



WORLD ANTHROPOLOGY CONGRESS

Organized by



Hosted by



In Association with



WORLD ANTHROPOLOGY CONGRESS-2023

BHUBANESWAR, INDIA | 9-14 AUGUST 2023

ROUND TABLE TITLE:

NORTHEAST INDIA ISSUES AND POLICY RESEARCH

CONVENOR: DR. ANINDITA NAYAK

MODERATOR: DR. DEBOJYOTI DAS

ABSTRACT

Northeast India located in the easternmost fringe of the Indian subcontinent is delineated by the Himalayas in the north and Arakan Yoma in the east and is straddled by the Ganges-Padma plains overlooking the Garo, Khasi, and Jaintia hills in the south alongside the undulating plains of Tripura and the Chittagong Hill Tracts that border Mizoran at the bottom. The region is today in a “state of exception” with disputes ranging from the resouitarized borderlands, and ethnonationalism. The challenges are buttressed by growing levels of socio-political unrest, migration paranoia, and ecological risk elicited by the proposed construction of big dams, mining, and people’s aspiration for development and modernization. There are eight states in Northeast India if we include Sikkim. Both the local and immigrant communities (for example, the indentured tea tribes of Assam) are undergoing insurmountable challenges where the policymaking needs to be reframed following a “pluriversal”, “anti-colonial”, “decolonial”, “post-development” and “convivial” perspective for dispute resolution (for example, the ongoing ethnic friction in Imphal valley).

This roundtable is aimed at discussing collegially current issues and challenges of Northeastern states and how to resolve these through policy research which could include the voices of all marginalized groups historically conditioned by colonial epistemic violence and postcolonial experience of “state making”. Scholars who are working among communities in the Northeast region will share their experiences through narratives on how they face challenges in conducting research, build solidarity with communities at the margins, and foreground perspectives from below. They will be encouraged to voice the current situation in their states and give suggestions which will be discussed in a participatory mode and ways it can inform policy-making at the regional, national, and international forums.

Keywords: Northeast India, Resource Curse, Land Rights, Lineage Bill, Counter Insurgency, Gender Violence, Ethno-Nationalism, Dispute Resolution

Pre- and Post-Congress In Collaboration with





WORLD
ANTHROPOLOGY
CONGRESS

Organized by



Hosted by



In Association with



WORLD ANTHROPOLOGY CONGRESS-2023

BHUBANESWAR, INDIA | 9-14 AUGUST 2023

SPEAKERS

- Prof. Shapan Adnan, Visiting Professor, Department of Geography & Environment, , London School of Economics and Political Sciences (LSE), Former Professorial Research Associate, Development Studies, SOAS, University of London
- Prof. Ashok Kumar Ray, Former Visiting Fellow, Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Social Change and Development (OKDISCD), Guwahati.
- Prof. Karumuri Venkata Subbarao, Professor, University of Delhi, (Retired), Radhakrishnan Chair Professor in Humanities at the University of Hyderabad, Visiting Professor of Linguistics at Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Tokyo
- Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri, Professor and Founder HOD, Anthropology, Rajib Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh
- Prof. Sajal Nag, Department of History, Assam University, Silchar, Assam
- Prof. Anungla Aier, Director of Higher Education, (Retired) Government of Nagaland, Former Associate Professor at Kohima Science College, Nagaland
- Prof. Geetika Ranjan, Department of Anthropology, North Eastern Hill University, Meghalaya
- Prof. Sucheta Sen Chaudhuri, Associate Professor, Dean School for the Study of Culture, Head Department of Anthropology and Tribal Studies, Central University of Jharkhand
- Prof. Mini Bhattacharyya, Department of Anthropology, Guwahati University, Assam
- Prof. Queen Bala Marak, Department of Anthropology, North Eastern Hill University, Meghalaya

Pre- and Post-Congress In Collaboration with

