The Local as Cosmopolitan

Negotiating Tradition, Making History, Translating Culture in South Asia A Conference in Memory of Professor Kumkum Chatterjee October 5-6, 2013

112 Borland, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park (Sponsored by the Departments of History and Asian Studies, the Committee for Early Modern Studies, and the College of the Liberal Arts)



Unknown Indian Decanni Miniature Painting c. 1750
Colors on paper 10 1/4 x 7 1/4" 69.10 69_10,
Courtesy of the Palmer Museum of Art, The Pennsylvania State University

Saturday, October 5

9:00-9:30: Opening Remarks

9:30-11:00: Panel One: Negotiating Tradition

Ramya Sreenivasen, Evolving Perspectives on Mughal-Rajput Marriages; Utsa Ray, The Goddess's Wrath: Power, Gender and Food in Late Medieval Bengal; Muzaffar Alam, Dara Shukoh and the Persian Translations of the Yogavasistha in Mughal India

11:00 Break

11:15-12:15: PLENARY: Dipesh Chakrabarty

12:30-1:45: Lunch Break

1:45 - 3:15: Panel Two: Translating Culture

Rajarshi Ghose, Mughal Poetry in Colonial Calcutta: Rajah Apoorba Kissen Deb and His Masnavis; Sanjay Subrahmanyam, What Jamie Knew: James Fraser and British Understandings of the Mughal World, ca 1740 Robert Travers, Indian Petitions and Cultures of History in Early Colonial Bengal

3:15-3:30: Break

3:30-500: Panel Three: Being Local, Being Cosmopolitan

Gita Dharampal-Frick, Transcultural Networks in the Indian Ocean with a Focus on Sino-Indian Interaction, 1200-1450; A. Gregg Roeber, Kumkum Chatterjee's Eighteenth-Century Indian Historical Consciousness: The Tamil Christian Case; Paper by Kumkum Chatterjee, Cultural Investments of Empire: Raja Man Singh in Bengal





Unknown Indian Portrait of a Man (Miniature Painting), Color on paper 9 1/4 x 5 ¾ Gift of Walton J. Lord Estate 86.716 Courtesy of the Palmer Museum of Art, The Pennsylvania State University

Sunday, October 6

9:00-10:30: Panel Four: Making History

Partha Chatterjee, Early Modernity and the Historiography of Eighteenth-Century India Sugata Bose, Literature as History, History as Political Theory; Mrinalini Sinha, Indenture, Abolition, and Nation-Time

10:30 - 10:45: Break

10:45-11:45: Panel Five: Sites of Belonging

Madhuri Desai, Authenticity and the Urban Palimpset: The Making of Mughal Benares; Aryendra Chakravartty, A Region in the Making: Bihari Literati and Provincial Identity in Colonial India



This publication is available in alternative media on request. Penn State encourages qualified persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation or have questions about the physical access provided, please consult Mary Jo Schillings, mjs9@psu.edu, in advance of your participation or visit. Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce. U.Ed. 14-48