheric reconstruction Analysis, Dr Roger Moody, Dr Felix Padel, and Gladson Dungdung, leading Environmental activists.

### **Tentative list of participants**

Antonia Moon and Penny Brook (British Library), Robert Allan (Met Office)  
Felix Padel (JNU India), Malvika Gupta (Delhi University, India), Vinita Damodaran (Sussex), Gladson Dungdung (Jharkhand Activist), Zahid Khalid (Sussex), Mohammed Akhtar (LPS, Sussex), Fazilda Nabeel (Global Studies, Sussex), Roger Moody (Mining network), Peter Satyanand Samuels (Stanford), Brian Morris (Goldsmiths), Dr Shapan Adnan, Ravi Raman (Teenmurti) Zuky Serper (Independent researchers) Lyla Mehta (IDS, Sussex) Daniel Haines (Bristol), Dr. Stuart Peters (Queen Mary University), ( Fakhar Bilal (Royal Holloway), Alex Elliot (Sussex), James Cullis (Sussex)

### **Morning Session**

Registration 9:30 - 9:45  
Introduction 9:45 -10:00

### **Panel 1, Historical Climatology and Environmental History Sources,** 10:00 – 11:30

- Rob Allan (Met Office)
- Vinita Damodaran(Sussex)
- Penny Brook and Antonia Moon (BL)  
(Workshop on Sources)

### **Break for Tea, Coffee** 11:30 - 11:45

### **Panel 2, Legal Aspects of Land and Migration** 11:45 - 13:15

- Satyanand Samuels (Stanford)
- Shapan Adnan
- Ravi Raman (Teenmurti)  
(Workshop on Land, Agriculture and Plantations)

**Lunch:** 13:15 – 14:15

### **Afternoon Session**

### **Panel 3, Water, Environmental History and Culture** 14:15 – 15:45

- Zahid Khalid (Sussex)
- Fazilda Nabeel (Sussex)
- Fakhr Bilal- (London)
- Dr. Stuart Peters ( London)
- Daniel Haines (Bristol)

(Workshop on Water)

**Break for Tea, Coffee**

15:45 – 16:00

**Panel 4, Environmental Politics and Activism**

16:00 – 17:30

- Felix Padel (JNU)
- Roger Moody (London)
- Malvika Gupta (Delhi)
- Zuky Serper
- Ramuna Hashem
- Gladson Dung Dung  
(Workshop on Activism- Felix and Zuky Serper)

**All Welcome: To register please contact: [z.khalid@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:z.khalid@sussex.ac.uk)**

*Workshop is Supported by the Doctoral School's Researcher-Led Initiative (RLI) Fund, HAHP Research Fund, University of Sussex, and Sussex Asia Centre, University of Sussex*