

Political Economy of Contemporary South Asia

13–14 OCTOBER 2023
10 Stephen's Hall - UC Berkeley

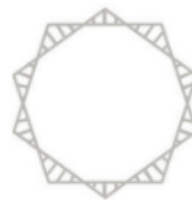
INET-YSI Conference @ UC Berkeley on:

- Dialectics of Globalism and Nationalism
- Inequality and Populism
- Agrarian and Urban Crises
- Data and Social Justice

Institute for
New Economic Thinking

**Young
Scholars
Initiative**

Asia Political
Economy Center,
UMass Amherst



**CENTER ON
CONTEMPORARY
INDIA**
UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA BERKELEY

Berkeley **GMS**
GLOBAL METROPOLITAN STUDIES

Berkeley City & Regional
Planning

Friday, October 13

- 08:30 - 09:00 AM **Registration**
- 09:00 - 09:15 AM **Inaugural Session**
- 09:15 - 10:45 AM **Panel I: Dialectics of Globalism and Nationalism**
Chair: **Munis Faruqui**, Associate Professor, Department of South and Southeast Asian Studies, UC Berkeley
Speakers:
Anush Kapadia, Associate Professor, Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Bombay
David Grewal, Professor of Law, UC Berkeley School of Law
Katharina Pistor, Edwin B. Parker Professor of Comparative Law, Columbia Law School
- 10:45 - 11:00 AM **Coffee**
- 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM **Panel II: Agrarian-urban Crises**
Chair: **Vamsi Vakulabharanam**, Associate Professor of Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst
Speakers
Sai Balakrishnan, Associate Professor of City and Regional Planning, UC Berkeley
Sharad Chari, Associate Professor, Berkeley Geography, UC Berkeley
Thomas Blom Hansen, Reliance-Dhirubhai Ambani Professor in South Asian Studies and Professor in Anthropology, Stanford University
- 12:30 - 1:30 PM **Lunch**
- 1:30 - 2:30 PM **Young Scholars Session I: Migrants, Capital and Capitalism**
Chair: **Jay Pocklington**, Director, Young Scholars Initiative, Institute for New Economic Thinking
Discussant: **Arindam Dutta**, Professor of Architectural Theory and History, MIT
Speakers
Pratim Ghosal, DPhil candidate in International Development, University of Oxford: "From Diamonds to Real Estate: Saurashtra Patels and Socially Embedded Capital in a Transforming City"

Ayan Meer, Doctoral candidate in the International Development Group at the Department of Urban Studies and Planning, MIT: "Migrant Capitalism: International Emigration and the Political Economy of Urbanization in Punjab"

2:30 - 2:45 PM

Coffee

2:45 - 3:45 PM

Young Scholars Session II: Disposessions

Chair: **Sattwick Dey Biswas**, Coordinator, History of Economic Thought Working Group, Young Scholars Initiative, Institute for New Economic Thinking

Discussant: **Sai Balakrishnan**, Associate Professor of City and Regional Planning, UC Berkeley

Speakers

Danish Khan, Assistant Professor in the Economics Department at Franklin & Marshall College: "'Agrarian-Urban Frontier' and Real-Estate Development: Rethinking 'Accumulation by Dispossession' in the Postcolonial Punjab, Pakistan"

Gajendran V, Post-Doctoral Fellow, IIT Hyderabad: "Variegated Dispossession: Varieties and Modalities of Dispossession in Chennai's Ennore, India"

3:45 - 4:00 PM

Coffee

4:00 - 5:30 PM

Reflections & Roundtable

Pranab Bardhan, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Economics, UC Berkeley: Reflections on Indian Political Economy

Followed by Roundtable with

Paul Pierson, John Gross Endowed Chair, Professor of Political Science, UC Berkeley
Steven Vogel, Director of the Political Economy Program, the Il Han New Professor of Asian Studies, and a Professor of Political Science and Political Economy, UC Berkeley

7:00 PM

Dinner at Faculty Club (by invitation only)

Saturday, 14 October

09:00 - 10:30 AM

Panel III: Inequality and Populism

Chair: **Sai Balakrishnan**, Associate Professor of City and Regional Planning, UC Berkeley

Speakers

Arindam Dutta, Professor of Architectural Theory and History, MIT
Jayati Ghosh, Professor of Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst
Vamsi Vakulabharanam, Associate Professor of Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst

10:30 - 10:45 AM

Coffee

10:45 AM - Noon

Panel IV: Data and Democracy

Chair: **Pia Malaney**, Senior Economist and Director of Center for Innovation, Growth, and Society, Institute for New Economic Thinking

Speakers

Sripad Motiram, Associate Professor, University of Massachusetts, Boston
Gilles Verniers, Amherst College, MA and Centre for Policy Research, Delhi

Noon - 1:00 PM

Lunch

1:00 - 2:15 PM

Young Scholars Session III: Inequality and Crises

Chair: **Arun Balachandran**, Postdoctoral Research Scientist, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University

Discussant: **Vamsi Vakulabharanam**, Associate Professor of Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Speakers

Saswata Guha Thakurata, Assistant Professor, Kanchrapara College, West Bengal, India: "Crisis, Inequality and Populism: Analyzing the Relationship between Changing Sources of Growth and Distributional Dynamics" (co-authored with Manikantha Nataraj)"

Snigdha Kumar, PhD candidate in Sociology, University of Minnesota
Banking on/with Data: Decoding the Platformization of Banking in India

2:15 - 2:30 PM

Coffee

2:30 - 3:45 PM

Young Scholars Session IV: Inequality and Space

Chair: **Jay Pocklington**, Director, YSI, Institute for New Economic Thinking

Discussant: **Katharina Pistor**, Edwin B. Parker Professor of Comparative Law, Columbia Law School

Speakers

Zahra Khalid, PhD Candidate in Geography, City University of New York: "Aspiring to secure: the political economy of real-estate development in Karachi, in a time of sea-level rise"

Leilah Vevaina, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong: "Immortality and Inequality: The Trust and the 'Unincorporate Body'"

3:45 - 4:00 PM

Coffee

4:00 - 5:00 PM

Looking Ahead (Closed)

Moderators

Sunanda Nair-Bidkar, Director of Strategic Planning, South Asia, Institute for New Economic Thinking

Jay Pocklington, Director, Young Scholars Initiative, Institute for New Economic Thinking