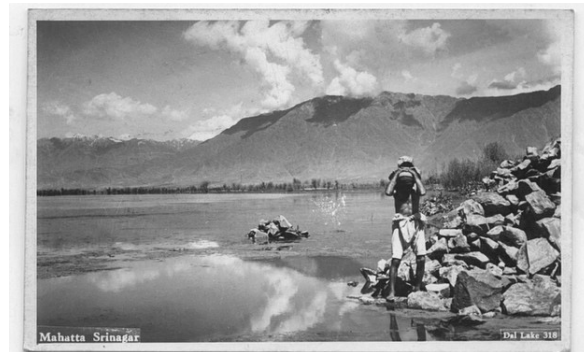


AK Crossasia Vortragsreihe:
Max Kramer, *Humboldt Universität Berlin*
Mobility, Memory and Resistance in Kashmir:
Boat Tours on the Dal-Lake

Donnerstag, 26. November 2015
Raum 03, Schloss Hohentübingen, 18 c. t.



This presentation highlights through the lens of „entangled (Im-)mobilities“ (Nadja-Christina Schneider 2015), the politics of representation of independent documentary filmmakers working on the Valley of Kashmir.

In the Hindi-Film from the 1960s to 1989 the region primarily figured as a playground for Indian middle classes against the backdrop of mountains, lakes, flower fields and light skinned women. After the onset of the armed conflict in 1989, the landscapes were re-framed through barbed wire and terrorist threat evoking the loss of paradise. Images of the lakes, in particular the Dal Lake, and boat journeys thereupon have served to set the stage for many Kashmir based plots to unfold, often used as a frame to introduce the region before zooming into shrines, temples, flowers and barbed wire. I will show how independent documentary filmmakers challenge these representations by inverting the tourist gaze. Although the focus of the presentation is clearly on ‚representations‘, I will also discuss from a focus on the filmmakers practices the politics of form in a wider sense involving the processes of production, circulation and reception of these films.

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