
ESHAN ARYA

Politics and International Relations, La Trobe University

My presentation shall focus on my chapter "lives in a limbo." This chapter focuses on the lives of Indian students settled in Australia via subclass 574, working in casual jobs and unable to move away from these jobs, despite Masters level qualifications in fields unrelated to their casual jobs. This chapter is a part of my PhD thesis that focuses on the Indian students' migration to Australia.

RENUKA BALASUBRAMANIAM

School of Law, La Trobe University

Refugees from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka constitute 25 % to 30% (figures include Rohingya) of the refugee population in Malaysia. A deficit in state responsibility to promote the rule of law obligations of human security, fundamental rights and open government is apparent in South Asian refugee producing states. Research into links between improved mechanisms for state accountability across refugee producing states, and the harms that result in flight could significantly inform the identification of durable solutions for refugees in states not signatory to the Refugee Convention.

OWEN BENNETT

Faculty of Arts, Political and Social Sciences, Monash University

In my thesis I will focus on the history of Sri Lankan Marxist party the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (People's Liberation Front or JVP) and its 1987-1989 insurrection. During the JVP's 1987-1989 insurrection, it is estimated that between 40,000 - 100,000 Sri Lankans were killed, the overwhelming majority being JVP members and sympathisers killed by Government-sponsored paramilitary groups. Using the JVP's 1987-1989 insurrection as a case study, this research aims to investigate and critique the social sciences' prevailing approach toward working-class agency in the post-colonial Global South.

TIM DARGAVILLE

Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, University of Melbourne

There is an existing context for contemporary composers engaging in intercultural exploration through creative work, both in Australia and internationally. Taking a practice-led research approach, this study investigates the role that intercultural exploration can play in the creation of new music and in the development of a personal compositional language. Focussing on the ritual visual art form of *kolam* and the traditional vocal percussion art form of *konnakol*, both from South India, as inspirations for creation, this presentation contextualises a series of recently created original works, locating their development within a broader understanding of approaches to intercultural exploration undertaken by other Australian and international contemporary composers.

SURJEET DHANJI

School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Melbourne

This thesis examines the complex and evolving relations between two waves of Indian immigrants living in metropolitan Melbourne. The first wave has, on the whole, successfully integrated into the Australian society, while international Indian students have drawn much attention to itself in the media, the education sector as well as from the labour markets. Their arrival has increased the overall 'visibility' of Indians in metropolitan Melbourne and a re-categorisation of the entire Indian ethnic community in the eyes of the mainstream society. Such 'lumping together', is a source of growing tension within what is perceived as a homogenous 'Australian-based Indian community'.

SANJIB GOSWAMI

Institute of Social Research, Swinburne University

This presentation analyses colonial constructions of identity to understand ongoing violence in India's North East. It traces how a new form of colonialism in the region constructed new identities and produced a differentiated citizenship, a dual administration, and an ossified triangular system of social relations comprising indigenous groups, non-indigenous Assamese and migrant identities. This system was retained by postcolonial arrangements. While scholars have traditionally analysed violence in this region within a binary framework, this presentation approaches the conflict in the context of a triangular system of relationships.

SABRINA GUPTA

Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, Monash University

As Australia becomes an increasingly diverse society, there is a need to understand health impacts and experiences of migrants. There is literature on migrant health in Australia however there are still gaps particularly amongst the study of South Asians in Australia. SAs have higher rates of both cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes in comparison to the host Anglo-Australians and this study is an endeavour to understand why such patterns may exist.

ISABELLA OFNER

School of Culture and Communication, University of Melbourne

My thesis examines the ways in which Tibetan women's life writing negotiates the place of gender in the (re)writing of Tibetan history within the larger project of ideological nation building. To examine the relation of women's histories to national history is to explore the structures of power that determine gender roles in the Tibetan community. This project is thus also an inquiry into the possibilities of a gendered transformation of Tibetan national history in which gender symbols have been used to formulate arguments of authority, control, and exclusion.

PARICHAY PATRA

Department of Film and Screen Studies, School of Media, Film and Journalism, Monash University

This thesis traces the transnational genealogies of the Indian New Wave, a largely state-sponsored film movement from the 1970s, which happens to be the least appreciated one among all the New Waves all over the world. Using the emergent transnational cinema theories, textual analyses of representative films and findings of an extensive archival research in India; the thesis constructs a novel framework for arthouse cinema research in the domain of Indian Film Studies.

BIJU PHILIP

College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce, La Trobe University

This study investigates the influence of a structured soccer coaching program in primary school aged children's social integration and coaching capacity in rural India. A large number of tribal children in rural India discontinue schooling due to disengagement, discrimination and social exclusion in schools. Although there are unexamined assumptions, past research indicate that sport has the capacity to engage people and improve their social integration. The findings based on the first and second phases of data collection indicates that interschool activities may provide wider network opportunities for the participants; and thus, incorporated interschool coaching sessions.

ROBI RADO

Melbourne Law School, University of Melbourne

International law increasingly governs whether, and the manner in which, people may move to other countries to work. This regulation is often justified on the basis of claims about the link between migration and the development project. Using a case study concerning workers from India, I will seek to develop a better understanding of the legal regimes governing international labour mobility, and of the relationship between those regimes and the development project.

ARJUN RAJKHOWA

Journalism and Strategic Communication, La Trobe University

My thesis looks at the ways in which nationally-circulated, English-language newspapers, magazines, journals and online media have covered, responded to, assessed and framed two well-known recent movements – the anti-corruption protests of 2011-12 and the anti-sexual violence protests of 2012-13 – that have been posited as ‘new’ and ‘emergent’ in scholarship and media commentary. I analyse the print media coverage surrounding these two cases using thematic analysis as my methodological framework and then complement this with ethnographic work amongst journalists in India who covered these campaigns. This part of my research is based on industry interviews with journalists, commentators and editors of selected publications.

RENA SHRESTHA

School of Psychology and Public Health, La Trobe University

Although it is well-established and recognized that Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) can be identified as early as 24 months in children, in the case of Nepal, there is both a scarcity of research on ASDs and a lack of tools for its early identification. The proposed research aims to implement and evaluate social attention and communication surveillance approach to identify children in risk of ASDs in a local community in Kathmandu by training female community health volunteers. It is expected that this surveillance approach will facilitate early identification of children in risk of ASDs in a community level, and consequently the early diagnosis of ASDs.

OISHIK SIRCAR

Institute for International Law and Humanities, University of Melbourne

This thesis studies the ways of remembering that an encounter between law and cinema engenders, in the context of the 2002 anti-Muslim pogrom in Gujarat. To do so it reads the forms of law and cinema as a particular genre of jurisprudential address that mobilizes a public and offers a training in condemning the violence and simultaneously reifying a rationality - marked by the triad of secularism, legalism and developmentalism - which formed the foundations of the pogrom. In reading the Best Bakery case, and four Bollywood films, the thesis asks the question: Do our legal investments in establishing the truth about the violence of Gujarat 2002 keep alive a faith in the cinematic as an active archive of collective memory, and consequently as a credible jurisprudential source that engenders imaginations of justice?

SHARON TEMPLEMAN

Melbourne Graduate School of Education, University of Melbourne

India-Australia ties are growing in number, strength and importance. In the field of Vocational Education and Training, memorandums of understanding (MOUs) have been signed encompassing a range of projects including the establishing of administrative structures, curriculum development, teacher training and delivery. This is in the context of major policy and funding activity in India around VET.

This research project investigates challenges emerging in Australia/India collaborative projects in VET, with a focus on challenges as perceived by three broad groups of Australian stakeholders, representative of the bi-lateral activity to date: policy and planning experts; public bodies and operatives in the for-profit sector.

YAKINDRA PRASAD TIMILSENA

Food and Science, RMIT

Essential fatty acids such as omega-3 and omega-6 are known as the fats of life because they reduce the risk of cancer, heart disease, arthritis, depression, fatigue and premenstrual syndrome. Although marine fish including salmon and tuna are the major source of these essential fatty acids, the increased demand of vegetarian diets based on the dietary requirement and religious beliefs has recently led to increased research interests within industry and academia to explore sustainable alternatives. In addition to plant seeds, leaves, berries, microalgae and fungi, oil-seed crops with their large production capacity and relatively low cost could be an alternative and sustainable omega-3 and omega source of these ingredients.

BEN VECCHIET

School of Anthropology, Deakin University

This project will undertake a broad and comparative study of the four main world religions as these are practised and as their adherents interact in Sri Lanka with specific regard to the social values of human equality and social cohesion in a post-conflict setting. By focussing on specific aspects of each religion, the study provides a comparative framework for the exploration of religion and social and political theory in the contemporary world.