

Announcements

Critical Han Studies Symposium & Workshop

April 24-27, 2008
Stanford University

Call for Papers

Han is a colossal category of identity that encompasses ninety-four percent of the population of mainland China, making it the largest ethnic group on earth. Like other immense categories of identity, whether national, racial, ethnic, or otherwise, Han is beset by a host of linguistic, cultural, political, and historical inconsistencies that call into question its status as a coherent community. Despite this, however, Han has managed to fly below the radar of Critical Race Theory and largely above that of History, Ethnic Studies, and Anthropology.

The first-ever Critical Han Studies Symposium & Workshop seeks to bridge this expansive divide, and to bring this fascinating area of research to the attention of a broader, international, and interdisciplinary community of scholars. Participants will help conceptualize an agenda for the nascent subdiscipline of Critical Han Studies and develop materials to be published in two pathbreaking volumes: Critical Han Studies, an edited volume, and the Critical Han Studies Reader, a collection of primary source materials in translation for which the conference organisers have already secured a provisional contract. The conference is made possible thanks to the generous support of Stanford's Center for East Asian Studies, the Center for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity, and the Dean's Fund.

Keynote and Featured Speakers. Mark Elliott, Dru Gladney, Xu Jieshun (Founding Director, Han Research Center, Guangxi Institute for Nationalities), Emma Teng, Frank Dikötter, Uradyn E. Bulag, C. Patterson Giersch, and Nicholas Tapp, among others. (Final itinerary subject to change.)

Conference Topics. The conference is organised with attention to (but not limited to) the following topical areas:

When did the category of Han come into existence, and when did it come into widespread use? Should we date it to the early imperial period, as many do; to the discourse of turn-of-the-century anti-Qing revolutionaries; to some point in between; or to some point after?

What kind of category is Han? Is it an ethnocultural category, a racial category, a civilisational category, or something else?

What is the relationship between the category Han and those indigenous, historical categories of identity which it absorbed (Huaren, Huaxia, etc.)? Likewise, how has the categorisation and characterisation of Chinese minorities shaped the category of Han?

How does the category of Han operate in everyday life and at the local level? Does it matter or is it overshadowed by other axes of identity, such as gender, class, dialect group, and native place?

What is Han when viewed from a regional

and/or transnational perspective? How does the category of Han in China relate to, for instance, the category of Hoa in Vietnam or the Haw in Laos? Can the category of Han be applied to the broader Chinese diaspora, or is it limited to specific national contexts?

How have modern academic disciplines (ethnology, linguistics, archaeology, etc.) configured the form, structure and boundaries of Han?

How does the category of Han relate to the category of Chinese? In the contemporary world, are they treated synonymously? Historically, was it influenced by those colossal categories of identity which foreign observers used to describe the peoples of China ("Chinaman" in turn-of-the-century English language writings, "Shinanin" in Japanese discourse, the "Yellow Race" in Social Darwinian discourse, etc.)?

What insights can a potential Critical Han Studies draw from Critical Race Theory? What insights can it offer in return?

Are there meaningful connections to be made between Han and Whiteness?

Deadlines. The deadline for paper and panel proposals is December 3, 2007, and should include the following information:

- Author's name, address (postal and email), institutional affiliation, and title
- Paper title
- Abstract (250 words)
- Author's biography (up to 150 words)
- Suggestions for 3 or more primary source materials the author feels should be included in the Critical Han Studies Reader

Notifications will be sent out by January 14, 2007. Full papers of accepted presentations are requested by March 14, 2008. Proposals and final papers should be submitted electronically to Professor Thomas S. Mullaney at tsmullaney@stanford.edu

Special Note for Graduate Students. This conference **strongly encourages proposals by graduate students**. The organizers will be able to provide a limited number of Graduate Student Stipends in the amount of \$200 each, with the understanding that students will seek out additional funds from their home institutions.

Conference Committee

Thomas S. Mullaney
Department of History
Stanford University
<http://www.stanford.edu/dept/history/Faculty/mullaney.html>

James Leibold
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La Trobe University
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Stéphane Gros
Sociétés et Cultures en Himalaya
Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique
<http://www.vjf.cnrs.fr/himalaya/eng/membres/sgros.htm>

Dalit Agendas: Emancipation, Citizenship, and Empowerment

Conference
December 4-6, 2008
Philadelphia, USA

Call for Papers

The Center for the Advanced Study of India and the Department of South Asia Studies at the University of Pennsylvania will hold a major conference on critical issues relating to Dalit Studies December 4-6, 2008 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (USA). We plan to bring together academics and intellectuals from both within and outside of formal academic institutions, including the many organic intellectuals who have kept alive India's Dalit movement by following Dr. Ambedkar's injunction to "educate, organise, and agitate." The purpose of the conference will be to evaluate strategies for ensuring that Dalit agendas are recognised by and incorporated into mainstream academic dialogue and to assess the various political and social agendas, both contemporary and historical, that have sought to improve the lives of Dalits. These include Dalit political formations; print media and literary movements; colonial and postcolonial governmental practices and policies; initiatives for social and economic empowerment; feminist struggles; critiques of nationalist and radical movements; and diasporic activism. The conference will result in the production of an edited volume that will bring various Dalit agendas into dialogue and examine the conditions and contradictions of Dalit social mobility in contemporary India. We encourage proposals from all disciplinary, methodological, and ideological perspectives. Applications are welcome from independent scholars, postgraduate students, and those working within and outside of formal academic institutions.

Further information can be found on the conference website: <http://casi.ssc.upenn.edu>.

The author of each paper proposal accepted for participation in the conference will receive an honorarium of USD 500 that we hope will help to defray the costs of any additional research that will be conducted for the paper. Travel (international or domestic, as needed) to and from Philadelphia, meals, and accommodation will be covered for all conference participants, and each contributor whose paper is accepted for publication in the edited volume will receive an additional honorarium of USD 500 following the final submission of their paper.

Deadline for Paper Proposals:
November 1, 2007

Applications should include:

- (1) a three-page description of the research to be presented at the conference and its place within your larger work and goals
- (2) a two-page C.V.

Mailing address for applications:

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East Asian Calligraphy Conference

June 29 - July 1, 2008
Taichung University, Taiwan

Call for Papers

The 6th International Conference on East Asian Calligraphy Education, co-sponsored by Calligraphy Education Group (CEG) USA, National Taichung University, Mingdao University, and other participatory institutions in Taiwan, will be held at National Taichung University, Taichung, Taiwan, June 29 - July 1, 2008. Its main theme: the globalisation and diversification of East Asian calligraphy education, including the education of East Asian calligraphy culture. Calligraphy educators, researchers, artists, practitioners, and connoisseurs from all countries and regions are invited to present their papers and/or creative works.

Suggested Topics of Presentation:

1. **Globalisation of East Asian Calligraphy Education**
 - a. Globalisation of East Asian Calligraphy Education
 - b. Globalisation of East Asian Calligraphy Culture
 - c. Local Paradigms and Dynamics of East Asian Calligraphy Education in Different Countries and Regions
2. **Diversification of East Asian Calligraphy**
 - a. Children's Calligraphy
 - b. Disabled Persons' Calligraphy
 - c. Senior Citizens' Calligraphy
 - d. Women's Calligraphy

Abstract / proposal submission deadline: January 31, 2008.

Application for display of calligraphy works deadline: February 29, 2008.

Conference details are posted and updated at <http://www.unc.edu/~wli/CEG/conference.html>.

General inquiries are to be sent to Dr. Daan Pan, Chair of Conference Executive Committee, email: dpan@csupomona.edu; Department of English and Foreign Languages, California State Polytechnic University at Pomona.

20th European Conference on Modern South Asian Studies,

8 - 11 July 2008
Manchester, UK

The 20th European Conference on Modern South Asian Studies will take place between July 8th - 11th 2008 in Manchester, UK. This conference is the official conference of the European Association of South Asian Studies (EASAS), held every other year in a European city. The 19th conference was held in Leiden, the Netherlands, and we are delighted to bring the

conference to University of Manchester for the 20th session. The University has a range of specialists in South Asian Studies across the Humanities and Social Science disciplines, and it has recently launched an MA programme in South Asian Studies which draws on this expertise.

Preparations for the conference are well under way, and you can visit the conference website at <http://www.arts.manchester.ac.uk/ecmsas/>. The keynote speaker will be Professor Sanjay Subrahmanyam of UCLA. Professor Subrahmanyam will address the conference on the theme of 'Cultures of Travel between Anjou and Agra: Europe and Asia in the Early Modern World'. The annual Ambedkar Lecture, hosted by Manchester Metropolitan University, will also be held during the course of the conference; details of this will be published on the website in the near future. A list of 40 panels has recently been selected by the Conference Academic Committee. Examples of the panels to be held are:

- Visual Cultures in South Asia
- Indian Foreign Policy in the 21st Century: Prospects and Challenges
- Lived Islam in Contemporary South Asia
- Management of Development Projects in South Asian Countries
- Writing the Cities of the South Asian Diaspora
- Legal pluralism and tribal politics in South Asia
- Slavery and the Raj: Representing unfree labour in colonial South Asia
- Religion, Literature and Film in South Asia and the South Asian Diaspora
- Citizenship and education in South Asia
- Disease, possession and healing in South Asia

For a full list of panels, please visit the conference website, where you will also find abstracts explaining panel themes and details of the panel convenors. If you would like to offer a paper in any of the conference panels, please contact the relevant convenor(s), as instructed on the website.

As well as the academic programme, we are planning a lively cultural programme in Manchester. This will include an illustrated talk on the Manchester - India textiles trade, to be hosted by the Whitworth Art Gallery, and an exhibition of contemporary Pakistani religious poster art, scheduled to be held at the Manchester Museum. We will hold our conference dinner in the heart of South Asian Manchester, on the famous 'curry mile' of Rusholme. And of course, a session in Manchester would not be complete without a club night, celebrating the city's recent association with musical innovation. We hope that delegates will enjoy our city and the stunning countryside of the Peak and Lake Districts which are within easy reach. Accommodation will be provided at reasonable rates within the University, although you can also take advantage of the range of hotels the city offers. Again, please check the website for details on this.

We look forward to meeting many colleagues and friends next summer. The organisers of the conference are Drs Nile

Green and John Zavos of the School of Arts, Histories and Cultures, University of Manchester. If you have any further questions, do consult the website or contact us on ecmsas@manchester.ac.uk.

New Cultures of Intimacy and Togetherness in Asia Conference

9 – 10 May 2008
New Delhi, India,

This conference seeks to bring together scholars working across areas such as sociology, gender studies, film/media studies, anthropology, popular culture, and urban studies in order to explore emerging cultures of intimacy and friendship in contemporary non-Western contexts. We are particularly interested in perspectives that relate the topic to the making of social selves at a time of great economic and cultural change in many Asian societies. Socially, 'non-Western' has often been considered synonymous with traditional, conservative, static and illiberal, particularly in contexts of intimate/personal relationships that are expected to conform to certain values, norms and expectations of 'heritage'. However, following modernity at large and contexts of change such as economic liberalisation, globalisation and the worldwide web, there is, increasingly, a perception (if not a belief) that social structures and networks have been affected, and 'new' cultures of intimacy and togetherness are emergent (if not already established). There is a decided conviction that such new structures and networks are visible in day-to-day contexts at work, home and leisure, and that they reflect political, cultural, emotional and intellectual transitions and upheavals.

At this conference, we would like to explore this notion of emergent cultures of 'new' intimacies and togetherness in the contemporary non-Western world, in as varied a social and cultural register as possible.

Some Possible Themes:

Television/Cinematic Intimacies
New/Changing Spaces of Intimacy
New Cultures of Marriage
Intimacy, Togetherness and Class
Non-heterosexual Cultures of Intimacy
Advice Columns and the Reading Public
Intimacies and Consumer Cultures
'Youth' Cultures and Intimacies
The 'New Woman' and the 'New Man'
The Metrosexual/the Uber-sexual
'Friends' Transformed Intimacies in Living Spaces
Sex and the City Intimacies and New Urban Spaces
Changing Workplace Cultures
New Lexicons of Conversation/Communication

Enquiries, abstracts (350 words), and expressions of interest to:
intimaciesconference@yahoo.com

Last date for submission of abstracts:

31st December

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New Delhi, India

First International Sanskrit Computational Linguistics Symposium

29 – 31 October 2007

Paris

The First International Symposium on Sanskrit Computational Linguistics will take place in the Paris-Rocquencourt Center of INRIA, from the 29th to the 31st of October 2007. It will include workshop tracks on standardisation issues related to Sanskrit linguistic resources.

The Paris-Rocquencourt Research Center of INRIA (French National Institute for Informatics and Automatics) recently joined efforts with the Department of Sanskrit Studies at University of Hyderabad and the NLP Department of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha at Tirupati, to form a joint team in Sanskrit Computational Linguistics. This team will hold its first workshop at the end of October 2007 in Paris. It has been decided to open the meeting to outside researchers, by organising the First International Sanskrit Computational Linguistics Symposium at this time. The École Pratique des Hautes Études, through its chair 'Sources et Histoire de la Tradition Sanskrite', and UMR 7528 'Mondes iraniens et indiens', are contributing to the organisation of this event.

Programme Committee

- Pushpak Bhattacharyya, Computer Science and Engineering Department, IIT Mumbai
- Brendan S. Gillon, Department of Linguistics, McGill University, Montreal
- Jan Houben, Directeur d'Études, Ecole Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris
- Gérard Huet, INRIA Rocquencourt (co-chair)
- Girish Nath Jha, Assistant Professor, Special Centre for Sanskrit Studies, J.N.U. New Delhi
- Amba Kulkarni Head, Department of Sanskrit Studies, University of Hyderabad (co-chair)
- Malhar Kulkarni, Dept. of Humanities & Social Sciences, IIT Mumbai
- Alain Lecomte, UFR Sciences du langage, Université Paris 8, Saint-Denis
- Narayana Murthy Kavi, Computer Science Dept, University of Hyderabad
- Georges-Jean Pinault, Directeur d'Études, Ecole Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris
- K. V. Ramkrishnamacharyulu Vice Chancellor, Sanskrit University, Jaipur
- Peter M. Scharf, Department of Classics, Brown University, Providence, RI
- Shivamurthy Swamiji, Sri Taralabalu Jagadguru Brihanmath, Sirigere (Karnataka)
- Muneo Tokunaga, Graduate School of Letters, Kyoto University, Kyoto
- Lalit Kumar Tripathi, Reader, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Allahabad
- Srinivasa Varakhedi, Lecturer, NLP Department, Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati

For more information, including a preliminary programme and details of how to register, visit <http://sanskrit.inria.fr/Symposium>

Spaces of Dialogue

The 22nd Pakistan Workshop

9-11 May 2008

Rook How, Lake District, UK

Call for Papers

The 22nd Pakistan workshop will take place at Rook How in the Lake District from 9th to 11th May 2008.

Each year a theme is chosen for the workshop. The theme is meant as a guide to help participants select aspects of their research for presentation but has never been intended to exclude people whose primary interest may not happen to be that year's theme. This year's theme is Spaces of Dialogue and it is hoped that papers will deal with various forms of dialogue among Pakistanis, between Pakistanis and other groups, and dialogue about Pakistanis, both in the past and in the present, at home and abroad, and the global and local contexts in which these dialogues take place.

This workshop was founded to bring together anthropologists and sociologists whose research involved Pakistan, Pakistani diaspora and South Asian Islam. However, this workshop has also attracted scholars and researchers from a broad range of disciplines including historians, political scientists, economists and applied social scientists. In the recent years, the themes have also included Gender studies, Health studies, History, Literature, Religious studies and Management studies.

We particularly welcome postgraduates from UK and abroad who are working in similar subject areas and wish to receive a friendly feedback from our group of academics and participants. This workshop has also emerged as a joint platform for new (including postgraduate students) and established scholars. It provides them the opportunity to get acquainted with each other in order to motivate and

inspire people working in common fields of interest. This workshop is therefore normally kept small and intimate with a group of 25 or less people.

The venue, Rook How, is one of the oldest Quaker Meeting Houses in Britain and is an important location in the Quaker world. The Rook How offers dormitory style sleeping arrangements which are comfortable and affordable. For those who prefer B&B accommodation, there are several nice places around the area which can only be accessed if they have their own car. The total cost of the Workshop will be £65-70 approximately for those staying at the Rook How (this includes Workshop registration, reception, breakfasts, Pakistani lunches, teas and coffees).

You can register by emailing the convenors at pakistanworkshop@gmail.com.

Due to limited places, we highly recommend an early registration.

A registration fee £30 for the Pakistan Workshop 2008 should be paid either by cheque (payable to 'The Pakistan Workshop') posted to: Stephen Lyon, Department of Anthropology, Durham University, 43 Old Elvet, Durham DH1 3HN or through Paypal.

These details are also available at the Pakistan Workshop 2008 website:

<https://anthropology.dur.ac.uk/anthrowiki/workshop2008/Home.html>

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David Henley

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Pascal Couderc

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