

the **SOUTH ASIA INITIATIVE**
Year in Review 2011-2012



ABBREVIATION KEY

FAS	Faculty of Arts and Sciences
GSAS	Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
GSD	Graduate School of Design
HBS	Harvard Business School
HDS	Harvard Divinity School
HGSE	Harvard Graduate School of Education
HKS	Harvard Kennedy School of Government
HLS	Harvard Law School
HMS	Harvard Medical School
HSPH	Harvard School of Public Health
SAI	South Asia Initiative
SEAS	School of Engineering and Applied Sciences

2011 Best Photo in South Asia
Office of International Programs Photo Contest
SAI Sponsored Prize

Woman in Red Sari
Sophia Angelis, 2013

Sophia participated in a SAI sponsored internship at the
Bandra East Community Center in Mumbai, India during the
summer of 2011.



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Dear Friends,

Since its inception in 2003, Harvard's South Asia Initiative (SAI) has sought to catalyze intellectual exchange among faculty and students in different parts of Harvard, and between the University and the South Asia region. Thanks to a growing sense of community, I am happy to report several significant achievements during this past academic year.

While Harvard's engagement in South Asia goes back almost a century, Harvard has only recently broadened its intellectual reach to embrace several areas of contemporary and interdisciplinary interest, without losing sight of the importance of culture, tradition and history. Senior faculty from across the University currently head efforts in Water, Urbanization, and Social Enterprise, for example. Each of these efforts is comprised of seminar series drawing on University-wide and regional expertise, staged in Cambridge, Bangladesh, India and Pakistan. SAI also sponsors a seminar 'deep dive' into Pakistan. Finally, the South Asia without Borders series is an umbrella effort dedicated to the scholarship in the Arts, Humanities and the interpretive Social Sciences.

Most recently we have also added a series of roundtables on Health and Medicine, featuring researchers from Harvard Medical School, Harvard School of Public Health, Harvard Kennedy School and Harvard Business School. In general, the governance structure of SAI is such that it will endeavor to be responsive to embrace demand from the Harvard community. Equivalently, we will create a mechanism to ensure that series that have outlived their usefulness will be retired. This, we feel, will guarantee dynamism over the years.

The number of students at Harvard studying the South Asian region is growing each year. These students hunger for an understanding of its culture, economy and development trends.

It is worth emphasizing that our regional presence in Bangladesh, India and Pakistan is an important component of our strategy. The 'feet on the street', as it were, allows us to build links with numerous important institutions in the region, and to facilitate productive exchange between Harvard citizens and those of the region. The combination of regional and on-the-ground work distinguishes SAI from numerous other India or South Asia focused US University efforts.

The number of students at Harvard studying the South Asian region is growing each year. These students hunger for an understanding of its culture, economy and development trends. This year, SAI supported 58 students in enriching their academic experience with field work in South Asia through internships, independent projects and volunteer work, up from 45 in 2011. SAI also funded seven faculty members to travel to the region for their research. The new and unique university-wide course, "Contemporary South Asia: A Survey of Intractable Problems and Innovative Solutions" which I taught last fall, focused on South Asia's long-term problems and their possible entrepreneurial solutions. The course attracted just shy of fifty undergraduate and graduate students from across the University and MIT. Interdisciplinary teams of students worked on projects that addressed some aspect of an important social problem in South Asia, for example pioneering markets for educational loans in India and Pakistan, and creating mobile



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

technology-enabled libraries to help bring literacy to non-urban South Asian populations.

The Omidyar Foundation has provided a grant to the latter team, as well as to a team building low cost surgical implements for use in South Asia and the developing world, a validation of the practical value of such efforts. The team, anchored by School of Engineering and Applied Sciences; Professor Conor Walsh's laboratory, includes students from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS), Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) and Harvard Business School (HBS).

Harvard displayed heightened interest in South Asia this year, as President Drew Faust and Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH); Dean Julio Frenk visited India and met with relevant stakeholders from the region. President Faust's inaugural visit to Mumbai and Delhi was a landmark event in strengthening ties between Harvard and India. The President also met with the Indian Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh. At the University of Mumbai, she spoke about the challenges of higher education in a rapidly growing country and the significance of liberal education. She also attended the SAI Education Symposium. Held in New Delhi, the Symposium brought together experts from Harvard, Delhi University, BRAC University (Dhaka), Shiv Nadar University (Uttar Pradesh, India), and the Independent University of Bangladesh, to discuss innovative ways to enhance quality and access to universal education.

Later in the year, Dean Julio Frenk met with the Government of India Planning Commission's high level expert group on universal health coverage and highlighted the significance of private healthcare in India.

Last September, SAI was honored to host the eleventh Indian President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam for the Annual Mahindra Lecture 'Empowering 3 Billion', where he addressed the world's most pressing development challenge, and talked of ways in which creative leadership can help empower the world's disenfranchised.

Recently, SAI was reviewed by an external panel of eminent academic experts. This invaluable assessment confirmed that we were on a promising trajectory. To my mind, this confirms that a University wide community is being built. Equally, it afforded us a look at areas in which we can improve. With the support of the Provost's office, we are speedily moving towards these goals.

This month, our annual symposium focuses on Health in South Asia. Over two packed days, we are bringing together faculty across Harvard – HMS and HSPH of course, given the topic, and also HKS, HBS, FAS and MIT – and policy makers from South Asia. Topics range from the health issues of marginalized populations to modern technological solutions to health problems developed by academics and entrepreneurs, to talks by Partners-in-Health

cofounder Dr. Paul Farmer and Bangalore's pediatric cardiac surgeon Dr. Devi Shetty.

As an indication of the vibrant nature of discourse on campus, immediately prior to this event will be an exploration of diplomacy and entrepreneurship in turbulent times in Pakistan, and running in parallel will be an event for US high school teachers interested in teaching about India. SAI's support of the latter represents the kind of outreach that is of increasing interest to the Harvard community.

In our task of engaging faculty and students to deepen the teaching and research on global issues relevant to South Asia, SAI is grateful for the support and guidance of its Steering Committee, the Founder's Club members – a group of philanthropists who support SAI's efforts – the broader community at Harvard and alumni and partners in the region. Earlier this month, we were privileged to announce the addition of a new Founders Club member, Mr. Arif Naqvi, Founder and CEO of Abraaj Capital in Dubai.

I would be remiss if I did not recognize the sterling efforts of the SAI team. They – Associate Director Meena Hewett and her team in Cambridge, Mumbai, Lahore and Dhaka – have launched us on an exciting journey of community building. SAI remains committed to enriching the intellectual experiences regarding South Asia at Harvard and connecting the University with the region.

Regards,

Tarun Khanna

Director, South Asia Initiative

Jorge Paulo Lemann Professor, Harvard Business School

From Left: Previous SAI grant recipients report on their in-region internship experiences at the October open house; Professor John Briscoe, and his students in Pakistan; SAI Founders Club member, Syed Babar Ali, at an event on Global Health at the HBS classroom space at the Taj Lands End in Bandra, Mumbai.

ABOUT US

MISSION

The South Asia Initiative (SAI) at Harvard University engages faculty and students through interdisciplinary programs to advance and deepen the teaching and research on global issues relevant to South Asia.

GOALS

- As a catalyst and bridge between faculty and students at Harvard and experts from the region, the South Asia Initiative’s goals are to:
- Facilitate scholarly exchanges among Harvard faculty and students, international South Asia specialists, visiting academics, and public figures from South Asia.
 - Sponsor lectures and conferences at Harvard and in the region by distinguished academic, governmental, and business leaders whose work contributes to a better understanding of the challenges facing South Asia.
 - Support Harvard students with grants for language study, research, and internships in South Asia.
 - Build a community of stakeholders committed to building scholarship on South Asia at Harvard and in-region.



ADMINISTRATION

Tarun Khanna, *Director of South Asia Initiative and Jorge Paulo Lemann Professor, Harvard Business School*
Meena Sonea Hewett, *Associate Director*
Nora Maginn, *Staff Assistant*
Namrata Arora, *Associate Director, SAI India Office*
Muhammad Ali, *Program Coordinator, SAI Pakistan Office*
Maria May, *Program Coordinator, SAI Bangladesh Office*

FOUNDERS CLUB

Syed Babar Ali, AMP ‘73
Purander Das
Jo Froman and Mark Fuller, AB ‘75, MBA ‘78, JD ‘79
Meera and Vikram Gandhi, MBA ‘89, ExEd ‘00
Mala Haarmann, AB’91, MBA
Arif Naqvi
Anuradha and Anand Mahindra, AB’77, MBA ‘81
Karen Mehra, AB ‘82 and Sanjeev Mehra, AB’82, MBA ‘86
Victor Menezes
Nirva and Paresh Patel, MBA ‘00
Dalip Pathak
Anupa and Rajiv Sahney
Sribala Subramanian and Arvind Raghunathan
Parul and Gaurav Swarup, MBA ‘80
Arshad Zakaria, AB’85, MBA ‘87

STEERING COMMITTEE



David Bloom, *Clarence James Gamble Professor of Economics and Demography, Harvard School of Public Health*



Jennifer Leaning, *FXB Professor of the Practice of Health and Human Rights, Harvard School of Public Health; Associate Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School*



John Briscoe, *Professor of the Practice of Environmental Health, Harvard School of Public Health; Gordon McKay Professor of the Practice of Environmental Engineering, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences*



Rahul Mehrotra, *Professor of Urban Planning and Design; Chair of the Department of Urban Planning and Design, Graduate School of Design*



Nicholas Burns, *Professor of the Practice of Diplomacy and International Politics, Harvard Kennedy School*



Venkatesh Narayanamurti, *John A. and Elizabeth S. Armstrong Professor of Engineering and Applied Sciences and Professor of Physics, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences; Director of the Science, Technology and Public Policy Program at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School*



Diana Eck, *Professor of Comparative Religion and Indian Studies, Faculty of Arts and Sciences; Member of the Faculty of Divinity, Harvard Divinity School*



Rohini Pande, *Mohammed Kamal Professor of Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School*



Tarun Khanna, *Director of the South Asia Initiative; Jorge Paulo Lemann Professor, Harvard Business School*



Parimal G. Patil, *Professor of Religion and Indian Philosophy; Chair of the Department of South Asian Studies, Faculty of Arts and Sciences*



Asim Khwaja, *Professor of Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School*



Diana Sorensen, *Faculty of Arts and Sciences Dean of Humanities; James F. Rothenberg Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures, Professor of Comparative Literature, Faculty of Arts and Sciences*



William Kirby, *Spangler Family Professor of Business Administration, Harvard Business School; T.M. Chang Professor of China Studies, Faculty of Arts and Sciences*

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2011-2012



Asim Khwaja (center), HKS, speaks at the Dialogue on Education Reform in Pakistan at HKS



Dr. Kalam with Tarun Khanna, SAI Director, during the President's visit to Harvard.



Students meet with President Faust (left) in preparation for her trip to India in January, 2012



Tarun Khanna, HBS & SAI, Manzoor Ahmed, BRAC, Jackie Bhabha, HSPH & HLS, and Nikhil Sinha, Shiv Nadar University at the Higher Education event in New Delhi



Dwight Perkins, Tufts University, David Steinberg, Georgetown University, David Dapice, and Tarun Khanna, HBS, at the event on Myanmar



Tom Vallely, HKS, Tyler Giannini, HLS, and Jennifer Leaning, HSPH at the event on Myanmar

SUMMER 2011

The *Dialogue on Education Reform in Pakistan* event, co-sponsored by SAI, the Education Support Program of the Open Society Foundation, Pakistan Office; the Institute for Development and Economic Alternatives (IDEAS), Pakistan, the Center for Economic Research, Pakistan, is spearheaded by Asim Khwaja, HKS, and Ali Cheema, Fulbright Fellow at HKS and LUMS.

Over 100 past, present, and future students from across Harvard's campuses attend the *One Harvard, Young Harvard* event in Mumbai to discuss issues relevant to studying at Harvard.

Seven Harvard faculty meet to discuss salient issues that relate to healthcare and medicine in South Asia in August of 2011. Professors from Harvard School of Public Health and Harvard Medical School, along with professors from the Harvard Kennedy School, capture key issues related to health, and pave the way for what will become the *Health in South Asia: Lessons For and From the World*, held in April.

Harvard students from HKS, HLS, and Harvard College, join SEAS Professor John Briscoe at LUMS to discuss current legal and institutional issues surrounding water allocation in Pakistan, and the need to resolve these issues.

FALL 2011

SAI organizes a learning tour from September 21 to 23 for a delegation from the state of Maharashtra, including Mr. Rajendra Tope, Minister for Higher and Technical Education and Rajan Welukar, the Vice Chancellor of Mumbai University

Dr. A.P.J. Kalam, 11th President of India, delivers the annual Harish C. Mahindra Lecture on September 27. Dr. Kalam also participates in an event at the Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and a student led event at the Harvard Law School.

35 Students gather at the SAI Internship Open House in October to learn about the SAI Internship and Grant Programs. Past participants present on their experiences in the region

In November, SAI and the Harvard President's Office bring together 50 students from across the University to meet with President Drew Gilpin Faust in preparation for her inaugural visit to India.

SAI serves as the Administrative unit of the Harvard Pakistan Student Group, one of the first university-wide student organization.

Maria May, located in Dhaka, joins SAI as a coordinator to increase our presence in Bangladesh.

WINTER 2012

Harvard goes to India in January, as Harvard President Drew Gilpin Faust embarks on her first trip to the region.

Four Harvard faculty travel to India and participate in SAI's Conference *Higher Education in South Asia: Enhancing Quality and Access with Innovative Solutions*, held in New Delhi, in January.

In January, a SAI partnered Harvard alumni event is held in Dhaka, Bangladesh. SAI staff and affiliated faculty are present along with an audience of 75 alums and friends of SAI.

12 Harvard faculty, from Harvard Business School, Harvard Graduate School of Education, Harvard Kennedy School, and Harvard School of Public Health, meet with World Bank Institute representatives to brainstorm ideas for a global inclusive innovation event to be held in the near future.

SPRING 2012

A half day discussion is held on *Examining the Preservation and Sustainability of Myanmar's Resources*, with experts from Harvard, Johns Hopkins, and Tufts discussing what's next for Myanmar.

Health in South Asia: Lessons for and from the World, SAI's annual symposium is held in April, drawing thought leaders from Harvard, the community, and the region to discuss problems and solutions related to health.

The SAI Seminar Series concludes for the academic year. 34 Fall & Spring Seminar Series events were held on topics related to Global Health, Pakistan, Social Enterprise, South Asia Without Borders, Urbanization, and Water & Climate Change.

A joint event by the Council on Foreign Relations and SAI on *Innovation in India: Prospects for the Future and Opportunities for America* is held in New York, featuring Tarun Khanna and Natarajan Chandrasekaran, CEO of Tata Consultancy Services.

18 faculty from across Harvard schools and representatives from the World Bank Institute meet to discuss five country Summit on Inclusive Innovation in summer 2012.

Arif Naqvi, Founder and CEO of Abraaj Capital, Dubai, joins SAI's Founders Club



Harvard College student, Annie Ryu, participating in her internship in Bangalore, India during Summer, 2011.



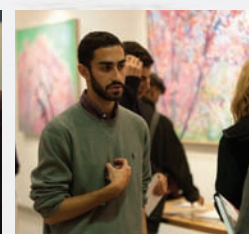
Namrata Arora, SAI Associate Director of India, speaks at the One Harvard, Young Harvard event



Maria May, Coordinator for SAI activities in Bangladesh



Minister Tope, second from the left, Monica Higgins, HGSE Professor, and Raj Welukar, second from the right



A student discusses his summer internship in Pakistan at the SAI Internship Open House



Students at an event with Dr. Kalam, 11th President of India



Students with Richard Cash, HSPH, and Meena Hewett, SAI, in Dhaka, Bangladesh



Faculty at the Inclusive Innovation Roundtable held at Harvard



Students greet SAI visitors at VidyaGyan Residential School in Uttar Pradesh



Sai Balakrishnan, SAI GSA, at a Urbanization Seminar Series event

SAI by the Numbers

712 students and Harvard community members have attended the South Asia Initiative 2011-2012 seminar series events this academic year.

500 people attended the three events with Dr. Abdul Kalam, 11th President of India, on September 27 and 28.

58 students received funding from SAI this year to participate in internships and conduct research on or about the South Asia region.

34 Seminar Series events were held on topics related to Global Health, Pakistan, Social Enterprise, South Asia Without Borders, Urbanization, and Water & Climate Change.

16 student groups across Harvard's schools focus on South Asia. SAI is the administrative unit for the Harvard Pakistan Student Group, a university wide endeavor.

7 Harvard faculty members received funding from SAI to conduct research in or about the region.

3 major conferences or symposiums were held this year, including the annual Mahindra Lecture, a Higher Education in South Asia conference held in Delhi, and a Health in South Asia Symposium held at Harvard in April.

FACULTY

Faculty across several schools at Harvard lead the SAI Seminar Series, which support cross-boundary inquiry through issue based tracks. The goal of these events are to broaden and deepen scholarship in the areas of Global Health, Pakistan, Social Enterprise, South Asia without Borders, Urbanization, and Water & Climate Change. SAI has had several book talk events. Additionally, SAI has held several film screenings covering critical issues of South Asia.

GLOBAL HEALTH

Friday, October 7, 2011

Public Health Response to the Epidemic of Non-Communicable Diseases in South Asia

Srinath Reddy, Director of the Public Health Foundation of India and a Professor at the Harvard School of Public Health

Chaired by Richard Cash, Senior Lecturer on Global Health, Harvard School of Public Health

Tuesday, October 18, 2011

Project Prakash: Combining Service and Science

India is home to nearly 30% of the entire blind population of the world. Many of India's blind are children with congenital anomalies of the eye. In over 50% of these cases, the blindness is treatable or preventable. However, most children never receive medical attention. The challenges of poverty, compounded by the visual handicap exact a grim toll. Project Prakash seeks to address this need. In conjunction with collaborating with hospitals, the Project has launched outreach initiatives that screen children in villages and identify those whose blindness can be treated. To date, over 700 children have been screened.

Pawan Sinha, Professor, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, MIT
Chaired by Venkatesh Murthy, Professor of Molecular and Cellular Biology, Harvard University

Tuesday, December 6, 2011

Obesity and Health in South Asia: Discussion on Strategies to Prevent Diabetes and Cancer

Robert Paarlberg, Adjunct Professor of Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School, Betty Freyhof Johnson Professor of Political Science, Wellesley College

Walter Willett, Fredrick John Stare Professor of Epidemiology and Nutrition; Chair, Department of Nutrition, Harvard School of Public Health



Walter Willett, Professor at HSPH, and Robert Paarlberg, Adjunct Professor at HKS, discuss the obesity epidemic in South Asia, at an event at HSPH in December.

Chaired by Aditi Hazra, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Linked Lives: Intergenerational Influences on Health

S.V. Subramanian, Professor of Population Health and Geography, Harvard School of Public Health

Chaired by Christopher Duggan, Associate Professor, Department of Nutrition, Harvard School of Public Health



S.V. Subramanian, Professor at HSPH, at an event about intergenerational influences on health

Wednesday, April 11, 2012

Challenges of Newborn Hypothermia in South Asia

Luke C. Mullany, Associate Professor, Department of International Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Karsten Lunze, Senior Fellow, Primary Care Academic Fellowship Program, Boston University School of Medicine

Naganand Murty, Co-Founder and President, Embrace

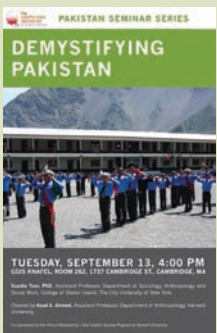
Kristian R Olson, Clinician Educator Service, MGH Associate Director of Education and Technology Innovation, MGH Center for Global Health Program Leader, CIMIT Global Health Initiative

Chaired by David Bloom, Clarence James Gamble Professor of Economics, Harvard School of Public Health



A HSPH student with the Embrace Infant Warmer

PAKISTAN



Tuesday, September 13, 2011

Demystifying Pakistan

Saadia Toor's scholarship revolves around issues of culture, nationalism, gender/sexuality, state formation, and international political economy. Her recent book, entitled The State of Islam: Culture and Cold War Politics in Pakistan, tells the story of the Pakistani nation-state through the lens of the Cold War, and more recently the War on Terror, in order to shed light on the domestic and international processes behind the rise of militant Islam across the world.

Saadia Toor, Associate Professor of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work, College of Staten Island, The City University of New York

Chaired by Diane L. Moore, Senior Lecturer in Religious Studies and Education and Senior Fellow at the Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard Divinity School

Co-sponsored with the Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Islamic Studies Program at Harvard University

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Progressives and 'Perverts': Partition Stories and Pakistan's Future

Kamran Asdar Ali, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology University of Texas at Austin

Chaired by Shahab Ahmed, Associate Professor of Islamic Studies, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Faculty of Arts & Sciences, Harvard University

Co-sponsored with the Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Islamic Studies Program at Harvard University



Shahab Ahmed, Associate Professor of Islamic Studies, FAS, and Kamran Asdar Ali, of UT Austin, at a Pakistan Seminar Series Event.

Monday, November 14, 2011

Environmental History and the Creation of Pakistan

David Gilmartin, Professor, Department of History, North Carolina State University

Chaired by Ali Asani, Professor of Indo-Muslim and Islamic Religion and Cultures, Faculty of Arts & Sciences, Harvard University

Co-sponsored with the Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Islamic Studies Program at Harvard University

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Seeing the Frontier: Re-visioning Histories of Pakistan

Vazira Zamindar, Associate Professor of History, Brown University

Chaired by Asad Ahmed, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Faculty of Arts & Sciences, Harvard University

Co-sponsored with the Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Islamic Studies Program at Harvard University



Asad Ahmed, FAS, chairing a Pakistan Seminar event with Vazira Zamindar.

Monday, March 19, 2012

Thinking with the Heart: A Language of Justice after the 1971 War of Bangladesh



Yasmin Saikia, Hardt-Nickachos Chair in Peace Studies, Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict; Professor of History in the School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies, Arizona State University

Chaired by Asad Ahmed, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Faculty of Arts & Sciences, Harvard University

Co-sponsored by the Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Islamic Studies Program at Harvard University



Students at a Pakistan Seminar Series event

Monday, October 3, 2011

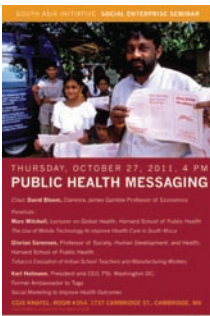
Achieving Universal Quality Education in India: Challenges and Opportunities

Karthik Muralidharan, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of California, San Diego

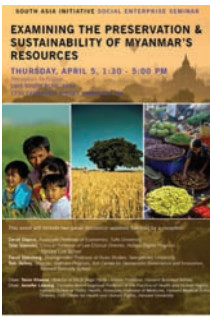
Chaired by Asim Khwaja, Professor of Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School



Karthik Muralidharan, at a Social Enterprise Seminar Series event on Achieving Universal Quality Education in India



Health



Chaired by Tarun Khanna, Director of SAI & Jorge Paulo Lemann Professor, Harvard Business School

Tyler Giannini, Clinical Professor of Law Clinical Director, Human Rights Program, Harvard Law School

Tom Vallely, Director, Vietnam Program, Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation, Harvard Kennedy School

Chaired by Jennifer Leaning, Francois-Xavier Bagnoud Professor of the Practice of Health and Human Rights, Harvard School of Public Health Associate Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, Director, FXB Center for Health and Human Rights, Harvard University

Co-sponsored by the Asia Center at Harvard University



Tom Vallely, Tyler Giannini, and Jennifer Leaning

Monday April 9, 2012

Diasporas, Investments, and Development in South Asia and Beyond

Peggy Levitt, Professor of Sociology, Wellesley College; Research Fellow, The Weatherhead Center for International Affairs and The Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations at Harvard University

Joel Trachtman, Professor, The Fletcher School, Tufts University

Paul Vaaler, Associate Professor, Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota

Chaired by Tarun Khanna, Director of SAI & Jorge Paulo Lemann Professor, Harvard Business School

This panel discussion focused on migrants and the developmental impact of financial and social remittances to their home countries. Panelists focused on international law as related to economic migration, ethnographic studies on migrants and how their “social” remittances of ideas and norms learned in host countries are transmitted and affect individuals, communities and institutions in their home countries, and the increasing use of the diaspora’s financial remittances to fund, found and grow new businesses back home.



Joel Trachtman, Tufts, Peggy Levitt, Wellesley, and Paul Vaaler, University of Minnesota

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Peace, Harmony & Development, the AAA Doctrine of Jainism

Shugan Jain, Director of International School of Jain Studies

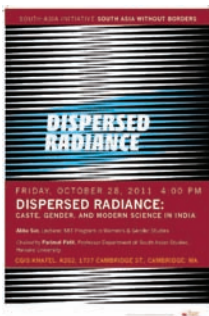
Chaired by Parimal Patil, Professor of Religion and Indian Philosophy; Chair of the Department of South Asian Studies, Faculty of Arts & Sciences, Harvard University

Friday, September 23, 2011

Early Roman Contacts with South Asia

S. Suresh, State Convener, INTACH, Tamil Nadu, India and Fulbright Senior Research Fellow, National Trust for Historic Preservation and University of Maryland

Chaired by Richard Meadow, Senior Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, Faculty of Arts & Sciences, Harvard University



Co-sponsored with the Department of South Asian Studies, Harvard University

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

India by Song, a film by Vijay Singh

Vijay Singh, Film Director

Chaired by Parimal Patil, Professor of Religion and Indian Philosophy; Chair of the Department of South Asian Studies, Faculty of Arts & Sciences, Harvard University

Historian-writer-director Vijay Singh’s latest film is an entertaining multi-layered portrait of India since its independence from the British in 1947 to the contemporary times. Woven around a long road journey across the country, India by Song brings together history, colorful Bollywood song clips, live testimonies and beautiful images of today’s India to deliver a gripping work of cinema.



Vijay Singh and Parimal Patil, Professor at FAS, discussing Singh’s film “India by Song.”

Friday, March 2, 2012

Preserving the Buddha’s Teachings by Policing the Self: Moral Reform and Community in Colonial Burma

Alicia Turner, York University

Chaired by Parimal Patil, Professor of Religion and Indian Philosophy; Chair of the Department of South Asian Studies, Harvard University

Co-sponsored by the Department of South Asian Studies



Ramya Sreenivasan presents at a South Asia Without Borders event

Friday, March 23, 2012

Faith, Loyalty, Status: Mughal-era perspectives on elite Rajput conversions to Islam

Ramya Sreenivasan, Associate Professor, South Asia Studies, University of Pennsylvania

Chaired by Parimal Patil, Professor of Religion and Indian Philosophy; Chair of the Department of South Asian Studies, Faculty of Arts & Sciences, Harvard University

Co-sponsored by the Department of South Asian Studies



Friday, April 13, 2012

Centers of Law: Duties, Rights, and Jurisdictional Pluralism in Medieval India

Donald A. Davis, Jr., Associate Professor in the Department of Languages & Cultures of Asia, University of Wisconsin, Madison

Chaired by Parimal Patil, Professor of Religion and Indian Philosophy; Chair of the Department of South Asian Studies, Faculty of Arts & Sciences, Harvard University



Audience members at a South Asia Without Borders Event

Friday, May 4, 2012

Why Europe Grew Rich and Asia Did Not

Prasannan Parthasarathi, Associate Professor, History Department, Boston College

Chaired by Parimal Patil, Professor of Religion and Indian Philosophy; Chair of the Department of South Asian Studies, Faculty of Arts & Sciences, Harvard University

URBANIZATION



Sanjeev Vidyarthi speaks on Planned Neighborhoods



An audience member asks a question at an Urbanization Seminar Series event.

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Are Indian Cities ‘Global’? Assessing Recent Research on State, Space and Citizenship*

Gavin Shatkin, Associate Professor of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Michigan

Chaired by Rahul Mehrotra, Professor and Chair, Department of Urban Planning and Design, Harvard Graduate School of Design

Friday, October 21, 2011

The Future of South Asia: A Landscape of Pluralism*

Rahul Mehrotra, Professor and Chair Department of Urban Planning and Design, Harvard Graduate School of Design

Chaired by Hiteshkumar M. Hathi, Producer, WBUR Here & Now

Wednesday, November 9, 2011

Planned Neighborhoods: The Long-term Account of an American Design Concept in Independent India*

Sanjeev Vidyarthi, Assistant Professor of Urban Planning & Policy, University of Illinois at Chicago

Chaired by Rahul Mehrotra, Professor and Chair, Department of Urban Planning and Design, Harvard Graduate School of Design

Thursday, March 8, 2012

A Tale of Three Cities: India’s Urban Future

Ravi Kalia, Professor of Asian Studies, Division of Humanities and the Arts, City College of New York, CUNY

Chaired by Rahul Mehrotra, Professor and Chair, Department of Urban Planning and Design, Harvard Graduate School of Design

*Co-sponsored by the Graduate School of Design and Urban Planning



Mega-Cities, the Urban Poor and the Place of Planning: The Case of Slum Upgrading in Indian Cities

Janice Perlman, Founder & President of the Mega-Cities Project

Chaired by Rahul Mehrotra, Professor and Chair, Department of Urban Planning and Design, Harvard Graduate School of Design

Co-sponsored with the Harvard Graduate School of Design as part of the GSD Public Lecture Program

WATER AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Friday, November 18, 2011

A Strategic Basin Assessment of the Ganges: New Insights into an Old Basin

N. Harshadeep Rao, Senior Environmental Specialist, The World Bank

Chaired by John Briscoe, Gordon McKay Professor of the Practice of Environmental Engineering, SEAS

CONFERENCES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Tuesday, September 27, 2011

Annual Mahindra Lecture 2012 : Empowering Three Billion



A student asks Dr. Kalam a question at the SEAS lecture.

The 2011 Annual Harish C. Mahindra Lecture was delivered by Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, 11th President of India. His lecture entitled “Empowering Three Billion” focused on Dr. Kalam’s vision for India by 2020. Dr. Kalam’s visit and public engagements were well received with auditoriums filled to capacity, requiring use of overflow space.

July 15 and 16, 2011, Harvard University Dialogue on Education Reform in Pakistan This event brought over 30 academics, civil servants, politicians, journalists, and representatives from civil society, private sector and donor agencies to seek ways of operationalizing ‘Right for Education for All.’

August 31, 2011, Harvard University Medical Roundtable Harvard faculty met to discuss the salient issues related to healthcare and medicine in South Asia in August of 2011. Professors from Harvard School of Public Health and Harvard Medical School, along with professors from the Harvard Kennedy School, captured key issues related to health, and paved the way for what became the Health in South Asia: Lessons For and From the World, held in April.

February 27 and 29, 2012, Harvard University Global Inclusive Innovation Faculty Round Tables Harvard faculty from HKS, HBS, HGSE, and HSPH, and representatives from the World Bank Institute, met to discuss “Inclusive Innovation,” a term used to engage with those on the bottom of the pyramid, and looking at providing goods and services to the 4 to 5 billion people who currently fall in the category of low income.



February 3, 2012, Council on Foreign Relations, New York Innovation in India: Prospects for the Future and Opportunities for America

Natarajan Chandrasekaran, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of Tata Consultancy Services Chaired by Tarun Khanna, Director of SAI & Jorge Paulo Lemann Professor, Harvard Business School Co-sponsored with the Council on Foreign Relations as part of their Technology, Innovation, and American Primacy Roundtable Series

Thursday and Friday, April 26 - 27, 2012 Health in South Asia: Lessons for and from the World This two day conference brought together scholars, practitioners, and experts from the fields of public health, medicine, social entrepreneurship, technology, and economics to share their insights on public health challenges and innovative solutions.

BOOK TALKS AND FILM EVENTS

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

India: A Portrait, Patrick French

Chaired by Tarun Khanna, Director of SAI & Jorge Paulo Lemann Professor, Harvard Business School

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

The Convert: A Tale of Exile and Extremism, Deborah Baker

Chaired by Diana Eck, Professor of Comparative Religion and Indian Studies, Fredric Werthham Professor of Law and Psychiatry in Society, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Faculty of Divinity, Harvard University



Hitesh Hathi, Producer of WBUR’s ‘Here & Now’ asks a question of the speaker

Monday, October 24, 2011 Dead Reckoning: Memories of the 1971 Bangladesh War, Sarmila Bose

Chaired by Richard Cash, Senior Lecturer on Global Health, Department of Global Health and Population, Harvard School of Public Health

Comments by Dina Mahnaz Siddiqi, Visiting Associate Professor, Women and Gender Studies Program, Hunter College, CUNY

Thursday, November 3, 2011

Special Film Event Meher Jaan: A Story about Loving the Other

Rubaiyat Hossain, Film Director Jyoti Puri, Professor of Sociology, Simmons College Rakshanda Saleem, Assistant Professor of Counseling and Psychology, Lesley University Elora Chowdhury, Associate Professor Women’s Studies, UMass Boston Co-sponsored by Consortium on Gender, Security and Human Rights at UMass Boston; and the CARR Center for Human Rights Policy, HKS

Friday, April 13, 2012

India: A Sacred Geography, Diana Eck

Chaired by Hiteshkumar M. Hathi, Producer, WBUR, Here & Now Co-sponsored by the Department of South Asian Studies and Lowell House



A full house at the talk on India: A Sacred Geography, by Diana Eck, FAS and HDS.

FACULTY GRANTS

The South Asia Initiative funds research and travel grants for Harvard University Faculty working in fields related to South Asia. The purpose of these grants is to promote South Asian studies across the university and to stimulate disciplinary and interdisciplinary research.



Asad Ahmed, Assistant Professor, Social Anthropology Program, Faculty of Arts and Sciences Research project on the Pakistan People’s Party



Jackie Bhabha, Executive Director, Harvard University Committee on Human Rights Studies, Jeremiah Smith, Jr. Lecturer on Law, Harvard Law School; Director of Research, FXB Center for Health and Human Rights, Harvard School of Public Health Identifying critical success factors that have enabled 1200 girls from socioeconomically and educationally deprived backgrounds in India to successfully pursue tertiary education



Richard Delacy, Preceptor in Hindi and Urdu, Department of South Asian Studies, Faculty of Arts and Sciences Production and reception of vernacular literature in Hindi in South Asia in the post-liberalization period



David Jones, A. Bernard Ackerman Professor of the Culture of Medicine; A. Bernard Ackerman Professor of the Culture of Medicine, Department of the History of Science, Faculty of Arts and Sciences Health Policy for an Anticipated Epidemic: The History of Cardiovascular Health Policy in India



Rahul Mehrotra, Professor of Urban Design and Planning and Chair of the Department of Urban Planning and Design, Harvard Graduate School of Design Graduate School of Design Urban India Lab, Urban India Atlas Project



Mark Tushnet, William Nelson Cromwell Professor of Law, Harvard Law School Funding for Conference on “Constitutional Development, Economic Change, and Democratic Stresses in South Asia” at Harvard University



Richard Wolf, Professor of Music and Ethnomusicology, Department of Music, Faculty of Arts and Sciences Investigating music-language relationships in the performance of Tajik, Kyrgyz, and Wakhi bards on their long-necked lutes

STUDENT

The South Asia Initiative engages with students from across all schools at Harvard in a myriad of ways, including sponsoring student seminar events, funding student internships and research, and serving as a connector for the 16 student groups at Harvard that focus on South Asia.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS



Students at the SAI Student Group Mixer

Dharma: Hindu Student Association, *Harvard College*
Harvard Bhangra, *Harvard College*
Harvard College in Asia Program, *Harvard College*
Harvard India Student Group, *University Wide*
Harvard Pakistan Student Group, *University Wide*
Harvard Sangeet, *Harvard College*
Harvard South Asian Association, *Harvard College*
South Asia Student Association, *HGSE*
India Caucus, *HKS*
South Asia Caucus, *HKS*
South Asia Law Students Association, *HLS*
South Asian Student Association, *HSPH*
India GSD, *GSD*
South Asia Men's Collective, *Harvard College*
South Asian Dance Company, *Harvard College*
South Asia Student Group, *HDS*

STUDENT SEMINARS



Wednesday,
September 28, 2011
**Leadership,
Youth & Global
Engagement:
Insights from
India's 11th
President**

Distinguished Guest, **Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam**, *11th President of India*
Chaired by **Prerna Singh**, *Associate Professor Department of Government, Harvard University*
Co-sponsored with the Program on the Legal Profession, Harvard Law School, the South Asian Business Association, South Asian Association, the Harvard India Student Group, and the Harvard Pakistan Student Group

Wednesday, October 12, 2011
Water as a Platform for Development



Harvard Student Panelists: **Laila Kasuri**, *Harvard College '13*, **Anjali Lohani**, *HKS*, **Erum Khalid Sattar**, *HLS*, and **Hassaan Yousuf**, *Harvard College '12*
Chaired by **John Briscoe**, *Gordon McKay Professor of the Practice of Environmental Engineering Harvard University*
Co-sponsored by the Water Security Initiative at Harvard



Thursday, March 29, 2012
Mumbai Port Project
Co-discussants: **Rahul Mehrotra**, *Professor and Chair, Department of Urban Planning and Design, Harvard Graduate School of Design* and **Nicolas P. Retsinas**, *Senior Lecturer, Harvard Business School; Lecturer in Housing, Harvard Graduate School of Design*
Mumbai's historic port in the heart of Mumbai was the subject of this year's REAI joint studio/field study during the January term. The main port of Mumbai has moved across the bay, opening up redevelopment of the 1400 acre area occupied by the historic port. Students from HBS, GSD, HLS, and HKS worked in interdisciplinary teams and selected sites within the port area that were of interest to them for redevelopment.

Friday, March 23, 2012
Microfinance - Does Pakistan's Akhuwat have the Answers?
Amjad Saqib, *Executive Director of Microfinance Institution Akhuwat*
Michael Chu, *Senior Lecturer in the Initiative on Social Enterprise of the General Management Group of HBS*
Asim Khwaja, *Professor of Public Policy, HKS*
Tarun Khanna, *Director of SAI & Jorge Paulo Lemann Professor, HBS*
Co-sponsored by Harvard Pakistan Student Group Pakistan Speaker Series, HKS Pakistan Caucus, and SAI

SPONSORED CULTURAL EVENTS

Tuesday, September 20, 2011
Welcome Back to School, Samosas, Social and Film Screening of "I am Kalam"
Organized by the Harvard Pakistan Student Group
Serving as the administrative unit to the Harvard Pakistan Student Group, SAI meets frequently with the group's leadership to coordinate events relevant for students both from the region and those whose areas of interest and research draw them to Pakistan. SAI has been able to reach a broad community through this partnership with HPSG in focusing on providing both a social and academic resource for students at Harvard.



Harvard Pakistan Student Group members at the SAI/HPSG Samosas and Social in September

Friday, October 28, 2011
Diwali Celebration
Organized by the Harvard India Student Group



November 2011
Tea with President Faust
SAI and the President's Office brought together 50 students from across the University to help President Drew Gilpin Faust prepare for her trip to India. Tips from students included must see sights in Mumbai and Delhi, foods to try and avoid, books to read and movies to watch. Some knowledge of cricket will definitely win her points!

Thursday, November 10, 2011
South Asia Initiative Student Group Mixer
SAI invited student groups from across Harvard's schools to lunch to engage with each other. Representatives from the 16 organizations gathered to brainstorm ways to collaborate with each other and SAI.

Saturday, April 28, 2012
Sadhana Concert: Classical Ragas and Talas from India
Arts IMPACT Student Group, Harvard Graduate School of Education

CO-SPONSORED STUDENT EVENTS

November 8, 2011
A Student Conversation on Pakistan with Professor Roberto Mangabeira Unger
This conversation was structured around the basic development strategy of Pakistan; the desirable institutional model, political as well as economic, that would support this strategy and be supported by it; the educational imperative and how to address it; Pakistan's position in the world: in particular, its relation to the United States, to India, and to China.



Fauzia Kasuri, Women's Wing President, Pakistan Justice Movement, Shivani Kumar, '10 HKS, and Asad Ahmed, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the HPSG event on The New Vote.

January 15-22, 2012
2012 Harvard Conference: Technology and Social Justice
Harvard College in Asia Program

Friday March 2, 2012
The New Vote: Women and Youth in Pakistan's Political Future
Fauzia Kasuri is a founding member and Women's Wing president of the political party Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf [Justice Movement]
Shivani Kumar '10 HKS
Chaired by **Asad Ahmed**, *Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Harvard University*
Co-sponsored by the Harvard Women's Law Association, the South Asian Law Students Association, the HKS Pakistan Caucus, the Harvard College Pakistan Student Association and the Harvard Pakistan Student Group

March 24-25, 2012
Harvard India Conference India: The Next Frontier
Key Note Speakers include:
Vijay Amritraj, *Sports star and Philanthropist*
Bharat Desai, *Chairman, Syntel Inc.*
Abhinav Deo, *Director, Delhi Belly*
Ritesh Sidhwani, *Producer, Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara*
Sponsored by the South Asia Business Association

Wednesday, April 4, 2012
Jari Mari: of cloth and other stories
Directed by Surabhi Sharma
Film Screening and Q & A with the film director
Co-sponsored with the Harvard Divinity School South Asia Student Group

STUDENT GRANTS

SAI offers research and internship grants to graduate and undergraduate Harvard students. This year SAI partnered with 34 in-region organizations to offer internships in fields of development, education, healthcare, government and legislation among others.

GRANT AWARDS 2012

Undergraduate Student Research Grants

- Angela Frankel '14, Bangalore, India, Summer School Study Abroad in Bangalore
- Kathleen Goodwin '13, New Delhi, India, Senior thesis research project: An ethnography of the survivors of the 1983 Delhi Riots
- Radhika Jain '14, New Delhi and Kolkata, India, Shots for Shots: Vaccinates Children in India
- Sivakumar Sundaram '13, Chennai, India, Research on mental healthcare in Chennai, tentative affiliation with The Banyan, an NGO involved with mental health
- Tara Suri '13, Kolkata and Sangli, India, How U.S. HIV/AIDS legislation has impacted India prostitutes' health and rights

Undergraduate Student Internship Grants

- Vishal Arora, New Delhi, India, Asha
- Owen Aman, Islamabad, Pakistan, Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund
- Rohit Chaki, Gangtok, India, Taktse International School
- Sarah Choudhury, Dhaka, Bangladesh, BRAC and International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research
- Louis Cid, New Delhi, India, Center for Study of Developing Societies
- Virginia Fahs, Mumbai, India, Society for Promotion of Area Resource Centers
- Sophia LaJaunie, Gangtok, India, Taktse International School
- Jenna Louie, Ahmedabad, India, YUVA Unstoppable
- Rena Mei, Mumbai, India, St. Jude Child Care
- Nishin Nathwani, New Delhi, India, Project Dharma
- Grace O'Neale, Bulandshahr, India, VidyaGyan, Shiv Nadar Foundation
- Shalini Pammal, Bangalore, India, Samhita Academy
- Kathleen Pierre, New Delhi, India, Parliamentary Research Services (Harvard Institute of Politics Funded Internship)
- Allison Rosenberg, New Delhi, India, Tata Energy and Resources Institute
- Annie Ryu, Chikkmagalur and Bharananganam, India, Parivarthan
- Jordan Sessler, Mumbai and Chennai, India; Colombo and Batticaloa, Sri Lanka, Foundations for Joy
- Maria Shen, Colombo, Sri Lanka, Foundations for Joy
- Muhammad Hassan Tahir, Lahore, Pakistan, Valley Irrigation International
- Jeannie Tse, Ahmedabad, India, Friends of Women World Banking



In October, students were invited the SAI Internship Open House to hear about research and internship experiences from past grant recipients.

Glaynel Cordero Taveras '13 talks about his experience at the Foundation for the International Medical Relief of Children, in Kodaikanal, India.

Special Grants
Prasad Fellows

The following undergraduate students were awarded grants through the Chandni and Mukesh Prasad '93 Gift for internships and research related to non-profit development:

- Louis Cid, 2014
- Virginia Fahs, 2014
- Sophia LaJaunie, 2014
- Jenna Louie, 2014
- Rena Mei, 2013
- Grace O'Neale, 2014
- Jeannie Tse, 2014

The following undergraduate students were funded through the Asia Center grant William H. Overholt '68 Undergraduate Research Fund in Honor of Ezra F. Vogel, which is awarded through the South Asia Initiative:

- Kathleen Goodwin, 2013
- Radhika Jain, 2014
- Rohit Chaki, 2014
- Sarah Choudhury, 2013

Total Number of Student Grants:

Undergraduate Internship Grants	19
Undergraduate Research Grants	5
Graduate Research Grants	16
Graduate Internship Grants	5
Graduate Student Associates	6
Omidyar Recipients	7
	58

Total Grant Amount: \$150,133

Graduate Student Research Grants

- Charles Carstens, Study of Religion, GSAS
- Suptopa Dasgupta, Study of Religion, GSAS
- Adoree Durayappah, Buddhist Studies, HDS
- Mahnaz Islam, Public Policy, GSAS
- Caroline James, Architecture, GSD
- Ambika Kamath, Organismic and Evolutionary Biology, GSAS
- Ateya Khorakiwala, Architecture, Landscape, and Urbanism, GSAS
- Ian McCormack, Study of Religion, GSAS
- Daniel Majchrowicz, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, GSAS
- Tyler Neill, South Asian Studies, GSAS
- James Reich, Study of Religion, GSAS
- Anitha Sivasankaran, Economics, GSAS
- Stephanie Spray, Anthropology, GSAS
- Gitanjali Surendran, History, GSAS
- Naseem Surhio, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, GSAS
- Anand Vaidya, Social Anthropology, GSAS

Graduate Student Internship Grants

- Sumona Chakravarty, Art Design and the Public Domain, GSD, Janaagraha
- Jared Katseff, Urban Planning and Business Administration, GSD/HBS, IMFR Finance Foundation
- Madhav Khosla, Government, GSAS, Centre for Policy Research
- Sujoyini Mandal, Public Policy, HKS, Integrated Child Development Services
- Daniel McMann, Juris Doctorate, HLS, Supreme Court of Pakistan



ABOVE: Photo credit: Avery Williamson, '13, Photo credit, Paolo Singer, Harvard College '13

RIGHT TOP: Annie Ryu, Harvard College '13, and Sophia Angelis, Harvard College '13

LEFT BOTTOM: Charles Hobbs, Harvard College '13,

Special Grants

Mehra Fellows

The following graduate students were awarded grants through Karen Peterson Mehra, AB '82 and Sanjeev K. Mehra, AB '82, MBA '86 Gift to fund graduate fellowships on contemporary issues in South Asia:

- Amika Kamath, GSAS
- Sumona Chakravarty, GSD
- Jared Katseff, GSD/HBS
- Ateya Khorakiwala, GSAS
- Madhav Khosla, GSAS
- Daniel Majchrowicz, GSAS
- Sujoyini Mandal, HKS
- Daniel McMann, HLS
- Anitha Sivasankaran, GSAS
- Stephanie Spray, GSAS
- Anand Vaidya, GSAS

The following graduate students were funded through the Asia Center's Richard M. Cashin, Jr. Fund for Asian Studies, which is awarded through the South Asia Initiative:

- James Reich, GSAS
- Anitha Sivasankaran, GSAS
- Naseem Surhio, GSAS



OMIDYAR GRANT FOR INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

Student groups of three or more Harvard students were invited to apply for the “Innovative Solutions” grant, made possible by the Omidyar Network Fund, to pursue projects developed in collaboration with but not limited to the Fall 2011 survey course *Contemporary South Asia: A Survey of Intractable Problems and Innovative Solutions*, taught by SAI Director, Tarun Khanna.



Awarded projects:

GIFT Global Innovation for Translation, Grant Award \$18,000

The goal of this project is to establish an incubator organization that supports Harvard students from different schools to undertake a multi-disciplinary collaboration focused on innovating in the area of medical technologies relevant to South Asia, and ultimately expand to include other global markets. A pilot program this summer will involve three to four students going to Bangalore, India with the focus for the 3 months being on identifying and screening needs. A subset of the needs will then be fed back into ES227 Medical Device Design Class and the Biodesign Lab at Harvard for product realization. Apart from having the potential to initiate research and design projects with the potential to improve the quality of life of people in the region, the program will also provide a unique educational experience for the students, by training them in the area of medical technology innovation in emerging economies.

Group members:

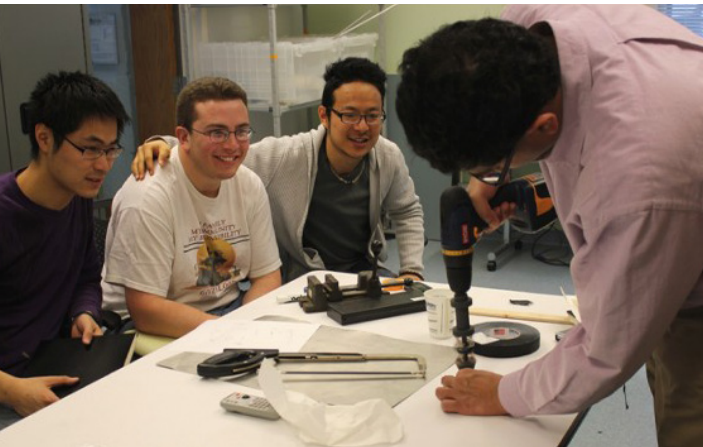
Divya Dhar, Masters Student, HKS

Ellen Roche, Doctoral Student, SEAS

Chineye Ofor, Doctoral Student, HBS

Rashid Yasin, Undergraduate Student, SEAS

Faculty Advisor: **Conor Walsh**, Assistant Professor of Mechanical and Biomedical Engineering, SEAS



MOBILIZE!, Grant Award \$20,000

MOBILIZE! is a digital, mobile library in India. Starting in Orissa and Andhra Pradesh. MOBILIZE! Digital Library Vehicles will implement services throughout rural India to support education. Given the current inequality of education in India, the need for change is unquestionable. We will provide this change by harnessing the best materials and practices to increase and equalize access to education.

Group Members:

Nisha Deolalikar, Undergraduate Student, Harvard College

Karlie Fox-Knudtsen, Masters Student, GSAS

Jenna Louie, Undergraduate Student, Harvard College

Viroopa Volla, Undergraduate Student, Harvard College

Faculty Advisor: **Tarun Khanna**, Jorge Paulo Lemman Professor, Harvard Business School



Students from the university-wide Contemporary South Asia course taught by Tarun Khanna in the fall of 2011, present to their classmates

GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATE PROGRAM



The goal of the SAI Graduate Student Associates is to establish a community of peers and support original and independent research in South Asia. The GSA program is headed by Parimal Patil, Professor of Religion and Indian Philosophy, Chair of the Department of South Asian Studies, and SAI Steering Committee member.

2011-2012 GSAs participated in monthly workshops in which they each presented their thesis research, had the opportunity to meet with SAI affiliated faculty, and organized an end of year conference to showcase their research.

Parimal Patil, Chair of the Department of South Asian Studies, heads the SAI GSA program.

2011 – 2012 Graduate Student Associates

Sai Balakrishnan, Urban Planning, GSD

Namita Vijay Dharia, Department of Anthropology, FAS

Sadaf Jaffer, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, FAS

Bilal Malik, Culture, Communities and Education, HGSE

Shankar Nair, Study of Religion, FAS

Harpreet Singh, Committee on the Study of Religion, HDS

Namita Wahi, Doctorate of Juridical Sciences, HLS



2011-12 GSA, Harpreet Singh



Shankar Nair, (back, center) presents to the 2011-2012 GSAs, and Parimal Patil, FAS, at a GSA Workshop event.

2012-2013 Graduate Student Associates

Mariam Chughtai, Education Policy, Leadership, and Instructional Practice, HGSE

Bridget Hanna, Anthropology, GSAS

Bilal Malik, Culture, Communities and Education, HGSE

Benjamin Siegel, History, GSAS

Anand Vaidya, Social Anthropology, GSAS

Namita Wahi, Doctorate of Juridical Sciences, HLS

The duties of a SAI Graduate Student Associate include:

- Mentoring undergraduate students in areas of South Asian studies
- Contributing to the Harvard University community by presenting research through a workshop, lecture, or event
- Interviewing future applicants to the SAI Graduate Student Associate Program
- Organizing a mini workshop at Harvard with students from peer institutions



Current and future GSAs Namita Wahi and Mariam Chughtai at a SAI event.

In Region

This academic year saw enormous growth in South Asia Initiative’s activity in the region. Two key Harvard administrators, President Drew Gilpin Faust and Dean Julio Frenk, visited India for the first time, while SAI instated two coordinators to head SAI activities in Bangladesh and Pakistan, respectively. Various Harvard faculty travelled to the region to participate in SAI supported events, and several additional cultural events were held throughout the year.

January 23, 2012
Higher Education in South Asia:
Enhancing Quality and Access through
Innovative Solutions

India Habitat Centre, Delhi, India

With a focus on gathering multiple perspectives, the South Asia Initiative at Harvard University assembled leaders from the academic, government, and private spheres to discuss innovative approaches being adapted to enhance quality and increase access to higher education across the region.

Panelists included Harvard faculty members, **Jacqueline Bhabha**, Executive Director, Harvard University Committee on Human Rights Studies and Jeremiah Smith, Jr. Lecturer on Law, Harvard Law School; **Tarun Khanna**, Jorge Paulo Lemann Professor, Harvard Business School; and **Howard Gardner**, John H. and Elisabeth A. Hobbs Professor of Cognition and Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education. Harvard President, **Drew Gilpin Faust**, gave the opening remarks.



Pratap Bhanu Mehta, Howard Gardner, Manzoor Ahmed, and Meenakshi Gopinath participating in a panel discussion on quality of higher education in South Asia and beyond.

Additional panelist from the region included **Manzoor Ahmed**, Senior Advisor, BRAC University, Bangladesh; **Meenakshi Gopinath**, Principal, Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi; **Pratap Bhanu Mehta**, President and Chief Executive, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi; **Omar Rahman**, Vice Chancellor of the Independent University, Bangladesh; and **Nikhil Sinha**, Vice Chancellor, Shiv Nadar University, India.

BANGLADESH

January, 2012
SAI in Bangladesh

Meena Hewett, Associate Director of SAI, along with **Maria May**, SAI’s Coordinator in Bangladesh, held several meetings during January, 2012, including meeting with Kamal Quadir, CEO of BKash, Bangladesh’s first mobile money company, as well as BRAC’s Education Program, which operates the largest non-profit school system in the world, with 1.2 million students enrolled.

Meena also met with **Richard Cash**, Senior Lecturer at Harvard School of Public Health and visiting professor at the BRAC School of Public Health, and the Public Health Foundation of India, and **Jon Rodhe**, a development expert who has worked in Bangladesh for several decades



Omar Rahman, Vice Chancellor of the Independent University, Bangladesh speaks at the Harvard Alumni Event in Dhaka. In the foreground, HSPH Professor, Richard Cash, listens to the talk.

January 20, 2012
Harvard Alumni Club Event
Independent University of Bangladesh, Dhaka

At an event organized by Omar Rahman at the Independent University of Bangladesh, Meena Hewett presented the work of SAI to a group of Harvard alumni and Bangladesh dignitaries. **Dr. Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury**, **Bir Bikram**, Advisor to the Honourable Prime Minister, was the guest of honor.

Professor **Richard Cash**, HSPH, was also on hand to speak about Harvard and SAI’s role in the research work being done in Bangladesh.

March, 2012
Harvard Alumni Event

Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dhaka

In early March, members of Dhaka’s Harvard community met at the Alliance Francaise de Dhaka. Shazzad Hoshen Khan, an emerging Bengali artist, was present to discuss his work on exhibition. Attendants included **Ferdous Begum**, former Director General for Bangladesh TV and several alumni working in development.



Maria May, center, with other Harvard alumni at the Alliance Francaise de Dhaka event.

INDIA

August 5, 2011
One Harvard, Young Harvard Alumni Event
India Habitat Center, Delhi

Sponsored by the Harvard Club of India, the South Asia Initiative, and the Harvard India Student Group

Over 100 past, present, and future students from across Harvard’s campuses were in attendance. Students from both the undergraduate and graduate schools, representing 12 Harvard schools in total, came together to discuss issues relevant to studying at Harvard.

August 3, 2011
Landscape Of Pluralism: An Illustrated Lecture on
Architecture in India Since 1990
National Centre for Performing Arts, Mumbai

Rahul Mehrotra, Chair of Urban Planning and Design at Harvard Graduate School of Design and SAI Steering Committee member, launched his book Architecture in India Since 1990 at an event co-sponsored by SAI and the Asia Society, in partnership with the National Centre for Performing Arts. Over 200 people were in attendance.



Students in the Linklaters program meet with SAI staff in Mumbai.

January 18, 2012
Linklaters India Internship Program and SAI Roundtable
Mumbai

SAI staff met with 11 students participating in the Linklaters India Internship program coordinated by the Program on the Legal Profession, at the Harvard Law School.

The program provides students the opportunity to receive hands on experience interning in Indian law firms and legal departments. During the winter term, students travel to Mumbai to work in law firms and conduct research on topics of their proposal.

January 18 – 24, 2012
Harvard Goes to India

President **Drew Gilpin Faust** visited India for the first time in January, 2012. She spent time in Mumbai, Agra, and Delhi, participating in several alumni and public events, some of which were organized by the South Asia Initiative. President Faust delivered the opening remarks at the SAI symposium *Higher Education in South Asia: Enhancing Quality and Access through Innovative Solutions*.

In addition to these public engagements, in a private meeting organized by SAI, President Faust met with faculty and vice chancellors from academic institutions across India, including the India School of Business, XLRI School of Business and Human Resources, and Symbiosis International University.

January 24, 2012
SAI visit to VidyaGyan
Uttar Pradesh

SAI staff members had the opportunity to visit VidyaGyan, a residential school for high achieving youth at the bottom of the pyramid. It is a part of the Shiv Nadar Foundation. The school is a SAI partnered internship site, and Harvard College undergraduate, **Grace O’Neale**, will be traveling to the school this summer to participate in a SAI funded internship.

Mumbai, February 15, 2012
Planning for Mumbai – The Development Plan Workshop for
Greater Mumbai

Former Prince of Wales Museum, Mumbai

Co-sponsored by the Harvard University Graduate School of Design, and the Urban Design Research Institute

Panelists spoke on three broad topics- Transportation, Governance, and Urban Form, and were chaired by **Shirish Patel**, **Cyrus Guzder**, and **Rahul Mehrotra**, respectively. Over 200 guests from the design, planning, business and community activism space were in attendance.



Rahul Mehrotra, GSD, presents at the event in Mumbai



S.V. Subramanian and David Bloom, both professors at HSPH, at the event on Chronic Diseases in Mumbai.

stressing the importance of the organization of healthcare systems in determining the trajectory of economic growth. Other participating faculty included **David Bloom**, Professor of Economics and Demography, HSPH; **David Hunter**, Dean of Academic Affairs, HSPH; **S.V. Subramanian**, Professor of Population Health and Geography, HSPH; and **Kasisomaya-jula Viswanath**, Associate Professor of Society, Human Development and Health, HSPH. Additional panelists included **Prakash Gupta**, Director, Healix Sekhsaria Institute for Public Health and **Swati Piramal**, Director, Piramal Healthcare.

Conference participants sat in the newly inaugurated Taj Lands’ End “Classroom,” created in the style of a Harvard Business School room. This space will be the site of future SAI events.

July 22, 2011

Trans-boundary Water in South Asia: Cooperation or Conflict?
Lahore University of Management Sciences, Lahore

Harvard students from different disciplines presented their research on inter-provincial water issues, including discussion of the current legal and institutional framework for water allocation that exists in Pakistan, the contentious issues surrounding water allocation, and the need to resolve these issues.



John Briscoe, professor at SEAS, and his team of student researchers, Laila Kasuri, Harvard College '13, Anjali Lohani, HKS, Erum Khalid Sattar, HLS, and Hassaan Yousuf, Harvard College '12, were present.

November 24, 2011

Politics & Economics of Free Trade Agreements Made by Pakistan
Pearl Continental Hotel, Lahore

Co-sponsored by the HBS Club of Pakistan and SAI
The annual event of the Harvard Business School Club of Pakistan focused on the politics and trade economics made by Pakistan. The event shed light on the in-depth research on the nature of trade agreements by Adil Najam, Vice Chancellor of LUMS. A panel discussion included Abdul Hafeez, Finance Minister of Pakistan; Razzok Dawood, Chairman, DESCON; Ishrat Hussain, Dean & Director, Institute of Business Administration, Karachi; and Zafar Mahmood, Secretary of Commerce, Pakistan.



Panelists and alumni at the Politics & Economics of Free Trade Agreement event in Lahore. SAI Coordinator, Muhammad Ali (second from right) assisted in the planning and implementation of the event.

December 20 and 21, 2011

Dialogue on Private Education in Lahore, Pakistan
Forman Christian College, Lahore



Sponsored by SAI, the Center for Economic Research in Pakistan, HKS, and Pomona College

This was the second in a series of Dialogues on Education in Pakistan. The first of which was held at HKS of Government in July 2011 to discuss education more broadly. The objective of this Dialogue was to generate a broad consensus-based agenda around how best to interface with, support, and enable the success of the low-cost private education sector.

Summer 2012

Social Development in Pakistan
Harvard Campus and LUMS campus in Lahore, Pakistan

Taught by Harvard Summer School Professor Maggie Ronkin, this course uses video to link U.S. and Pakistan-based participants with Pakistani leaders and change-makers. Pakistani experts, advocates, and change-makers share their strategies for countering inequality and injustice in real-time video conferences. Through conversations with these guests, students will gain grounded insights on culturally attuned and sustainable practices of poverty alleviation and, broadly, on a dynamic human-centered development story. Three-hour modules will focus on microfinance and rehabilitation, the legacy and practice of rural development, politics and human rights, media activism, religious expression, and art as social critique.

Community

Teaching South Asia: Professional Development for Teachers

Primary Source, Watertown MA
SAI support of Primary Source, a non-profit organization in Watertown, MA, has contributed towards the launch of South Asia programming for K-12 teachers. This year, SAI's funding supports Primary Source's Summer Institute, scheduled for summer 2012, which will introduce approximately 45 K-12 educators to modern South Asia, with an emphasis on issues that affect the region. Additionally, SAI funding supported Primary Source's Three-Day World Beat Course, in Spring 2012, and an online curriculum cluster featuring three lessons about South Asia.



Area K-12 teachers at the 2011 Educators for Teaching India Conference

South Asia Initiative Summer Movie Nights
Summer 2011

SAI invited members of the Harvard and the surrounding community to the Summer Movie Nights Series for to view films related to South Asia, including "Monsoon Wedding," "Train to Pakistan," "Water," "In the Name of God," and "Salaam Bombay!"

A Weekend of Ram Vaidyanathan and Shujaat Khan
Saturday and Sunday, November 12-13, 2011

Presented by MITHAS (MIT's Heritage of the Arts of South Asia)



Rama Vaidyanathan at the November MITHAS Event.

Parallel Connections

Spring 2012

SAI co-sponsored the art exhibit "Parallel Connections: South Asian Visual & Performing Arts and Their Healing Touch," which ran through the Spring at Harvard University. The show features photography, contemporary art, and traditional folk art forms such as Madhubani, Warli, and Patachitra. In conjunction with the art exhibit, two panels were held, including a discussion on "Music and Dance in South Asian Art," and a discussion on "The Healing Touch of South Asian Visual Art."

Co-sponsored by SAI, LearnQuest and the Government of Orissa



A student studies near the Parallel Connections art exhibit.

Priyadarshini Govind (Bharathanatyam Dance)

April 29, 2012

Presented by MITHAS

Holy India: Religion in the Modern Subcontinent

April 27, 2012

Sponsored by Educators for Teaching India, in conjunction with the Windsor School, Phillips Academy, and the Groton School

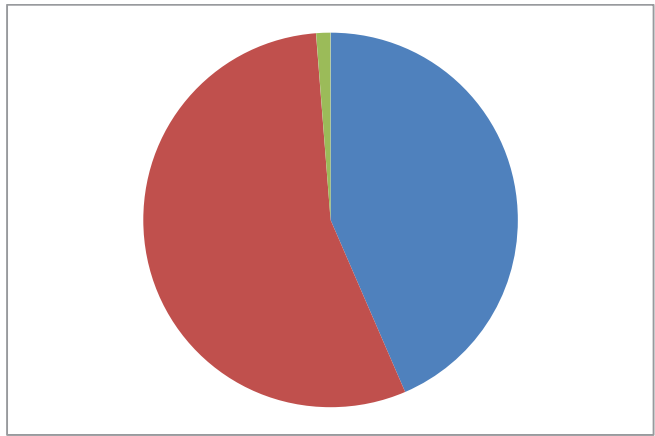
Hosted by the South Asia Initiative

Keynote Speaker: Diana Eck, Professor of Comparative Religion and Indian Studies and Frederic Wrentham Professor of Law and Psychiatry in Society, FAS, Harvard University



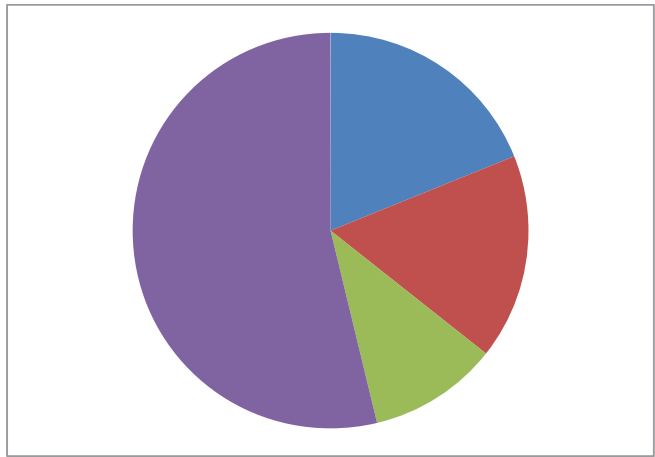
SAI hosted this annual conference which provides outreach and education on the teaching of India in public and private schools. This is the fourth conference that SAI has sponsored for the group, which was established in 2008 by a group of secondary school teachers dedicated to deepening knowledge of India and exploring India's role in school curricula.

FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012: BUDGET STATEMENT



INCOME = \$805,000

- Provost Funds = \$350,000 (43%)
- Current Use Gift = \$445,000 (56%)
- Endowment Income = \$10,000 (1%)



EXPENSE = \$805,000

- Program Support = \$152,000 (19%)
Includes faculty led seminars, faculty grants, conference, and special events
- Student Support = \$135,000 (17%)
Includes Undergraduate and Graduate research, study, and internship grants
- Regional Support = \$85,000 (11%)
Includes regional coordinators and programs
- Administrative Support = \$433,000 (54%)
Staff and infrastructure

SAI in the News: The Headlines

Visit links below or southasiainitiative.harvard.edu for full articles

Ratan Tata inaugurates Harvard's classroom
Kalpana Pathak & Swaraj Baggonkar
March 10, 2012
business-standard.com/india/news/ratan-tata-inaugurates-harvards-classroom-/467265/

Harvard Business School's new classroom in Mumbai
March 2, 2012
articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2012-03-02/news/31116475_1_hbs-classroom-dean-nitin-nohria

Into India
harvardmagazine.com/2012/03/into-india

Harvard Alumni Club Event at Independent University of Bangladesh, Daily News
January 23, 2012
www.daily-sun.com/?view=details&type=daily_sun_news&pub_no=29&cat_id=1&menu_id=19&news_type_id=1&news_id=5546&archiev=yes&arch_date=23-01-2012

Harvard President Stresses on Culture of Global Learning, Times of India
January 21, 2012
articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2012-01-21/mumbai/30650266_1_higher-education-drew-gilpin-faust-first-chancellor

Harvard's India Connection, The Wall Street Journal
January 20, 2012
blogs.wsj.com/indiarealtime/2012/01/20/harvards-indian-connection/

Faust visit spotlights Harvard's growing ties to South Asia, The Financial
January 20, 2012
finchannel.com/Main_News/B_Schools/102135_Faust_visit_spotlights_Harvard%E2%80%99s_growing_ties_to_South_Asia/

Faust Receives Indian Welcome, Harvard Magazine
January 20, 2012
harvardmagazine.com/2012/01/president-drew-faust-receives-indian-welcome

Former Indian President Urges Connectivity, The Harvard Crimson
September 28, 2011
www.thecrimson.com/article/2011/9/28/kalam-happy-world-people/

India, front and center

news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2012/01/india-front-and-center/



“ At Harvard, engagement comes through student groups, lectures, conferences, and faculty research. In India, there are faculty research projects, student internships, and alumni activities, among others.

There has been a flurry of activity on the Harvard campus recently. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, a renowned scientist who was India's 11th president, visited to deliver the annual Mahindra Lecture. Khanna's new Gen Ed course on South Asia's long-term problems and their possible entrepreneurial solutions attracted students from across the University last semester.

Khanna said he expects the University's involvement in the region to continue to increase 'very dramatically.' ”



**The
SOUTH ASIA
INITIATIVE**
at Harvard University

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