

International Symposium

Youth in South Asia: Strategizing Life and Reshaping the Society

Date: Saturday, 11th of February, 2023

Venue: Kobe College 神戸女学院大学 (only in person)

<https://www.kobe-c.ac.jp/ekc/access/index.html>

Language: English

Currently, young people in South Asian societies constitute the majority of its population. The generation born after the 1990s has grown up amid rapid social changes such as diversification in economic opportunities and job options, the spread of education, fast urbanization, media entanglements, and information flow, and mobility that has significantly increased compared to their earlier generations. They are bringing about major changes in the political economy and social relations in South Asia. However, their potentials are severely limited and obstructed – some are favored at the expenses of others – and the latter majority are negotiating to overcome their situations in various ways while they recognize their “uncertain” present and the bleak future as well. This symposium aims to shed light on the social changes in South Asia through young people’s life strategies in the “age of uncertainty.” For instance, how do young people’s political and economic sensibilities and risk responses contribute to changes in social landscapes to the state policy and market relations with what they are in constant negotiation? We try to capture social changes amid the “uncertainty” in question from the experiences of the actors, namely, young people’s sense of and relationship with society. By capturing social change in the context of individual strategies (and its cumulative affects), it is possible to understand the process of how South Asian societies are transforming with the changing youth. Understanding the experiences and social responses of young people living in this era is important for understanding how society, including its political economy, is shifting.

【Program】	Convener: Kazuyo Minamide
9:40-10:00	Registration
10:00-10:20	Opening Remarks (K. Minamide)
10:20-11:10	Seollan Pyeon: <i>Freedom and Love: Migration, Marriage, and Precarity among Tibetan Refugee Youth in India</i>
11:10-11:20	Tea Break
11:20-12:10	Hasan Ashraf: <i>The Making of Youth and Corporate Utopia in Bangladesh</i>
12:10-13:00	Lunch Break
13:00-14:20	Professor Craig Jeffrey: <i>Life Support: Bios, Zoe and Viability for Youth in Rural North India</i>
14:20-14:30	Tea Break
14:30-15:20	Mizuki Harizuka: <i>Community and Identity Construction among Youth after Leaving Institutional Care in India</i>
15:20-15:30	Tea Break
15:30-16:30	Discussion in general
16:30-16:40	Closing Remarks (K. Minamide)

*Each presentation includes Q&A for 20 min

【Speakers】

- Craig Jeffrey Professor, School of Geography, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Faculty of Science, The University of Melbourne <craig.jeffrey@unimelb.edu.au>
- Hasan Ashraf Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, Faculty of Social Sciences, Jahangirnagar University <hasanashraf@juniv.edu>
- Seollan Pyeon Lecturer, Department of Social Research, Faculty of Social Sciences, Nara University <pyeons@daibutsu.nara-u.ac.jp>
- Mizuki Harizuka Associate Professor, Faculty of Humanities, Beppu University <harizuka@nm.beppu-u.ac.jp>
- Kazuyo Minamide Associate Professor, Department of English, Kobe College <minamide@mail.kobe-c.ac.jp>

【Registration】

<https://forms.gle/Yhj6oRqtMm7Y89Z18>

Pre-event

A casual meeting for young scholars of South Asian studies in Japan

Our honorable guest speakers, Professor Craig Jeffrey and Professor Hasan Ashraf, invite the young scholars including the graduate students of South Asian studies in Japan to a casual but valuably academic discussion!

Date: Friday, 10th of February, 2023

Venue: Kobe College

Program:

- 13:00-13:20 Registration
- 13:20-13:30 Welcome Greeting by Convener
- 13:30-14:00 Casual Talk by our Guest Speakers
- 14:00-15:30 Individual Research Introductions by the Young Scholars (all participants)
- 15:30-16:30 Free Talk and Discussion
- 17:00- Dinner

Note: For the young scholars without a JSPS scholarship, the domestic travel cost (from outside the Kansai area) will be supported if necessary. Please indicate the need in the online registration.