



Workshop "Feeling for the Community"

Berlin, 27-28 June 2014

The workshop will address the question of the relation between emotions and the creation of communities. Do existing social groups develop a common way of feeling which constitutes them as an "emotional community" (Barbara Rosenwein)? Or is a common emotional style, "the experience, fostering, and display of emotions" (Benno Gammerl) not just an indicator, but even more a factor in the creation of a community? The emotions the workshop will look at thus encompass both those which are seen as "typical" for a community, by the people within, but also outside the community

(we/they are those who feel these specific emotions, for instance a sense for the miraculous); and also those which are geared at the community itself (compassion, love, devotion, the need to protect it from harm or dishonor).

With the help of our literary scholars, we will try to trace the trajectory through which the community enters into a complicated relationship with the older objects of affection and absorbs the language and tropes developed for them. While many different communities become emotionalized since the middle of the 19th century – not only the nation, but also the various religious and linguistic communities and the castes/*biradaris*/neighborhoods – the semantic resources drawn upon seem to differ quite vastly.

The last set of questions to be investigated relates to the practices – bodily and other – through which the emotions were learned and invoked as well as those to which they gave rise.

Preliminary Program

Friday, 27 June

14.00 Welcome and Introduction (Margrit Pernau)

First Panel: Compassion and Sacrifice (Chair: Amélie Blom (CEIAS, Paris))

14.15 Margrit Pernau (MPIB): *Hamdardi – the Emotion of 19th century Muslim Mobilization*

15.00 Monika Freier (MPIB): *Compassion and its Translations in Hindi Advice Manuals*

15.45-16.00 Coffee Break

16.00 Imke Rajamani (MPIB): *The Cinematic Politics of Anger and Compassion in Andhra Pradesh*

16.45 Sahil Warsi (SOAS): *"There is no Hamdardi Here": Afghan Refugees on Community in Delhi*

Saturday, 28 June

Second Panel: Love and Devotion (Chair: Benno Gammerl (MPIB))

9.00 Veronique Benei (EHESS, Paris): *Loving the Nation. Emotional Integration and the Community of Kinship*

9.45 Sajjad Rizvi (University of Exeter): *Poetics, Polemics, and Persians: Shi'i Communal Identity and Memory in Delhi c. 1800*

10.30-10.45 Coffee Break

10.45 Carla Petievich (University of Texas): *From the Ghazal's Beloved to the Beloved Community*

11.30 Max Stille (University of Heidelberg): *Dimensions of Community in Islamic Sermons: Aesthetics, Experience and Identification*

12.15-13.30 Lunch Break

Third Panel: Communities of Wonder, Communities of Dread (Chair: Sonam Kachru)

13.30 Pasha Muhammad Khan (McGill University) : *Enchanted India: Wondering Communities and the Romance Genre*

14.15 Thibaut d'Hubert (University of Chicago/ Forum Transregionale Studien Berlin – Forschungsprogramm Zukunftsphilologie): *Aesthetic Feelings and the Creation of Community: The Term "Vaishnava" and Premodern Bengali Muslim Lyric Poetry*

15.00-15.15 Coffee Break

15.15 Razak Khan (MPIB): *Pleasure, Reform and Emotional Styles among Muslims in Colonial India*

16.00 Christina Oesterheld (University of Heidelberg): *Fighting as a Community: Urdu Literature of Heroism and Identity*