



CALL FOR PAPERS — ASIA ON THE MOVE

Postcolonial theory has involved an interrelated set of critical and counterintuitive perspectives, a complex network of interconnected concepts, and heterogeneous practices developed out of traditions of resistance to a global historical trajectory of imperialism and colonialism. But how has the nature of postcolonial inquiry changed in response to historical transformations of the past decades? And how should this inquiry change with newer visibilities in the future? To examine these challenges, we turn to an unavoidable global fact in contemporary times: Asia on the move—migration and mobilities within Asia. Examining the mobilized and immobilized lives of migrants and their peers with postcolonial histories in Asia brings us to an important hinge between distant times and places—the linking is historical, cultural, and material.

One way to understand this link is *power relations*. Prolonged realities of colonialism have produced historical and cultural consequences of power relations that remain integral to contemporary lifestyles of migrants in Asia. Such everyday negotiations explicitly point to these pressure points and movements across multiple geographic and social scales where the axes of differentiations are constantly negotiated and redefined via changing subjectivities.

This special section of *Transfers* seeks to focus on the connection between mobility and migration research with a postcolonial lens and to discuss how power is negotiated, mediated, and reproduced across multiple geosocial scales. It will shed light on the multiple connections between mobility, migration, intersectionality, the colonial past, and postcolonial dynamics, particularly focusing on Asia. Some central questions include: (1) How are postcolonial migrant scales (local, regional, and trans-Asian) reconstructed? How do such scales inflect and how are they inflected by Asian migrants' axes of differentiations (of ethnicity, gender, religion, class, and caste, to name a few)? (2) How have these negotiations inflected postcolonial realities of migrants in Asia? (3) How can postcolonial visibilities of migrants' lives be made fruitful for mobility studies and vice versa?

We invite scholars to contribute to broader debates in postcolonial migrants' experiences and lifestyles and, en route, reflect on the importance of theorizing social position, power relations, individuals' identities, and how the analysis contributes to the nexus of mobilities and migration studies.

Manuscripts are encouraged to include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Cross-cultural studies focusing on colonial differences, or similarities, that influence current Asian migration & mobility paths
- Impact of the intersection between personal standpoints, perspectives, decisions, & imaginations of migrants within Asia & wider sociopolitical/historical backgrounds, especially regarding colonial & postcolonial influences
- (Historical) comparative analyses of the relevance of colonialism in the lives of migrants
- Generational (& gendered) comparative analyses across migrants' family lifestyles
- Differences in presentation of self as migrant living in different geographic & thereby postcolonial locations
- Changes in the meaning/relevance of colonialism & postcolonialism for migrants & their social environment in Asia
- Studies examining (post)colonial policies, programs, & practices developed & implemented for migration regulations in Asia, & the relevance of these in migrants' lives
- Examinations of the various challenges faced by researchers focusing on migrants with a postcolonial & mobilities optic, & discussions of how these challenges may be faced

We strongly hope for meaningful interdisciplinary exchange, so we invite submissions from scholars in a wide range of disciplines (for example, but not limited to, anthropology, cultural studies, diaspora studies, gender studies, geography, history, literary studies, migration studies, psychology, public policy, religious studies, and sociology). Contributing manuscripts can be oriented toward theoretical and empirical studies as well as methodological approaches.

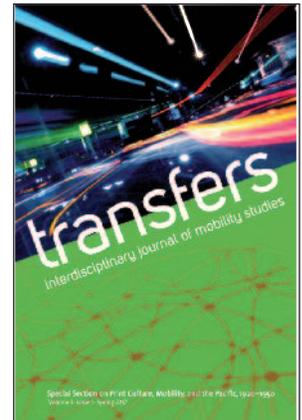
SUBMISSION & CONTACT INFORMATION

Please direct inquiries to the special section editors Mayurakshi Chaudhuri (mchaudhuri@iitj.ac.in) and Viola Thimm (viola.thimm@uni-hamburg.de). Abstracts should be submitted by **1 September 2017**. Full manuscripts will be due **20 December 2017**.

General inquiries about the journal can be sent to the editor at transfer@mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de.

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