

THE ANNUAL KATHMANDU CONFERENCE ON

NEPAL & THE HIMALAYA

28-30 July 2021

**Social Science Baha, Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies,
Britain-Nepal Academic Council, Centre for Himalayan Studies-CNRS
& Nepal Academic Network (Japan)**

SCHEDULE

(All times are in Nepal time)

Note: The conference has both two- and three-paper panels. Due to the need to accommodate everyone participating from a range of time zones, the panels do not follow the same pattern every day. Hence, the first day begins with two-paper panels while the two later days start with three-paper panels.

In this year's online conference, we have included virtual networking sessions for the attendees in the hope of trying to replicate the in-person conferencing experience. We will be using [Gather.Town](#), a social platform, to create a virtual 'room' where you will have the ability to move around and interact with other participants based on your locations in the room, just like in real life ([click here for an introduction](#)). We will be hosting these networking sessions from 9 pm onwards for an hour each day of the conference. Do note that since attendance is limited to 25 people, you are requested to inform the secretariat (conference@soscbaha.org) if you intend to attend the virtual gathering.

<p>Opening Remarks Krishna Adhikari Research Fellow, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Oxford (Britain-Nepal Academic Council)</p>		<p>Opening Remarks Steve Folmar Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Anthropology, Wake Forest University, USA (Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies)</p>	
<p>Panel A1 DISSECTING LABOUR MARKET TRENDS</p>		<p>Panel B1 EXCLUSION AMID THE PANDEMIC</p>	
<p>Chair-cum-Discussant Magnus Hatlebakk Senior Researcher, Chr. Michelsen Institute, Bergen, Norway</p>		<p>Chair-cum-Discussant Steve Folmar Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Anthropology, Wake Forest University, USA</p>	
<p>Ishwor Adhikari PhD Scholar, South Asian University, New Delhi</p>	<p>The Conundrum of Labour Shortage in Labour Surplus Economy: An Investigation of Nepal</p>	<p>Pramod R. Regmi Shovita Dhakal Adhikari Nirmal Aryal Edwin van Teijlingen Faculty of Health and Social Sciences, Bournemouth University, UK</p>	<p>Moral Panic and Othering Practices during Nepal's COVID-19 Pandemic</p>
<p>Anirban Dasgupta Associate Professor, Faculty of Economics, South Asian University, New Delhi</p>		<p>Sharada Prasad Wasti Senior Research Fellow, School of Human and Health Sciences, University of Huddersfield, UK</p>	
		<p>Shreeman Sharma Department of Conflict, Peace and Development Studies, Tribhuvan University</p>	
<p>Subhash Nepali Economist and Policy Adviser, United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office, Kathmandu, Nepal</p>	<p>Caste and Ethnicity Based Earning and Access: Discrimination in Nepal's Labour Market</p>	<p>Vishnu Tandon PhD Candidate in Political Science, École Des Hautes Études En Sciences Sociales (EHESS), Paris</p>	<p>Participatory Planning in a Federal Setting of Nepal: New Trends of Participation During the COVID-19 Pandemic</p>
<p>BREAK: 6:30–7 pm</p>			

Panel A2 NAVIGATING DISCRIMINATION AND PERSONHOOD		Panel B2 DEALING WITH DISASTERS	
<i>Chair-cum-Discussant</i> Krishna Adhikari Research Fellow, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Oxford		<i>Chair-cum-Discussant</i> Pasang Y Sherpa Independent Researcher	
Ivan Deschenaux ESRC Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Methodology, London School of Economics	Replication Reconsidered	Khem Shreesh Editor, Social Science Baha	Apathetic and Impassive: The Nepali State in Crises
Steve Folmar Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Anthropology, Wake Forest University, USA	Groupism in Dalit Lived Experience	Mayank Shah Research Scholar, Department of Economics, Kumaun University, India	Mountains of Risk: The Many Faces of Vulnerability in the Central Himalayas
Samuele Poletti Postdoctoral Fellow, Laboratoire d'ethnologie et de sociologie comparative (LESC), Université Paris Nanterre	A Promise of Unconditional Acceptance: Conversion to Christianity and the Struggle for Being in Sinja, Nepal	Tracy Fehr PhD Candidate, Sociology, University of Colorado Boulder, USA	Nepal's Post-Earthquake Development Surge: The Unintended Local Impacts of Reconstruction
<i>Social (Gather Town): 9 pm onwards</i>			

Panel A3 MIGRANTS OF DIFFERENT HUES		Panel B3 UNDERSTANDING SEXUALITIES	
<i>Chair-cum-Discussant</i> Fraser Sugden		<i>Chair-cum-Discussant</i> Kalyan Bhandari	
Senior Lecturer in Human Geography, International Lead (Research), School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Birmingham		Lecturer in Events, Hospitality and Tourism, University of the West of Scotland	
Swati Condrolli PhD Candidate, Department of Political Science, Panjab University, India	Notes on a Himalayan Town: A Tibetan Community's Perspective	Kumud Rana Independent Researcher	Transnational AIDS Networks, Regional Solidarities and the Configuration of Metis in Nepal
Prem Phyak The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Language, Identity, and Nepali Youth in Hong Kong	Anup Shekhar Chakraborty Assistant Professor, Netaji Institute For Asian Studies, Kolkata, India	Ambiguous Sexualities and Pink Migrations: In the Realm of the Politics of Sexualities, Regimentation and Control among Gorkhas in North-Eastern India
Amrit Kumar Bhandari Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara	The Quest of Urban Materiality in an Urban Neighborhood: A Case of Butwal Nepal	Sanjay Sharma PhD Candidate, Department of Sociology, National University of Singapore	Locating Lahure Aspirations through Wholesome Memes
BREAK: 7–7:30 pm			

Panel A4 GENDER NORMS AND COMMUNITIES		Panel B4 CHANGES IN SCHOOLING	
<i>Chair-cum-Discussant</i> Kumud Rana Independent Researcher		<i>Chair-cum-Discussant</i> Prem Phyak The Chinese University of Hong Kong	
<p>Rajya Laxmi Gurung Senior Researcher, Dignity Without Danger, Department of Sociology, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu</p> <p>Stefanie Lotter Senior Teaching Fellow and Research Fellow, School of Oriental and African Studies, UK</p>	<p>From Fear to Shame: Socio-Political Influences on Menstruation Practice in Dailekh, Jumla and Achham</p>	<p>Shak Bahadur Budhathoki Education Coordinator, Mercy Corps Nepal</p>	<p>The Contents and Relevancy of Social Studies and Life Skills Education Curriculum</p>
<p>Anisha Bhattarai Senior Research Associate, Social Science Baha</p> <p>Kiran Giri Station Manager, BMHD Television, Kathmandu</p>	<p>Toilet as the Mainland of Institution: A Study of Toilets in Tribhuvan University</p>	<p>Ram Gurung Lecturer, Saraswati Multiple Campus, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu</p>	<p>COVID-19 Pandemic and Challenges of Students for Alternative Learning at University Education in Nepal</p>
<i>Social (Gather Town): 9 pm onwards</i>			

Panel A5

NATIONAL IDENTITY IN POROUS BOUNDARIES

Chair-cum-Discussant

Katsuo Nawa

Nepal Academic Network (Japan)

Aniket Alam

Associate Professor, Human Sciences Research Group, IIT-Hyderabad, Telangana, India

Losing a Home, Finding a Nation: The Curious History of Hurling Village in Spiti, Himachal Pradesh**Aman Kant Panta****Kesang Thakur**

Research Assistants, ICSSR Project: 'Change and Continuity in a Trans-Himalayan Buddhist Community: A Study of Monasteries in Spiti, Himachal Pradesh, India'

Neekee Chaturvedi

Associate Professor, Department of History and Indian Culture University of Rajasthan, Jaipur, India

Gautam Chandra Roy

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, B. N. College, Dhubri, Assam, India

Cross-Border Nationalism and Emerging Transnational Identity: The Rajbanshis of Indo-Nepal-Bangladesh Borderland**Kalyan Bhandari**

Lecturer in Events, Hospitality and Tourism, University of the West of Scotland

National Symbols and the Political Agency of Tourism**BREAK: 7–7:30 pm**

Panel A6

NEGOTIATING ETHNIC IDENTITY

Chair-cum-Discussant

Nirmal Man Tuladhar

Chair, Social Science Baha

Anish Kumar Thokar

PhD Candidate, Central Department of Sociology, Tribhuvan University

Activism of Ethnic Social Movements for Constitutional Reform: An Analysis of Tamang's Movement in Nepal**Roji Maharjan**

Student, Tribhuvan University

Newar Women of Kirtipur: Analyzing Their Collective Identity*Closing Remarks*

Nirmal Man Tuladhar

Chair, Social Science Baha

Social (Gather Town): 9 pm onwards