

THEMATIC MODULE 2: LABOUR AS A POLITICAL CATEGORY

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON

**HISTORY, MEMORY AND THE ARCHIVES OF EXPERIENCE: ORAL HISTORIES OF
LABOUR IN SOUTH ASIA**

23-24 May 2017

Venue: re:work, Georgenstrasse 23, Berlin

Organised by

Merian-Tagore International Centre for Advanced Studies:
Metamorphosis of the Political (ICAS: MP)

In association with

Centre for Modern Indian Studies, University of Göttingen

re:work, IGK International Centre for Work and Human Lifecycle in Global History,
Berlin

Day One: 23rd May 2017

9.30-10.00 Opening Address: Ravi Ahuja

SESSION I

WORKING LIVES AND URBAN DISPOSSESSION

Chair: Jana Tschurennev

10.00-11.15 *Claiming Alternative Employment in Post Industrial Mumbai.*

Sumeet Mhaskar

Discussant: Nitin Varma

11.15-11.30 **Coffee Break**

11.30-12.45 *Romance, Courtship and Intimacy at the Margins of Delhi: Some notes from Wazirpur*

Rukmini Barua

Discussant: Dorothee Wierling

12.45-13.45 **Lunch**

SESSION II

LANDSCAPES OF WORK, MIGRATION AND SUBJECTIVITIES

Chair: Prabhu Mohapatra

13.45-15.00 *Making and Unmaking of Working Lives in Post-Independent Delhi*

Naveen Chander

Discussant: Aditya Sarkar

15.00-16.15 *Calcutta mein bhi tha/ yahan bhi tha: Continuity and rupture in the life narratives of returned migrants in North India*

Camille Buat

Discussant: Chitra Joshi

16.15-16.30 **Coffee Break**

17:00-19:00 PANEL DISCUSSION

History, Memory and the Archives of Experience

Speakers: Chitra Joshi, Dorothee Wierling, Prabhu Mohapatra

19:00-Reception at re:work

Day Two: 24th May 2017

SESSION III

TRADE UNIONISM, MILITANCY AND FORMS OF WORKERS' POLITICS

Chair: Nitin Varma

10.00-11.15 *Three Moments of Workers' Struggle in their Own Words: Oral history of labour in post-Independence Amritsar city.*

Rana Behal

Discussant: Nitin Sinha

11.15- 11.30 **Coffee Break**

11.30-12.45 *Proletarian Voices and the Writing of South Asia's Labour History: The case of mid-twentieth century Lahore*

Ahmad Azhar

Discussant: Ravi Ahuja

12.45-13.45 **Lunch**

13.45-15.00 *Enemy Agents at Work: A micro-history of the 1954 Adamjee and Karnaphuli riots in East Pakistan.*

Layli Uddin

Discussant: Anna Sailer

SESSION IV

POLITICAL VOCABULARIES OF FOOTLOOSE LABOUR

Chair: Rana Behal

15.00-16.15 *Violence, Urban Anxieties and Masculinities: The 'foot soldiers' of 2002, Ahmedabad.*

Rubina Jasani

Discussant: Rukmini Barua

16.15-16.30 **Coffee Break**

16.30-17.45 *Jostling Vocabularies: The strivings and politics of migrant workers in Delhi*

Shankar Ramaswami

Discussant: Prabhu Mohapatra

17.45-18.00 **Coffee Break**

18.00-19.15 Concluding Remarks: Aditya Sarkar

Followed by a round table discussion

19.30 **Workshop Dinner**
