

**Political Economy of Contemporary South Asia
INET-YSI conference @UC Berkeley
October 13 - 14 2023**

Agenda

Friday, October 13, 2023

08:30 AM - 09:00 AM | Registration

09:00 AM - 09:15 AM | Inaugural Session

09:15 AM - 10:45 AM | Panel I: Dialectics of Globalism and Nationalism

Chair: Munis Faruqi, Associate Professor in the Department of South and Southeast Asian Studies, UC Berkeley

Speakers:

Arjun Appadurai, Emeritus Professor, NYU

David Grewal, Professor of Law, UC Berkeley School of Law

Katharina Pistor, Edwin B. Parker Professor of Comparative Law, Columbia Law School

10:45 AM to 11 AM | Coffee

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM | Panel II: Agrarian-urban Crises

Chair: Vamsi Vakulabharanam, Associate Professor of Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Speakers:

Sai Balakrishnan, Associate Professor of City and Regional Planning, UC Berkeley

Sharad Chari, Associate Professor, Berkeley Geography, UC Berkeley

Thomas Blom Hansen, Reliance-Dhirubhai Ambani Professor in South Asian Studies and Professor in Anthropology, Stanford University

12:30 PM to 1:30 PM | Lunch

1:30 PM to 2:30 PM

Young Scholars Session I: Migrants, Capital and Capitalism

Chair: Jay Pocklington, Director, Young Scholars Initiative, Institute for New Economic Thinking

Discussant: Arindam Dutta, Professor, Professor of Architectural Theory and History, MIT

Speakers:

Pratim Ghosal, DPhil candidate in International Development, University of Oxford
From Diamonds to Real Estate: Saurashtra Patels and Socially Embedded Capital in a Transforming City

Ayan Meer, Doctoral candidate in the International Development Group at the Department of Urban Studies and Planning, MIT
Migrant Capitalism: International Emigration and the Political Economy of Urbanization in Punjab

2:30 PM to 2:45 PM | Coffee

2:45 PM to 3:45 PM

Young Scholars Session II: Dispossessions

Chair: Sattwick Dey Biswas, coordinator, History of Economic Thought Working Group, Young Scholars Initiative, Institute for New Economic Thinking

Discussant: Sai Balakrishnan, Associate Professor of City and Regional Planning, UC Berkeley

Speakers:

Danish Khan, Assistant professor in the Economics Department at Franklin & Marshall College
'Agrarian-Urban Frontier' and Real-Estate Development: Rethinking 'Accumulation by Dispossession' in the Postcolonial Punjab, Pakistan

Gajendran V., Post-Doctoral Fellow, IIT Hyderabad
Variegated Dispossession: Varieties and Modalities of Dispossession in Chennai's Ennore, India

3:45 PM to 4:00 PM | Coffee

2:45 PM to 3:45 PM

Pranab Bardhan, Professor, UC Berkeley: Reflections on Indian Political Economy

Followed by Roundtable with

Paul Pierson, John Gross Endowed Chair, Professor of Political Science, UC Berkeley
Steven Vogel, Director of the Political Economy Program, the Il Han New Professor of Asian Studies, and a Professor of Political Science and Political Economy

7:00 PM | Dinner at Faculty Club (by invitation only)

Saturday, October 14, 2023

09:00 AM - 10:30 AM | Panel III: Inequality and Populism

Chair: Sai Balakrishnan, Associate Professor of City and Regional Planning, UC Berkeley

Speakers:

Arindam Dutta, Professor, Professor of Architectural Theory and History, MIT
Jayati Ghosh, Professor of economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst
Vamsi Vakulabharanam, Associate Professor of Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst

10:30 AM to 10:45 AM | Coffee

10:45 AM - Noon | Panel IV: Data and Democracy

Chair: Arun Balachandran, Postdoctoral Research Scientist, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University

Speakers:

Sripad Motiram, Associate Professor, University of Massachusetts, Boston
Gilles Verniers, Karl Loewenstein Fellow and Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Noon - 1:00 PM | Lunch

1:00 PM – 2:15 PM

Young Scholars Session III: Inequality and Crises

Chair: Arun Balachandran, Postdoctoral Research Scientist, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University

Discussant: Vamsi Vakulabharanam, Associate Professor of Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Speakers:

Saswata Guha Thakurata, Assistant Professor, Kanchrapara College, West Bengal, India

Crisis, Inequality and Populism: Analyzing the Relationship between Changing Sources of Growth and Distributional Dynamics. (co-authored with Manikantha Nataraj)

Snigdha Kumar, PhD candidate, University of Minnesota

Banking on/with Data: Decoding the Platformization of Banking in India

2:15 PM to 2:30 PM | Coffee

2:30 PM to 3:45 PM

Young Scholars Session IV: Inequality and Space

Chair: Jay Pocklington, Director, Young Scholars Initiative, Institute for New Economic Thinking

Discussant: Katharina Pistor, Edwin B. Parker Professor of Comparative Law, Columbia Law School

Speakers:

Zahra Khalid, PhD Candidate in Geography, City University of New York

Aspiring to secure: the political economy of real-estate development in Karachi, in a time of sea-level rise

Leilah Vevaina, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Immortality and Inequality: The Trust and the 'Unincorporate Body'

4:00 PM to 5:00 PM | Looking Ahead (Closed)

Moderators:

Sunanda Nair-Bidkar, Director of Strategic Planning, South Asia, the Institute for New Economic Thinking

Jay Pocklington, Director, Young Scholars Initiative, Institute for New Economic Thinking

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Young Scholars Initiative | an initiative of the
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