History 142

History of South Asia to the Present

The South Asian Subcontinent, site of one of oldest civilizations of the world, and home to one-fourth of the world’s population, is a study in paradoxes. Culturally complex, religiously syncretic yet divisive, politically tumultuous, the subcontinent is a melting-pot of languages, ethnicities, heterogeneous political and social regimes, and widely disparate economic and ecological habitats. From being shaped by one of the greatest empires of the early-modern period - the Mughals; to being the most important imperial possession of Britain in the nineteenth century – the jewel in the crown; and ultimately providing a mosaic of postcolonial nations experimenting with democracy and authoritarianism in varied measures of success and tragedy, South Asia is both a world unto itself and a central node to wider global connections.

Time: TR 8:00-9:15am
Location: PENDING
Instructor: Mou Banerjee