

International Seminar
***History of Global Climate Change: Water, Ecology, Politics
and the Management of Nature***

January 21 - 22, 2015

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS)
Azad Bhavan, Salt Lake
Kolkata

PROGRAMME

Wednesday, January 21, 2015 (Day 1)

9.30 - 10.00 Registration

10.00 – 10.20 Inaugural Session

Chairperson: **Shri Sitaram Sharma**, Chairman, MAKAIAS

Welcome Address: **Dr. Sreeradha Datta**, Director, MAKAIAS

Introducing the Theme: **Ms. Mili Ghose**, Fellow, MAKAIAS

Inaugural Address: **Ms. Helen LaFave**, US Consul General in Kolkata

**10.20 – 10.30 Screening of a Documentary Film on the Maulana Abul Kalam
Azad Institute of Asian Studies**

10.30 – 11.30 Keynote Address

Chair:

Prof. Ranjan Chakrabarti, Vice Chancellor, Vidyasagar University, West Bengal

Speaker:

Dr. Ronald Edmund Doel, Florida State University, USA, **An Unanticipated Legacy: How Cold War Military Concerns Created Knowledge about Global Climate Change**

11.30 – 12.00 Tea/Coffee

12.00 – 1.30

Technical Sessions I: Water

Chair:

Prof. Arun Bandyopadhyay, University of Calcutta, Kolkata

Speakers:

Prof. Sajal Nag, Assam University, Assam, **Changing Weather, Changing Lives: Deforestation, Climatic Change and its Impact on North East India**

Prof. Ruby Maloni, University of Mumbai, Mumbai, **Sailing with the Monsoons: Indian Ocean and Trade Routes**

Dr. Uttam Kumar Sinha, Fellow, IDSA, Delhi, **Climate-Water Nexus: Challenges to the Himalayan Watershed**

1.30 - 2.30

Lunch

2.30 - 4.00

Technical Session II: Climate and Disaster

Chair:

Dr. Ronald Edmund Doel, Florida State University, USA

Speakers:

Prof. Amanat Ullah Khan, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, **Living with the Living Environment: A Study of Changing Livelihood in Bangladesh in Recent Years**

Prof. Rajib Handique, Gauhati University, Assam, **Natural Disasters in History: The 1950 Earthquake in Assam**

Mr. Dario Gerd Kaidel, Heidelberg University, Germany, **Climatic Stress and Colonial Environments: British and Indian Agency during the Bengal Famine of 1771**

4.00 - 5.30

Technical Session III: Environmentalism/s

Chair:

Prof. Amanat Ullah Khan, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

Speakers:

Prof. Bipasha Raha, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan, West Bengal, **The Natural and the Rural World: Rabindranath Tagore and Rural Reconstruction**

Dr. Bina Sengar, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad, Maharashtra, **Changing Discourses' of Human and Environment in Ajanta**

Dr. Nandini Bhattacharya Panda, Fellow, MAKAIAS, Kolkata, **Ecology and Environment in the Literary Imagination: Mangal Kavyas in Medieval Bengal**

Cultural Evening & Dinner: 7.00 pm onwards

Venue: Bengal Club

Thursday, January 22, 2015 (Day 2)

10.00 - 11.30

Technical Session IV: Environment and Disorder

Chair:

Dr. Sreeradha Datta, Director, MAKAIAS

Speakers:

Prof. Rattan Lal Hangloo, Vice Chancellor, University of Kalyani, West Bengal, **Destruction of Kashmirs Water Resources**

Prof. Sujata Mukherjee, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, **Natural Calamity, War, Politics, and Famine in Coastal Bengal in the Early 1940s**

Prof. Sanjay V. Deshmukh, University of Mumbai, Mumbai, **Blending Traditional and Modern Technologies for Mitigating Climate Change Impacts on Ecology and Livelihoods**

Prof. Kaushik Roy, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, **Warfare and Environment: A Case Study of the Indian Army**

11.30 - 12.00

Tea/Coffee

12.00 – 1.30

Technical Session V: Conservation and Management of Nature

Chair:

Prof. Sajal Nag, Assam University, Assam

Speakers:

Dr. Sahara Ahmed, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, **Colonial Pasts and Legacies: Forests, Climate-Change and Management Disaster**

Ms. Dipanwita Dasgupta, Cooch Behar P. Barma University, Cooch Behar, West Bengal, **Adaption, Migration and Challenges: Impacts of Climate Change in the Sub-Himalayan Bengal**

Mr. Tirthankar Ghosh, Kazi Nazrul University, Asansol, West Bengal, **Rainfall, Flood and Drought in North Bengal, 1850 - 1900: Focusing Climate, Environment and Colonial Management**

Dr. Satarupa Datta Majumdar, Fellow, MAKAIAS, Kolkata, **Impact of Climate Change on the Indigenous People: The Lived Reality of Shismaref**

1.30 - 2.30

Lunch

2.30 - 4.00

Technical Session VI: Politics of Water

Chair:

Shri Sitaram Sharma, Chairman, MAKAIAS

Speakers:

Dr. Iftekhar Iqbal, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, **Rivers and Transregional Quests in Southern Asia**

Dr. Ashim Kumar Sarkar, Malda College, Malda, West Bengal, **Forest, Land Use and Water: A Study of the Santal Adivasi World of Colonial Maldah, 1900 - 1947**

Dr. Nirmal K. Mahato, Patha-Bhavana, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan, West Bengal, **The Politics of Water: Large Dams vs Indigenous Method of Water Management**

4.00 - 5.00

Valedictory Session

Chair:

Prof. Omprakash Mishra, Jadavpur University, Kolkata

Speaker:

Professor Ranjan Chakrabarti, Vice Chancellor, Vidyasagar University, West Bengal, **Understanding the Politics and Culture of Water in South Asia**

Vote of Thanks:

Mili Ghose, Fellow, MAKAIAS