

**SYMPOSIUM
HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE POLITICS OF FILMMAKING IN SOUTH ASIA
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON SEATTLE, BOTHELL
OCTOBER 19 – 20, 2015**

This symposium focuses on the challenges and risks faced by filmmakers as they document, often risking their lives, human rights violations in South Asia. It bridges the gap between the academia and community through film screenings, scholarly presentations, and conversations with filmmakers. It explores how cinema interacts with the modern rights movement, and can be used as a tool for resisting against human rights violations.

SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

Monday, October 19: Thomson Hall (Room 317) University of Washington, Seattle

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| 08:30 – 09:00 | COFFEE AND LIGHT BREAKFAST |
| 09:00 – 09:15 | Opening Remarks: Alka Kurian |
| 09:15 – 11:15 | Film Screening: <i>Red Ant Dream</i> , Directed by Sanjay Kak |
| 11:15 – 11:30 | BREAK |
| 11:30 – 12:30 | <u>Panel One: Minority Oppression</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sanjay Kak: Folding Film into the Resistance: A Short and Personal History of the Political Documentary in India• Deepti Misri: Return and Irreconciliation in Onir's <i>I Am</i> (Megha)• Bidisha Biswas: In Kashmir, They Disappear: Revisiting AFSPA through the Lens of <i>Haider</i> |
| 12:30 – 01:00 | Panel discussion |
| 01:00 - 01:30 | LUNCH |
| 01:30 – 02:30 | Film Screening: <i>Dalit Women Fight</i> , Directed by Thenmozhi Soundararajan |
| 02:30 – 03:30 | <u>Panel Two: Caste Oppression</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thenmozhi Soundararajan: Dalit Women's Resistance• Bindu Menon: The Spectacular and the Quotidian: Caste Violence in <i>Fandry</i> and <i>Papilobuddha</i>• Shoba Sharad Rajagopal: Thugs, Dacoits, and Politicians? Indigenous Communities in Indian Cinema Today |
| 03:30 – 04:00 | Panel Discussion |
| 04:00 – 04:15 | <u>BREAK</u> |
| 04:15 – 05:15 | <u>Panel Three: Gender Violence</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sangita Gopal: New Indian Cinema and the Woman Question• Shreerekha Subramanian: Feminist Masculinism: Imagined Response to Violence Against Women in Pradeep Sarkar's Hindi Film <i>Mardaani</i>• Sonora Jha: The "Daughters" Beg to Differ: Feminist India's Response to BBC Documentary <i>India's Daughter</i>. |
| 05:15 – 05:45 | Panel Discussion |

Tuesday, October 20: University of Washington, Bothell, North Creek Event Center

08:30 – 09:00	COFFEE AND LIGHT BREAKFAST
09:00 – 09:30	<u>Film Screening:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>The Nightingales of Pakistan</i>, Directed by Fawzia Afzal Khan
09:30 – 11:00	<u>Panel Four: Gender, Nation, Identity</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hemal Trivedi, Mohammad Naqvi: Secularism, the Rise of the Right wing, and Minority Persecution• Fawzia Afzal Khan: Feminist Mediations: The Sacred and the Secular in three Pakistani Female Singers• Alka Kurian: Integrating Whose voice? Class and Nation in <i>The Reluctant Fundamentalist</i>
11:00 – 12:00	Panel Discussion
12:00 – 01:00	LUNCH
01:00 – 3:00	<u>Work in Progress:</u> Rakesh Sharma.
3:00 – 3:15	BREAK
03:15 – 04:15	Film Screening: <i>Silence in the Courts</i> , Directed by Prasanna Vithanage
04:15 – 05:15	<u>Panel Five: Human Rights, Censorship, and Nation</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bruce Kochis: The Future of Human Rights• Prasanna Vithanage: Many Faces of Censorship in an Ethno-Religiously Polarized Society• Nadeem Uddin: Bhopal 84 - Denial, Resistance and the Continuous disaster 30 years on
05:15 – 05:45	Panel Discussion
05:45	Closing Remarks