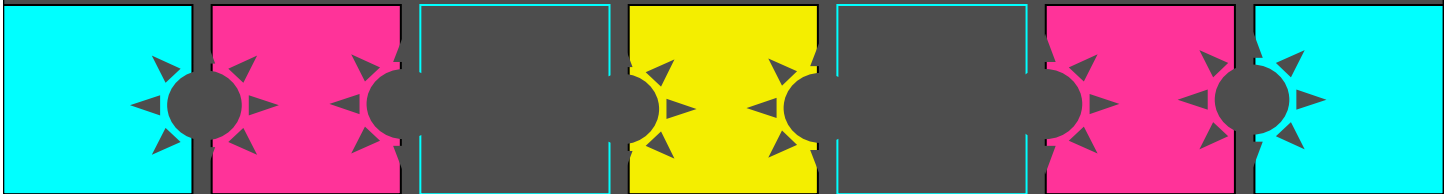


**Centre for South Asian Studies
University of Edinburgh**

**CONFERENCE: FEMININITIES AND MASCULINITIES IN INDIAN POLITICS
Edinburgh 15-16 MAY 2008**

This conference problematises the meanings of doing and participating in politics in India by harnessing novel gender theorising on shifting masculinities and sexualities *and* historical as well as emerging trends, actors and forms of participation in Indian politics. Against this backdrop, the conference's objective is to generate nuanced understandings of the encounter between gender identities and political practices and discourses; of how femininities and masculinities are deployed, appropriated and contested across genders; and following along these lines, the ways of 'living politics', building leaderships and embodying power.



PUBLIC LECTURE, Thursday 15 May, 5pm

Tanika Sarkar, Singhvi Visiting Professor

**"Designing Selves : Many Faces of Masculine and Feminine in
Colonial Times"**

Distinguished speakers

Paul Brass, University of Washington
Tanika Sarkar, Visiting Singhvi Professor
Wendy Singer, Kenyon College
Mrinalini Sinha, Pennsylvania State University

Confirmed speakers

Mukulika Banerjee, University College London
Manuela Ciotti, University of Edinburgh
Hugo Gorringe, University of Edinburgh
Lucia Michelutti, London School of Economics
Sreelekha Nair, Maison des Sciences de l'Homme
Badri Narayan, G B Pant Social Science Institute, Allahabad

Conference organiser

Manuela Ciotti (Inquiries at m.ciotti@ed.ac.uk)

This event is funded by
the British Academy
and
the Centre
for South Asian Studies
at the University
of Edinburgh

Conference venue

University of Edinburgh
George Square
Edinburgh EH8 9LL
Adam Ferguson Building
Room 124-125

There is no conference fee but catering and residential charges may apply. Please contact Dr. Manuela Ciotti for details

FEMINITIES AND MASCULINITIES IN INDIAN POLITICS
Schedule

Thursday 15th May

9.45: Meeting in room 124-125 Adam Ferguson Building, George Square and conference introduction

9.55: Welcome
Chair: Patricia Jeffery

The format is as follows: speakers will have 25 minutes to present their papers while discussants will have 10 minutes to raise key points and questions after which speakers will respond to these for 5 minutes and a plenary discussion will follow for 20 minutes.

10.00-11.00

Mrinalini Sinha

Penn State University

Paper: *Historically speaking: Gender and citizenship in colonial India*

Discussant: Mukulika Banerjee

11.00-11.30: Tea/Coffee

11.30-12.30

Paul Brass

University of Washington

Paper: *A death in the family*

Discussant: Wendy Singer

12.30-13.30: Lunch

Chair Crispin Bates

13.30-14.30

Mukulika Banerjee

University College London

Paper: *Social inequality versus political equality: The experience of women's self help groups in West Bengal*

Discussant: Hugo Gorringer

14.30-15.30

Sreelekha Nair

Maison des Sciences de l'Homme

Paper: *Citizenship and migrant women's work in India*

Discussant: Badri Narayan

15.30-16.30

Hugo Gorringe

University of Edinburgh

Paper *Womens rights against Dalit rights? Dalit women mobilising for change in South India*

Discussant: Lucia Michelutti

Thursday 15th May, 17.00
SINGHVI PUBLIC LECTURE
Tanika Sarkar, Visiting Singhvi Professor

Designing selves: Many faces of masculine and feminine in colonial times

18.00-19.00 Reception followed by dinner

Friday 16th May

Chair: Roger Jeffery

10.00-11.00

Badri Narayan

G B Pant Social Science Institute, Allahabad

Paper: *Gendering 'participation': Jhuria's narratives of Dalit politics in a North Indian village*

Discussant: Manuela Ciotti

11.00-11.30: Tea/coffee

11.30-12.30

Lucia Michelutti

London School of Economics

Paper *'Goondas' and 'Caudillos': Strongmen politicians in comparative perspective*

Discussant: Paul Brass

12.30-13.30: Lunch

Chair: Paul Brass

13.30-14.30

Wendy Singer

Kenyon College

Paper: *When constituencies are 'suitable for ladies': From the women's wing to getting a ticket to run*

Discussant: Mrinalini Sinha

14.30-15.30

Manuela Ciotti

University of Edinburgh

Paper: *Political androgynies? Hypothesising de-gendering activism in North India*

Discussant: Tanika Sarkar

15.30-16.00: Closing discussion