

About CSH

The Centre de Sciences Humaines (CSH, UMIFRE n°20) is part of a network of research units of the National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) and the French Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs (MEAE). The CSH is a multidisciplinary research unit that covers all disciplines of the social sciences and humanities.

CSH Seminar

The CSH seminar takes place once every month. It offers researchers from different disciplines across social sciences an opportunity to present their upcoming or recently published work. Presentations are followed by a discussion with another scholar and a Q/A session with the audience. The sessions are in hybrid mode. The seminars are coordinated by Laurence Gautier (laurence.gautier@csh-delhi.com) and Joël Cabalion (joel.cabalion@csh-delhi.com).

Seminar Calendar

Monday, 9 September 2024

"The Glass Giant, or How to Write an International History of Modern India", by **Bérénice Guyot-RECHARD** (King's College London). Discussant: **Pallavi RAGHAVAN** (Ashoka University)

Monday, 14 October 2024

"A Pathway to Intergenerational Social Mobility? The Impact of Education", by **Divya VAID** (Jawaharlal Nehru University). Discussant: **Sonalde DESAI** (National Data Innovation Centre & University of Maryland College Park)

Monday, 11 November 2024

"Sovereign Anxiety. Public Order and the Politics of Control in India, 1915-1955", by **Javed Iqbal WANI** (Ambedkar University). Discussant: **Amir ALI** (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Monday, 9 December 2024

"Morality, Legality, Enterprise: Infrastructures and space in a Delhi neighbourhood", by **Saeed AHMAD** (OP Jindal University). Discussant: **Diya MEHRA** (South Asian University)

Timings: 17h00 - 18h30 IST

Venue: Centre de Sciences Humaines

IFI-CSH Conference room (ground floor), 2, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Road, New Delhi - 110011

9 September 2024 : “The Glass Giant, or How to Write an International History of Modern India”, by Bérénice Guyot-RECHARD

Abstract: This seminar will discuss a book project, *The Glass Giant: India and the International Order*, which retraces, over two centuries, the paradox of India's international relations. Independent since 1947, India's connection to the world is shaped by a dual and deeply ambivalent inheritance, at once anti-colonial and imperial, and shot through with the idea of an exceptional nation with a correspondingly exceptional role to play in the world. These parameters have defined India's international identity since the 18th century.

Speaker: **Dr. Guyot-Réchar**d is a Reader in International and South Asian History at King's College London. She is the author of *Shadow States: India, China, and the Himalayas, 1910-62* (CUP, 2016), and co-edited *South Asia Unbound: New International Histories of the Subcontinent* (Leiden University Press, 2023), with Elisabeth Leake.

14 October 2024 : “A Pathway to Intergenerational Social Mobility? The Impact of Education”, by Divya VAID

Abstract: The study of social mobility has been an important strand of inquiry in the sociology of developed countries. In India, this research is more recent with limited focus on the experiences of women. This talk draws on national level data to establish the macro trends in intergenerational social class mobility by gender, caste, community and rural-urban location, and explores the impact of education as a driver for this mobility.

Speaker: **Divya Vaid** is an Associate Professor of Sociology at Jawaharlal Nehru University. Her research interests include the study of social mobility and inequalities, social stratification, educational attainment, class and political participation.

11 November 2024 : “Sovereign Anxiety. Public Order and the Politics of Control in India, 1915–1955”, by Javed Iqbal WANI

Abstract: This book studies issues of public order in late colonial and earlier postcolonial India. It identifies various governmental practices, such as curfews, bans and police action, that thrive on extraordinary legislation to maintain public order. Through public order, a spectacle of sovereign power and politics of contestation between the citizens and law enforcement emerges. The book thus contributes to existing discussions about sovereignty and legitimacy of state power.

Speaker: **Javed Iqbal Wani** is a Senior Assistant Professor at the School of Legal and Socio-Political Studies, Ambedkar University. His main research interests revolve around the theme of 'public order' while engaging with issues of communalism, labor, and political violence.

9 December 2024 : “Morality, Legality, Enterprise: Infrastructures and space in a Delhi neighbourhood”, by Saeed AHMAD

Abstract: Through a contemporary micro-history, this paper examines different power matrices to craft social and material infrastructures in Jangpura-Bhogal, Delhi. It revisits the history of resident, economic, and religious collectives to shape social and material infrastructures in the neighbourhood. This history of entanglements between the state, judiciary, and neighborhood socialities translates to different infrastructural possibilities for Jangpura-Bhogal's diverse populations. It also produces spatial and historical displacements to craft space in this locality.

Speaker: **Dr. Saeed Ahmad** is an Assistant Professor at Jindal School of Art & Architecture, Jindal Global University. His work revisits Delhi's long twentieth century to examine the varied and historically shifting power matrices that affect state legibility, civic, and political access to craft space, community, and belonging in the neighborhood and the city.