



CALL FOR PAPERS

Challenging Perspectives on the Indian Diaspora

A Global Conference on Diaspora Studies and Policies

Date: October 5-7, 2017

Venue: City of The Hague, The Netherlands

(Exact location to be announced)

The Foundation of the Lalla Rookh Academic Chair (Stichting Diaspora Leerstoel in Lalla Rookh), in conjunction with VU University of Amsterdam, the International Institute of Social Studies of the Erasmus University Rotterdam in The Hague and the Municipality of The Hague, are organizing a Global Conference on Indian Diaspora Studies.

The Why of this Conference

The theme of this conference is “Challenging Perspectives on the Indian Diaspora”. The word “challenging” carries two meanings. First, challenging perspectives as in creating new, interesting, and intriguing perspectives. Second, challenging also refers to engagement with prevailing perspectives. While wider diaspora studies informs the discussions of the conference, the focus is on the Indian Diaspora.

We welcome academic and policy papers from disciplinary, multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches related to anthropology, economics, law, politics, sociology, geography, art and media, and history. The emphasis is on identifying new areas and linkages with India, including the role of Bollywood films, homemaking and integrating practices, identity making, issues concerning citizenship and legal arrangements, and the politics and economics of diaspora.

Suggested topics for papers

In addition to the existing themes such as the history of indentured labour and the financial potential of diaspora's, we appreciate papers on the following topics:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Indenture heritage2. Ethnic group formation or assimilation3. Stratification and elite formation4. Modes of integration5. Political, economic and social achievements6. Indian nationalism7. Transnational relations (global and regional)8. India in the diaspora9. The diaspora in India | <ol style="list-style-type: none">10. Religious transnationalism11. The impact of Bollywood12. Diaspora tourism13. Political contributions14. Gender issues15. Declining or increasing diaspora bonding16. Diaspora foreign policy17. Diaspora markets18. Trade, investment and consumption19. The impact of remittances |
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We will be inviting scholars and researchers from all over the world and expect to have participants and presentations confirmed from Fiji, Mauritius, the Caribbean, India, the Netherlands, the USA, UK, and Australia. We therefore encourage you to react to the call for papers and also disseminate this call to your networks.

Submissions

- **The deadline for the submission of abstracts is 1 March 2017.**
- **The deadline for the submission of papers is 1 July 2017.**

More information is available on the website www.gcids2017.org. The information is being updated regularly, so please keep visiting the website for the latest news.

Follow us at: www.gcids2017.org

For more information mail to: gcids2017@gmail.com

Looking forward to your contributions,

Ruben Gowricharn, Professor Indian Diaspora Studies, VU University Amsterdam
Rajendre Khargi, Chair Lalla Rookh Foundation for Diaspora Studies, The Hague

The Conference Organizing Committee and Advisory Board

Ruben Gowricharn	VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands
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About Lalla Rookh Academic Chair at VU University

The Lalla Rookh academic chair has been established as a private initiative within the Surinamese Indian Community to study the history and the impact of the Indian migration from India to Suriname and to The Netherlands. The Chair is incorporated within the Faculty of Humanities of the VU University Amsterdam. The first five years (2010-2015) were dedicated to research and documenting the history of this Indian diaspora. Starting from the recruitment and arrival of the first indentured labourers in 1873 to Suriname, to the whereabouts of this diaspora community in the modern Netherlands. The research agenda for the next five years (2016-2020) is focused on the future and the social developments of the Indian diaspora in The Netherlands. This global conference fits into the overarching ambition for a more comparative study in this platform.