



International Conference on Entangled Cartographies: An interconnected history of mapping in Europe and South Asia, 16th to 20th centuries

Organized by Jamia Millia Islamia and University of Erfurt Germany with support from DFG (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft) and UGC-SAP from 03 to 05 October 2017.

About the Conference:

This conference, organized by the Jamia Millia Islamia and the University of Erfurt on Eurasian interconnections of historical cartography, focuses on historical maps, cartographic concepts and its development with regard to historical exchanges between Europe and Asia in different periods of medieval and modern history. Given the fact that this is an emerging area that is very multi-disciplinary, the conference is happy to invite not only historians, but all other scholars working on maps and interested in Indo-European scientific collaboration in this field.

Both Europe and India are part of the Eurasian land mass and although they lie far apart, cultural and commercial relations connected the regions at least since the 15th century on a regular basis that is historically well documented. What do we know of the mutual perception and 'mapping' of both areas and the corresponding countries? By analyzing the entangled history of cartography we want to give an answer – at least partly – to this question. In recent years, the history of the map and of cartography has gained new interest in historical sciences. By the late 1980s the understanding of cartography was challenged by the geographer and map historian Brian Harley who conceived maps as social constructions and means or products of power. More recently, Anglo-American cartographic theory frames maps as inscriptions, actants or as a set of practices rather than representations. Following these approaches, historical maps are no longer considered as representations of historical reality. Rather than depicting reality, maps convey messages and they create new spaces. Instead of analyzing European maps made by Europeans and Indian maps made by Indians, the project aims to highlight a perspective of entangled relationships in cartography. Entangled history is understood as a concept of transcultural connected history. Connections and relations between areas (here: Europe and India) are at the center of interest. While in general, these relations can be cultural, political, diplomatic or economic, varied rates of development and the consequent scale of borrowings and exchanges form an important part of the process of entangled historical change. In the perspective of an entangled or connected history one could also ask how both sides are formed through these relationships and encounters. Maps as a means of representation of space ("représentation de l'espace" or "espace conçu" in the terms of Lefebvre) can shape a clear notion and influence the perception of the respective other region. However, despite all parallel or mutual developments in Europe and India, we start from the hypotheses of a 'great divergence': Cartography based on mathematical and astronomical calculations was perfected around 1500 in (southern) Germany with the application of triangulation. Exact maps with scale and coordinate system, seem to be a European invention appearing only in the 18th century in India. The conference will discuss if this is true and – if it is the case – what it meant for the people and their ways of spatial orientation.

Applied to the history of cartography, the entangled history of cartography can include:

- (mutual) representations of Europe and South-Asia in cosmography, on early world maps or on colonial maps
- Understanding the uneven pace of development of cartography across time and between Europe and South Asia in the medieval, early modern and modern historical periods

- The asymmetric interest of Europe in the cartographic comprehension and ordering of South Asia. Or: Is the history of modern “scientific” cartography a European invention?
- The actual process (including non-Indian and non-European mediations) in the knowledge transfer in cartography or geography (techniques and technologies) from India to Europe or from Europe to India; reception of indigenous knowledge.
- The political and economic contexts of cartographic development. This aspect includes the history of the “discovery” of the world as well as commercial interests for the development of maps – portolans in the Mediterranean region, new world charts after the discovery of the Americas, overseas expansion but also the history of knowledge and culture – translation of Ptolemaeus’ Geographica, the role of mathematicians, the development of triangulation and projection, advances in navigation, the invention of the printing press, coloration – not to forget fiscal or military interests.

International Conference on Entangled Cartographies:
An interconnected history of mapping in Europe and Asia, 16th to 20th centuries

2 October 17

10:00 am-5:00 pm Historical Walk (covering parts of Sultanate, Mughal and colonial Delhi)	Conducted by Dr Swapna Liddle
--	----------------------------------

6:00- 7:00 pm
Registration (Nehru Guest House, Jamia Millia Islamia)

3 October 2017

INAUGURAL SESSION

09:00- 10:00 am
Opening Remarks by Conference Convenors, Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia, Director, DFG India, Head, Dept of History and Culture,

10:00- 11:00 am
Keynote Address by Prof. Irfan Habib, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh

Tea Break

11:30-12:45 pm SESSION I
Chair: Professor Irfan Habib, AMU, Aligarh
Yellava Subbarayalu, French Institute of Pondicherry, Pondicherry Prospects for a Comprehensive Historical Atlas for South India
Shireen Moosvi, AMU, Aligarh Geography of India in the <i>Aʿīn-i Akbarī</i>
Mahendra Khadgawat, Director, Rajasthan State Archives Cartographic Resources in the Rajasthan Archives and Map Digitalization
1:00 pm to 2:00 pm Lunch
2:00 to 5:00 pm SESSION II
Chair: Professor Shireen Moosvi, Aligarh
Nishat Manzar, JMI, Delhi Mapping the Mughal Empire: Concerns of the Europeans in the Seventeenth Century
Anubhuti Maurya, Bharati Mahila College, Delhi University, Delhi Maps of Words: Cartographic Practices of the Mughal Court Chronicles in the Sixteenth Century
Break
Ranjeeta Dutta, JNU, Delhi Geography at Crossroads: Mapping Places and the Idea of South in Pre-Colonial India
Srinayani Lankala, Hyderabad Surveying the 'Other': Colonial Mapping in Pre-Colonial Territory
Susanne Friedrich, University Munich, Germany Charting India – or: how 'Indian' was the Dutch East India Company?

4 October 2017
09:00- 10:30 am SESSION I
Chair: Professor Narayani Gupta, Delhi
Pilar Maria Guerrieri, GD Goenka University-Politecnico di Milano, Italy Entangled Cartography: Europeans Mapping the Capital
Swapna Liddle, INTACH, Delhi Walking the Streets and Making a Map in Early Colonial Delhi
Nonica Datta, JNU, Delhi Cartographic Violence: Mapping Landscape, Cantonment and Frontier in Colonial North India
10:30 to 11:00 am Break
11:00 am- 1:00 pm SESSION II
Chair: Professor Amar Farooqui, University of Delhi
Ravindran Gopinath, JMI, Delhi "To put sinews and flesh on the colossal skeleton": Exploring the history of cadastral mapping in colonial India
Oyndrila Sarkar, Presidency University, Kolkata Rules of Mapping: The Making of Surveyors and of Surveying in 19th Century India
Paulami Biswas, JNU Tracing Roots, Making Maps and Building Roads: Road Survey in Early Colonial Eastern India
1:00 to 2:00 pm Lunch
2:00- 3:15 pm SESSION III
Chair: Professor Gopinath Ravindran, JMI
Shatam Ray, Emory University, Atlanta, USA Man, Maps, Nature: Political Ecology and Cartography in the Making of 19th Century Malwa
Bauna Panmei, JNU, Delhi Colonial Encounters: Mapping, Connections and Circulation in the North-East Frontier of British India in the 19th Century
Karsten Gaebler, Friedrich-Schiller-University, Jena, Germany Mapping the Regional - Spatial Concepts in Radhakamal Mukerjee's (1889-1968) Sociology
3:00 pm to 3:15 pm Break
3:15-5:15 pm SESSION IV
Chair: Professor Sabine Schmolinsky, University of Erfurt

Christoph Bernhardt, Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space, Germany Socialist Germany and India: Entanglements in Cartography and Architecture 1949-1989
Norman Henniges, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, Germany Traveling to "Wunderland"- Geographical Imaginations of India: Teaching Practices and Spatial Concepts in German School Wall Maps between 1870-1970
Philipp Meyer, University of Erfurt, Germany The Indian Empire in Gothanian Maps.'Periphery' or 'Metropole'?
5 October 2017
09:00- 11:30 SESSION I
Chair: Professor Sabine Schmolinsky, University of Erfurt
Manuel Schramm, University of Technology Chemnitz, Germany India in European Historical Atlases of the 18th Century
Susanne Rau, University of Erfurt, Germany The Perthes collection Gotha and the interest of a German publishing house in mapping "Hither India" in the 19th centuries
Iris Schroeder, University of Erfurt, Germany Entangled Worlds in Hermann Berghaus' "Chart of the World" (1863-1924)
Georg Maximillian, Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography, Leipzig India in Journals of Belgian, Scottish and U.S. American Geographical Societies, 1876–1914
11:30-12:30 Concluding Remarks by Convenors
1:00-2:00 pm <i>Lunch</i>