Chairman's Report

The past few months have been an active period for the students and faculty of the University of Washington South Asia Program. We were pleased to welcome several distinguished visitors to the campus including Professors Hamza Alavi, Bimal Matilal and Atul Kohli. Our expected visit by Dr. Rosalind O'Hanlon of Cambridge University did not occur owing to untimely ill health. Another much anticipated guest, Professor Nicholas Dirks of the University of Michigan, did arrive for the Winter session of the South Asia Colloquium of the Pacific Northwest (SACPA). He was joined by Professors Harjot Singh Oberoi of the University of British Columbia and Alan Entwistle of the University of Washington in delivering most interesting papers to a heavily attended meeting in the conference room of the Faculty Club, March 5. More recently, Dr. Susan Bean, Curator of the Peabody Museum, Salem, Massachusetts, was a guest of the program and delivered a paper at a colloquium.

Over the past year our program has taken active steps to encourage awareness of our activities and resources within the Indo-American community as seen in our film festival of last summer. On April 30, we will see another initiative realized in our joint sponsorship and organization with the Indian Association of Western Washington of a community colloquium on issues ranging from contemporary Indian politics and business opportunities in India to a special discussion on the problems of "growing up in two cultures". We anticipate visits by The Honorable A. N. Ram, Deputy Chief of Mission of the Indian Embassy, and Professor John Wood of the University of British Columbia, along with a series of panelists from both campus and community (more details on this event inside).

Once again this summer, the University of Washington Department of Asian Languages and Literature will offer intensive instruction in Intermediate Hindi. Also during the summer we will welcome participants to the 10th annual South Asian Language Association Roundtable (details inside). Another special summer event will involve the Seattle Opera Association's festival production of Satyagraha, the opera by Philip Glass which takes as its theme the evolution of Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy of creative non-violent resolution of human conflict.

Frank F. Conlon
Upcoming Events

South Asia Colloquium

Professor Pranab Bardhan of the University of California at Berkeley and a leading authority on the political economy of modern India will deliver a talk, "The Theory of Economic Development and the Political Process," on Thursday, May 12 at 3:30 p.m. in Thomson 317.

Western Conference of the Association of Asian Studies

The Western Conference meetings of the Association of Asian Studies will be held in Seattle this fall on Friday and Saturday, October 21 and 22. The meetings will take place at the Meany Tower Hotel in the heart of the UW's "University District." Proposals for papers and panels, as well as inquiries, should be directed to Professor Frank Conlon, WCAAS '88 Program Chair, South Asian Studies, DR-05, Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195. Reservations for rooms at the Meany Tower Hotel may be made by phoning the toll-free number 1-800-648-6440 (local calls and calls from outside the U.S.: 206-634-2000). The hotel reservation deadline is September 20. To receive the conference rate you must identify yourself as attending the Western Conference AAS.

**Further details will be forthcoming in a mailing to all members of the Association for Asian Studies in the western states. The deadline for submission of panel proposals will be June 15.

"Images of India" Seminar and Community Colloquium

"Images of India: Emergence into the 21st Century" is a day-long seminar and community colloquium to be co-sponsored by the UW South Asian Studies Program and the India Association of Western Washington. The seminar is planned for Saturday, April 30, 1988 and will be held on the University of Washington campus in room 210 Kane Hall.

The seminar will feature a keynote address by Shri A. N. Ram, Deputy Chief of Mission in the Embassy of India. Professor Ramesh Gangolli will lead a discussion on:

"The Roles and Responsibilities of Indo-Americans toward India and the U.S.A."

Later in the day a panel of parents and students, lead by Ms. Laura Ryan as moderator, will discuss:

"Growing up in Two Cultures"

Other expected topics of exploration include: Doing Business with India; India's Economic Policies; Maintaining Tradition in a Changing Social and Cultural Environment; and an analysis of contemporary political developments in India by Professor John Wood of the University of British Columbia. Another special feature will be a slide presentation by Mr. G. Sen Gupta on the historic 1916 visit to Seattle of Rabindranath Tagore.

All interested persons are encouraged to attend and participate in this forthcoming event. More information will be available as the date of the seminar approaches. Call Pat Emerson at 543-4800.
The application deadline for Summer Session is April 15 (May 15 for B.C. residents). For more information, call the Department of Asian Studies at 604-228-3881.

Recent Events

South Asia Colloquia

The South Asia Program was pleased to welcome a number of distinguished visitors during the Winter Quarter to present colloquia as part of our ongoing program. In January, Professor Hamza Alavi of the University of Manchester spoke on "Ethnicity and Politics in Pakistan"; Dr. Bimal Matilal, Spaulding Professor of Eastern Religions and Ethics at Oxford University, spoke on "Reality, Nature and Ethics in the Great Indian Epics: Ambiguity and Ambivalence." Professor Atul Kohli of the Department of Politics at Princeton University joined us in February to speak about the "Politics of Economic Liberalization in India." In March we welcomed Professor Nicholas Dirks of the Department of History, University of Michigan, who joined the SACPAN events with an address on "Castes of Mind". Susan Bean, Curator of the Peabody Museum in Salem, Massachusetts, helped to celebrate the first day of our Spring Quarter by giving a jointly-sponsored colloquium on "The Place of Word Meaning in Cultural Analysis."
Recent atlases have been produced by both Indian and Pakistani governments. The National Atlas of India is a hefty work with more than 300 large maps documenting a wide variety of cultural and physical features and is especially good at thematic mapping of rural India. The atlas has been produced sheet by sheet during the past 30 years. The Atlas of Pakistan was published in 1985 and is a more modest effort with less cultural information. Some additional atlases include Bangladesh in Maps (1981), Fully Annotated Atlas of South Asia (1987), An Atlas of the Mogul Empire (1982), and Schwartzberg's classic A Historical Atlas of South Asia (1978). (We are told that this last atlas, currently out of print, may appear in the near future in a reprint edition.)

The Map Collection is open from 8 to 6, Monday through Friday, and 9 to 5 on Saturdays. For additional information, contact Steve Hiller or Bob Bjoring at 543-9392.

In addition to the modern maps discussed above, the Special Collections Division of the Library also has several rare maps of South Asia, including: Tabula Indiae orientale, originally drawn in 1662 by Joannes (Jansson?) and revised at a later date by Frederick de Wit; Carte de L'Isle de Ceylan by Guillaume de L'Isle; "Premier geographe du Roy de l'Aadmic Royale des sciences", engraved by Berey in 1722 and revised in 1745; East Indies with roads by Thomas Jeffreys, 2nd ed., 1768. "Dedicated to the directors of the Honble East India Company."

The Special Collections Division is open 10-5, Monday through Friday, and 9-5 Saturdays.
FRANK CONLON had expected to chair a panel on South Asian history at the annual convention of the American Historical Association, but was marooned by a blizzard at O'Hare Airport. He returned to Seattle to complete the submission of our Center application to the Department of Education. He attended the trustees' meeting of the American Institute of Indian Studies and the annual conference of the Association for Asian Studies. He is now laying plans for the forthcoming (October 21-22) Western Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, which will be held here in Seattle at the Meany Tower Hotel.

PAT EMERSON, current chair of the Outreach Committee of the South Asia Council of the AAS, and her colleagues on that committee, prepared an exhibit on the outreach activities of South Asia Resource Centers nationwide for the San Francisco meetings of the AAS held this March. In addition, Ms. Emerson was elected Secretary/Treasurer of the American Pakistan Research Organization, a group formed to promote Pakistan Studies in the U.S. Other trustees of this organization include: Brian Spooner, University of Pennsylvania, President; Bruce R. Pray, University of California-Berkeley, Vice President; Barbara Metcalfe, University of California-Davis, and Muhammad Memon, University of Wisconsin, trustees-at-large. In December, Pat led a travel-study trek in Nepal. (See story this issue under "Resource Center News").

CHARLES KEYES spent a month this winter in Southeast Asia as the leader of a delegation from a joint committee of the Social Science Research Council and the American Council of Learned Societies. The group of delegates visited Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and Thailand. The purpose of the trip was to explore the possibilities of scholarly cooperation with academic institutions in Viet Nam and to investigate possibilities for research opportunities in Laos and Cambodia. While in Southeast Asia, Professor Keyes found some time to pursue his own research interests concerning religion of the area.

DONALD MESSERSCHMIDT has left his post as Professor of Anthropology at Washington State University and is now living in the Washington D.C. area where he is the new "social forestry coordinator" on the International Staff of the U.S. Forest Service. His office works in support of USAID rural development programs and forestry projects from a social science perspective. When last he wrote, Don was just back from a trip to Pakistan--Karachi, Islamabad, Peshawar. We wish him well in his new endeavors.

TIMOTHY RYAN will receive his M.A. in South Asian Studies this June. For the last year he has been working on a consultancy/internship with PATH, the Program for Appropriate Technology in Health, drafting materials for decision-makers of national ministries of health regarding hepatitis B immunization, as well as researching AIDS for the PATH database. This spring he will be writing a piece on the Sri Lankan situation and the Sri Lankan community in the northwest for the Clinton Street Quarterly, an arts quarterly published in Portland. In the last year, the Quarterly published a chapter from his novel on Tunisia, and another chapter has been published in Fine Madness, a Seattle-based literary magazine. Currently he is working on a feature-length screenplay about an American writer. His emphasis in graduate school has been media and communications issues in India, and he would like to do a book on the Indian Press.

LORRAINE SAKATA spent her sabbatical quarter, Autumn 1987, in Pakistan as part of the Smithsonian-sponsored project, "Multidisciplinary Study of Pakistani Folk Culture." She worked mainly in Quetta, working with the Hazara community there, studying its musical development and comparing the findings with those from her previous work with the Hazaras in Afghanistan. She also conducted a brief study of the music represented on the five daily language programs
aired on Radio Pakistan in Quetta. Throughout her stay in Pakistan, she worked closely with Lok Virsa, Pakistan's National Institute of Folk and Traditional Heritage, attending a SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) workshop on documentation as an official participant and expert, and conducting a pilot project of a musical survey of Pakistan. In conjunction with this pilot project, she accompanied Lok Virsa's mobile unit on an 8-day research trip through Western Punjab and North West Frontier Province. She has been invited back by Lok Virsa to attend the 2nd National Folk Music Festival of Pakistan, April 8-12.

Last November, HAROLD SCHIFFMAN attended the International Conference Seminar of Tamil Studies, hosted by the Department of Indian Studies at the Universiti Malaya in Kuala Lumpur. The population of Malaysia includes over 1 million people of Indian origin, most of them Tamil-speaking, hence the conference site selection. Scholars from Australia, France, Germany, India, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, the U.K. and the U.S. attended the conference. While finding the scholarly content of the conference weak and the political atmosphere counter-productive, Professor Schiffman enjoyed meeting other foreign scholars and members of the faculty of the Department of Indian Studies at Kuala Lumpur, some of whom expressed interest in developing ties with our own faculty. Kuala Lumpur, he reports, is an unbelievably clean city; there is "not only no litter, I never saw anybody picking up litter. Perhaps it's done in the middle of the night." The cityscape had changed dramatically since his last visit 21 years ago, with high-rises and freeways dwarfing the quaint architecture of earlier times.

During the month of March, MICHAEL C. SHAPIO was in Lahore, Pakistan where he conducted an evaluation of the University of California's Urdu Language Program in Pakistan. In the past, many UW students have participated in this program; this was an excellent opportunity for Professor Shapiro to meet the program's staff and to familiarize himself with its teaching programs. On the way Pakistan, Professor Shapiro stopped off in London, where he met with faculty members of the School of Oriental and African Languages, University of London, to discuss ways of increasing cooperation between that institution and various programs at the UW, particularly the Department of Asian Languages and Literature.

Owing to circumstances beyond control, our distinguished Arts & Sciences Visiting Professor CHRISTOPHER SHACKLE, had to postpone indefinitely his much anticipated quarter in Seattle.

In Memoriam

The South Asia Program faculty were saddened by the premature death, on February 20, 1988, of their colleague Jack T. Leahy, Professor in the College of Engineering and adjunct member of the Department of English. Jack came to the University of Washington in January 1958 as an Instructor in Humanistic Social Studies, a former department of the College of Engineering. A talented novelist and short story writer as well as a sometime drama critic and book reviewer, his interest in travel brought him to South Asia and by extension to the literature of the region. He offered courses on world literature which highlighted contributions by South Asian authors and opened the eyes of many students to the human panorama of the subcontinent. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, and three children.
Resource Center News

Himalayan Discovery:

"As I stepped out on my first day's march in the Himalayas, a strange exhilaration thrilled me. I kept squeezing my fists together and saying emphatically to myself and to the universe at large: 'Oh yes! This is really splendid! How splendid! How splendid!'"

-Francis Younghusband, 1924

Sixty-three years after Younghusband's visit to the Himalaya, fourteen travellers from the Seattle area had their chance to experience this same exhilaration. They left on December 5, with Pat Emerson as trip leader, for an 18-day Himalayan adventure. The first adventure was trying to pack trekking gear, river gear, water bottles, cameras, Pepto-bismol, books, flashlights, sleeping bags, enough film, etc., into a 30" x 14" duffle bag and meet the 44-pound weight limit. The result was a motley group at SeaTac, boarding the flight to Nepal, wearing boots and down jackets and festooned with cameras, binoculars, and whatever else would not go into the duffle bag.

Two days in Nepal were spent touring the sacred and scenic sites of the Kathmandu Valley. Using bikes and rickshaws we explored the streets and bazaars, visited shrines, including Bodnath, and watched the rich life of Durbar Square. Evenings were spent in briefings on Nepali culture, as well as on the coming week's trek.

The eight-day trek in central Nepal started at Gorkha, where Prithvinarayan Shah, who unified Nepal in the 18th century, built a spectacular castle. We spent a memorable evening above the palace watching the sun set over Himaluchuli (25,801') and Manaslu (26,760').

Trekking trails in Nepal cut across river valleys, so each day's march involved a succession of ups and down, sometimes as much as four thousand feet (groan!) in each direction. Beyond Gorkha, we traveled through Hindu villages, climbing from the subtropical river valley toward the snow-studded peaks always ahead of us beyond the mist. As we moved higher, we met a cross-section of Nepalese society: Brahmans, Chetri, Newar, Gurungs, and the Tibetan traders--the Bhotias--coming down from higher passes. In the misty autumn air, we ascended to the highest trail point through dense, mixed forest which blended into stands of pure conifers. And here we finally found the clear, crisp light which opened up the whole Annapurna Range before us. We had a welcome rest day here for side trips to higher altitudes, visits with villagers, catching up on journals, or just sitting and looking till our eyes hurt.

This rarely-trekked route took us through Gurung villages from which come the famous Gurkha regiments of the British Army. On the last day of the trek we descended through rice paddies to much welcomed hot showers and real beds at Fishtail Lodge on Phewa Lake near Pokhara.

The adventure was not over! The next morning we were thrust into an entirely new environment--a one-day rafting trip down the Trisuli River. From aching feet to aching seats, we alternated between bouncing down the fast stretches and floating through tranquil sections of the river. After spending the night in a tent camp on an island, we emerged from the deep forested gorge of the hills to the broad plains of southern Nepal, traveling through entirely different terrain, rice paddies, jungle, flat rivers, but with the Himalayas still visible to the north. We spent the next two days at the famous Tiger Tops Lodge in Chitwan National Park, exploring the jungle on elephant-back and on foot; in dugout canoes floating past waterfowl, gharial crocodile and Gangetic dolphins. The richness of the wildlife almost overwhelmed us: how often do you see tigers and rhinos in the wild?
After all this wilderness living, it was almost unsettling to board a plane to fly back to Kathmandu. The flight, along the Himalaya, however, was another kind of adventure! For two more days we dashed around the Kathmandu Valley exploring the culture, with visits to the Tibetan Refugee Center, Patan with its Buddhist gompas, and the "medieval" city of Bakhtapur which was once the capital of Nepal. And, it must be confessed, a considerable amount of time was spent in the bazaars, shopping.

Some of the group stayed on in Nepal, but for the rest of us the flight to Bangkok's Airport Hotel was like moving into a new century. The pre-trip publicity promised participants as much diversity and cross-cultural opportunity as "one can fit into an 18-day trip"—it did that and more!

If you missed this exciting adventure, you have another opportunity. I am leading a Cultural Tour to the mountain kingdoms of Ladakh in India and Swat in Pakistan in July, 1988. Flying to India via Tokyo and Bangkok on Thai Airways, we will travel back through time from the rich alpine regions of Kashmir to the stark lunar landscape of Ladakh. We will travel by motorcoach across the Himalaya, exploring monasteries, ruins, and small rural villages. After Ladakh we will fly from Delhi to Lahore in Pakistan for a trip to Peshawar, where the majority of Afghan refugees are, and into Swat where we will be traveling between the Hindu Kush. Highlights will include: the days on houseboats in Kashmir; the stay in yurts in Ladakh; a polo match played where polo originated; following Alexander’s route in Pakistan; Buddhist remains in Swat; and more.


Summer Institute for Teachers

Co-sponsored by the South Asia Outreach Center and Academic Programs for Teachers, UW Extension, the Summer Institute for Teachers is a two-week credit course in the first session (A Term) of the 1988 Summer Quarter.

June 20 to 25: "Teaching about South Asia", Pat Emerson, South Asia, Coordinator and Course Instructor.

June 27 to July 1: "Teaching about Africa", Pat Emerson, South Asia, Coordinator. Dr. Edgar Winans, and Dr. Carole Eastman, Anthropology and African Studies, Course Instructors.

Each week-long program will feature substantive lectures by the instructors and guest experts; visual presentations; discussion; resource lists; etc.

For information about the program, call Nancy Murphy, UW Extension, 543-2300 or Pat Emerson, 543-4800.
New Supplementary Teaching Outlines
in the Resource Center:

Traveling Kits which include slides, teaching outlines, readings, references, etc.:

1. GANDHI: POLITICIAN OR SAINT?

2. LITERATURE OF SOUTH ASIA - Mughal India: with emphases on history, women, art, and art history.

3. MONSOON: a unit which can be used either for geography or literature.

4. THE TAI EXPRESS: a unit to be used in world literature class. Cassette recordings of contemporary Indian short stories. Excellent recordings and explanatory material, etc. Produced by PBS.

Northwest Teachers Visit India

Last summer three high school educators from the Puget Sound area traveled to India on a Fulbright scholarship to participate in a six-week seminar on Indian history and culture. Nancy Wilkinson, humanities teacher with the Puyallup School District, Largo Wales, Director of Elementary Education for the Auburn School District, and I joined thirteen teachers from around the United States for this brief but intensive and informative adventure.

The monsoon rains had not yet arrived when we landed in Delhi on July 1. (In fact they had not come to Delhi by the time we left 6 weeks later-a record delay.) For our first ten days in India, we were treated to a series of excellent lectures and seminars led by authorities on a wide variety of topics: geography, literature, politics, dance, music, and history, to name a few. It was equal to the best graduate seminar imaginable.

We then travelled for three weeks to many different Indian cities: Agra, Jaipur, Amhedabad, Bombay, Bangalore, Mysore, Madras, Calcutta, Varanasi, and Srinagar, to acquire at least a brief exposure to the diversity of India. We visited several schools and discussed curricula with teachers and talked with Indian students about their views on education and their aspirations for the future. We also visited historic places, including Mamallapuram, Sarnath, and Fatehpur Sikri. We took a boat ride on the Ganges at Varanasi and saw the Taj Mahal as it became immersed in a pre-monsoon storm.

Six weeks is a remarkably short time to visit a country with the same geographic size, nearly twice the population, and as much linguistic and cultural diversity as the whole of Europe. Yet we were all inspired to gather materials to continue our study of India here in the U.S. Many of us want to go back someday.

While in India we each conducted research on a topic of particular interest in order to prepare a curriculum unit upon our return. Members of our group researched such subjects as Indian epic literature, Indian parliamentary politics, Indian puppetry, and Gandhian economics in order to devise ways for instructors here in the U.S. to teach about India. Since our return, many of us have spoken to schools, university classes and to community groups about India.

Full-time high school and junior high school teachers should consider applying for a Fulbright scholarship to participate in a summer seminar in India. Summer seminars are also offered in several other countries, e.g., Pakistan, Indonesia, Israel, Brazil, Japan, and China. The application deadline for 1988 seminars has passed, but those teachers interested in applying for a 1989 seminar should write for an application, available in September, from: Ms. Lungching Chaio, Senior Program Officer, Seminars Abroad Program, International Studies Branch, Center for International Education, U.S. Department of Education (Mail Stop 3308), 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, D.C. 20202. The closing date for applications is early December.

-Patrick Grant, Instructor
University Preparatory Academy, Seattle
Washington South Asian Council

The Washington South Asian Council is an organization established to promote the socioeconomic interests of South Asians in the community. Since its inception 11 years ago, the WSAC has addressed issues such as: South Asian access to higher education; professional schools and minority small business loans; and the awareness of the South Asian status in the 1980 census.

Currently, WSAC is involved in several major projects:

--developing a community directory listing social service, professional and government agencies, shops, places of worship, etc. that will be of interest to South Asians;

--undertaking a DSHS-funded AIDS information campaign in the South Asian community (for which good researchers, writers and graphic artists are needed for a 3-6 month period);

--ensuring that adequate outreach and publicity occur in the South Asian community about services available for those applying for amnesty under the new immigration law;

--developing a project to collect accurate statistics and produce materials on South Asian culture and social norms for use by social service agencies working with South Asian women.

For more information on the work of this group, write to Chairperson, WSAC, P.O. Box 95978, Seattle, WA 98145-2978.

New Journal

Raddle Moon, a new journal devoted to language-centered South Asian literature, is now available from the editor: Susan Clark, 9060 Ardmore Drive, Sidney, BC, Canada V8L 3S1. Anyone with a translation of appropriate material from any Indian or Pakistani language should send it to the editor-at-large for India, Robert A. Huckstedt, Box E, Brown University, Providence, RI 02912. Appropriate material originally in English is also acceptable.

Announcements

Swami Chinmayananda, a Vedantic scholar and one of India’s most respected spiritual leaders, will be conducting a 7-day camp at the University of Puget Sound beginning the evening of June 22 through 28, 1988.

The texts he will be using are from the Bhagavad Gita, Chapter 11, and Mandukya and Karika Upanishad. All evening talks are open to the public free of charge and will be held at Kilworth Chapel on the University of Puget Sound campus.

Swami Chinmayananda has given hundreds of talks on the Gita and Upanishads all over the world for the past 30 years. A gifted speaker, he builds an intense rapport with his audiences and communicates the Teachings in modern terms with vibrancy and wit. Anyone interested in further information may call 392-1265.