



International Conference

South Asian Migration and the Conditions of Precarity

The Department of Political Science and the Centre for Eurasian Studies (ZEUS) at the University of Rostock, Germany, in cooperation with the School of Humanities and Liberal Arts at Chandigarh University, India, and with the University of Aarhus, Denmark, are conducting an international conference on “South Asian Migration and the Conditions of Precarity”.

The conference is an open and interdisciplinary event that aims to bring together various perspectives on South Asian migration from different academic disciplines. The connecting overarching concept is the idea of “Precarity” understood as conditions of vulnerability and insecurity in the life of migrants from South Asia. Precarity may refer to migratory status, citizenship, identity, work, politics, and all spheres of everyday life.

Key notes are going to be delivered by Om Prakash Dwivedi (Professor and Founding Director, Institute of Liberal Arts and Humanities at Chandigarh University, Lucknow Campus, India) and Tabish Khair (Associate Professor, School of Communication and Culture, Department of English at the University of Aarhus, Denmark). Presentations and participants will come from Germany, Denmark, Poland, and India.

Friday, June 27, 2025

Venue: University of Rostock, Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences (WSF, Ulmenstr. 69, Building 1, Room 323, 18057 Rostock)

13.15	Registration opens [Room 324]
14.15-14.30	Welcome, greeting messages and opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Pierre Gottschlich (Spokesperson of the Centre for Eurasian Studies at the University of Rostock) – Jörn Dosch (Dean of the Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences at the University of Rostock)
14.30-15.30	Keynote lecture by Tabish Khair (University of Aarhus): “Precarity and its Relationship to Otherness: Or, why kindness, sympathy and empathy are not enough”
15.30-16.00	Tea/coffee break
16.00-17.00	Panel 1 (chair: Om Prakash Dwivedi) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Saurabh Todariya (International Institute of Information Technology Hyderabad): “A Phenomenological Analysis of Butler’s Notion of Vulnerability” – Debajyoti Biswas (Bodoland University Kokrajhar): “Precarious Life in “Spring in a Burnt Village” and “The Women who would not die”: Narratives of hope”
17.00-17.30	Tea/coffee break
17.30-19.00	Roundtable discussion “South Asian Migration and the Conditions of Precarity” (moderation: Pierre Gottschlich) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Om Prakash Dwivedi (Chandigarh University Lucknow/ Unnao Campus) – Tabish Khair (University of Aarhus) – Urmila Goel (Humboldt University Berlin) – Debajyoti Biswas (Bodoland University Kokrajhar)
19.00	Conference dinner and reception

Saturday, June 28, 2025

Venue: International Guesthouse of the University of Rostock
(IBZ, Bergstr. 7a, 18057 Rostock)

09.00-10.30	<p>Panel 2 (chair: Uwe Skoda)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Mohan Dharavath (Tata Institute of Social Sciences Hyderabad): “Caste Beyond Borders: Understanding Caste in the Diaspora Through the Anti-Caste Movements” [online] – Katja Mielke (Bonn International Centre for Conflict Studies): “More Than Bare Lives: People as Infrastructure in Resilience Building by Afghans in Pakistan” – Shalini Mittal (Bennett University Greater Noida): “Between Precarity and Hope: Coping with Exile in the Tibetan Migrant Experience” [online]
10.30-11.00	Tea/coffee break
11.00-11.50	<p>Keynote lecture by Om Prakash Dwivedi (Chandigarh University Lucknow/Unnao Campus):</p> <p>““Too Many” Humans: Disposability and the Poetics of Hope in Ecoprecarious World”</p>
12.00-13.30	Lunch break at Urban Garden Rostock
13.30-15.00	<p>Panel 3 (chair: Jörn Dosch)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Manish K. Jha (Tata Institute of Social Sciences Mumbai): “Political Economy of Gig Work in India: Migrants at the Threshold of Emergent Forms of Insecurity and Precarity” [online] – Sourina Bej (University of Bonn): “Climate Change and Rural Precarity: Narrating through Migratory Decisions of Circular Labour Migrants from Indian Sundarbans” – Uwe Skoda (University of Aarhus) & Isha Dubey (International Institute of Information Technology Hyderabad): “‘Faithful’ Migrations. Mitigating Precarity in a Mercantile Minority”
15.00-15.30	Tea/coffee break

15.30-17.00	<p>Panel 4 (chair: Pierre Gottschlich)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Tobias Santosh Grossmann (Heidelberg): “Precarity, Education and Migration: Unearthing the Historical Roots of Care-Labor Migration from Kerala” – Urmila Goel (Humboldt University Berlin): “Non-Extension of Residence Permits: The Precariousness of Changing Contexts” – Agnieszka Kuszewska-Bohnert (Jagiellonian University Krakow): “Politico-Economic Aspects of Labour Migration from Nepal: Portugal as a Destination Country”
17.00	Closing remarks and valediction

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Vergiss mein nicht.