

THE ANNUAL KATHMANDU CONFERENCE ON

NEPAL & THE HIMALAYA

26-28 July 2023

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

SCHEDULE

(All times are in Nepal time)

All sessions will take place at **Durbar Hall on the 1st floor of
Hotel Shanker, Lazimpat, Kathmandu**

Opening Remarks

Jeevan Sharma
General Secretary, BNAC

HALL A**Panel A1****TRADING ON THE TRANS-BORDER LIVELIHOODS***Chair*

Jeevan Sharma
General Secretary, BNAC

Discussant

Alice Millington
PhD Candidate, University of Cambridge

Wu Di

PhD Candidate and Research
Assistant, Yunnan University, China

Li Zhinong

Professor/Vice-President, School of
Ethnology and Sociology, Yunnan
University, China

**Living by the Border: A Study of
Nepal's Limi People and Their Trade:
Life on the Sino-Nepal Border**

Chitra Rawat

Research and Operations Manager,
India Migration Now

Chinmaya Shah

Secretary and Programme
Coordinator, Institute of Himalayan
Environmental Research and
Education, India

**From Far West to Neglected North:
Intra-Himalayan Migration from
Sudurpaschim Province to
Uttarakhand**

TEA/COFFEE BREAK: 11–11:30 am**Poster Presentation****Sanjaya Aryal**

Senior Research Officer, University of
Essex

Kathryn Chard

Lecturer

Liliane Silva

**Evidence on the Relationship between
Breastfeeding and Long-Term
Outcomes**

Senior Research Officer, University of Essex Aaron Wyllie Lecturer, University of Essex			
The poster presentation will be on display on each day of the conference during tea/coffee and lunch breaks.			
SESSION 2: 11:30 am–1:30 pm			
HALL A		HALL B	
Panel A2 LITERATURE AS ASPIRATIONS AND REPRESENTATION		Panel B1 CREATING AND GOVERNING SUBJECTS	
<i>Chair</i> Nirmal Man Tuladhar Chair, Social Science Baha		<i>Chair</i> Pratyoush Onta Research Director, Martin Chautari	
<i>Discussant</i> Rosy Chamling Head, Department of English, Sikkim University		<i>Discussant</i> Sohan Prasad Sha Researcher, Martin Chautari	
Michael Hutt Emeritus Professor, SOAS University of London; Research Affiliate, University of Oxford	Of Ploughmen and Drummers: Dalit Consciousness in Nepali-Language Literature	Rita Baramu Programme Manager, Body & Data Neha Gauchan Programme Coordinator, Body & Data	Digitization of Identities in Nepal: Interests & Implications
Komal Phuyal Lecturer, Tribhuvan University	Structural Drives and Common Sense: Building Conflict in Select Stories from B. P. Koirala and Guru Prasad Mainali	Shubha Kayastha Executive Director, Body & Data Shambhawi Paudel Programme Officer, Body & Data	Privacy in the Digital Age and as Understood by Marginalized Groups in Nepal

<p>Ramawatar Yadav Former Vice-Chancellor, Purbanchal University, Nepal</p>	<p>Toward a Historiography of Lexicogenesis in Maithili – With Special Reference to the Hitherto Unstudied and Unpublished Hand–Written British Library, London MS. of Henry Thomas Colebrooke’s Comparative Vocabulary (1807 CE)</p>	<p>Lokranjan Parajuli Senior Researcher, Martin Chautari</p>	<p>Radio as a Propaganda Tool: The History of Radio Broadcasting in Nepal/i</p>
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LUNCH BREAK: 1:30–2:30 pm

SESSION 3: 2:30–4:30 pm

HALL A		HALL B	
<p>Panel A3 NEPALI DIASPORIC IDENTITY IN THE CONTEXT OF MULTICULTURALISM</p>	<p>Panel B2 POLITICAL AND PRIVATE IDENTITY IN VIOLENCE</p>		
<p>Chair Lokranjan Parajuli Senior Researcher, Martin Chautari Discussant Komal Phuyal Lecturer, Tribhuvan University</p>	<p>Chair Richard Bownas Professor, University of Northern Colorado Discussant Tracy Fehr PhD Candidate, University of Colorado Boulder</p>		
<p>Rosy Chamling Head, Department of English, Sikkim University</p>	<p>The Diasporic Imaginary in Contemporary Nepali Writings in English</p>	<p>Prakash B K PhD Candidate, University of Notre Dame, USA</p>	<p>Caste in Mental Health Service and Policy in Nepal</p>
<p>Bhaskar Chettri PhD Candidate, National Institute</p>	<p>Tracing Cultural Identity in</p>	<p>Niki Rai Research Scholar, Dr. B.R.</p>	<p>Voices of the Silenced: A Study of The Survivors</p>

of Technology Sikkim	Diasporic Texts of Samrat Upadhyay	Ambedkar University Delhi	and Witnesses of 27th July 1986 in Kalimpong
Prayash Gupta Assistant Professor, Sikkim Manipal University	Nativization of Nepali Identity in Manjushree Thapa's Select Texts	Claire Willey- Sthapit Assistant Professor, University of Kansas	Beyond Coping: Survivors' Strategies in Response to Domestic Violence

Day 2: 27 July (Thursday)		SESSION 4: 9–11 am	
HALL A		HALL B	
Panel A4 REIMAGINING MARGINALISATION		Panel B3 IMPROVING SCHOOL EDUCATION AND PERFORMANCE	
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Chair</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mahendra Lawoti Professor, Western Michigan University</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Discussant</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Amar BK Independent Scholar</p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Chair</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pramod Prasad Bhatta Member, Martin Chautari</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Discussant</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Uma Pradhan Lecturer, University College London</p>	
<p>Sita Mademba Senior Research Associate, Social Science Baha</p>	<p>Reimagining and Reviving Resistance: An Anthropological Study of the Limbu Community's Chasok Celebration</p>	<p>Shak Bahadur Budhathoki Member, Lifelong Learning Mandala</p>	<p>The State of Policy and Practice on Complaint Response Mechanism in Nepal's Community Schools</p>
<p>Sanjaya Mahato Faculty, Kathmandu University</p>	<p>Institutional and Procedural Bias for Women Access to Electoral Candidate: A Case of Nepali Congress Party in Nepal</p>	<p>Suman Gyawali MEAL Officer, The Leprosy Mission Nepal</p>	<p>Participatory School Self-Evaluation as a Tool for Transformative School Performance</p>
<p>Mitra Pariyar Research Fellow, Kingston University (last affiliation)</p>	<p>Stifled Aspirations: Dalits of Contemporary Nepal</p>	<p>Pragya Paneru Lecturer, Nepal Commerce Campus</p> <p>Prativa Paneru Lecturer, Trinity College, Nepal</p>	<p>From an Elderly Middle-Aged Man to 'A Scientist May Be Anyone': DAST in Nepalese Context</p>
TEA/COFFEE BREAK: 11–11:30 am			

HALL A

Panel A5

MIXED PANEL

*Chair***Claire Willey-Sthapit**

Assistant Professor, University of Kansas

*Discussant***Sudeshna Thapa**

Research Coordinator, Social Science Baha

Sanjaya AryalSenior Research Officer, University of
Essex**Kathryn Chard**

Lecturer

Liliane SilvaSenior Research Officer, University of
Essex**Aaron Wyllie**

Lecturer, University of Essex

**Evidence on the Relationship between
Breastfeeding and Long-Term
Outcomes****Apolline Dupuis**MA Student, Social Transition and
Innovations**Bimla Kumari Gurung**Lecturer, Morgan International
College, Nepal**Claire Martinus**Lecturer, University of Lille, France;
Lecturer, University of Mons, Belgium**Challenges of Nepali Women in
Production Sector in Kathmandu****Bhuwan Thapa**Assistant Professor, Appalachian State
University, USA**Ujjwal Upadhyay**Senior Programme Coordinator,
National College, Kathmandu
University**Urban Green Space Is a Critical Nature-
Based Infrastructure for the Climate
Resilience of Kathmandu Valley, Nepal**

<p>Indresh M Sharma Senior Research Coordinator, National College, Kathmandu University</p>	
<p>LUNCH BREAK: 1:30–2:30 pm</p>	
<p>SESSION 6: 2:30 am–4:30 pm</p>	
<p>HALL A</p>	
<p>Panel A6</p>	
<p>WHITHER EDUCATION IN NEPAL</p>	
<p><i>Chair</i></p> <p>Ramawatar Yadav Former Vice-Chancellor, Purbanchal University, Nepal</p> <p><i>Discussant</i></p> <p>Arjun Kharel Research Fellow, Social Science Baha</p>	
<p>Phoenix Kenney PhD Candidate, University of Cambridge</p>	<p>Language of Instruction Communication: A ‘Soft Skills’ Approach to Understanding English Language Abilities among College Students in Kathmandu</p>
<p>Uma Pradhan Lecturer, University College London</p>	<p>(Re)Constructing a ‘Good’ School: Perspectives on Educational Transformation in Post-Earthquake Nepal</p>
<p>Chandra Upadhyay Assistant Professor, Tribhuvan University</p>	<p>Pull and Push Factors of Nepali Students’ International Migration</p>

HALL A

Panel A7

DISPLACEMENT AND PERSEVERANCE

*Chair***Stefanie Lotter**

Senior Research Fellow, SOAS University of London

*Discussant***Michael Hutt**

Emeritus Professor, SOAS University of London; Research Affiliate, University of Oxford

Nimesh Dhungana

Lecturer, University of Manchester

Sanjay Sharma

Independent Scholar

Kripa BasnyatNational Project Coordinator,
International Labour Organization**Narayan Adhikari**CEO and Director, Accountability Lab
Nepal**Prekkshya Bimali**Accountability Lab Nepal; MA
Student, Tribhuvan University**Flora Cornish**Associate Professor, London School of
Economics**Disaster as a Catalyst for Injustice:****Experiences of Nepali Foreign Labour
Migrants during Covid-19****Amit Gautam**

Research Officer, Social Science Baha

Jeevan Baniya

Assistant Director, Social Science Baha

**Forging Paths: Understanding
Rohingya Refugees' Livelihood
Challenges in Nepal****Niraj Lawoju**MA in Political Science, Tribhuvan
University**Culture Loss and Changes after
Earthquake-Related Residence Shift****TEA/COFFEE BREAK: 11–11:30 am**

SESSION 8: 11:30 am–1:30 pm

HALL A

Panel A8

IDENTITY AND COMMUNITY FORMATION THROUGH DISCOURSE

Chair

Kumud Rana

Lecturer, Lancaster University

Discussant

Sanjay Sharma

Independent Scholar

Binita Magaiya

Research Assistant, Social Science
Baha

**Muchuk and Mukundapur: How Two
Communities Engage with
Mukundasen’s Legacy**

Stefanie Lotter

Senior Research Fellow, SOAS
University of London

Rinzing Ongmu Sherpa

PhD Candidate, Jawaharlal Nehru
University

**Redefining the Sherpa Identity in
Darjeeling: Tracing their Early History,
Migration and Identity Formation**

Paulina Stanik

PhD Candidate, University of Warsaw

**Two Sides of the Same Coin? Gurkhas
and Indians in Polish World War Two
Memoirs**

LUNCH BREAK: 1:30–2:30 pm

SESSION 9: 2:30–4:30 pm

HALL A

Panel A9

EXAMINING IDENTITY IN NEPALI POLITICS AND SOCIETY

Chair

Hari Sharma

Executive Director, Purak Asia

Discussant

John Whelpton

Independent Scholar

Richard Bownas

Professor, University of Northern
Colorado

**Nepali Hindutva? Analyzing the
Prospects for Indian Style Hindu
Nationalism in Nepal**

<p>Mahendra Lawoti Professor, Western Michigan University</p>	<p>Emergence and Consolidation of Multiparty System in Nepal: Causes and Consequences</p>
<p>Kumud Rana Lecturer, Lancaster University</p>	<p>Decoloniality, Queerness, Indigeneity: Thinking through the Indigenous Queer and the Queerly Indigenous in Nepal</p>
<p>Closing Remarks</p>	