

Contesting Images of Futures of India

February 13, 2015

Neue Aula, Geschwister-Scholl-Platz, Großer Senat, University of Tuebingen, Germany

This one day international seminar will be presented in three sessions to evaluate and analyze different projections about the futures of India, imagined or predicted, during the last two centuries. Some of the topics covered will be: (i) Contemporary India in the science fiction of last two centuries, (ii) Future India in the contemporary science fiction, (iii) Images of futures in the literary and political works of last two centuries; and (iv) The notion of changing time-use-pattern and digital future of Indian history and literature.

9:00 - 9:45

Opening Felicitations

Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Bernd Engler, Tuebingen

H.E. M. Sevala Naik, Consul General of India, Munich

Prof. Dr. Jürgen Leonhardt, Dean, Faculty of Humanities, Tuebingen

Divyaraj Amiya, M. Phil., Department of Indology, Tuebingen

9:45 - 10:30

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Anil Menon, Eminent Science Fiction Author, USA

The Seventh Horse of the Sun: The Dawn of Indian Science Fiction (19th and 20th Century)

10:30 - 10:45 Tea Break

10:45 - 12:15

Session I: Contemporary Science Fiction in India and the Question of Changing-Time-Use-Pattern

Dr. Vandana Singh, Framingham State University, USA

Transgressive Possibilities in Indian Science Fiction: A Writer's Perspective

Divyaraj Amiya, M. Phil., Department of Indology, Tuebingen and University of Zuerich, Switzerland

A Video Report on Time Prosperity and Time Poverty in Delhi (20 minutes) and Some Projections for Coming Decades

12:15 - 13:45 Lunch Break

13:45 - 15:15

Session II: Imaginations of Future in Indian Politics of 19th and 20th Century India

Dr. Mirella Lingorska, Department of Indology, Tuebingen and University of Zuerich, Switzerland

Images of Future in Mahatma Gandhi's Works and the Reality of India Today

Dr. Ajay Gudavarthy, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India

Ambedkar and Jotiba Phule in the Neo-Liberal Times: Prefigurations of a Post-Caste Society

15:15 - 15:30 Tea Break

15:30 – 17:00

Session III: The Digital Future of Indian Literature Production and Images of Futures in Indian Literature

Dr. Elena Mucciarelli, Department of Indology, Tuebingen

Epigraphia Carnatica Digitization Project: Medieval Inscriptions and New Media

Rainer Kimmig, M.A., Department of Indology, Tuebingen and University of Heidelberg

The Birth of the Mother from an Opium Dream. Bankimchandra's Vision of the Nation as Charismatic Gemeinschaft

17:00 – 17:15

Concluding Remarks by PD Dr. Heike Oberlin, Department of Indology, Tuebingen

For more information contact the Department of Indology, Tuebingen, at

divyaraj.amiya@uni-tuebingen.de

How to reach the venue? The conference will take place in the building "Neue Aula" (Geschwister Scholl Platz / Wilhelmstrasse 7) not more than 15 minutes walk from the main railway station, Tuebingen. In case you have problems in finding the venue, please contact us on 13.02.15 after 8:15 am at +49-(0) 7071- 2972675.

The participation is open to all and free of charge.