Workshop Programme: Ethnographic Perspectives on the State in Bangladesh

With the kind support of:
ISEK – Department of Social Anthropology and Cultural Studies
SNF – Swiss National Fund

Location: ISEK Ethnologie (Department for Social Anthropology and Cultural Studies),
Room 5.03 (5th floor), Andreasstrasse 15, 8050 Zürich Oerlikon

Wednesday, 28th of August 2019

10:00 – 10:30 Registration & Coffee
10:30 – 11:00 Welcome from the Department (Johannes Quack) and the Organizers; Introduction to the Workshop and Special Issue, Mascha Schulz (University of Zurich) and Julian Kuttig (Ghent University)
11:00 – 12:15 Comments on the Framework and Introduction by Willem van Schendel, David Lewis, & Nicolas Martin, joint discussion
12:15 – 13:15 Lunch (Mensa)
13:15 – 14:30 Arild Engelsen Ruud: “He should mix well with the people: elected leaders and dynamics of change in local politics” Discussants: David Lewis & Tobias Berger
14:30 – 14:45 Coffee Break
14:45 – 16:00 Fariba Alamgir: “Property, authority and state formation in a Bengali settlement village in the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh” Discussants: David Lewis & Mascha Schulz
16:00 – 16:15 Coffee Break
19:15 Dinner: Restaurant Reithalle, Gessnerallee 8, 8001 Zürich (We suggest to start walking together to the restaurant after the last discussion slot at 17:30 and take some time to explore the city centre on the way.)
Thursday, 29th of August 2019

09:15 – 10:30  
*Hoque Ashraf:* “A dispute between equals: land, development and the political class in a translocal ‘Londoni’ village” by
Discussants: Willem van Schendel and Nasrin Siraj

10:30 – 10:45  
Coffee Break

10:45 – 12:00  
*Julian Kuttig:* “The most powerful leader in Rajshahi city’ – Buses, labour power and the formation of public authority and local leadership in ‘middle Bangladesh’”
Discussants: David Lewis & Ashraf Hoque

12:00 – 13:00  
Lunch (Mensa)

13:00 – 14:15  
*Nasrin Siraj:* “State in borderland: Understanding hegemonic notions of sovereignty, security and protection from a grass-root perspective in the Chittagong Hill Tracts”
Discussants: Willem van Schendel & Fariba Alamgir

14:15 – 14:30  
Coffee Break

14:30 – 15:45  
*Nayanika Mookherjee & Mark Lacy:* “Paranoid politics? The Digital Security Act and state practices in Bangladesh”
Discussants: Willem van Schendel and Julian Kuttig

15:45 – 16:00  
Coffee Break

16:00 – 17:15  
*Mascha Schulz:* “That was a good move’ – Some remarks on the (ir)relevance of ‘narratives of secularism’ in everyday politics in Bangladesh”
Discussants: David Lewis & Arild Engelsen Ruud

19:30  
Dinner: Restaurant Frascati, Bellerivestrasse 2, 8008 Zurich (We suggest meeting at 18:30 at the front exit of the ISEK Building)

Friday, 30th of August 2019

09:30 – 10:45  
Presentation of the First Thoughts of the Afterward (Willem van Schendel & David Lewis) & Concluding Remarks (all)

10:45 – 11:00  
Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:00  
Information regarding publication & wrapping up (Prof. Johannes Quack, Mascha Schulz & Julian Kuttig)