

**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**

**31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2010**

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

on Friday 26 November 2010

**at 6:00 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 6.30 p.m.**

to hear a lecture titled:

**'The Case of the Missing Mahatma: Gandhi and the Hindi Cinema'**

by

**Prof. Rachel Dwyer, School of Oriental and African Studies**

**THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION  
FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

**THE COUNCIL 2009/2010**

**CHAIR**

PROF. KUNAL SEN

**TREASURER**

DR. EMMA TOMALIN

**SECRETARY**

DR. LAWRENCE SAEZ

**SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES JOURNAL EDITOR**

PROF. ADAM HARDY

**MEMBERS**

DR. CLARE ANDERSON

DR. TINA BASI

DR. DEEPTA CHOPRA

PROFESSOR ROBIN DENNELL

PROFESSOR BARBARA HARRISS-WHITE

PROFESSOR PATRICIA JEFFERY

DR. APURBA KUNDU

DR. EMMA MAWDSLEY (UNTIL NOVEMBER 2009)

DR. CAROLINE OSELLA (UNTIL NOVEMBER 2009)

PROFESSOR GURHARPAL SINGH

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 2010**

### **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 Asian 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 geography, economics, politics, history, antiquities, archaeology, sociology, ethnography, languages, literature, art, culture, customs, and inter-disciplinary study of the countries and people of South Asia.

The Society also has sponsored 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](mailto: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 2010 were:

Prof. Kunal Sen	Chairman
Dr. Emma Tomalin	Treasurer
Dr. Lawrence Saez	Secretary
Prof. Adam Hardy	<i>South Asian Studies</i> 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 2010:

Dr. Clare Anderson (from November 2008)  
Dr. Tina Basi (from January 2007)  
Dr. Deepta Chopra (from November 2009)  
Professor Robin Dennell (from November 2008)  
Professor Gurharpal Singh (from March 2010)  
Professor Barbara Harriss-White (from November 2008)  
Professor Patricia Jeffery (from November 2009)  
Dr. Apurba Kundu (from January 2007)  
Dr. Emma Mawdsley (from January 2004)  
Dr. Caroline Osella (from January 2007)  
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 the Society's work, along with 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 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.

## REPORT BY THE SECRETARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2010

This past year has been highlighted by landmark achievements by The British Association for South Asian Studies (BASAS). The Society's journal, *South Asian Studies*, celebrated its silver jubilee. In an era of constant change, *South Asian Studies* has been a model of institutional stability. BASAS honours Professor Bridget Allchin, the founding editor of *South Asian Studies*. We also want to show our deepest gratitude to Professor Adam Hardy, the journal's second and current Editor. Under the capable editorship of Professor Hardy, the journal has increased in scope, reach, and depth. Professor Hardy played an instrumental part in the success of our negotiations with Taylor & Francis. As members will recall, Taylor & Francis, one of the world's leading commercial publishers, will publish *South Asian Studies* henceforth. Taylor & Francis has already begun ambitious plans to market the journal professionally and we have been impressed by their interest in promoting the visibility of the journal internationally. For instance, Taylor & Francis has fully digitised all issues of *South Asian Studies* and has marketed the journal aggressively. It is worth noting that Professor Hardy has been an active participant in this exciting period of change for the journal and he has been assisted by an expanded editorial team and a established international editorial board of renowned South Asia scholars. Moreover, the Society has restrengthened its long-standing association with *Contemporary South Asia*. In the past, *Contemporary South Asia* annually published a special issue from the best papers presented at the BASAS Annual Conference. After a special arrangement, the special issue from the BASAS conference will bear the BASAS logo.

We are also quite proud of the work that BASAS has done on behalf of postgraduate students and early career scholars. With support from the British Academy's Area Panel for South Asia, we were able to host two British Academy-funded peri-doctoral workshops at the 2009 BASAS conference in Edinburgh. The Society has learnt that a publication will result from the best papers presented at the 2009 peri-doctoral workshop. It is also worth mentioning that two members of the BASAS Council, Dr. Deepta Chopra and Dr. Carole Spary, have been instrumental at building a BASAS Graduate and Early Career network (GEC). Their efforts have enabled BASAS to provide professional development workshops for postgraduate students and early career scholars at the annual conference. Such events have been very well received and we intend to continue providing support to the next generation of South Asia scholars.

As many BASAS members know, the BASAS annual conference is the academic highlight event of our Society. Dr. Clare Anderson and Professor David Arnold capably hosted the 2009 annual conference at the University of Warwick. We thank them profusely for their efforts. The BASAS annual conference was widely attended and proved to be a great success. On that basis, we very much look forward to the 25<sup>th</sup> BASAS annual conference to be held at the University of Southampton on 11-13 April 2011. As the 25<sup>th</sup> annual conference, next year's event will be especially significant. To this effect, special anniversary events are planned, including the release of a BASAS promotional video directed and edited by Dr. Tina Basi and Ms. Nageela Yusuf.

On account of the global financial crisis, many government funded departments, including the British Academy, have faced severe constraints to their funding schemes. The thrust to cut the government's fiscal deficit has resulted in a very challenging funding environment for the British Academy's overseas institutes and societies. We have been quite vocal in our opposition to funding cuts to the British Academy's overseas institutes and societies. At the same time, however, BASAS has acted to pre-empt any negative changes in the British Academy's funding mechanism by seeking alternative sources of funding.

As a result of continued organisational changes, there has been a marked improvement in the operations of the national office. I am pleased to report a substantial improvement in the manner in which membership records are handled and in our outreach efforts to increase membership. For instance, for the first time ever, prospective BASAS members are able to fill out a membership

application electronically. Members can also renew their membership electronically. In addition, BASAS members and interested parties may now pay electronically, through PayPal, for their membership dues, BASAS conference registration, and BASAS hardback publications. Finally, the national office has been proactive to enhance the Society's collaboration with external institutions, notably the British Library.

Having attended various international meetings on South Asian studies, most recently the 2010 EASAS conference in Bonn, it is always a pleasure to hear fellow South Asianists praise the work undertaken by BASAS. Our Society is rightly viewed as a global beacon in the promotion of South Asian studies. 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 internationally.

Finally, I regret to inform you that Professor F. Raymond Allchin, one of the world's leading archaeologists of South Asia and a founding member of the erstwhile Society for South Asian Studies (SSAS), died on 4 June 2010. Professor Allchin (1923-2010) inspired generations of archaeologists of South Asia and I know that many of you were his colleagues and friends. Our deepest condolences to Professor Bridget Allchin and her family during this time of sorrow. A series of lectures and events honouring Professor Raymond Allchin have been scheduled to be held during the year.

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.

### **Subalterns, Rebellion and Migration within and beyond India 1810-1865**

**Project director: Dr. Crispin Bates, University of Edinburgh**

Dr. Bates has completed two visits to India in connection with the project, the first in April 2009 and the second in July-August 2009. Relevant data was collected from archives in Delhi and Lucknow, and also from the Mythic Society Library in Bangalore. A research assistant was also hired to collect oral narratives of the revolt from villages in Bihar. Having created a database containing details of emigration passes and ship register entries, analysis has commenced and is nearing completion. The database runs from December 1857 to December 1869 and covers migrants from north India [emigrating through Calcutta] to Mauritius, Guyana and Trinidad. The entries comprise: migrants' names, age, caste, village/pargana/zilla of origin and where applicable date of death/return and photograph number. This data will be utilized to corroborate and contextualize the region of origin statistics gathered from the ship-level data bases collected in the Mauritius, Trinidad and Guyana archives.

In addition, corroborative material to underscore continuities in sepoy migration [particularly applicable to Mauritius where volunteers from the Bengal Army participated in the 1810 conquest, were signalled in later recruiting streams for sirdari roles in indentured migration, and to which the largest number of post-1857 migrants went] has been input from India Office Records. Finally, additional work was undertaken by inputting files from the Bengal Emigration Proceedings to complement the above data sets.

The purpose of the voluminous data collected both at ship and regional level from the Indian archives, and colonial archives is to assess whether the widespread disruption to villages in north-eastern India, notably in Bihar and Awadh - which is qualitatively explored in a wide range of secondary sources that deal with the impact of the 1857 rebellion - can be quantitatively followed up, corroborated and evaluated through identification of key villages which both suffered the impact of the 'mutiny' and figure as significant suppliers of emigrant labour in the decade following the uprising. Drawing upon a wide range of sources together with detailed quantifiable data in this manner will serve to provide irrefutable evidence of the impact of a political event such as the 1857 mutiny upon the long term prospects of ordinary Indian villagers. The study seeks to take into account the multiple effects not only those directly involved in the uprising - mutinous sepoys, ghazis, and other active combatants, but also upon those indirectly associated with the rebels - for example due to village-level associations with mutineer leaders, or sepoy recruits, or relatives of ex-sepoys whose livelihoods were affected by the loss of a breadwinner, and upon those who are associated with adverse effects simply through proximity to affected areas.

It is hoped that the resulting volume will provide historians and students not only with some effective answers to the thorny question of the effects of the mutiny on the rural poor but will also serve to offer a model for assessing more generally the impact of policy decisions such as changes in land-ownership; caste-based recruitment, annexation of territories and other state-level impositions on the

fragile balance of life for those existing at the margins of subsistence-level agriculture in colonial India.

Finally, a selection of the data sets which have been collated in the course of this research will be published either as an accompanying CD Rom to the volume or uploaded to a website, to provide a useful tool of further research for students both of the Indian diaspora and of Indian agrarian history.

**A Multi-disciplinary Approach to the New Security Agenda in Northeast South Asia**  
**Project Director: Professor Graham Chapman (retd.), University of Lancaster**

This project officially started in September 2009. The primary objective of the project involved the holding of a research workshop at the North Eastern Hills University (NEHU), in Shillong, Meghalaya. The outputs from this workshop will include a book, an academic journal article, and an atlas of the north east of South Asia.

## **REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF A STAFF PROJECT**

### **Identity Politics and Democracy in Pakistan**

**Project director: Dr. Katharine Adeney, University of Sheffield**

This project involved content analysis of Pakistani newspapers and to develop an understanding of the debates for a ten year period, from Musharraf's takeover until 2009. The research project involved downloading a small sample of the wider sample and began to develop a coding frame. The NVivo qualitative analysis software was used to assist in the analysis of the material.

The research conducted so far has provided several insights. The first finding identified the number of references to inter-provincial and inter-ethnic tensions in the newspapers. In general the newspapers had an average of 140-160 articles which were downloaded and on average between 8-15 articles per issue were deemed to be relevant in terms of covering issues of interprovincial and interethnic tensions. My initial judgement is that this level of coverage was less than expected, but it was relatively consistent. As the sample not available online covers most of the Musharraf period however, there may be differences between the three periods not yet identified. The second finding is that Sindh featured prominently in many of the relevant articles. As noted above, this may be because using *Dawn* has skewed the reporting (although *Dawn* does include a section which covers the different provinces of Pakistan).

The third finding is that issues of interprovincial tensions were much higher than interethnic tensions which hardly received any reporting (although obviously the tensions between the provinces necessarily have some ethnic dimension). Therefore there were not many references to 'Punjabis' and more to Punjab. This has implications for constitutional reform in Pakistan – if structures rather than groups are seen to be the barriers to effective change.

Linked to the above is that many of the issues relating to interprovincial tensions and disputes were economic rather than cultural or political. Issues relating to water sharing were the most prominent feature in this regard, which again has implications for constitutional reform.

All the findings identified below are preliminary and will be fleshed out in more detail over the summer, before submission to *Commonwealth and Comparative Politics* (CCP). After the submission of the article to CCP I would like to apply for a wider research grant enabling me to employ research assistants to conduct the same analysis using the vernacular and Urdu press, as well as focusing on other English language newspapers.

## REPORT FROM CONVENORS OF THE SOUTH ASIA CONFERENCE GRANT

**Conference on: "Sexuality and South Asia: New Directions"**

**Conference convenors: Dr. Srila Roy and Dr. Stephen Legg**

The symposium brought together scholars working on sexual formations in South Asia from a variety of perspectives. Paper presentations lasted 30 minutes each, leaving 15 minutes for discussion led by scholars and postgraduate students working in the field of sexuality studies from within and outside of the University. Besides disciplinary diversity, we endeavored to place younger scholars in dialogue with more established figures in the field. The symposium ended with a dinner funded by the University of Toronto and SSHRC in Canada.

Stephen Legg from the University of Nottingham presented a paper on the historical geography of prostitution regulation, looking at the rise of the segregationist system and the cultural shifts that framed a series of scandals at the beginning of the second world war that heralded a period of brothel suppression. This paper raised various issues, including the sexuality of white women in South Asia, homosexuality and trafficking that recurred in other papers. Ashwini Tambe (University of Toronto) discussed the parallels and tensions between economic liberalism and sexual liberation in contemporary India, through examples including cheerleading and Eastern European women in major Indian cities. This was complemented by a paper from Sanjay Srivastava (IEG Delhi) who examined cultures of Indian pornography, using examples of cheap, circulating erotic literature in Delhi's various urban spaces. Non-heterosexualities were addressed by two papers directly. Svati Shah (Amherst) examined recent changes, or attempt to change, laws regulating different types of sexual practice, namely, sodomy and gay spaces, and trafficking. Akhil Katyal (SOAS) examined the cyberspaces of gay desire in contemporary India and used these to explore individual experiences of material and social spaces of interaction. Paul Boyce (IOE, London) reflected on the subjectivities informing our research methodologies, while Gargi Bhattacharya (Aston) reflected on transnationalism, diaspora and material cultures.

Sexuality is an emergent and burgeoning area of scholarship and activism in South Asia today. While there is a substantial body of existing literature on gender in South Asia, research into sexuality remains limited. The extant literature has focused more on sexual violence than on the complex politics of desire, constraint, representation, and subject-production in everyday social, political and economic life. Such an exploration also demands an open intellectual engagement with sexuality as one of many aspects of identity, politics, citizenship, and culture. In India, for instance, there is today a vibrant political movement fighting for the rights of sexual minorities and raising their concerns in larger social, legal and political contexts. Besides effecting changes in the lives of bisexual, gay, transgender and *hijra* peoples and communities in India, these movements are questioning the very heteronormative grounds of contemporary Indian society. The colonial roots of such norms are well known so much so that a repeal of the British instituted Section 377 outlawing homosexuality has been at the heart of a nation-wide legal campaign. Each of our invited speakers is exceptional in their combination of an enquiry into sexual relations and politics with a specific research oriented inflection. Consequently, the papers they presented produced a radical rethinking of social life and subjectivity from the perspective of sexuality rather than merely inserting the study of sex into society. The papers had an uncommonly high level of coherence around issues of hetero-homosexual relations, whiteness and mobility, and the role of law in crafting sexual spaces. They also related to and further explored many of the themes addressed in the previous symposium on gender and South Asia that Drs Legg and Roy organized at the University particularly on women's rights and the women's movement, technology and identity, and so on. While the ethnographic, historical, literary and legal texts that the papers drew on might be situated in South Asia, the research topics have wider implications for transnational gender and sexuality studies more broadly. This was confirmed by audience participation/engagement which was of a very high standard, and continuously broadened the conversation beyond the bounds of the region.

As such, the conversations of the day sparked off the development of further spaces for dialogue and exchange on sexuality in South Asia in British academy by drawing on the disciplinary and theoretical expertise of scholars within Britain and from elsewhere, especially the global South. At the same time, the meeting placed us in deeper conversations with researchers and activists in India and North America. On a more immediate level, the event shall contribute to the ongoing development of research into South Asia at the University of Nottingham and provide a platform for launching dialogues between the University of Nottingham and academic institutions in India (such as Institute of Economic Growth in Delhi, one of South Asia's leading research institutes, at which Professor Srivastava is based).

## REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE SARIT AND INDOLOGY PROJECTS

**Project manager: Dr Dominik Wujastyk**

The project has developed well during the past year. Not all the texts listed in the original project application have been digitised. But an unexpected opportunity brought the project a major Buddhist tantric text that had not been anticipated. Āryadeva's *Caryāmelāpakapradīpa* was edited and translated by Prof. Ch. Wedemeyer (University of Chicago), as *Āryadeva's lamp that integrates the practices (Caryāmelāpakapradīpa) : the gradual path of Vajrayāna Buddhism according to the esoteric community noble tradition*, and published in New York by the American Institute of Buddhist Studies, 2007. The author and the Institute granted permission for the e-text of the edition to be added to the SARIT repository, and Richard Mahoney dedicated his time at no cost to produce the TEI-encoded machine-readable text. This e-text is of unique interest because the encoding presents not only the base text of Āryadeva's work, but also the critical apparatus giving variant readings from the manuscript. A sample can be viewed here:

<http://sarit.indology.info/newphilo/getobject.pl?c.6:4.indologica>

The SARIT project currently has the following texts converted and mounted:

- *Brahmapurāṇa* / Vyāsa
- *Nāradaśmṛiti* / Nārada
- *Arthaśāstra* / Kauṭalya
- *Manusmṛiti* / Manu
- *Aṣṭāṅgahṛdayasaṃhitā* / Vāgbhaṭa
- *Caryāmelāpakapradīpa* / Āryadeva

Further texts are under consideration, including the *Āyurveda.sūtra*, the *Yogamārttanda* commentary on the *Yogasūtras* by Bhoja, and the *Yogayājñavalkya*. The fact that SARIT adheres to public standards for encoding and data management means that the data and services of SARIT can be integrated into other tools.

In general, SARIT has had a good year. Important texts have been added to the database. The project is actively engaging in building partnerships in India. The new steering committee is dynamic and is providing leadership in the important area of fundraising. The SARIT website is receiving a respectable number of daily visitors.

Dr Dominik Wujastyk  
Project manager of the SARIT and Indology projects

## REPORT FROM THE EDITOR OF THE SOCIETY'S JOURNAL

The period from March 2009 to March 2010 saw the publication both of the twenty-fifth annual edition and, with Routledge (Taylor & Francis Group) as the new publisher, the first of the new twice a year issues.

The full digitised South Asian Studies archive is now available on the Taylor & Francis web platform: [www.informaworld.com/rsas](http://www.informaworld.com/rsas). Journal content back to 1997 is now available to subscribers (Print & Online and Online only) as part of their standard subscription. The pre-1997 content forms the journal archive, which is also available for purchase. Sets of back issues of the journal are still available from the BASAS office.

Volume 25 of the journal (2009) contains the following papers: Dick Whittaker on Kerala and Roman trade; Kurt A. Behrendt on the ancient reuse and recontextualization of Gandharan images; Ruth Young in contemporary meanings of Gandhara; Adam Hardy on Dravida temples in the Samaranganasutradhara; Arunima Kashyap, Richard Yerkes and Vasant Shinde on lithic tools from Bagor, Rajasthan; Viraj Shah on Mangi-Tungi, a Jain tirtha in Maharashtra; Barry Lewis on village defenses of the Karnataka maidan (1600-1800); Vaishali Walenkar on the iconography of Kevala Narasimha; Jens Nordlunde on Royal katars (daggers) of Bundi.

The following appears in Volume 26.1 (March 2010): Michael Haslam, Ravi Korisettar, Michael Petraglia, Tam Smith, Ceri Smith and Peter Ditchfield on 160 years of excavation at the Billa Surgam caves in south India; Malini Roy on paintings by Mir Chand (fl. c. 1759-86); Samuel K. Parker on Ethnoarchaeology and creative practice in Hindu temple arts; Massimo Vidale on palace life at Mohenjo-Daro; Doris M. Srinivasan on Sri-Lakshmi in the early art of the north-west.

Dr Ellen Raven of Leiden University, the Netherlands, has recently joined the team of Associate Editors.

Professor Adam Hardy  
*South Asian Studies* Editor

## **ANNUAL LECTURE AND ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

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

Prof. Kanti Bajpai

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

The Society held its 24th Annual Conference at the University of Warwick on 29-31 30 March 2010. The convenors of the Annual Conference were Dr. Clare Anderson and Professor David Arnold. The conference attracted over 100 scholars from around the world. At the conference there were 26 panels.

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 Sahana Ghosh (University of Oxford). The title of her prize-winning paper was ‘Cultures and commodities in cross-border interactions in everyday life in the Bengal borderland’.

Dr. Lawrence Saez  
Secretary

## **RECENT AWARDS MADE BY THE SOCIETY**

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

### Language Training grants:

- Mr. Jonathan Tae - £2,950 to study Dzongkha
- Ms. Pragya Dhital - £3,000 to study Urdu

### South Asia Conference grant:

- Dr. Srila Roy and Dr Stephen Legg- £2,078. Conference title: Sexuality and South Asia: New Directions.

**THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH ASIAN  
STUDIES**

**REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**for the year ended**

**31 March 2010**

Registered Charity No 264591

# **THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES** **for the year ended 31 March 2010**

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 2010 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 2010**

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Designated Funds</u>	<u>2010 Total Funds</u>	<u>2009 Total Funds</u>
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>						
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds:</b>						
British Academy Grant		50,000	10,000		60,000	90,000
Investment income - bank interest		75			75	75
<b>Incoming resources from charitable activities:</b>						
Subscriptions and publication sales		11,184			11,184	11,184
Conference receipts		23,759			23,759	23,759
Transfer of funds from the former BASAS		-			-	-
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b><u>85,018</u></b>	<b><u>10,000</u></b>		<b><u>95,019</u></b>	<b><u>125,018</u></b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED:</b>						
<b>Charitable Activities:</b>						
Conference costs		13,470	9,335		22,805	14,446
Grants payable	3(a)	49,590	31,000		80,590	73,671
Publication costs	3(b)	(5,000)			(5,000)	8,915
Indirect support costs	3(c)	14,019			14,019	18,204
<b>Governance costs</b>	3(d)	<b>4,174</b>			<b>4,174</b>	<b>3,557</b>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<b><u>76,253</u></b>	<b><u>40,335</u></b>		<b><u>116,588</u></b>	<b><u>118,793</u></b>
<b>NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES</b>		<b>8,765</b>	<b>(30,335)</b>		<b>(21,570)</b>	<b>6,225</b>
<b>TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS</b>		<b>(2,598)</b>		<b>2,598</b>		
Total funds brought forward		25,470	31,000	9,498	65,968	65,665
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b><u>£31,637</u></b>	<b><u>£665</u></b>	<b><u>£12,096</u></b>	<b><u>£44,398</u></b>	<b><u>£71,890</u></b>

The income relates to continuing activities.

The Notes on pages 4 to 6 form part of these Accounts.

**THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**as at 31 March 2010**

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible Assets	4	<b>1,606</b>	1,236
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Prepayment		<b>1,150</b>	1,840
Cash at bank and in hand	5	<b>54,707</b>	94,632
		<u><b>55,857</b></u>	<u>96,472</u>
<b>LESS: CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	6	<u><b>(13,065)</b></u>	<u>(31,740)</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>42,792</b>	64,732
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u><u><b>£44,398</b></u></u>	<u><u>£65,968</u></u>
<b>Financed by Capital Funds:</b>			
Restricted Fund	8	<b>665</b>	31,000
Unrestricted Funds:			
General Fund		<b>34,235</b>	25,470
Designated Funds	9	<b>9,498</b>	9,498
		<u><u><b>£44,398</b></u></u>	<u><u>£65,968</u></u>

**The Notes on pages 4 to 6 form part of these Accounts.**

The financial statements on pages 2 to 6 were approved on 2010

.....

.....

Members of the Council of Management

.....

# **THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**for the year ended 31 March 2010**

### **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 2010

<b>3 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</b>	<b><u>2010</u></b>	<b><u>2009</u></b>
<b>a). GRANTS PAYABLE:</b>		
Post Doctoral grant	31,000	-
Flagship project 'Subalterns. Religion and Migration within and beyond India, 1810-1865.'		-
	9,000	
Staff Project: 'Identity Politics and Democracy in Pakistan.'	10,000	-
Flagship Project: 'A Multi-disciplinary approach to the New Security Agenda in Northeast South Asia.'		-
	6,000	
Project Seed Funding: "Songs of Porong: A Cultural Knowledge Exchange Project"		-
	3,803	
SARIT (search and retrieval of Indic texts) project	2,499	-
Conference on: "Sexuality and South Asia: New Directions"	2,078	-
Indology website	1,000	-
Staff project grant	9,336	10,000
Small grants for language (2) (2009 : 4)	2,624	7,758
Conference Bursaries	3,000	3,750
Indian Ocean Project	250	6,500
Indology: Migration	-	1,310
Electronic Kangyur	-	14,150
Monographs (2) (2008: 2)	-	5,041
Conference grants (1) (2008: 0)	-	1,800
Relics and Relic Worship	-	3,955
Seed funding grants	-	3,850
BIEA research	-	15,557
	<u>£80,590</u>	<u>£73,671</u>
<b>b). PUBLICATION COSTS</b>		
South Asian Studies Journal	<u>(£5,000)</u>	<u>£8,915</u>
<b>c). INDIRECT SUPPORT COSTS</b>		
Assistant Secretary	6,005	5,608
Rent	3,131	2,927
Website expenses	517	3,055
Postage & stationery	1,549	1,547
Accountancy	(500)	500
Legal fees	828	-
Membership documents	-	999
Couriers	266	921
AGM & meeting expenses	428	1,254
Telephone & internet	542	590
Paypal fees	653	279
Bank charges and interest	65	112
Depreciation	535	412
	<u>£14,019</u>	<u>£18,204</u>
<b>d). GOVERNANCE COSTS</b>		
Audit fee	2,375	2,260
Council members' travel expenses	1,799	1,297
	<u>£4,174</u>	<u>£3,557</u>

**THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2010**

**4 FIXED ASSETS**

	<b><u>Computer and Office Equipment</u></b>	
<b><u>Cost</u></b> at 1 April 2009	13,227	
Additions	<u>905</u>	
	<u><u>14,132</u></u>	
<b><u>Depreciation</u></b> at 1 April 2009	11,991	
Charge for year	535	
<b>at 31 March 2010</b>	<u><u>£12,526</u></u>	
<b><u>Net Book Value</u></b> at 31 March 2010	<u><u>£1,606</u></u>	
<b><u>Net Book Value</u></b> at 1 April 2009	<u><u>£1,236</u></u>	

**5 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND**

	<b><u>2010</u></b>	<b><u>2009</u></b>
Bank Accounts - interest bearing	49,418	93,946
Paypal	5,289	686
	<u><u>£54,707</u></u>	<u><u>£94,632</u></u>

**6 CREDITORS (amounts falling due within one year)**

Publication costs	0	14,165
Accruals and other creditors	13,065	17,575
	<u><u>£13,065</u></u>	<u><u>£31,740</u></u>

**7 TRUSTEES**

No Trustee or their connected persons received any remuneration from the Charity in the year. Reimbursed travel etc expenses totalling £1,558 were paid to 11 Trustees. (2009: £1,297 to 10).

**8 RESTRICTED FUNDS**

There were no restricted funds at 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:

	<b>Fund Balance b/f</b>	<b>Transfer to / (from) Fund</b>	<b>Fund Balance c/f</b>
<b>Research Fellowships and other grants</b>	<u><u>£9,498</u></u>	<u><u>£2,598</u></u>	<u><u>£12,096</u></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.

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**  
**e-mail: [basas@basas.org.uk](mailto: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, Bangladesh, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. The Society's annual conference Annual Lecture is a landmark event, held each year in March or April. The Society also hosts an Annual Lecture, 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. Subscription to either *Contemporary South Asia* or *South Asian Studies*, is included in the membership fee. BASAS members who wish to subscribe to both journals, need to make an additional payment of £15. Applications for membership are welcome. Current subscriptions rates, payable annually on 1st January are:

### **Subscription Rates 2009/10**

Individual membership	£45.00
Individual concessionary	£25.00
Additional subscription to <i>South Asian Studies</i> or <i>Contemporary South Asia</i>	£15.00

---

### **APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

On line membership form is available on the BASAS website. This can be accessed at <http://www.basas.org.uk/payment.htm>.

Individuals who wish to pay by cheque, should print and complete the online form and send it together with a Bankers Order or Sterling Cheque (drawn on a British bank and made payable to The British Association for South Asian Studies) for the current subscription rate 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](mailto:basas@basas.org.uk)

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

BASAS members will receive a copy of *South Asian Studies* or *Contemporary South Asia* as part of their membership. BASAS members who wish to subscribe to both journals, need to make an additional payment of £15.

Copies of back issues of *Afghan Studies* 1-3, and *South Asian Studies* 1-25, may be purchased from the above mentioned address.