

Arnab Dey

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South Asia Program
Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies
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Education

Ph.D.	Department of History, and department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago, 2012
M.A.	University of Chicago, 2007
M.Phil.	University of Delhi, India, 2004
M.A.	University of Delhi, India, 2002
B.A. Honors	St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi, India, 2000

Publications

MONOGRAPH

Tea Environments and Plantation Culture: Imperial Disarray in Eastern India (Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press, 2018) [in paperback, 2021]

The Bernard S. Cohn Book Prize 2019, Association for Asian Studies, Ann Arbor: Michigan, USA (Nominated)

Reviews: *Environmental History*, *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, *Choice Reviews* (American Library Association), *Labor History*, *Historia Agraria de América Latina*, *South Asian History and Culture*, *Agricultural History*

New Books Network Feature:

<https://newbooksnetwork.com/tea-environments-and-plantation-culture>

MONOGRAPH PROJECT (in progress)

A Century of Silence: Industrial Disability and Working-Class History in India, c. 1850-1990

ARTICLES (PEER-REVIEWED)

‘Silent Killers: Occupational Health and the Politics of Recognition in India, 1880-1950,’ (in press; forthcoming, 2025)

‘Planting “Improvement”: Tea in British India,’ *Österreichische Zeitschrift für Geschichtswissenschaften* (Austrian Journal of Historical Studies), Vol. 30, No. 3 (2019): 63-89.

‘Diseased Plantations: Law and the Political Economy of Health in Assam, 1860-1920,’ *Modern Asian Studies*, 52, no. 2 (2018): 645-82.

‘Bugs in the Garden: Tea Plantations and Environmental Constraints in Eastern India (Assam), 1840-1910,’ *Environment and History*, 21.2 (November 2015): 537-65.

INVITED BOOK CHAPTERS (PEER REVIEWED)

‘Invisibilities: Towards an Alternate Conception of the Global,’ in Christopher Balme, Burcu Dogramaci, Roland Wenzlhuemer eds., *Dis:connectivity in Processes of Globalisation: Concepts, Terms, and Practices* (Berlin: De Gruyter, forthcoming, 2025)

‘Labor History and “Culture” Critique: Reflections on an Idea,’ in Saurabh Dube, Sanjay Seth,

and Ajay Skaria, eds., *Dipesh Chakrabarty and the Global South: Subaltern Studies, Postcolonial Politics, and the Anthropocene* (London: Routledge, 2019), pp. 39-43.

‘Of Lives and Landscapes: The Environmental History of Colonial South Asia,’ in Harald Fischer-Tiné and Maria Framke eds. *Routledge Handbook of the History of Colonialism in South Asia*, pp. 269-280 (London: Routledge, 2021)

BOOK REVIEWS

Sarah Besky, *Tasting Qualities: The Past and Future of Tea* (Oakland: University of California Press, 2020), *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 52.1 (Summer 2021): 103-104

Erika Rappaport, *A Thirst for Empire: How Tea Shaped the Modern World* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2017), *Studies in History* (New Delhi and Thousand Oaks, California: Sage Publications) [forthcoming]

Sobin George and Shalini Sinha, *Redefined Labour Spaces: Organizing Workers in Post-Liberalised India* (Oxon: Routledge, 2018), *Labor: Studies in Working-Class History of the Americas* (Durham: Duke University Press) Vol. 16, No. 1, March 2019

Timothy Mitchell, *Rule of Experts: Egypt, Techno-Politics, Modernity* in *Seeing the Woods* (Munich: Rachel Carson Center, 2016)

Rana P. Behal, *One Hundred Years of Servitude: Political Economy of Tea Plantations in Colonial Assam*. H-Asia, H-Net Reviews. July 2015

Michael S. Dodson and Brian A. Hatcher, [eds.] *Trans-Colonial Modernities in South Asia* (New York: Routledge, 2012) *Pacific Affairs*, Vol. 86, No. 3

Select Honors, Grants, Fellowships

2024-5	Member, School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, spring and summer, 2025
	Faculty Fellowship, The Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities (IASH), Binghamton University, fall 2024
2023-24	Global: disconnect Fellow, Käte Hamburger Research Center, Ludwig-Maximilians University (LMU), Munich, Germany
2019-20	Faculty Fellow, Institute for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention (I-GMAP), Binghamton University
2018	Harpur College Faculty Research Grant, Binghamton University, 2018-21

Faculty Fellowship, The Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities (IASH), Binghamton University, fall 2018

Book Subvention Award, Harpur College of Arts and Sciences, Binghamton University

Cornell Society for the Humanities Fellowship (alternate)

2016 Carson Fellowship, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig- Maximilians University (LMU), Munich, Germany

2015 J-P Milieur Award, Harpur College, SUNY Binghamton

Dean's Semester Award, Harpur College, State University of New York (SUNY) at Binghamton

Select Lectures and Presentations

2025 Member Seminar, School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, March 31

2024 Faculty Seminar, The Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities (IASH), Binghamton University, November 13

2023 Fellow's Lecture, Global dis:connect Käte Hamburger Research Center, Ludwig Maximilians University, Munich, July 18

2022 Invited Discussant, 2022 Annual History of Science Society Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, November 17-20

Invited Panelist, 'Natural Commodities and their Substitutes,' Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University, June 8-9

Invited Speaker, 'Plantation Knowledge,' Global South Studies Center, University of Cologne, June 16-17 (declined)

2021 Invited Lecture, 'Climate Change and Colonialism,' Tufts South Asia Regional Council (SARC) Annual Conference, February 20 [online via Zoom]

2020 Invited Panelist, 'The Idea of "Indian": The Long History of Identity, Minority Rights, and Citizenship in Contemporary India,' Cornell University, March 5

2019 Invited Lecture, 'Development Regimes in Colonial India: A Commodity Critique,' Ashoka University, Sonipat, India, January 22, 2019; Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati, India, December 22

- Invited Talk, 'Commodities, Ecology, and the Question of Labor: Two Histories from India,' History Society, St. Stephen's College, Delhi, India, January 26
- 2018 Invited Speaker, 'Tea High and Low: Elixir, Exploitation, Ecology' Conference, Cornell University, October 26-27
- Invited Panelist, 'Improvement, and the Colonial Epistemology of Development,' Association for Asian Studies (AAS) Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., March 22-25
- 2017 Organizer and Invited Panelist, European Organization of Rural History Annual Conference, Leuven, Belgium, September 11-16
- Invited Lecture, Environment and Societies Workshop, University of California at Davis, February 22-23
- Invited Lecture, Program in Agrarian Studies, Yale University, New Haven, January 27
- 2016 Fellow's Lecture, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig-Maximilians University (LMU), Munich, Germany, June 30
- Invited Speaker, Center for Studies in Social Sciences (CSSSC), Calcutta, India, January 19
- Invited Speaker, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune, India, January 10
- Invited Panelist, 'Rethinking Political Economy and Nationalism in South Asia,' American Historical Association (AHA) Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, January 8
- 2015 Invited Panelist and Presenter, American Society for Environmental History (ASEH) Annual Conference, March 18-23, Washington, D.C.

Academic Employment

- 2019- Associate Professor, department of History, State University of New York (SUNY) at Binghamton
- 2013- Visiting Scholar, South Asia Program, Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, Cornell University

2012-18	Tenure-Track Assistant Professor, department of History, State University of New York (SUNY) at Binghamton
2011	Lecturer, Division of the Humanities, University of Chicago
2010	Graduate Advisor and Resident Tutor, South Asian Civilizations Study Abroad Program, University of Chicago
2006-11	Language Assistant in Hindi and Bengali (all levels), department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago
2002-5	Lecturer, department of English, St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi

Professional Service

Tenure Review Member	Department of History, Binghamton University, 2021-22
Selection Committee	Fulbright Grants, South Asia Program, Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, Cornell University, 2022
Director of Undergraduate Studies	Department of History, Binghamton University, 2020-21
Editorial Referee	<i>Journal of Asian Studies</i> (Cambridge University Press) <i>History of Science</i> (Sage Publications: London) <i>American Historical Review</i> (Oxford University Press) <i>Comparative Studies in Society and History</i> (Cambridge University Press) <i>The Journal of Interdisciplinary History</i> (Boston: MIT Press) <i>Labor: Studies in Working-Class History of the Americas</i> (Durham: Duke University Press) <i>Environmental History</i> (Oxford University Press) <i>Agricultural History</i> (Agriculture History Society: Mississippi State University, USA) <i>Indian Economic and Social History Review</i> (Sage: London and NY) <i>Social Studies of Science</i> (Sage Publications: London and New York)

Review Board Member	Research Grant Awards, Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, Cornell University, 2016; 2013
Committee Member	(Graduate Studies; Undergraduate Studies; Library development), department of History, Binghamton University, 2017; 2016; 2015; 2013
Selection Panel Member	Fulbright U.S. Student Program, Binghamton University, 2024; 2015; 2013
Organizing Committee	International Conference, Institute for Asia and Asian Diasporas, Binghamton University, November 10-11, 2017

Professional Memberships

2025	The Association of Members, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton
2016	Society of Fellows, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig-Maximilians University (LMU), Munich, Germany
2012- 2011-	American Society for Environmental History (ASEH) American Historical Association (AHA)

Academic Mentorship

Nehru-Fulbright External Ph.D. Visitor	Biswajit Sarmah, India, 2019-20
Ph.D. External Reader	Radhika Moral, Anthropology, Brown University, 2021-
Ph.D. Committee Member	Akshita Hazarika (ABD, fall 2025) [Primary Mentor] Soumyadeep Guha (ABD, spring 2025) [Primary Mentor] Jobial Alex (ABD, fall 2024) [Primary Mentor] Guanran Cui (PhD, III year) Rebecca Burrows (ABD, fall 2024) Kalman Rotstein (ABD, fall 2024) James Podgorski (ABD, spring 2024) Aiduosi Amantai (ABD, spring 2022) Mariia V. Koskina (defended, spring 2023) Chulki Kim (defended, spring 2021) Zhixin Luo (ABD, fall 2017) Lorena C. Duque (defended, spring 2022) Erin P Riggs (defended, spring 2020)

M.A.	Omer F. Topal (completed, spring 2018) [Committee Member] Michael D. Rowe (completed, spring 2015) [Primary Advisor]
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BA Honors Thesis Advisor	Maja B. Clasen (spring 2022) Katherine Waldmann (fall 2018) Constantine Markotsis (completed, fall 2017) Kelly N. Garson (completed, spring 2015) Tasfia Rahman (completed, spring 2014) Quintin Maidment (completed, fall 2013) William Jones (completed, spring 2013)
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Curriculum Development

GRADUATE SEMINARS

2023	New Imperial History Colloquium
2022	Gandhi, M.L.K, Fanon
2020	History and the Anthropocene
2025; 2019	The Small Voice of History
2017	Empire, Bodies, Power
2022; 2016; 2014	Historiography

SENIOR UNDERGRADUATE CAPSTONE SEMINARS

Fall 2024; 2015	Environment and Empire
Spring 2014	Democracy and Discontent in India: History and Theory
Fall 2013	Partition Histories: India and Pakistan since Independence
Spring 2017; 2013	Gandhi and Violence
Fall 2012	The Indian Ocean, Bodies, Empire

UNDERGRADUATE

Spring 2013	The 'Nation Question' in South Asian History
Fall 2012-	Modern India, 1757-present

Languages

Native	Bengali
Fluent	English, Hindi, Assamese

References

Available on request