

SEMINARS ON BANGLADESH AND BANGLADESHIS ABROAD

Every Thursday, 7-9pm, 31 January - 10 April 08

Lab 1, Idea Store (Whitechapel Library), 321 Whitechapel Rd, London E1 1BU



31 JAN - Climate Change after Bali by *Dr Saleemul Huq*,

Head of Climate Change Group, International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). He is a specialist on links between climate change and sustainable development, particularly on the perspectives of developing countries. Author of many publications and a previous executive director of Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies.

7 FEB - Migration from Bangladesh to Spain, class, adventure and danger by *Benjamin Zeitlyn*,

who studied MA in Migration Studies in 2003/4 (University of Sussex), researching on Bangladeshi community in Spain for his dissertation. Subsequently he went to Bangladesh to conduct research about migration from Bangladesh to Italy and Spain, where he spent six months at the Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit at Dhaka University. Currently he is studying for a PhD about children of Bangladeshi origin in London.

14 FEB - What role can the UK Bangladeshis play in the development of Bangladesh? by *Ayub Korom Ali*,

Labour Cllr. in LB Newham. Currently works for LB Tower Hamlets as Extended Schools Adviser. He is a trained social worker and previously worked in social services education and regeneration. He left school at the age of 16 but subsequently obtained a social work qualification (CQSW) from Ruskin College and an MA in Social Policy from Brunel University, Centre for Advanced Studies. He attended the December 2007 Dhaka conference on Non Resident Bangladeshis (NRB).

21 FEB - A panel discussion on Unleashing the Potentials of British Bangladeshi Women (Lab 1&2)

1. *Tamanna Talukder* has a Masters degree in Economics with a career in banking, specialising in credit risk management. Currently working for the Financial Services Authority implementing new capital management framework for the major banking groups in the UK.

2. *Sandra Kabir* is the Executive Director & Secretary of BRAC UK. She has worked in development since 1976 with donor agencies and international/national NGOs, predominantly involving sexual / reproductive health & women's development and rights, and established the Bangladesh Women's Health Coalition in 1979. In 1988 she was awarded the international STIMEZO Prize for her contribution to making abortion safe worldwide.

3. *Rehana Parvin* is teacher by profession and has lived in Britain since arriving with her parents in the late 70's. She is very interested in issues affecting Bangladeshis as well as the wider Muslim community. Rehana is a member of Women's Association of Professionals and appear regularly on Bangla TV and Islam Channel to discuss topics relevant to women living in Britain.

4. *Rushanara Ali* grew up in Tower Hamlets, studied at Mulberry School and Tower Hamlets College. She is currently an Associate Director of the Young Foundation and head of research, external relations and international projects. She has previously worked at Home Office's Communities Directorate, leading a project in response to the 2001 riots in the North of England. She has also worked on human rights issues at various places. Rushanara also worked for Michael Young on a project, which paved the way for Tower Hamlets Summer University that has been successfully replicated around London. She is a Commissioner for the London Child Poverty Commission, Chair of Tower Hamlets Summer University and SummerUni London, a Board Member of Tower Hamlets College, a Trustee of the Paul Hamlyn Foundation and a member of the Tate Britain Council. She was a member of the Home Office Working Group on Preventing Extremism established after the 7/7 London bombings. Rushanara has a degree in Philosophy, Politics and Economics from Oxford University. In April 2007, she was selected as the Labour Parliamentary Candidate for Bethnal Green and Bow.

28 FEB - Marginalisation and resistance amongst Bangladesh's minority adivasis: The Santal by *Dr Fauzia Shariff* (Phd Laws),

who completed doctoral research on the Santal of India and Bangladesh in 2006. Currently ESRC Postdoctoral Fellow at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. Worked as policy adviser to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Department for International Development as well as for NGOs and local government.

6 MAR - Home and Away: reflections on an ongoing research project with Bangladeshi children in transnational families by *Kanwal Mand*,

who obtained a PhD in Social Anthropology in 2004 (Sussex), where she examined the relationship between marriage, migration in the creation and establishment of transnational Punjabi households, spanning Tanzania, Indian Punjab and London. She expanded her interest in transnational families during her work as a Research Fellow at the Families and Social Capital Research ESRC Centre (London South Bank University). At present she is working on an AHRC funded research project entitled 'Home and Away: Experiences and Representations of transnational South Asian Children'.

13 MAR - Partition and South Asia's diaspora? by *Dr Joya Chatterji*

who was educated at the Universities of Delhi and at Trinity College, Cambridge, where she is now a Fellow and University Lecturer in History. Her first book published in 1994, *Bengal divided, Hindu communalism and partition, 1932-1947* was the first work which drew attention to the role of Hindu communalism in 1947. It was translated into Bangla by University of Dhaka press in 2003. Last year, her second monograph on the consequences of the partition, *The spoils of partition*, was published by Cambridge University Press. Dr Chatterji has written widely on communalism, borders, refugees, migration and identity-formation, and is presently leading a large AHRC project on the Bengali diaspora in the delta and the UK.

20 MAR - The current reform programme in Bangladesh and prospects for the future by *Professor Mushtaq Khan*,

Professor of economics at School of African and Oriental Studies. He was born in Dhaka in 1961, completed his undergraduate studies in Philosophy, Politics and Economics at the University of Oxford and then won a scholarship for his PhD studies in Economics at Cambridge. Previously he taught at the universities of both Oxford and Cambridge. Information about his research interests and publications are available on his website: <http://mercury.soas.ac.uk/users/mk17/>

27 MAR - Where is the Bangladeshi Community in the London Economy?

by *Murad Qureshi, AM, Labour Group, LONDON ASSEMBLY*

3 APR - A panel discussion on How does Bangladesh engage with the rest of the World? (Lab 1&2)

1. *Piya Muqit* is a practicing barrister in the UK and works full-time as a lawyer for the Refugee Legal Centre. Piya specialises in human rights law. She has worked in Bangladesh and USA for non-profit legal organisations and also at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg. She is a trustee for the Citizenship Foundation in London and is currently co-ordinating a project on Bangladeshi migrant workers for Dristipat.

2. *Niaz Alam* of British Bangladeshi International Development Group (BBIG) is a Solicitor who has worked on corporate responsibility and ethical investment issues since 1992. He is a member of BBC Appeals Advisory Committee and a non executive director of the London Pensions Funds Authority.

3. *Georgie Wemyss* lived in Dhaka in 1988-9, where she began to study Bangla. She has been involved with Tower Hamlets College since 1989, initially in youthwork and later teaching. Currently, she teaches Social Anthropology and South Asian Studies at Tower Hamlets College and is a visiting fellow at Department of Sociology, Goldsmiths College, where she is completing a book based on her D. Phil Thesis.

4. *Anawar Babul Miah* has been a practicing barrister since 1998, when he was called to the Bar by The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn. Anawar practices from chambers at Central London and specialises in litigation and immigration. He is also an advocate of the supreme court of Bangladesh.

10 APR - SPECIAL COMEDY EVENING / DINNER / NETWORKING (Lab 4&5)

Details of the special event will be made available in due course! £10.00 per head

Advance booking only! Please book early to avoid disappointment! ALL SEMINARS ARE FREE except the special comedy evening / dinner

For details or to book a place please call 07903 671787 or email bricklanecircle@yahoo.co.uk

***Near Whitechapel Tube Station *Refreshment will be served *Voluntary contributions welcome!**