



### **Pre-Texts: Using the Arts for Literacy**

In an interview with SAI, **Professor Doris Sommer**, Harvard, describes the protocol and philosophy behind her work: "Pre-Texts is a pedagogy. We train trainers. The very simple proposal is that we use difficult texts, challenging text, boring texts, as raw materials to make new art projects."



### **New Podcast: The Intersection of Indian Politics and Education**

**Dr. Emmerich Davies**, Harvard Graduate School of Education, is a political scientist who has a long-term academic interest in India. With funding from SAI, he's studying the current New Delhi government's attempts to reform education in the city.



### **SAI India Seminar Series: Infectious Diseases**

SAI's new India Seminar Series, at our Delhi headquarters, is gathering steam. We have plenty of exciting events planned for Spring 2018 and will continue for the rest of the year and beyond. Here, SAI's India Country Director, **Dr. Sanjay Kumar**, reports on the most recent event, where, **Dr. Richard Cash**, Senior Lecturer on Global Health at the Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, spoke about infectious diseases.



### **Free Online Course: Entrepreneurship in Emerging Economies**

Want to explore how entrepreneurship and innovation tackle complex social problems in emerging economies? **SAI Director Tarun Khanna**, Harvard Business School, is leading a free 6-week business and management course that will run online from February 28 until July 30 on the edX platform.

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## **FEATURED PUBLICATIONS**



### **"We Need a New Education System to Build a Civil Society"**

"It is very important to resource the education system better. But resources themselves don't hold the key. There has to be thorough infrastructural revision for the whole sector. I think we cannot even begin to think about re-structuring till you improve the large public universities in India," says **Professor Homi Bhabha** (FAS) in an interview with *India Today*.



### **"Growing African Economies Ushers New Indian-African Relations"**

"Years of diplomatic neglect of the continent is being addressed with the top echelons of Indian leadership regularly visiting the continent. Most notably, President Kovind's first overseas visit since taking office was to Djibouti and Ethiopia in October 2017," writes Harvard alum **Veda Vaidyanathan**.

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## **FEATURED EVENTS**

### **Informal Community Governance and Development in India's Urban**



### Slums

Friday, March 2, 2 PM, CGIS South S050

As part of the Joint Seminar on South Asian Politics series, **Professor Adam Auerbach**, American University, will discuss client preferences in broker selection and informal leadership in India's urban slums.



### The Question of Tribes in North East India

Friday, March 2, 2 PM, Brown University

SAI Fellow **Raile Rocky Ziipao** will discuss social dynamics and infrastructure development in India's frontier and border region. His research on the frontier highways uses the philosophy of Indigenous methodology (perspective from within).



### Child Survivor of the 1947 Partition of British India

Thursday, March 8, 6-7:30 PM, New Delhi, India

To launch the official opening, The Lakshmi Mittal South Asia Institute (SAI), Harvard University, India Office will be hosting a series of events in March and April. For the first event, feminist historian **Uma Chakravarti** and feminist publisher **Urvashi Butalia** will give a seminar on Partition.



### Arts-Based Literacy Workshop

Friday, March 9, 12-2 PM, CGIS S153

In collaboration with partners in the Indian education and public health sectors, **Professor Doris Sommer** (FAS and Director of Cultural Agents) hopes to contribute to development in India with Pre-Texts by engaging local strengths to promote: Literacy, Innovation, and Citizenship. The seminar includes lunch and will be followed by a demonstration of Pre-Texts with audience participation.



### Conference on Housing in the Emerging Urban India

Thursday, March 15 - Saturday, March 17, Mumbai, India

India is in the throes of a dramatic process of accelerated urbanization. The conference attempts to bring together varied interests, perspectives and contexts that go into an understanding of the state of housing in India. The conference accompanies an exhibition that was co-curated by **Rahul Mehrotra** (Harvard), Ranjit Hoskote, and Kaiwan Mehta.

## SAI OPPORTUNITIES



### SAI India Office Job Opportunity

The SAI Delhi office is looking for a Communications Consultant to develop a website that highlights projects funded under the Tata Trusts grant. Responsibilities include electronic, print, and outreach efforts related to the project.



### SAI Fellowship Deadline

SAI Fellows utilize Harvard's resources to contribute to self-driven, independent research related to South Asia. Current fellows are studying India's frontier highways and financial services in Pakistan. The deadlines for the 2018-2019 Aman Fellowship, Arvind Raghunathan and Sribala Subramanian South Asia Visiting Fellowship and Babar Ali Fellowship are **March 6, 2018**.

## STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

**Nepal Leadership Trek Application deadline is March 5, 2018.**

**Tufts' South Asian Perspectives and Conversation (SAPAC) Symposium call for submissions to present.**

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## FLASHBACK FRIDAY



### **Student Voices: Understanding the Special Education System in Pakistan**

**Syeda Farwa Fatima**, HGSE '16, received an SAI travel grant to conduct a small pilot study to understand how social perspectives of different stakeholders frame the special education system in Pakistan. "In the context of Pakistan – which already has the second highest population of out of school children, a JICA report quotes how 'persons with disabilities are mostly unseen, unheard and uncounted' thereby constituting the most marginalized group of the country."

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