



CROSSROADS ASIA



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Epifania Amoo-Adare and audience at her [Crossroads Lecture @ZEF](#).

Highlights

CALL FOR PAPERS AREA STUDIES' FUTURES

THE 5TH INTL. CROSSROADS ASIA CONFERENCE

In its effort to rethink Area Studies (AS), the Crossroads Asia network has scrutinised traditional concepts and methods of AS and explored novel research approaches related to multiple spatial realities, (im-)mobilities and (im-)mobilisation, borders and boundary-making/-weakening, and positionality.

The [5th International Crossroads Asia Conference](#) will bring together scholars from all disciplines to discuss related conceptual and methodological innovations in AS research. How do globalisation, migration, digitalisation and the notion of the Anthropocene challenge concepts of 'areas', social space and identities? What methodological and theoretical intersections exist, for example, between AS, post-colonial studies, gender studies and other critical approaches? These are among the key questions we wish to address.

From 22-23 September 2016, the conference in Bonn will feature panels, roundtables, and smaller, interactive discussion groups.

More information is available in the [Call for Papers](#); abstract submissions are welcome until 31 March 2016.

NEW CROSSROADS ASIA COORDINATION

As of 1 December 2015, [Claus Bech Hansen](#) and [Nelli Nokkala](#) have both taken over the role as Crossroads Asia coordinators and will share responsibilities in managing the activities of the network. Bech Hansen and Nokkala were both part of the network before taking up its coordination and are excited to contribute to the work of Crossroads Asia in their new roles.

FOR STUDENTS OF AREA STUDIES CROSSROADS ASIA TO PREPARE GUIDE

Recognizing the need for renewed approaches to social science research that are multiple, intersectional and transgressive, Crossroads Asia is preparing a student guide for [rethinking the praxis of Area Studies](#) and related disciplines in a more interconnected world.

The [proposed guide](#) is part of the Crossroads Asia network's efforts to synthesize research results, acquired over a five-year period, at the level of concepts and methods that capture and reflect the dynamic, complex, chaotic and uncertain nature of contemporary phenomena.



Activities in the Network

CROSSROADS ASIA LECTURES - UPCOMING

HAGEN, J.: "Social Engineering, National Demography, and Political Economy in Nazi Germany: Gottfried Feder and the Calculation of Space, Place, and Society", FU Berlin, GeoCampus Lankwitz, Lecture Hall G202, 12:00 am, 9.02.2016.

LECTURES, WORKSHOPS & PRESENTATIONS - UPCOMING

ALFF, H.: "Claiming Chineseness: Social transformation and translocal belonging among Kazakhstan's Dungans", talk at the workshop "Encounters after the Soviet collapse: Chinese presence in the FSU border zone", University of Leiden, 18.02.2016.

KREUTZMANN, H.: "Pamirian Crossroads", Book presentation and talk at the Alpine Museum of the German Alpine organization, Praterinsel 5, Munich, 7:30 pm, 8.03.2016.

SCHETTER, C.: "Monopoly of Force 2.0", presentation at the Spring Conference of the Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation Reflection Group, New York, 7 – 10.03.2016.

ORGANIZATION OF WORKSHOPS UPCOMING

MATO BOUZAS, A. & RZEHA, L.: organizers of internal Crossroads Asia Meeting, HU Berlin, 29.02.2016. The previous Crossroads Asia Meeting was organized by **H. ALFF, & A. BENZ**, at FU Berlin, 26.10.2015.

SCHETTER, C.: co-organizer of the „Braucht Frieden Ordnung?“ Annual Colloquium of the German Association for Peace and Conflict Studies (AFK), Bonn, 3-5.03.2016.

SCHETTER, C.: co-organizer of "Aid under Fire - International Development and Global (In-)security", joint symposium of BICC and Cologne Forum for International Relations and Security Policy (KFIBS), Bonn, 8.04.2016.

CROSSROADS ASIA LECTURES - PAST

ALI DAD, A.: "Boundaries and Identities: A Case Study of Gilgit-Baltistan", ZEF, University of Bonn, 3.12.2015.

ALI DAD, A.: "Together and Apart: The Case of Gilgit-Baltistan in the Context of the Kashmir Question", ZMO, Berlin, 19.11.2015.

ALI DAD, A.: "Identity debates in Gilgit-Baltistan", talk at Centre for Development Studies (ZELF), FU Berlin, 24.10.2015.

AMOO-ADARE, E.: "Area Studies Futures: Rethinking research and practice for a global world - A student guide", ZEF, University of Bonn, 13.01.2015.

HILL, J.: "In the Lap of the Mountains: The Irrigation Systems of Ladakh's Farming Communities", movie screening and discussion at ZMO, Berlin, 01.12.2015.

ISMAILBEKOVA, A. & KARIMOVA, B.: "Different conflict dynamics and coping strategies in Osh, Kyrgyzstan", ZEF, University of Bonn, 2.12.2015.



Aksana Ismailbekova and Baktygul Karimova co-presenting @ZEF.

LECTURES, WORKSHOPS & PRESENTATIONS - PAST

BALDAUF, I.: „Phantomgrenzen – Räume und Akteure in der Zeit neu denken. Vom Nutzen der area studies in Zeiten der Globalisierung“, panel discussion contribution, Centre Marc Bloch in Berlin, 12.11.2015.



Panel discussion "Phantomgrenzen", from left to right Sérgio Costa, Claudia Kraft, Dietmar Müller, Béatrice von Hirschhausen, Ingeborg Baldauf, Thomas Serrier, Hannes Grandits. Photo: Centre Marc Bloch under CC BY SA 4.0

HORNIDGE, A.-K.: "Marine Social Sciences at ZMT", Presentation at a joint Workshop by Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht and ZMT, Bremen, 11.01.2016.

HORNIDGE, A.-K.: "Sustainable Development Goals and the Role of Research", Chair of Panel at the Herrenhausen Symposium "Sustainable Development Goals and the Role of Research – A Focus on Coastal Regions", Hannover, organised by Volkswagen Foundation, 8-9.12.2015.

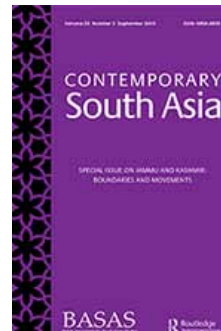
JONIAK-LÜTHI, A.: "Road maintenance, 'ecosystem services' and the emergent connectivity in northwest China." Paper presented at the conference "Steppe Road: Mongolia's Connectivity in Eurasia," Cambridge University, 8-9.12.2015.

KREUTZMANN, H.: "Ferghana Valley - Water as contested resource in Central Asia", talk at Birzeit University, Palestine, 26.11.2015.

KREUTZMANN, H.: „Welt-Umordnungen/Welt-Unordnungen. Globalisierung hat eine Weltgeschichte", talk at the Geographisch-ethnographische Gesellschaft Basel, 12.11.2015.

KREUTZMANN, H.: „Alte und neue Welt(um)ordnungen. Globalisierung hat eine Weltgeschichte" talk at the Geographisch-ethnographische Gesellschaft Zürich, 11.11.2015.

KREUTZMANN, H.: „Visionen einer Welt von morgen. Globalisierung hat eine Weltgeschichte" talk at the Ostschweizerische Geographische Gesellschaft, St. Gallen, 09.11.2015.



SPECIAL ISSUE ON JAMMU AND KASHMIR – BOUNDARIES AND MOVEMENTS

by Martin Sökefeld (ed.) 2015

In: Contemporary South Asia, 23:3

Taylor and Francis

TABLE OF CONTENTS (ARTICLES):

- » **SÖKEFELD, M.:** Introduction. Jammu and Kashmir – boundaries and movements, 251-265.
- » **ZUTSHI, C.:** An ongoing partition: histories, borders, and the politics of vivisection in Jammu and Kashmir, 266-275.
- » **KREUTZMANN, H.:** Boundaries and space in Gilgit-Baltistan, 276-291.
- » **SCHILD, P.:** Local politics of reconstruction along and across Azad Kashmir's border with Pakistan, 292-313.
- » **LOUREIRO, M.:** The boundary within: equality, hierarchy, and exclusion in Azad Jammu and Kashmir, 314-333.
- » **KHALIL KHAN, S.:** Discerning women's discursive frames in CyberKashmir, 334-351.

REETZ, D.: "Back to the Future: Regional compulsions and opportunities after US/Nato withdrawal from Afghanistan", conference paper at international conference of IPRI "Emerging Security Order in Asia Pacific and its Impact on South Asia", Islamabad, 17.11.2015, and seminar lecture at Islamabad University, 26.11.2015.

CALL FOR PAPERS

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP MAPS AND APPS: MOBILE MEDIA AND THE RECONFIGURATIONS OF KNOWLEDGE

The Maps and Apps International Workshop deals with the myriad ways in which digital and mobile media shape the dynamics of state-society relations and the insights we can extrapolate from this relatively new phenomenon. The workshop takes a closer look at the spatial dimensions of change that reimagine 'the political', the community, and identity. More specifically, the workshop seeks to discuss the aesthetic representations of these processes and these changing modes of knowledge production.

This international workshop forms part of the activities of the research network "Re-Configurations. History, Remembrance and Transformation Processes in the Middle East and North Africa", founded by the Philipps-Universität Marburg in spring 2013 with funding from the Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF).

More information is available [here](#).

CONTACT: [Alena Strohmaier](#)

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 31 March 2016

CONFERENCE DATES: 10-11 November 2016

LOCATION: University of Marburg (Germany)

REETZ, D.: "Local insurgencies and civic rehabilitation: the challenges and opportunities of the political process in Pakistan", conference paper at National Defence University Workshop, "Challenges of Rehabilitation, Reconstruction and Stabilization in Militancy Affected Areas of Pakistan", in cooperation with the German Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSS), 25.11.2015.

REETZ, D.: "Pakistan and India: from peace to war and back: tension and negotiation in a globalized world and its repercussions for South Asia", lecture at Department of Political Science, University of Peshawar, 20.11.2015.

REETZ, D.: "The Meaning of Language in Research on Islam and South Asia: Personal Experiences", conference paper at International Hindko Conference, Hindko Academy Peshawar, 20.11.2015.

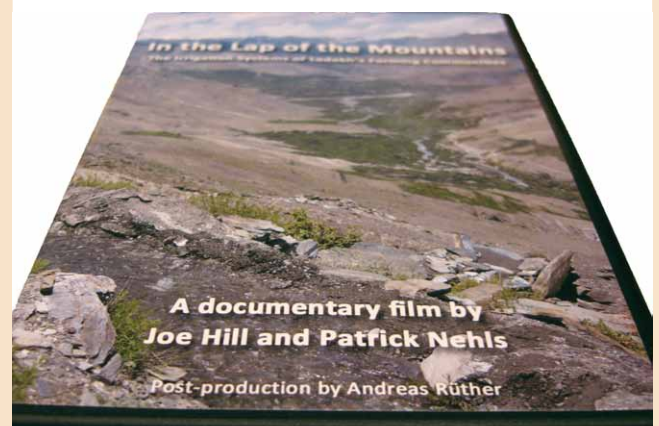
REETZ, D.: "Back to the Future: Regional compulsions and opportunities after US/Nato withdrawal from Afghanistan." University/credit seminar lecture for master students and social science faculty, IQRA University Islamabad, 26.11.2015 and paper at the conference of IPRI "Emerging Security Order in Asia Pacific and its Impact on South Asia", Islamabad, 17.11.2015.

SCHETTER, C.: „Geographien der Gewalt“, book presentation organized by the Bonner Politik-Forum (BPF), 19.01.2016.

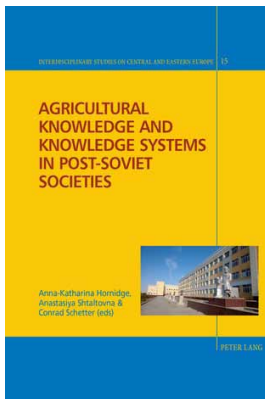
'IN THE LAP OF THE MOUNTAINS' DVD AVAILABLE

Former Crossroads Asia researcher, Joe Hill, has launched the DVD of his documentary film, 'In the Lap of the Mountains'.

A copy is available for borrowing at the ZEF/ZEI Library in Bonn.



RECENT PUBLICATIONS



AGRICULTURAL KNOWLEDGE AND KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS IN POST-SOVIET SOCIETIES

by ANNA-KATHARINA HORNIDGE, ANASTASIYA SHTALTOVNA, & CONRAD SCHETTER (eds.)

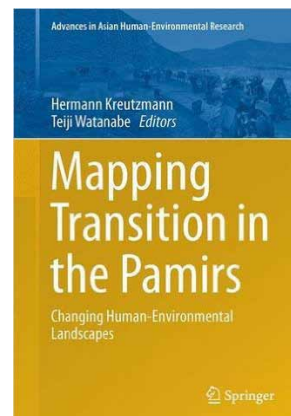
2016
Peter Lang

This volume addresses the crucial role of knowledge and innovation in coping with and adapting to socio-economic and political transformation processes in post-Soviet societies. Unique are the bottom up or micro-sociological and ethnographic perspectives offered by the book on the processes of post-Soviet transformations in Central Asia and the Southern Caucasus. Three thematic fields form the structuring frame: cultures of knowledge production and sharing in agriculture; local governance arrangements and knowledge production; and finally, the present situation of agricultural advisory services development.

BOHNET, H.; MIELKE, K.; RUDOLF, M., SCHETTER, C.; VOLLMER, R. (2015): Protected rather than Protracted: Strengthening Displaced Persons in Peace Processes. BICC Working Paper No. 3. Bonn: BICC.

JONIAK-LÜTHI A. (2016): Roads in China's Borderlands: Interfaces of spatial representations, perceptions, practices, and knowledges. *Modern Asian Studies* 50:1, 118-140.

HORNIDGE, A.-K., SHTALTOVNA A. & SCHETTER C. (EDS., 2016): *Agricultural Knowledge and Knowledge Systems in Post-Soviet Societies*. Bern: Peter Lang.



Mapping transition in the Pamirs. Changing human-environmental landscapes

by HERMANN KREUTZMANN & TEIJI WATANABE (eds.)
2016
Springer

With a focus on the Pamir region situated at the interface between South and Central Asia, this book provides a comprehensive overview of path-dependent and recent developments in a remote mountain region. Overall neglect in the mountainous periphery is contrasted by shifting the centre of attention to the Pamirs. From colonial times to now there has been a debate on grasping and locating the area. Here field-work based contributions are collected to provide a variety of perspectives on the Pamirs, highlighting transformation and transition in Post-Soviet societies as well as in Afghanistan and Pakistan. The similar ecological environment across borders offers a common ground for a series of case studies that aim at highlighting certain aspects of regional development processes.

SCHETTER, C.: „Wiederaufbau unter Drohnen? Auswirkungen zukünftiger Kriegsführung auf Entwicklungszusammenarbeit und humanitäre Hilfe“, expert talk on development policy, organized by the Society for International Development, Chapter Bonn, 01.12.2015.

SCHETTER, C.: „Afghanistan 2015: Verlässliche Partnerschaft und fragile Staatlichkeit – wie geht das zusammen?“, lecture in the context of the event “100 Jahre deutsch-afghanische Beziehungen” at the Protestant Academy Villigst, Schwerte, 28.11.2015.

SCHETTER, C.: „Afghanistan: von der Bürgerkriegs-zur Interventionsruine?“, lecture at Urania Berlin, 25.11.2015.

KREUTZMANN, H. (2016): Chapters “Kashmir” & “Pastoralists in China“. In: J. Stone, R. M. Dennis, P.S. Rizova and A. D. Smith (eds.): The Blackwell Encyclopedia of Race, Ethnicity and Nationalism. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell.

KREUTZMANN, H. & WATANABE, T. (EDS., 2016): Mapping transition in the Pamirs. With case studies on the changing human-environmental landscapes. Cham: Springer. Access the table of contents [here](#).

SÖKEFELD, M. (ED., 2015): Jammu and Kashmir – Boundaries and Movements. Special Issue of Contemporary South Asia 23: 3. **INCLUDING A CONTRIBUTION BY NETWORK MEMBER:**

KREUTZMANN, H. (2015): Boundaries and space in Gilgit-Baltistan, 276-291.

MIELKE, K. & SCHETTER, C. (2015): Der Fall Kunduz. Plädoyer für eine kritische Bestandsaufnahme. In: W&F, Wissenschaft und Frieden, 04/2015.

RZEHAK, L. (2015): The Persian Dialect of the Kandahari-Pashtuns in Afghanistan. In: M. De Chiara and E. Grassi (eds.): Iranian Languages and Literatures of Central Asia, Cahiers de Studia Iranica, 57, Paris, 159-186.

SCHINKE, B. & SCHETTER, C. (2015): The social dimension of “desert power“. D+C, e-Paper 11, 41.

SMOLARZ, E. (2015): [Translation] Church for Islam? The Orenburg Muslim Spiritual Assembly as field of social interactions for imperial and Muslim actors in the first half of the 19th century. In: [History of the peoples in the Volga-Ural Region], ed. by Academy of Sciences of the Republic Tatarstan. Kazan: Institute for History of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic Tatarstan, 413-425.

INTERVIEWS

SCHETTER, C.: „Was läuft schief in Afghanistan“, Deutsche Welle, 09.12.2015.

SCHETTER, C.: „Verteidigungsministerin in Afghanistan“, WDR Aktuelle Stunde, 07.12.2015.

SCHETTER, C.: „Bundeswehr in Afghanistan gegen IS, Warlords und Taliban“, web.de, 06.12.2015.

SCHETTER, C.: „Einsatz der Bundeswehr in Syrien“, SWRInfo, 04.12.2015.

SCHETTER, C.: „Konsequente Rückführung: Keine falschen Hoffnungen wecken“, Aargauer Zeitung, 03.12.2015.

SCHETTER, C.: „100 Jahre deutsch-afghanische Freundschaft“, SWR2, 02.12.2015.

SCHETTER, C.: „Krieg: Allianz gegen IS“, WDR Aktuelle Stunde, 26.11.2015.

SCHETTER, C.: „Was können wir tun gegen den Islamischen Staat?“, Express.de, 16.11.2015.

SCHETTER, C.: „Afghanistan das sichere Herkunftsland“, HR2, 09.11.2015.

NEW LEIBNIZ RESEARCH ALLIANCE

CRISES IN A GLOBALISED WORLD

Crises are a constant companion of nearly every human society, be they of an economic, social, political or ecological nature. Globalisation, however, has given crises a new quality: they effortlessly cross national borders, are interwoven in a complex web, and require parallel and concerted action. In the research network on Crises in a Globalised World, 19 Leibniz institutions join forces to enhance their understanding of the mechanisms of crises and their interdependencies.

The Leibniz Research Alliance investigates four crisis scenarios of global significance:

- » Financial market and debt crises
- » Global food crises
- » Crises of political systems
- » Environmental crises

The special focus is on the following dimensions of crises: their systemic character, their dynamics, and modes of coping with crises

Further information is available [here](#).

NEW PROJECTS & POLICY CONSULTANCY

ALFF, H.: Fellowship in the [ira urban network](#) at the Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography (Leibniz Institut für Länderkunde) in Leipzig, April - October 2016.

HORNIDGE, A.-K.: "Governance von Wissenschaft und Technik für nachhaltige Entwicklung", UNESCO-Expert Table 'Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Governance', Bonn, 18.11.2015.

HORNIDGE, A.-K.: Co-Speaker of the [Leibniz Research Alliance "Worlds of Contradiction"](#), University of Bremen, research pillar "Power differences".

HORNIDGE, A.-K.: Representative of the [Leibniz Research Alliance "Crises in a Globalized World"](#), University of Bremen.

REETZ, D.: Advisory Board member for the round table Islam Berlin / intermediary dialogue procedure between Muslim organisations and the state of Berlin in cooperation with the Explorat Agency: 2015-16.

FIELD RESEARCH

MIELKE, K.: Fieldwork in Kabul over a period of one month in November 2015 within the framework of the BICC work package "[People in in-between space: How forced immobility is dealt with in Kabul](#)". The fieldwork focused on traditionally highly mobile people (former nomads and itinerant groups, such as Ghorbat, Sheikh Mohammadi, Chori Frush, Jat, and Jogi) who live as displaced (IDPs, returnees) and urban poor in irregular settlements on private and government-owned land throughout Afghanistan's capital city. The research findings from the interviews contribute to understanding current dynamics of emplacement and displacement in Afghanistan and strategies of locality production and liminal existence/s in conceptual terms.

REETZ, D.: Fieldwork in Pakistan (Islamabad, Peshawar, Lahore, Karachi), 16.11.-9.12.16.

NEW COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH CENTRE

PROCESSES OF SPATIALIZATION UNDER THE GLOBAL CONDITION

CENTRE FOR AREA STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF LEIPZIG

Spatialization is a central dimension of social actions. Spaces are being made by people. The Collaborative Research Centre addresses what characterizes these spaces, how they relate to one another, and whether resulting spatial orders are becoming increasingly complex within the context of globalization processes.

The proposed concept of spatial formats (Raumformate) focuses on the result of spatial actions of different groups of actors, such as different scales of territories, networks, chains, enclaves, corridors, (special) zones, or the various indications of "virtual" and "transnational" spaces. Spatial orders (Raumordnungen) in turn are understood as being the result of multiple processes of spatialization of different groups of actors, which as a consequence lead to a distinct constellation of spatial formats.

More information is available [here](#).

PROJECT COORDINATOR: [Matthias Middell](#)

FUNDING TERM: 2016–2020

FUNDER: German Research Foundation (DFG)

"CROSS"-BLOGGING

GILGIT-BALTISTAN AT THE CROSSROADS

BY ROXANA BITA

Crossroads Asia visiting fellow at Zentrum Moderner Orient, Aziz Ali Dad, presented his ongoing research on boundary- and identity-making in Gilgit-Baltistan on December 3, 2015 at the Center for Development Research (ZEF) in Bonn (...).

Ali Dad has managed to capture the historical, current and potential shifts in the identities and borders of Gilgit-

Baltistan and the translocal connections that condition them. By shedding some light on this often overlooked part of the world, Ali Dad encourages us once again to look beyond traditional spatial containers in order to understand how identities are built and contested beyond the stiff discourse of national interests and borders. Ali Dad traces identities being rearticulated in Gilgit-Baltistan along sectarian, nationalist and linguistic lines.

(...) Aziz Ali Dad's research on Gilgit-Baltistan will be published in the [Crossroads Asia Working Paper Series](#) at the beginning of 2016 and will be accessible on the [Crossroads Asia website](#) and on [Academia.edu](#)

CONTINUE READING [here](#).



Aziz Ali Dad at his Crossroads Asia lecture on Gilgit-Baltistan at the Center for Development Research (ZEF) in Bonn.

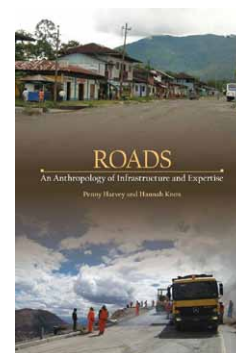
BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

The following books were recommended by Crossroads Asia Network members.

Short book reviews (300-400 words) related to Crossroads Asia's research, as well as literature recommendations are welcome at any time from any interested party. The reviews will be published in our quarterly newsletter in the order that they are received at crossroads@uni-bonn.de

ROADS. AN ANTHROPOLOGY OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND EXPERTISE (2015)

Authors: Penny Harvey & Hannah Knox
Publisher: Cornell University Press

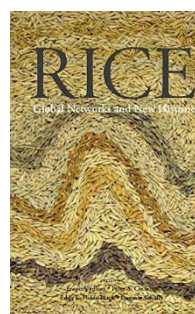
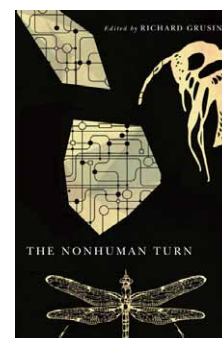


PHANTOMGRENZEN – RÄUME UND AKTEURE NEU DENKEN (2015)

Editors: Béatrice von Hirschhausen, Hannes Grandits, Claudia Kraft, Dietmar Müller, Thomas Serrier
Publisher: Wallstein Verlag

THE NONHUMAN TURN (2015)

Editor: Richard Grusin
Publisher: University of Minnesota Press



RICE: GLOBAL NETWORKS AND NEW HISTORIES (2015)

Editors: Francesca Bray, Peter Coclanis, Edda Fields-Black, and Dagmar Schaefer
Publisher: Cambridge University Press

Crossroads Asia derives its name from the geographical area(s) extending from eastern Iran to western China and from the Aral Sea to northern India. The scholars collaborating in the network pursue a novel approach to Area Studies, which aspires to identify concepts of area that take into account key dynamics like the constant mobility of human beings, ideas and commodities across and beyond cultural, social and political borders. Mobility forms an analytical lens for investigating figurations, a concept implying that changes, minor or major, within one element of a constellation (e.g., a familial, religious, or economic network) always affect the whole; figurations can emerge in a given location but stretch to far-flung corners of the world, perhaps then returning to where they began. The research network uses methods from the disciplines geography, political science, sociology, linguistics and social anthropology, among others, to investigate phenomena related to multiple spatial realities, (im-)mobilities and (im-)mobilisation, borders and boundary-making/-weakening, and positionality.

Funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and comprised of half a dozen research institutions, the Crossroads Asia competence network was established in spring of 2011. Integral to its academic undertakings, the network aims to meet the high demand on the part of political decision-makers and the public for information on countries within the scope of its research. Further information on Crossroads Asia is available at www.crossroads-asia.de.

Imprint

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