

*Political Cosmologies: Global and Contextual Categories in the Study of India*

Workshop, June 4-5, 2015

Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity

Organized by:

Ajay Gandhi, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity

Shankar Ramaswami, Department of South Asian Studies, Harvard University

**Schedule**

**Thursday, June 4**

1-1:30 pm Introductory remarks by Shankar Ramaswami (Harvard) and Ajay Gandhi (MPI)

1:30-3 pm Categories and Frameworks I

Roundtable Session:

Parimal Patil (Harvard), Christopher Pinney (University College London), Uday Mehta (City University of New York), Peter van der Veer (MPI)

3-3:30 pm Tea

3:30-5 pm Categories and Frameworks II

Remarks by:

Patrick Eisenlohr (CeMIS), Radhika Gupta (CeMIS), Nate Roberts (MPI), Leilah Vevaina (MPI), Uday Chandra (MPI), Sebastian Schwecke (CeMIS)

**Friday, June 5**

Format of sessions:

Speaker presentation (10 min), discussant remarks (10 min), general discussion (40 min)

9-10 am Parimal Patil, "The Possibility of Political Theory in Pre-Modern India"

Discussant: Uday Mehta

10-11 am Shankar Ramaswami, "The Cosmological Politics of Labor in Delhi"

Discussant: Christopher Pinney

11-11:15 am Tea

11:15-12:15 Ajay Gandhi, "The *Kachcha-Pakka* Continuum: On the Metabolics of Social Creation in India"

Discussant: Christopher Pinney

12:30-1:30 pm Lunch

1:30-2:30 pm Prasannan Parthasarathi (Boston College), “The Anthropocene and the Writing of Economic History”

Discussant: Parimal Patil

2:30-3:30 pm Uday Mehta, “Gandhi and the Ground of Moral Action”

Discussant: Prasannan Parthasarathi

3:30-3:45 pm Tea

4-5 pm Concluding Discussion

Sudipta Kaviraj (via Skype)

Ajay Gandhi and Shankar Ramaswami