

# White Rose South Asia Conference 2021: Space, Place and Temporalities

30 April, Online (via Zoom)

## Conference Schedule:

Introduction: 09:30-09:40.

Introductory notes by the White Rose team.

Panel Session 1: 10:00-11:30.

Panel A: Ecology & Development

Chair:

**Anna Mdee**

Speakers:

**Divya Chandramouli:** Beyond the Glitter of Pageantry: Colonial Imaginings of Space, Time, and History in 20th century Ceylon

**Dustin Barter:** Opposing Hydropower Hegemony: International Institutions and Civil Society in Myanmar

**Sara Varanese:** The flowing city: deconstructing urban boundaries in the premodern settlement of Ekamra.

Panel B: Citizenship & Community

Chair:

**Will Gould**

Speakers:

**Aaron Antony:** Spatiality and Social Movements: Analysing the Place and Space of Shaheen Bagh



**Rajarshee Narayan Chowdhury:** Planning through Fear:  
Urban Aspirations of Becoming World-Class

**Siddharth Sridhar:** Changing Spaces, Changing Fortunes:  
Decolonization and the Nattukottai Chettiars

Panel C: Environment & Crises

Chair:

**Nicolas Salazar Sutil**

Speakers:

**Arif Hayat Nairang:** Farming a Ruin: Living with “Bad”  
Weather in South Kashmir

**Jay Prakash Sharma:** Voices from the margins: life in a tribal  
village amidst a global pandemic

**Nishant Beniwal:** Litigating a religious right to nature (in  
India)

Panel D: Colonialism, Space & Resistance

Chair:

**Purba Hossain**

Speakers:

**Kelsey J. Utne:** Persisting in Place: Representation and  
Resilience of Delhi Graveyards, 1857-1945

**Pradeep Sangapala:** Terra Incognita to Anuradhapura: The  
production of a new spatial consciousness of the Holy City in  
later-19th century British Colonial incorporation of Lanka

**Saanika Patnaik:** Incarcerated Journeys of Rebellion,  
Interaction, and Belonging – A Glimpse at the Spatial  
Dynamics of South Asian Penal Histories in Melaka



Panel Session 2: 11:45-13:15.

Panel E. 'Postcolonial state'

Chair:

**Elisabeth Leake**

Speakers:

**Shaunna Rodrigues:** The Pluralism of Place: Azad's Challenge to the Nation and Nationalism

**Alisha Elizabeth Cherian:** Walking in the City-State: Everyday Memories, Histories, and Narratives of Indian Spaces in Singapore

**Debjani Dasgupta:** Spatial Imaginations of 'Good Governance' and Changing Institutional Values of Local Governments

Panel F: Queer Geographies & Dissidence

Chair:

**Siobhan Lambert-Hurley**

Speakers:

**Ina Goel:** A queer geography of New Delhi – Negotiating the 'hijra' identity through cultural mapping

**Sohini Chatterjee:** Dissident Mobility and Queer Un/Belonging: Culture, Queer Negotiations and the Politics of Representation

**Themal Ellawala:** On the Austere Gaze: Surveillance and Disciplining of Queer Excess on the Streets of Colombo

Panel G: Literature

Chair:

**Claire Chambers**

Speakers:



**Naveen Zaidi Farhan:** Immoveable Graves and Lost *Shajrabs*: the Mohajir in *Khwabrau* and “Hindustan se ek khat”

**Sanchit Toor:** Through Touch and Transgression: Investigating Selves and Spaces in ‘Samskara’ and ‘Angaliyat’

**Wafa Hamid:** Against Forgetting: Kashmir, Kaschmir, Cashmere, and the Poetry of Witness

#### Panel H: Representation & Identity

Chair:

**Nabeela Ahmed**

Speakers:

**Akhil Kang:** Remembering/Living Jalandhar & My Grandfather

**Gunindu Abeysekera:** Anubhāva: Historytelling Through Bharatanatyam Dance in the South Asian American Diaspora

**Sarica Robyn Balsari-Palsule:** Visual Representation, Collective Identity and the Parsi Community

Keynote Speech: 14:15-15:45.

**Professor Sujit Sivasundaram:** ‘Placelessness, Coercion and the Material History of Modern Colombo’. Sujit’s talk will be introduced by Dr Radha Kapuria and followed by a Q&A.

Workshop: 16:00-17:30.

Decolonising the Curriculum - Kate Walker and Zaynab Seedat

This workshop explores the timely theme of decolonising the curriculum in contemporary higher education. Following an introduction to the topic, conference attendees will work through a series of collaborative exercises in which they reflect upon their experiences, within higher education, as students/teachers to date. Following that, attendees will be guided to identify concrete ways in which to bring about a more equitable system for all. Attendees will be equipped with a basic knowledge of the current debate and issues surrounding decolonialism, action points to bring about positive change, as well as a network of fellow change agents within their subject areas.

