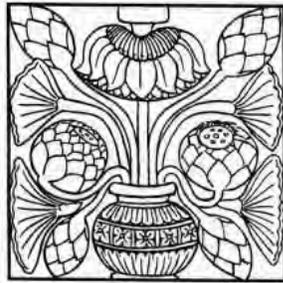


The British Association for South Asian Studies

The British Academy



London

2009

ANNUAL REPORT

**THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION
FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

THE BRITISH ACADEMY
10 CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE
LONDON SW1Y 5AH

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST MARCH 2009

The Annual General Meeting of the Society
will be held at the Royal Asiatic Society, 14 Stephenson Way, London NW1 2HD

on Thursday 12 November 2009

at 5:00 p.m.

to consider the Report and Accounts,
elect officers and members of Council,
re-appoint the Auditors and
transact any other business
proper to the AGM

at 5.30 p.m.

to hear a lecture titled:

The Study of South Asia's International Relations: Towards an Agenda?

by

Prof. Kanti Bajpai, The University of Oxford

**THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION
FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

THE COUNCIL 2008/2009

CHAIR

PROF. KUNAL SEN

TREASURER

MR. DICCON PULLEN (UNTIL NOVEMBER 2008)
DR. EMMA TOMALIN

SECRETARY

DR. LAWRENCE SAEZ

JOURNAL EDITOR

DR. ADAM HARDY

MEMBERS

DR. CLARE ANDERSON
DR. TINA BASI
DR. WILLIAM GOULD (UNTIL NOVEMBER 2008)
PROFESSOR ROBIN DENNELL
PROFESSOR BARBARA HARRISS-WHITE
PROFESSOR PARTICIA JEFFERY
DR. APURBA KUNDU
DR. EMMA MAWDSLEY
DR. CAROLINE OSELLA
PROF. PETER ROBB (UNTIL NOVEMBER 2008)
DR. CAROLE SPARY
MR. ARIF ZAMAN

**COUNCIL'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH
ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 31ST MARCH 2009**

Significant information

The British Association for South Asian Studies (BASAS) supports advanced research in the humanities and social sciences of South Asia. One of the overseas organisations grant-aided by The British Academy, it is a charity registered with the Charity Commissioners under Registration Number 264591.

BASAS is one of the world's leading learned societies for the study of South Asia. It is the largest UK academic association for the study of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, and the South Asian diaspora. The Society was first established in 1972 as The Society for Afghan Studies. The Society expanded its remit from 1979, becoming The Society for South Asian Studies. On 1 October 2007 the Society merged with The British Association for South Studies. The new organisation combines the grant-giving and overseas research project roles of The Society for South Asian Studies with the representative and advocacy roles of The British Association for South Asian Studies. The aim of the new merged Society is to advance, encourage, support and undertake the study and research of the history, antiquities, archaeology, ethnography, languages, literature, art, culture, customs and geography of the countries of South Asia.

The Society sponsors research projects in South Asia, as well as programmes of exchange and training. It produces *South Asian Studies*, an annual journal, in which it publishes some of the research it has funded. The Society also organises an Annual Conference, workshops and lectures, held at different locations each year in the UK, and publishes a series of monographs and occasional papers.

The address of the Society is c/o The British Academy, 10 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH.

Enquiries about the Society's activities should be directed to the Assistant Secretary, The British Association for South Asian Studies, 14 Stephenson Way, Second Floor, London NW1 2HD. Email: basas@basas.org.uk.

Organisation and Structure

The Society is governed by a Council and is administered by certain members of Council appointed as Executive Officers and Council members, assisted at present by a paid part-time Assistant Secretary.

Executive Officers

The Executive Officers who served during the year ended 31st March 2009 were:

| | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Prof. Kunal Sen | Chairman |
| Mr. Diccon Pullen | Treasurer |
| Dr. Emma Tomalin | Treasurer |
| Dr. Lawrence Saez | Secretary |
| Dr. Adam Hardy | Journal Editor |

All Executive Officers serve as members of Council and are members of the committees which advise Council on the awards it makes and monitor the Society's projects.

Members of Council

The following served on Council during the year ended 31st March 2009:

Dr. Clare Anderson (from November 2008)
Dr. Tina Basi (from January 2007)
Professor Robin Dennell (from November 2008)
Professor Barbara Harriss-White (from November 2008)
Professor Patricia Jeffery (from November 2008)
Dr. William Gould (from January 2007)
Dr. Apurba Kundu (from January 2007)
Dr. Emma Mawdsley (from January 2004)
Dr. Caroline Osella (from January 2007)
Prof. Peter Robb (from January 2005)
Dr. Carole Spary (from January 2007)
Mr. Arif Zaman (from November 2008)

Members of the Council constitute the Trustees of the Society for the purposes of the Charities Act.

The Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and respective Editors are elected each year at the Annual General Meeting under Rule 16 of the 2007 Rules.

Members of the Council are elected in terms of Rule 15, with vacancies being filled by vote upon nominations (placed in November) each year before the members of the Society at the Annual General Meeting.

Reserves Policy

Council reviews regularly the Society's activities and future commitments. It has been established that, if the annual grant to the Society were to be terminated, a reserve of £20,000 would be needed to wind up the Society's affairs and to meet any outstanding commitments. Council has therefore determined that the minimum level of the Society's reserves should be £20,000 and that no commitments should be entered into which would bring the reserves below this level.

Risk management

The major risk that the Society faces is the withdrawal of all or part of its grant from The British Academy. Systems and procedures have been established to minimise this possibility through maintaining and improving the quality of its work, accurate reporting and tight financial control. Council is responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and taking all reasonable steps for the detection and prevention of fraud and other irregularities. Financial procedures are reviewed regularly and the Society's accounts are audited annually.

The Society faces another risk in common with many smaller charities where the week to week financial activities of the Society are dealt with by the Treasurer and the Assistant Secretary alone. With no staff, it is not possible to expect the level of internal financial controls, particularly the division of duties, to match those that would be expected within a larger organization. However in recognition of this risk, the Council has determined that all payments from the Society's bank account of over £1,000.00 should bear the signatures of two Council Members. The Council continues to rely on the independent bookkeeper and the external auditor for an objective overview of the financial activities on an annual basis.

Advisers

| | |
|----------|---|
| Auditors | Thornton Springer LLP Chartered Accountants Registered Auditors 67 Westow Street Upper Norwood, London SE19 3RW |
| Bankers | CAF Bank Limited Kings Hill Avenue West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ |

The Society would like to express its gratitude to The British Academy and its staff for the continued support and assistance they have provided for all the activities of the Society throughout the year. The Society wishes to record its appreciation of the help and assistance it has been given by the officers of the British Council and the Directors of Archaeology in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

REPORT BY THE SECRETARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2009

This past year brought much needed change and improvement to the operations of The British Association for South Asian Studies (BASAS). The principal source of these organisational changes have been the Council's eagerness to modernise the way that the Society transacts its business. For instance, BASAS members and interested parties may now pay for their membership dues, to pay for the registration for the BASAS conference, and to purchase books using Paypal. The introduction of Paypal has proven extremely popular with our members and one must note that this online payment system began to be used extensively even before the project was fully advertised. Moreover, for the first time in its history, BASAS members were able to register for the annual conference electronically. As we proceed to the new year, we plan other operational improvements to have further types of paperless transactions.

One of our principal achievements was the success of our negotiations with Taylor & Francis to have our Journal, *South Asian Studies*, be published by this leading commercial publisher. Under the terms of this agreement, Volume 25 of *South Asian Studies* will be the last issue to be produced in-house. Dr. Adam Hardy will continue at the helm of the Journal, assisted by an expanded editorial team and with a newly established international editorial board of renowned South Asia scholars. Moreover, continuing our long-standing association with *Contemporary South Asia*, we shall now have a second journal. In the past, *Contemporary South Asia* annually published a special issue from the best papers presented at the BASAS Annual Conference. Starting next year, though, *Contemporary South Asia* will formally become a BASAS journal, also published by Taylor & Francis.

The Society's direction and programme of activities are carefully laid out in the Corporate Plan 2008-2011. A copy of this document is mounted on the Society's website for ready reference. In essence, the Corporate Plan 2008-2011 introduces the Society's vision for the ways in which we anticipate that we can benefit research in virtually all aspects of South Asian culture. The Society is in the process of implementing the range of academic initiatives and projects being proposed. In close consultation with British Academy initiatives, the Society has continued to offer support for four types of grants. In the past, these have included flagship project grants designed to complete existing projects or launch new projects in partnership with other funding bodies; seed project development grants designed to assist in the formulation and development of research initiatives that have good chance of maturing into large-scale, multi-sponsored research projects; South Asia conference grants to support workshops, seminars and conferences in South Asia organised by UK-based scholars in collaboration with their research partners in South Asia; and language training grants for post-graduate language acquisition in South Asia. Full details about the scope of these grants are mounted on the Society's website. BASAS members, though, should be aware that in light of the global financial crisis and its expected effect on future government funding for educational activities, we are undertaking an evaluation of these funding mechanisms.

As in previous years, the Society is keenly aware about the importance of the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. In its advancement of research, education, arts, and culture of South Asia, the Society has undertaken significant activities relating to knowledge transfer about South Asia. As will be noted in other

parts of this report in greater detail, the Society hosted its Annual Conference in the city of Edinburgh. The BASAS annual conference in Edinburgh proved to be a spectacular success, attracting the largest number of conference delegates in recent memory. The conference included a photographic exhibit about the Punjab. More significantly, we were delighted to note that the BASAS conference attracted a record number of postgraduate students. Thanks to the generous support from the British Academy's South Asia panel, we hosted two British Academy-funded peri-doctoral workshops in conjunction with the BASAS conference. We should also note that the Britain-Nepal Academic Council hosted its annual meeting to coincide with our Annual Conference. In sum, the response to these initiatives by our Society's members has been very positive.

On behalf of the Society, I would like to thank those individuals who have personally been involved in making the British Association for South Asian Studies such a great success.

Dr. Lawrence Saez
BASAS Secretary

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTORS OF FLAGSHIP PROJECTS

Listed below, by geographical region, are the flagship projects currently supported by The British Association for South Asian Studies. In a departure from previous conventions, because the Society is moving towards a more unified project structure, this Annual Report no longer distinguishes between BASAS Projects and BASAS Aided Projects. An expanded version of the project descriptions is included in the Corporate Plan 2008–11. The full version is available on the BASAS website at: <http://www.basas.org.uk>

Subalterns, Rebellion and Migration within and beyond India 1810-1865 **Project director: Dr. Crispin Bates, University of Edinburgh**

Timed to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the Indian Uprising of 1857 - an event better known in Britain as the Indian Mutiny - the *Subalterns, Rebellion and Migration* project aims to highlight the critical role played by socially marginal groups in the events of 1857 and to solve a mystery which has never before been properly addressed by historians; what happened to the runaway sepoys and the thousands of villagers whose homes and livelihoods were destroyed by plundering rebels or by the vengeful British, who razed scores of north Indian villages to the ground in the aftermath of the mutiny? The project builds upon earlier research undertaken under the auspices of the AHRC-funded *Mutiny at the Margins* project, based in Edinburgh, in 2006-08.

The total sum awarded for this project was £9,000, which was intended to cover the costs of travel to and within India by the principal investigator, Dr. Crispin Bates, for the purpose of working in colonial archives in UP and Bihar. Included were also items for research assistance, translation, and the costs of inputting into a searchable database some 10,000 emigration passes collected in overseas archives by co-investigator, Dr. Marina Carter, and to input further data sets recently acquired on sepoys posted overseas. Dr. Bates has completed two visits to India in connection with the project and intends to make a third in spring 2010. Meanwhile, inputting of data has been proceeding and we expect to have a workable database of the emigration passes by early October 2009, from which analysis may begin. Related seminar presentations on the Uprising of 1857 were made in India in April (at the National Institute for Advanced Studies, Bangalore) and in August (at Jawaharlal Nehru University) by Dr. Bates and plans are under consideration for a future workshop on Labour Migration, the date of which has yet to be determined. The main product of the research will be a monograph, which Drs. Bates and Carter anticipate completing by the end of 2010.

Changing global geographies of power and development: contemporary Indian-East Africa relations **Project director: Dr. Emma Mawdsley, University of Cambridge**

This project is now drawing to its closing stages, with the main focus being publication and the development of future research plans. In brief, the project aimed to maximize the research value of its modest budget by supporting a number of

projects on all aspects of contemporary India-East African relations. We are very grateful to the initial support from the British Academy, and additional support received from BASAS, the BIEA, the Isaac Newton Trust (Cambridge University), The Smuts Memorial Fund, and Newnham College, Cambridge.

Outputs (completed, in progress and planned) include the following:

Perhaps the most important event supported by the project was a conference held in Nairobi in April 2009 (“Contemporary India-East Africa relations: shifting terrains of engagement”). It was the inaugural event held in the new building of the BIEA, and attracted over 25 speakers and over 60 participants. The conference was opened by Mr Rob Macaire, the British High Commissioner to Kenya, and Dr Ketan Shukla, the Indian Deputy High Commissioner to Kenya. Panels covered issues from contemporary Indian Ocean geopolitics, to civil society interactions, diaspora politics, trade, investment and aid. A smaller workshop was also hosted at the British Academy in November 2008 to showcase a number of strands of the initial research project.

Drawing on the conference presentations, as well as a number of the smaller projects we have supported, the following publications are planned (although we should stress that most are subject to peer review at this stage).

- A paper accepted for publication in *Geography Compass* in 2009:
 - Emma Mawdsley & Gerard McCann ‘The elephant in the corner? Reviewing India-Africa relations in the new millenium’

- A paper submitted to the *Journal of Eastern African Studies*:
 - Emma Mawdsley (in review) ‘India’s changing development cooperation agenda in Africa: the case of Kenya’

- A special issue of the *Review of African Political Economy*, including the following papers:
 - Emma Mawdsley & Gerard McCann (Cambridge University): Editorial Introduction
 - Amrita Narlikar (Cambridge University): ‘India’s rise to power: where does East Africa fit in?’
 - Alex Vines (Chatham House): ‘The African Indian Ocean and India’s economic and security interests’
 - Stephen Gelb (The Edge Institute, Johannesburg): ‘South-South links and development: Indian foreign direct investment in East Africa’
 - Gerard McCann (Cambridge University): ‘Ties that bind or binds that tie? India’s contemporary African engagements and the political economy of Kenya’
 - Paul Kamau & Dorothy McCormick (Nairobi University): ‘Impact of India-Kenya trade relations on the Kenyan garment industry’

- A special issue of the *Journal of African and Asian Studies*, including the following papers:
 - Gerard McCann (Cambridge University): Editorial Introduction

- Jen Dickinson (Leicester University): 'Decolonising the diaspora: the reconstruction of Indian modernities in East Africa'
 - Dibyesh Anand and Nitasha Kaul (Westminster University): 'A disruptive ethnography of Mhindi: Consistencies and Contradictions in the Indian Diaspora in Tanzania'
 - Margret Frenz (Leicester University): 'Contemporary Goans: migration, identity and postcolonial change in East Africa'
 - Prem Poddar (Southampton University): 'Travelling in the Northwestern Indian Ocean: narratives and passports'
 - Joan Haig (Edinburgh University): 'The "centre of attention"? The Indian High Commission and Hindu community life in Lusaka, Zambia'
 - Rachel Dwyer (SOAS): 'Bollywood in East Africa'
- An edited collection 'India and Africa: changing geographies of power and development' (including some 15 chapters) to be published by Fahamu and distributed widely in Europe, North America, Africa and India to target policy, NGO, activist, media and popular audiences, as well as academia.

Dr Mawdsley and Dr McCann, amongst others, have also been invited to give seminars on work related to the project. These include:

- Gerard McCann, Africa-Asia Centre, SOAS, London, December 2008: 'Old friends, new game? History and emerging trends in India's engagement with sub-Saharan Africa'
- Emma Mawdsley, African Studies Centre, Oxford University, June 2009: "'Emerging donor" or below the radar? What India's development cooperation with Kenya reveals about the changing development landscape'
- Emma Mawdsley, CEDAR, Royal Holloway, November 2009: 'Conflict, cooperation, competition or cooption? The challenge of the non-DAC donors'
- Gerard McCann, African Studies Association, New Orleans, November 2009: 'The elephant in the corner? India's contemporary engagement with Sub-Saharan Africa'
- Gerard McCann, University of Wroclaw, Poland, December 2009: 'Debunking Chinese exceptionalism in the "new scramble for Africa": geopolitical ideological biases and comparisons with India'

One of the best outcomes of the project has been the contribution it made to Dr McCann's academic record, and the part it played in his appointment to Oxford University as Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Transnational History in association with the History Faculty and St Cross College. Dr McCann also secured a Research Fellowship in the Politics Group at Nuffield College, Oxford, as a direct result of research undertaken on this project.

Finally, the project has been formative for us and others involved in helping develop new lines of research. Dr Mawdsley is now writing a book on the non-DAC donors more broadly, stimulated in part by the work on India's development assistance relations with Kenya. She is in negotiation with Zed regarding publication. Dr

McCann is continuing his research on contemporary India-Africa relations and its historiography, especially noting the ways in which the engagement of non-western powers is affecting governance in Africa and stressing the fashions in which Africans themselves are shaping encounters with the so-called 'Asian Drivers'. He is in discussion about co-founding an 'Africa-Asia Centre' at Oxford. He will also be transforming his doctoral thesis on South Asians in East Africa and Malaya into a monograph.

The project aimed to include scholars and indeed activists from India, Africa, the UK and elsewhere, and it also aimed to do a lot with a modest budget. The second tranche of funding from the BA, and the appointment of Dr McCann as a Research Fellow on the project was absolutely key to the successes it has achieved.

A Multi-disciplinary Approach to the New Security Agenda in Northeast South Asia

Project Director: Professor Graham Chapman (retd.), University of Lancaster

Background reading and 'prospecting' has been started: a chapter on water in the Northeast of South Asia and the New Security Agenda has been completed, in April 2009, and forms a solid basis from which the current project can progress. In November 2009, the project director will be in Delhi and Allahabad (for an invited lecture) and will use the opportunity to strengthen in person the connections to promote the workshop and debate. This project officially starts in September 2009, will hold its principal workshop in February 2010, and will terminate at the end of the current financial year.

Udayagiri and the Establishment of the Gods

Project Director: Dr. Michael Willis, British Museum, London

Field research for this project was supported in earlier years by the British Museum (travel grants) and the British Academy (small research grant). In 2008-09, BASAS funded a six-month sabbatical which allowed the director to complete the project monograph. This has been published by Cambridge University Press as *The Archaeology of Hindu Ritual: Temples as the Establishment of the Gods*. ISBN-13: 9780521518741. Portions of the text are available online via the CUP website. The publication of this monograph marks the successful completion of the project.

Tibetan Buddhist Literature: the Electronic Kangyur

Directors: Dr. Burkhard Quessel, The British Library, London; Prof. David Germano, University of Virginia, USA

The electronic *Kangyur* project is nearing completion. In spite of delays during previous years, work in the text input Centre in Chengdu (China) got back on track and as of August 2008 input was almost complete. The following sections were added: *Phal chen*, (Skt. *avatamsaka*), *dKon brtsegs (ratnakuta)*, *mDo sde* (the complete *sūtra* section), and *gZungs 'dus (dhāranī)*. With these sections finished, only seven more volumes need to be entered, including the *dKar chag* which gives a detailed

discussion of the contents of the canon and of the history of its printing in the Kingdom of Derge in Eastern Tibet.

At present, all volumes are Microsoft Word documents in Tibetan *dbu can* script (encoded in Unicode and marked up with customised styles) and are stored on an online worksite at the University of Virginia. Everything has also been romanised using the Wylie transliteration system and made available to a selected number of *Kangyur* specialists for assessment.

For the finishing phase of the project work will shift to the University of Virginia where Prof. Germano's team will clean up the files, check milestone mark-up (page/line), metadata and special Unicode glyphs, do spot-checks and record the quality assessment of each volume. The files will then be converted to their final XML format. The result will be an electronic version of the *Derge Kangyur*, based on single input and in original script. Each page will be linked to a scan of the original print and an online public catalogue of the *Derge Kangyur* at the University of Virginia. The online catalogue will make the material available to the scholarly world.

Report from the Manager of the Indology and SARIT projects Dr Dominik Wujastyk

INDOLOGY: <http://indology.info>

This is a website devoted to supporting Classical Indian Studies (aka Indology). The website was launched at UCL in 1995, as an adjunct to the already-existing discussion forum of the same name that went online in 1990. The INDOLOGY discussion forum has a strong international presence and is the main forum for university-level news and discussion about all aspects of pre-modern South Asian language and culture. The website supports the discussion forum, as well as offering a mix of originally-sourced contributions and links to selected resources elsewhere on the web. It is part of our mission that no major development in the academic study of pre-modern India will escape notice in the discussion forum or the website.

With the help of BASAS funding, the website migrated some years ago to its own net domain (indology.info). We have also hired the services of a talented programmer and indologist, Richard Mahoney, to provide web programming and content support. The site is now professionally maintained by a talented programmer, with regular checks on data integrity and dead link eradication. INDOLOGY.info continues to grow in several directions. We receive a small but constant number of requests from professional colleagues to host links to their projects and resources.

INDOLOGY.info currently receives between two and three thousand visits per month. A high percentage of the INDOLOGY website users now come from the Indian subcontinent. This is very healthy for a resource focussing on the university-level study of ancient and medieval India. INDOLOGY.info also acts as a host for other India-related projects that are judged to be of special significance and relevance. One of the most important of these is John Smith's "Bombay" website, at <http://bombay.indology.info>. Smith's Bombay website offers technical support for scholars working on South Asian topics, such as Unicode fonts

and text conversion utilities. More importantly, it offers the full electronic texts of the two largest and best-known Epics of ancient India, the *Ramayana *and the *Mahabharata*, e-texts that have become essential to many branches of the study of South Asian cultural history.

SARIT: Search And Retrieval of Indic Texts: <http://sarit.indology.info>

The SARIT Project is the realization of a long-held ambition in the Indological community create a language corpus for South Asian languages and literatures that parallels the Thesaurus Linguae Graecae (TLG) and other e-text projects for classical language corpora. Inspired by the TLG, the SARIT project has recently gained funding from BASAS to develop from a proof-of-concept pilot project into a fully-fledged digital library. The SARIT project currently works by taking Sanskrit texts that have been input and made public by other scholars, and re-working these texts along strict editorial guidelines so that they effectively become electronic editions of the works. Of particular importance is that these e-texts are formatted in XML according to the rules of the TEI. These electronic editions are then mounted on the SARIT website under the management of a full-text search, retrieval and analysis tool called Philologic, available at <http://philologic.uchicago.edu/>.

REPORT FROM THE EDITOR OF THE SOCIETY'S JOURNAL

South Asian Studies celebrates its first quarter-century this year, with Volume 25 to appear shortly. Exciting developments are taking place, with an expansion of the editorial team, and the appointment of an international Advisory Board. Volume 26 onwards will be published by Routledge (Taylor & Francis). It will appear twice a year and will include colour illustrations. All of these developments are likely to enhance the quality of the journal and strengthen its reputation internationally.

I am happy to report that so far the following, representing range of fields within the scope of the journal, have agreed to serve on the Advisory Board: Hans Bakker (University of Groningen), Bruno Dagens (Professor Emeritus, Université *Paris III/Sorbonne* nouvelle), Vidya Dehejia (Columbia University), Tapati Guha-Thakurta (CSSSC, Kolkata), Jyotindra Jain (Member Secretary IGNCA, Delhi), Deborah Klimburg-Salter (University of Vienna), Partha Mitter (Professor Emeritus, University of Sussex), and Kamil Khan Mumtaz (Architect, Lahore).

The following will be taking up the role of Associate Editor: Rebecca Brown (John Hopkins University), Fiona Buckee (Cardiff University), Raminder Kaur Kahlon (Sussex University), Jason Hawkes (Cambridge University), Elizabeth Lambourn (De Montfort University), and Deborah Sutton (Manchester University). Crispin Branfoot will remain as Reviews Editor, and, if duly elected, I shall continue as Editor.

Volume 24 of the journal (2008) contained the following papers: Jason Hawkes on Bharhut, Luca M Olivieri on rock art in the Swat Valley, Laxman S Thakur on Bonpos of the Western Himalaya, Cameron A Petrie and R N Singh on the Land Water and Settlement Project, Helen Wilkins on thermal performance at Mohenjo Dharo, Jonathan Geen on the rescue of Draupadi in the Jain literary tradition, Ryosuke Furui on a newly discovered copper plate inscription of Gopala II, Barbara Mears on Vijayanagara coins, Sheila R Canby on the British Museum's jade terrapin, Barbara Brend on the painting of Salim (Jehangir) enthroned in the St Petersburg Mughal Album, Joachim K Bautze on nineteenth-century painted views of Delhi and Agra, Friederike Weis on Christian iconography transformed in Mughal manuscripts, a survey of Hindu temples in Peshawar by Ibrahim Shah, and Giles Tillotson on the architect CG Blomfield.

Dr. Adam Hardy
South Asian Studies Editor

LECTURES, ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND BASAS WORKSHOP

The Society actively supports the spread of knowledge about South Asia. To that effect we have sponsored the following lecture:

Prof. Kunal Sen

'What a Long, Strange Trip It's Been: Reflections on India's Economic Growth in the Twentieth Century'

Debra Diamond

The 11th Annual Toby Falk Memorial Lecture
Garden and Cosmos: The Royal Paintings of Jodhpur

The British Association for South Asian Studies also supports the work of the Indian Art Circle, and members of BASAS are entitled to attend lectures given under their auspices. The following lectures were supported by the Society:

Roda Ahluwalia

Treasures in the British Museum: the Rajput Painting collection

Richard Blurton

What is between Tibet and Assam? The current Arunachal exhibition at the British Museum

Sona Datta

The Elusive Pandyas: material culture under a medieval Tamil dynasty

Alka Hingorani

In The Face Of God: mohras and mohra-makers in the Kullu valley

Robin Jones

Interiors, objects and identity in colonial South Asia

Charlotte Martin de Fonjaudran & Sibylla Tringham

The 18th century Rajput-Mughal wall paintings at Nagaur fort, Rajasthan: Research and Conservation.

John Clarke

The image of the Buddha and the V&A's new Buddhist sculpture gallery

Vidya Dehejia

The Body Adorned: Dissolving Boundaries between Sacred and Profane in India's Art

The Society held its 23rd Annual Conference at the University of Edinburgh on 30 March-1 April 2009. The convenor of the Annual Conference was Dr. Crispin Bates (University of Edinburgh). The conference attracted over 100 scholars from around the world. At the conference there were 26 panels. In addition to the academic

element of the conference, the Society sponsored a photographic exhibition at the University of Edinburgh.

The Society gave a prize to the best paper and presentation given by a post-graduate student at the Annual Conference. The winner of this year's BASAS Annual Prize is Rebecca Walker (University of Edinburgh). The title of her prize-winning paper was *"Every-other-day violence": Questioning the integrity of the ordinary and everyday life on the East coast of Sri Lanka*.

Finally, the Society has undertaken the initiative to promote high quality research on South Asia by also sponsoring an annual international workshop. This year's workshop has been convened by Dr. Manali Desai (London School of Economics, LSE) and Dr. Lawrence Saez (School of Oriental and African Studies, SOAS) on the theme of 'The Politics of Neo-liberalisms in India: Transformations in State and Citizenship.'

Dr. Lawrence Saez
Secretary

REPORT FROM THE CONVENOR OF A BASAS CONFERENCE GRANT
Conference Convenor: Professor (Emeritus) V.N. Balasubramanyam, University of Lancaster

A BASAS-sponsored conference was held in Trivandrum, Kerala, India on March 23- 25 2009. A total number of 20 papers were presented on issues relating to the theme of the conference 'Indian Economy Since liberalisation; the Haves and the Have-Nots'. Most of the papers, especially those relating to regional dimensions of India's growth and development and trade related issues reviewed the performance of the economy since liberalisation centring on growth and its impact on poverty. Most papers noted that the growth rate of the economy since liberalisation was impressive, judged both by the economy's past performance and relative to that of other developing countries. There was also a substantial reduction in the absolute level of poverty. Even so, regional disparities or growth and development across the various states of India had widened and the absolute level of poverty in the country as a whole continued to be high.

A feature of the conference, much appreciated by the participants, was the presentation and discussion of papers on themes that do not usually figure on the agendas of conference on India. These themes included papers on nutrition, child labour, pre-school education of children in rural India, impact of liberalisation on socially excluded classes in Kerala, access to drinking water and poverty, and micro finance and development. The conference also included presentations on their dissertations in progress by eight doctoral students at the Centre for Development Studies in Trivandrum. Academics from both Indian and British Universities at the conference commented on the work of the students and provided helpful suggestions. Each of the students was assigned to a specific academic at the beginning of the conference and we hope that the students will continue to consult the academics via electronic mail.

The conference aroused considerable interest in issues relating to various dimensions of poverty, education and the role of NGOs and self help groups in the development process. It also provided an opportunity for young academics from Indian Universities to discuss their research with their peers. Plans for the publication of the papers and proceedings of the conference are in progress. Balasubramanyam (University of Lancaster) and Pushpangadan (Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum) will write an introduction to the volume and edit the papers. Selected papers may also be published in one of the specialist journals on development. Building on the success of this second annual conference of the British Northern Universities India Forum, a conference on 'Services in India: Whom do they Serve?' is planned for the latter half of 2009.

RECENT AWARDS MADE BY THE SOCIETY

The following awards were made by Council in the financial year covered by the report:

Language Training grants:

- Ms. Sajida Zareen Ally - £1400 to study Sinhala
- Mr. Ethan Kay - £1979 to study Hindi.
- Ms. Emma Martin - £2,664 to study Tibetan
- Mr. Robert Upton - £1,659 to study Hindi

Flagship Projects:

- Mr. Burkhard Quessel: 14,150. Title Project: Electronic Kanjur
- Dr. Michael Willis: £10,000. Title project: Udayagiri and the establishment of the gods.

Project Seed Funding grants:

- Dr. Dibyesh Anand - £2,210. Title project: From Contact Zone to Conflict Zone: Geopolitics and Boundary Making in Sino-Indian relations.
- Dr. Emelie Medeiros - £1,640. Title project: Ethnography of 'child soldiers' in Nepal: Integrating mental to post-conflict rehabilitation.
- Dr. Derek Kennett and Dr. Michael Willis - £ 6,500.00. Project Title: Global Geographies: the Indian Ocean in Historical Perspective.

Project completion grant

- Professor Janice Stargardt - £3,955.00. Title Project: Relics and Relic Worship in the Early Buddhism of India and Burma

South Asia Conference grant:

- Professor V. N. Balasubramanyam - £1,800. Conference title: India's Two Faces: the Haves and the Have-Nots.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

for the year ended

31 March 2009

Registered Charity No 264591

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES **for the year ended 31 March 2009**

We have audited the financial statements on pages 2 to 6 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page 4.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Auditor

The Trustees' responsibilities for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) are set out in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities.

We have been appointed auditor under section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 44 of that Act. Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Council of Trustees' Report is not consistent with the financial statements, if the charity has not kept proper accounting records, or if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

We read other information contained in the Annual Report and consider whether it is consistent with the audited financial statements. We consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements. Our responsibilities do not extend to any other information.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board (APB). An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the Trustees in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charity's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

We have undertaken the audit in accordance with the requirements of APB Ethical Standards including APB Ethical Standard - Provisions Available for Small entities in the circumstances set out in Note 9 to the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Trust's affairs as at 31 March 2009 and of the incoming resources and application of resources in the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993.

Thornton Springer LLP
Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors
67 Westow Street
London
SE19 3RW

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

for the year ended 31 March 2009

| | <u>Notes</u> | <u>Unrestricted Funds</u> | <u>Restricted Funds</u> | <u>Designated Funds</u> | <u>2009 Total Funds</u> | <u>2008 Total Funds</u> |
|---|--------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| INCOMING RESOURCES | | | | | | |
| Incoming resources from generated funds: | | | | | | |
| British Academy Grant | | 59,000 | 31,000 | | 90,000 | 75,000 |
| Investment income - bank interest | | 2,703 | | | 2,703 | 3,593 |
| Incoming resources from charitable activities: | | | | | | |
| Subscriptions and publication sales | | 10,349 | | | 10,349 | 6,119 |
| Conference receipts | | 16,044 | | | 16,044 | 1,145 |
| Transfer of funds from the former BASAS | | - | | | - | 12,381 |
| TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES | | 88,096 | 31,000 | | 119,097 | 98,238 |
| RESOURCES EXPENDED: | | | | | | |
| Charitable Activities: | | | | | | |
| Conference costs | | 14,446 | | | 14,446 | |
| Grants payable | 3(a) | 58,114 | 15,557 | | 73,671 | 43,282 |
| Publication costs | 3(b) | 8,915 | | | 8,915 | 7,084 |
| Indirect support costs | 3(c) | 18,204 | | | 18,204 | 13,882 |
| Governance costs | 3(d) | 3,557 | | | 3,557 | 2,573 |
| TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED | | 103,236 | 15,557 | | 118,793 | 66,821 |
| NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES | | (15,140) | 15,443 | | 303 | 31,417 |
| TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS | | 8,591 | | (8,591) | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 32,019 | 15,557 | 18,089 | 65,665 | 34,248 |
| Total funds carried forward | | £25,470 | £31,000 | £9,498 | £65,968 | £65,665 |

The income relates to continuing activities.

The Notes on the following pages form part of these Accounts.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

BALANCE SHEET
as at 31 March 2009

| | <u>Notes</u> | <u>2009</u> | <u>2008</u> |
|---|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| FIXED ASSETS | | | |
| Tangible Assets | 4 | 1,236 | 1,649 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | |
| Prepayment | | 1,840 | 2,080 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 5 | 94,632 | 72,315 |
| | | <u>96,472</u> | <u>74,395</u> |
| LESS: CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | |
| Creditors - amounts falling due within one year | 6 | <u>(31,740)</u> | <u>(10,379)</u> |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | | 64,732 | 64,016 |
| NET ASSETS | | <u>£65,968</u> | <u>£65,665</u> |
| Financed by Capital Funds: | | | |
| Restricted Fund | 8 | 31,000 | 15,557 |
| Unrestricted Funds: | | | |
| General Fund | | 25,470 | 32,019 |
| Designated Funds | 9 | 9,498 | 18,089 |
| | | <u>£65,968</u> | <u>£65,665</u> |

The Notes on the following pages form part of these Accounts.

The financial statements on pages 2 to 6 were approved on 12 November 2009

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Members of the Council of Management

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THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS **for the year ended 31 March 2009**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- a. The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities and the Charities Act.
- b. The stock of publications is not brought into account. The Council consider that to estimate the value of these items would be of no real benefit to the Society.
- c. Fixed assets abroad are written off in the year of purchase and are not capitalised in the accounts.
- d. Direct currency conversions are translated at the exchange rate at the time of transaction, other balances are converted at year end rates, any difference arising on exchange is written off in the year concerned.
- e. Fixed assets are depreciated at the following rates, in order to write off the assets over their estimated useful life:
Computer Equipment: 25% reducing balance.
- f. The Society's financial statements have been prepared to comply with "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), issued by the Charity Commission in 2005 and thus with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 1993.
- g. In accordance with Financial Reporting Standard number 1, no cash flow statement is included in these financial statements as the Charity is covered by the small entity exemption.
- h. The Charity is exempt from taxes on income and capital gains under the provisions of section 505 Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988. The Charity is not exempt from VAT; irrecoverable VAT is included within the expense heading to which it relates.
- i. Provision is made in the accounts and included in designated funds for grants committed but unpaid at the end of the year, where a constructive obligation has been created. No discount is applied to the figures for grant commitments, in view of the relatively short period of time involved.

2. STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Trustees' responsibilities regarding the financial statements

The Trustees accept that it is primarily their responsibility:

1. to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of its financial activities during that year;
and to achieve that end;
2. to select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
3. to make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
4. to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless that is inappropriate.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and with the Society's governing document.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

for the year ended 31 March 2009

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 3 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES | <u>2009</u> | <u>2008</u> |
| a). GRANTS PAYABLE: | | |
| Indology: Migration | 1,310 | 583 |
| Traditional Craft | - | 2,435 |
| Electronic Kangyur | 14,150 | 7,250 |
| Monographs (2) (2008: 2) | 5,041 | 8,283 |
| Conference grants (1) (2008: 0) | 1,800 | - |
| Staff project grant | 10,000 | - |
| Indian Ocean Project | 6,500 | - |
| Relics and Relic Worship | 3,955 | - |
| Small grants for language (4) (2008 6) | 7,758 | 10,888 |
| Seed funding grants | 3,850 | 9,400 |
| BIEA research | 15,557 | 4,443 |
| Edinburgh Conference Bursaries | 3,750 | - |
| | <u>£73,671</u> | <u>£43,282</u> |
| b). PUBLICATION COSTS | | |
| South Asian Studies Journal | <u>£8,915</u> | <u>£7,084</u> |
| c). INDIRECT SUPPORT COSTS | | |
| Assistant Secretary | 5,608 | 5,209 |
| Rent | 2,927 | 2,938 |
| Website expenses | 3,055 | 1,092 |
| Postage & stationery | 1,547 | 244 |
| Accountancy | 500 | 1,000 |
| Membership documents | 999 | - |
| Couriers | 921 | 707 |
| AGM & meeting expenses | 1,254 | 1,377 |
| Telephone & internet | 590 | 572 |
| Paypal fees | 279 | - |
| Bank charges and interest | 112 | 55 |
| Depreciation | 412 | 550 |
| Sundry | - | 138 |
| | <u>£18,204</u> | <u>£13,882</u> |
| d). GOVERNANCE COSTS | | |
| Audit fee | 2,260 | 1,904 |
| Council members' travel expenses | 1,297 | 669 |
| | <u>£3,557</u> | <u>£2,573</u> |

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

for the year ended 31 March 2009

4 FIXED ASSETS

| | <u>Computer and Office Equipment</u> |
|--|---|
| <u>Cost</u> at 1 April 2008 and 31 March 2009 | <u>13,227</u> |
| <u>Depreciation</u> at 1 April 2008 | 11,579 |
| Charge for year | 412 |
| at 31 March 2009 | <u>£11,991</u> |
| <u>Net Book Value</u> at 31 March 2009 | <u>£1,236</u> |
| <u>Net Book Value</u> at 1 April 2008 | <u>£1,648</u> |

5 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

| | <u>2009</u> | <u>2008</u> |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Bank Accounts - interest bearing | 93,946 | 72,315 |
| Paypal | 686 | - |
| | <u>£94,632</u> | <u>£72,315</u> |

6 CREDITORS (amounts falling due within one year)

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Publication costs | 14,165 | 7,500 |
| Accruals and other creditors | 17,575 | 2,879 |
| | <u>£31,740</u> | <u>£10,379</u> |

7 TRUSTEES

No Trustee or their connected persons received any remuneration from the Charity in the year. Reimbursed travel etc expenses totalling £1,297 were paid to 10 Trustees. (2008: £669 to 7).

8 RESTRICTED FUNDS

The balance of £31,000 held within restricted funds has been designated for the postdoctoral grant payable after the financial year end.

9 DESIGNATED FUNDS

The following amounts have been designated by the Trustees from the general funds of the Society for specific purposes:

| | Fund Balance b/f | Transfer to / (from) Fund | Fund Balance c/f |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Research Fellowships and other grants | <u>£18,089</u> | <u>£(8,591)</u> | <u>£9,498</u> |

10 AUDITORS OTHER NON-AUDIT SERVICES

In common with many other charities of our size and nature, we use our auditors to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH

The British Association for South Asian Studies promotes and supports study and research into the humanities and social sciences of Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bangladesh. To this end it offers a range of research grants to applicants who are normally resident in the United Kingdom.

Details of the Society's programmes are available on the Society's web-site. As grant programmes and other funding initiatives are approved by The British Academy, further particulars and application forms will be made available on the Society's web-site.

The Assistant Secretary
The British Association for South Asian Studies
14 Stephenson Way, Second Floor
London NW1 2HD
Tel: +44 (0)20 7388 5490
Office hours: Tuesday & Thursday 12:30-17:30
e-mail: basas@basas.org.uk
Website: <http://www.basas.org.uk>

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

The British Association for South Asian Studies is one of the Schools and Institutes founded and grant aided by The British Academy. It is also a learned Society that organises a regular programme of meetings and publishes a journal: *South Asian Studies*. It promotes and supports study and research in the humanities and social sciences of Afghanistan, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal. The Society's Annual Lecture is a landmark event, held each year in November. From time to time other meetings, seminars and colloquia are also arranged. Members of the Society are entitled to attend all lectures and other meetings organised by the Society and to introduce guests. They receive the Annual Report of the Society and depending on the type of subscription, either *Contemporary South Asia* or *South Asian Studies*, free of charge. Applications for membership are welcomed. Current subscriptions rates, payable on 1st January are:

Subscription Rates 2008/09

| | |
|---|--------|
| Individual membership | £15.00 |
| Individual concessionary | £7.50 |
| Institutional membership | £25.00 |
| Individual subscription to <i>South Asian Studies</i> | £30.00 |
| Institutional subscription to <i>South Asian Studies</i> | £48.00 |
| Individual subscription to <i>Contemporary South Asia</i> | £30.00 |

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Full Name

Address

.....

E-mail

Please send this form together with a completed Bankers Order, US Dollar Cheque or Sterling Cheque (drawn on a British Bank) for the current subscription to:

The Assistant Secretary
The British Association for South Asian Studies
14 Stephenson Way, Second Floor
London NW1 2HD
Tel: +44 (0)20-7388 5490
E-mail: basas@basas.org.uk

Copies of back numbers of *Afghan Studies* 1-3 and *South Asian Studies* 1-22 may be purchased from the above mentioned address.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Nageela Yusuf
14 Stephenson Way, Second Floor
London NW1 2HD

Office hours: Tuesday & Thursday 10:00-16:30

e-mail: basas@basas.org.uk

Tel: +44 (0)20 7388 5490

Registered Charity: 264591