



**Justice, Protection and Government of the People
A Two-Year Research and Orientation Programme
on Protection and Democracy in a Post-COVID World
(2021-2023)**



**ANNUAL REPORT
2023**

**CALCUTTA RESEARCH GROUP
in collaboration with
INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SCIENCES (IWM), VIENNA**



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Project Summary

The Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna, and the Calcutta Research Group (CRG), collaborated on Justice, Protection and Government of the People: A Two-Year Research and Orientation Programme on Protection and Democracy in a Post-COVID World (2021–2023)'. CRG while hosting the South Asian Segment of the programme has engaged with project related activities such as research, organisation of camps, workshops, webinars, book discussion, public lectures, conferences, facilitating visiting fellowships and media fellowships, conferring awards, publications and reports. The research programme was conceptualised in the background of “government of the people” at a time when governing the population of a country no more remains only in the hands of the government but is dispersed as responsibilities among population groups, and a multitude of public and private interventions, especially in a post-COVID world; it becomes important to not only look at governments as political structures but to bring in the perspective of management of states in a region through the assemblages of forums and conclaves. The ways in which individuals and groups are directed, conduct, react and respond in a crisis time requires enumeration, through the study of how the lives of women, discriminated groups, children, migrant labour, or labour in an expanding gig economy, etc., are being managed in the COVID-19 world; and how social policies are framed by government and authorities at lower levels. In this context the emerging composite of institutions, procedures, policies, practices, and laws that shape the complex form of care and protection linked with the general well-being of the society, together with how borders are created within the society among social strata that generate hierarchies which people have to overcome and crossover all the time, have been explored. The foundational realities of twentieth century globalisation come out through cross-border mobility on research and dissemination, both in terms of human resources and exchange of ideas. Citizenship, statelessness, environment, public health, the pandemic, restructuring of economy including restructuring of labour, gig economy and migrant labour; precarious labour in unorganised sector, COVID jurisprudence including laws, judgements, legal commentaries etc., on the issue of protection in the wake of the pandemic and the right to life, women labour in the pandemic time, governmental policies for protection of the victims of public health crisis and economic crisis and the practices of social protection and the institutes and instruments of harmony, have been areas of focus in the discourses, among others. Pandemic and the new meaning of social justice in the form of policies on access to food, education, work, and health for women, minorities, migrants and refugees, and other vulnerable groups that will help the re-envisioning of the link between justice and democracy, as well as provide a new meaning to the idea of the government of the people, have been central to discussion. The experiences of public health management, social protection, refugee and migrant protection, and new meanings of justice, care, and democracy come to the forefront through the research themes that scholars have worked on.

Creative programmes such as travelling photographic exhibition, film screening and discussion for colleges, universities, work of translation, workshops for practitioners in media and education, dialogues and primary investigative studies at grassroot level for incorporating research findings into ground practices and network building have been some of the approaches adopted while working on research programmes. The solidarity practices, care, ethics and the tasks assuring protection and public health through the lenses of both centralised and decentralised institutional responsibilities have been examined, keeping in mind the methods of studying governmental practices. In understanding the significance of justice for vulnerable population groups, including the displaced, and the duty to protect people as the fundamental responsibility of the state and the society in a democratic set-up—with these objectives, in 2022, CRG organised summer camp with the aim of delving into the intricacies of maritime migration, the role of media in the portrayals of climate crises and its impacts, bringing into mainstream discourses the challenges of migration and displacement faced by students and the difficulties in framing curricula by educators, as well as the research and orientation workshop and the critical studies conference on “Migrant Asias: Refugees, Statelessness and Migrant Labour Regimes” to draw together reflections and research findings from different parts of the world. In 2023, peace, justice, governmentality, climate crisis became the chief focus areas. CRG organised the ‘Youth Meet’ deliberating discussions on the link between the notions of peace and justice, precisely when one thinks of justice as achievable, practical, and minimally possible. The Meet was designed as a window to see and hear the voices that speak of differentials through not just ethical lens but also critically engage in discussions on the ground level to build protection mechanisms to substantiate the shortcomings of state recognition of the existent fissures in protection policies, in addition to the redressal approaches taken to compensate for the injustice caused or else still living in the limbo of an acknowledgment. The ‘Youth Meet’, and the ‘Media Workshop’, in addition to their pan-India representation and participation from outside India, the programmes also encouraged inclusive environment for everyone beyond the categories of gender, caste, religion, region, etc. The Media Workshop and Training Programme was themed on the politics of the road and the role of reporting the migrants in popular media. The Teachers’ Workshop while building on the previous workshops on syllabus making on migration studies and for migrants, took the cause ahead and engaged on the specific aspect of preparing a pedagogical model focusing on teaching local histories and geographies of

climate induced migration and displacement—the role of field schools, vernacular and locally available resources as well as use of folk narratives in conveying the meaning of migration especially to young learners in borders and borderland areas. The Annual Research and Orientation Workshop steered around the concept of the “Global Protection of Refugees and Migrants” and the Eighth Annual Conference was on “War, Climate Disaster, and Displacement: Call for New Protection Strategies.” In 2022-2023, CRG invited Visiting Fellows/Professors from Nepal, Bangladesh, Vienna, and Kyrgyzstan who participated in different capacities in programmes of CRG and their research papers are published as occasional papers *Policies and Practices* or are included as special articles in *Journal Refugee Watch*. A few of them also had been part of the CRG podcast series on *Migration Matters*. As part of the CRG-IWM initiative to look into forced migration, peace, democracy, public opinion, through a popular approach, a travelling photography on the 1946 Riots of Calcutta that shaped the path of Independence and rooted the Two Nation Theory in the annals of Indian history, was conceptualised by photographer Dipanwita Saha. The project aimed to map the city of Calcutta as on the day/s of the Riot and its present postcolonial situation by also taking into account the survivor narrative to prepare the documentation. The travelling photography was envisioned as an educational resource and has already been exhibited at different programmes and conferences. *Calcutta: A Transit City*, the third in the film trilogy on *Calcutta: A Migrant City* was directed by Debalina Majumdar in 2022 and produced by CRG. The series was screened as part of different symposiums in South Africa, Taiwan, Trent, Kolkata, and was included as part of the reading resources on migration, Partition in different colleges in Kolkata.

CRG undertook the publication of books as edited volumes, monographs, and translations, research articles in *Refugee Watch Journal*, ‘RefugeeWatchOnline’ blog, research papers in the occasional paper series *Policies and Practices* and *Distinguished Lecture Series*. CRG also collaborated on the series ‘Shock Mobility’ and ‘Cities after Colonialism’ with 360info and Monash University. CRG has published on populist politics, media and migrants, COVID-19 pandemic, migration and protection, climate change, refugees and labour migrants, along with translation of original monographs like *Labour Train* (Bengali to English), *Borders of an Epidemic* and *Burdens of an Epidemic* (English to Hindi). The bi-annual *Journal Refugee Watch: A South Asian Journal on Forced Migration* published three special issues on Ukraine War, Partition (joint issue) and Migrant Asias and one regular issue on community, region, migration and citizenship. The blog ‘RefugeeWatchOnline’ had more than 10k views in 2022 and in 2023 it started a new section on *Migration Matters* columned by Bharat Bhushan. A photobook on water in the highlands and delta, and migration, based on the research reports of CRG’s media fellows (2022) has been published.

Researchers and Staff

The research programme ‘Justice, Protection and Government of the People: A Two Year Research and Orientation Programme on Protection and Democracy in a Post-COVID World (2021-2023),’ was headed by Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury, Honorary Director of the Calcutta Research Group, together with Ranabir Samaddar, Distinguished Chair in Migration and Forced Migration Studies, with the support of the project associates Shatabdi Das and Rituparna Datta, administrative staff and the Secretary to the Director Subhashree Rout and accountant Partha Pratim Sarkar, librarian Binayak Mallick in 2022 and Lina Dey in 2023 and archivist Raj Kumar Mahato. CRG has organised dialogues with caregivers, primary investigative study, youth meet, media workshop and media fellowship, conducted teachers’ workshop, organised a photo exhibition and screening of CRG films, public lectures, webinars and panel discussions, the annual research and orientation workshop and conference under the research programme, and facilitated visiting fellowships and exchange programmes with the support of the Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna, and other associations, organisations, universities and institutions. The staff researchers and contracted researchers have worked on themes such as climate crisis, cities and slums, indentured labour, gig economy, migrant labour, pandemic and governance, migrant labour, politics of the road, caregivers, women and social leadership, among others. For details of 2022 programme see: http://www.mcrg.ac.in/IWM_Migration_2022/IWM_Migration_Home_2022.asp; For details of 2023 programme see: http://www.mcrg.ac.in/IWM_Migration_2023/IWM_Migration_Home_2023.asp.

Ranabir Samaddar has visited several universities and institutes and conducted research, spoken in panels, moderated discussions, delivered lectures, instructed in workshops and given classes in courses at universities and research institutes, such as the University of Oldenburg, University of Birmingham, University of Bremen, University of Nurnberg, University of Bologna, Koç University. As one of the Heads of Project of *the Europe-Asia Research Platform on Forced Migration*, he visited the Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna, in February-March 2022, and in October 2023 and worked on ‘[Acts of Interpretation](#)’ and ‘[Crisis, Conjuncture, and Biopolitics from Below](#)’ respectively. A research paper with revised text from the lecture delivered by Ranabir Samaddar as the valedictory address of the Seventh Critical Studies Conference ‘Migrant Asias: Refugees, Statelessness, and Migrant Labour Regimes,’ titled “An Intelligent Guide to the Discriminatory History of Responsibility,” has been published in CRG Chair Lecture Series in December 2022. In 2023 he spent a tenured research residency for the research

programme 'Necessary Utopias' at the Institute of Advanced Studies, at Aix Marseilles Université, France, from February-July 2023. He was the EHESS/Iméra Chair in Transregional Studies. His research project was '[Biopolitics from Below, A New Model of Power, and a Different Politics of Life \(Politics, social theory\)](#)'. He is also Fellow with [CIFAR](#) in Humanity's Urban Future Project. His theoretical intervention on "Biopolitics from Below" will be published as a monograph from CEU Press. The monograph [Alternative Futures and the Present: Postcolonial Possibilities](#) has been published by Routledge in 2023. He has written widely on the postcolonial understanding of keywords in migration studies and shock migration. The [Distinguished Chair's page](#) on the CRG website has a collection of the Chair's activities and a few among his recent publications are:

Books

- (i) *Alternative Futures and the Present: Postcolonial Possibilities*. London and New York: Routledge, 2023.
- (ii) *Imprints of the Populist Time*. Hyderabad: Orient BlackSwan, 2022.

Co-Edited volumes

- (i) Bhandopadhyay, Ritajyoti, Paula Banerjee, and Ranabir Samaddar. *India's Migrant Workers and the Pandemic*. London and New Delhi: Routledge and Social Science Press, 2022.

Chapters in edited volumes

- (i) "Towards a Postcolonial Theory of Crisis, Neoliberal Government, and Biopolitics from Below," in *Handbook on Governmentality*, Research Handbooks in Political Thought, edited by William Walters and Martina Tazzioli. Northampton, Mass: Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd., 2023.
- (ii) "For the Migrant, the Way is the Life," in *Viapolitics: Borders, Migration, and the Power of Locomotion*, edited by William Walters, Charles Heller, and Lorenzo Pezzani. Durham: Duke University Press, 2022.

Forthcoming

- (iii) "Refugees and Migrants as Subjects of Economy and Politics," in *New Frontiers in the Register of Migration and Refugee Studies*, edited by Nasreen Chowdhury. Springer, forthcoming.

Journal Publications

- (i) Samaddar, Ranabir. "[Populism and Rewriting the Grammar of Democracy](#)," *IWMpost* 132, Art and Society (2023).
- (ii) "[A Compendium of Keywords in Refugee and Migration Studies is a Collective Work](#)." *International Migration* 61, No. 1 (February 2023).
- (iii) (With Biao Xiang). "[The Russia-Ukraine War: A View from the Southern Left](#)." *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies* 24, No. 1 (February 2023): 174-180.

Shatabdi Das, Researcher with the Calcutta Research Group, in 2022 conducted research on the theme [Kolkata and Climate Crisis](#) and presented her working paper in the panel titled 'Climate Migration: Crisis and Resource' in the [Seventh Critical Studies Conference Migrant Asias: Refugees, Statelessness, and Migrant Labour Regimes](#)' in November 2022. She was [Visiting Fellow](#) under the [Europe-Asia research Platform on Forced Migration](#) at the Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna, in April 2022; a research article on her study on 'Climate Hazards and Displacement in India' has been published in the [IWMpost, Issue 130 \(Fall/Winter 2022\)](#). She has jointly worked with Prajesh Aryal and Sadikshya Battaraj on the [Report of the South Asian labor migration and maritime migrants conference, Kathmandu, Nepal, 21-23 May 2022](#), published in the Asian and Pacific Migration Journal. Shatabdi also presented her research titled 'A Study on Urban Transformation in the Mining Region of Eastern India,' in the workshop [Decoloniality and the Politics of the Urban](#) organised by The Geneva Graduate Institute, The Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, University of Edinburgh Reversing the Gaze Project, University of Basel and University of Zurich, on 27 October 2022. In 2023, her research theme [Climate Disaster Mitigation in Coastal Megacities of India](#), was presented in the CRG Staff Researchers' Workshop, 11 October 2023. She authored a policy brief on [Climate Disasters and Displacement in India: Role of Policies and Protection](#), discussed in the Eighth Annual Conference, on 22 November 2023. She was Module Tutor for Module F1: Climate, Ecology, Displacement, of the Eighth Annual Research and Orientation Workshop, 17-20 November 2023. She has also published on [climate, migrant workers and cities after colonialism](#), and [coal mining in 360info](#).

Rituparna Datta, Researcher with the Calcutta Research Group, worked on the research theme "[Bhootlane Ki Katha](#)": [Living in the Coolie Lines and Construction of Dignity, Health and WellBeing 1830-1920](#)." She presented her working paper on [Coolies, Climate and the Territories of Mobility](#) in the panel 'Labour and Transition: Then and Now' at the [Seventh Critical Studies Conference Migrant Asias: Refugees, Statelessness, and Migrant Labour Regimes](#),' on 19 November 2022. Rituparna Datta along with Madhuparna Banerjee, is the Editorial Assistant for the Refugee Watch Journal. She has edited the volume [Pandemic and Precarity](#) with narratives on the experiences of working conditions in India and the lives of migrants during the phases of the pandemic. In 2023, she worked on [Death in Diaspora: A Social History of Coolie Life in Mauritius](#), and presented her research in the CRG Staff Researchers' Workshop, 11 October 2023.

Project Overview

Sl.	Activities	Outcomes
A] Main Activities		
A.1 Annual Research Activities		
I.	Individual research projects of staff researchers	1. Shatabdi Das: Climate Disaster Mitigation in Coastal Megacities of India 2. Rituparna Datta: Death in Diaspora: Social History of Coolie Life in Mauritius
II.	Individual research projects of contracted researchers	3. Anita Sengupta: Mitigation, Recovery and Response: Democracy in Post-COVID Central Asia 4. Paula Banerjee: Is protection Only a Legal Matter? Migrant Labour in South and Southeast Asia. 5. Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury: The Future of Indian Labour in the Platform Economy 6. Samir Kumar Das: Governing the Pandemic: Negotiating Democracy in our Time
III.	Investigative field visits and authoring of a primary report on precarious labour in the time of the pandemic and lockdown	Ishita Dey: Journey's and Internal Migrant Workers: A Report on Railway Connectivity
A.2. Distinguished Chair in Migration & Forced Migration Studies		
	Activities of the Distinguished Chair	Ranabir Samaddar [Distinguished Chair in Migration and Forced Migration Studies]
A.3. Workshop, Conference & Camps		
I.	Conference with Asian and European participation	Eighth Annual Conference: 'War, Climate Disaster, and Displacement: Call for New Protection Strategies' [21-22 November 2023]
II.	November annual orientation workshop	Winter Workshop on 'Global Protection of Refugees and Migrants' [17-20 November 2023]
III.	Teachers' workshop with online participation from outside India	Teaching Local Histories and Geographies of Climate Induced Migration [25-26 August 2023]
IV.	A 3-day summer camp of young scholars and activists from different parts of South Asia	A Three-Day Youth Meet on 'Crafting Peace and Justice Politics Today' [25-27 January 2023]
V.	Dialogues with local educational and social institutions (including a workshop of caregivers, grassroots social activists, legal activists, and women organisers)	'Dialogue with Caregivers' in association with Krishna Memorial Trust' [10 February 2023]

A.4. Media Programme		
I	Short-term media fellowships	<p>1. Ritwika Mitra, “Women Bear a Disproportionate Burden of Distress Migration,” Freelance Journalist, India</p> <p>2. Riya Singh Rathore, “Know Thy Neighbour: Can Centering Positive Refugee Narratives Improve Host Receptions?”, Editorial Manager, Social Policy Research Foundation, India</p> <p>3. Farhana Ahmed, “State of Migrant Workers from Assam in Kerala: Climate, Displacement and Xenophobia,” District Correspondent Assam Tribune & North-east Now</p>
II.	A media workshop	‘Migrants and Roads: Reporting in the Wake of Disasters and Migration’ [28 July 2023] in collaboration with Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna; South Asian Women in Media (SAWM); DW Akademie; South Asia Network for Communication, Displacement and Migration (SAN-CDM); and Goethe Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan Kolkata.
III.	Travelling photograph exhibition	Photo Exhibition ‘Trail of Blood: The 1946 Calcutta Killings and its Aftermath’ (Artist/Photographer: Dipanwita Saha) in Conferences, Workshops and Programmes.
A.5. Visiting Fellowships		
	Exchange programme for young scholars in South Asia and Southeast Asia	<p><u>A. Fellows in Kolkata</u></p> <p>1. Gulzina Daniyarova, 5-15 June 2023 [Faculty, Osh State University, Kyrgyz Republic]</p> <p>2. Man Bahadur Karki, 11-21 May 2023 [Human Rights Officer, National Human Rights Commission, Nepal]</p> <p>3. Franz Graf, 19-31 August 2023 [Faculty Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Vienna, and Fellows Program Coordinator at the Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna]</p> <p><u>B. Fellow to University of Vienna and IWM Vienna</u></p> <p>1. Ishita Dey, 1-31 October 2023 [Assistant Professor, South Asia University, Delhi, and CRG]</p> <p><u>C. Fellows to IWM, Vienna</u></p> <p>1. Ranabir Samaddar, 1-31 October 2023 [Distinguished Chair in Migration and Forced Migration Studies, CRG]</p> <p>2. Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury, 1-31 October 2023 [Professor, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata and CRG]</p> <p>3. Som Niroula, 1-31 October 2023 [Nepal Institute of Peace, Kathmandu]</p>

A.6. Advisory Meets		
	Advisory Committee Meeting and Planning Meeting	3 February 2023 24 November 2023
B] Supporting Activities		
I	Visits & participation in conferences	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ranabir Samaddar participated in the Conference “Decolonization in the 21st Century,” National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, Taiwan, 10–15 August 2023. 2. Ranabir Samaddar participated in the Conference “Equitable Research Cooperation between the Global South and North – From affirmations to practice,” convened by the German Institute of Development and Sustainability and the German Commission for UNESCO, Bonn, 23-24 October 2023. 3. Ranabir Samaddar participated and presented his work on “Biopolitics from Below” in the workshop at the German Institute of Development and Sustainability, Bonn, 25 October 2023. 4. Ranabir Samaddar participated in several conferences in Geneva, Naples, Paris, Toronto [February-October 2023]. 5. Paula Banerjee on behalf of CRG participated in the Conference “Connecting the Dots: Debating Displacement in South Asia”, in Kathmandu, Nepal, organised by CRG in collaboration with DW Akademie and the South Asia Network for Communication, Displacement and Migration (SAN-CDM), 3-6 November 2023. 6. Shatabdi Das and Rajat Kanti Sur on behalf of CRG and as Members of the Academic Committee of the Vidyasagar Academy Kolkata, participated in the Conference on Pandit Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar at the Vidyasagar Academy Kolkata, 26 September 2023. 7. Rajat Kanti Sur participated in the Workshop “An Intensive Workshop on Research Methods and Publication,” at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur, 4-10 December 2023.
II.	Refugee Watch Journal & RefugeeWatchOnline blog [RWO]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Refugee Watch: Issue on Partition (Joint Issue 61 & 62); Issue on Migrant Asias (Issue 63) & 2. RWO [Articles 8, Book Reviews 2, Film Reviews 2]
III.	Publications	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Books: 8 [4 published; 4 forthcoming] 2. Occasional Papers: 15 3. Book Translations: 3 [2 published; 1 forthcoming] 4. Photobook: 1
IV.	Library & Digital Archive	Resources: Playlist of Lecture/Discussion/Webinars on Migration, Reading Resources on Migration, Climate Disasters, Displacement, Statelessness, Protection, Syllabus-making on migration and refugee studies, and Teaching Local Histories and Geographies of Climate-Induced Migration.

A] Main Activities

In 2023 CRG with the support of IWM and in collaboration with various research and educational institutes in India and abroad conducted research projects, organised workshops and conferences, youth meet on the themes of peace, justice, care economy, climate, disaster, war, protection, understanding pedagogy and teaching local histories and geographies, within the cusp of migration and displacement.

A.1. Annual Research Activities

A.1.I. Individual Research Papers by Staff Researchers

• **Climate Disaster Mitigation in Coastal Megacities of India** (Researcher: Shatabdi Das)

This [paper](#) looks into the role of planning and development authorities, civil society organisations, urban local bodies, along with disaster management authorities, law and governance, coastal zone management act and coastal regulation zone rules, resettlement rehabilitation schemes, infrastructural interventions, social protection schemes, environment management and conservation in mitigating climate disasters, with specific reference to Kolkata and Mumbai. This research will be published as *Policies and Practices*. She also drafted a Policy Brief on [Climate Disasters and Displacement: Role of Policies and Protection](#) for Rosa-Luxemburg Stiftung-South Asia for collection of Policy Brief on “Climate Disasters and Displacement.” The Policy Brief was discussed in a panel discussion on “Discussion on Policy Brief on Climate Change and Disaster” at the Eighth Annual Conference on “War, Climate Disaster, Displacement: Call for New Protection Strategies” on 21 November 2023 in Kolkata. This year Shatabdi Das was also one of the Module Tutors in *Eighth Annual Research and Orientation Workshop on Global Protection of Refugees and Migrants*, 17-20 November 2023. She conducted classes, coordinated and supervised workshop assignments for participants of Module F1 on the theme *Climate, Ecology, and Displacement*. She wrote widely on the themes of environment, climate issues, disasters, sustainability in cities and coal mining sector, in different newsletters, literary magazines, media platforms like *Prasangik-Aprasangik*, *YAWP*, *360info*. Her article “[Coal Mining in India Has a Human Cost](#),” was published by 360info in collaboration with Monash University, Australia, (19 June 2023) as part of the collaborative series with CRG on [Shock Mobility](#) and reached a wide circulation exceeding 660K downloads and reads and rewiring of the article across prominent media platforms like EastMojo, DailyHunt, CodeBlue, EcoBusiness/Economic Times etc. Another article titled [Black days ahead if coal city does not change](#) was also published by 360info (12 January 2023), as part of the collaborative series with CRG on [Cities after Colonialism](#). Her non-fiction creative piece titled “Plastic Dream,” was published in *YAWP05*, NEER Annual Edition, 2023. Two of her essays on “Mapping Displacement in India: The Cases of Development and Climate Disasters” and “On the Edge of Safety: Coal mine Workers in Eastern India” are published in [Living with the Weather: Climate Change, Ecology and Displacement in South Asia](#) edited by Piya Srinivasan published by Yoda Press, 2023, and in [Pandemic and Precarity](#) edited by Rituparna Datta and published by Sampark, 2023.

• **Death in Diaspora: A Social History of Coolie Life in Mauritius** (Researcher: Rituparna Datta)

This [paper](#) looks at ‘death’ as a method to reflect back on the conditions of colonial coolie labour regimes within the capitalist transformations of the overseas plantation economies of the Empire as mortality-morality-sickness were the common conditions accompanying not only during the transit of labour but a constant worry of the Empire in its attempts to sedentarise the population. Rituparna edited the volume [Pandemic and Precarity](#) published by Sampark, 2023, which is a compendium of primary investigative reports on the precarity of labour, the struggles of life and work and challenges in the wake of the pandemic.

A.1.II. Individual Research Papers by Contracted Researchers

In 2023, CRG commissioned four research projects on pandemic and governmentality, pandemic governance, gig economy and migration and legal discourse. The research articles are in the final stages of publication and will be available as occasional papers in *Policies and Practices* tentatively by the end of January 2024 and a select few in the forthcoming issue of the Journal *Refugee Watch: A South Asian Journal on Forced Migration*.

- **Mitigation, Recovery and Response: Democracy in Post-COVID Central Asia**
(Researcher: Anita Sengupta, Director, Asia in Global Affairs, Kolkata)

This [paper](#) looks into the frames of popular governance in post-COVID central Asia. This research paper is an attempt to analyse the implications of the domestic and international dynamics on the protection of citizen rights in the region with a view to understanding the extent to which a combination of factors shaped domestic responses. This research paper was presented at the Eighth Annual Conference on War, Climate Disaster and Displacement: Call for New Protection Strategies, 2023, and will be included in the Issue 63 of Journal Refugee Watch.

- **Is Protection Only a Legal Matter? Migrant Labour in South and South-East Asia**
(Researcher: Paula Banerjee, IDRC Research Chair in Gender and Forced Migration at Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand)

This [paper](#) posits the question: Can policy issues and the paradigm created for migrant labour have a simple definition in the context of legal regimes, unlike refugee or protection? The research is based on the policy framework that has been created on migrant labourer - severely jarred as a result of the pandemic. When the framework had been created, the notion was accepted that a labourer with rights going from one part of the country to another or to another country retains his or her rights, but in a situation of crisis like pandemic rights become almost absent. This research paper was presented at the Eighth Annual Conference on War, Climate Disaster and Displacement: Call for New Protection Strategies, 2023 and will be published as CRG's Occasional Paper *Policies and Practices*.

- **Governing the Pandemic: Negotiating Democracy in our Time**
(Researcher: Samir Kumar Das, Professor, Department of Political Sciences, University of Calcutta, India)

This [paper](#) focuses on the implications of “social governance” during the COVID pandemic and its role as “biopolitics from below” in shaping the democratic structure of the State operating autonomously both within and outside the infrastructure of the state. This research paper was presented at the Eighth Annual Conference on War, Climate Disasters and Displacement: Call for New Protection Strategies, 2023 and will be published as CRG's Occasional Paper *Policies and Practices*.

- **The Future of Indian Labour in the Platform Economy**
(Researcher: Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury, President, Calcutta Research Group and Professor, Department of Political Sciences, Rabindra Bharati University)

This [paper](#) looks into the position and commodification of labour in the new era of digital capitalism. In the last two decades, along with growing informalisation, contractualisation, and casualisation of labour, has radically altered the world of labour where the neoliberal dreams easily turn into precarity. In the age of digital capitalism and ever-expanding sector of platform economy, the commodification of relational data has become the fundamental regulatory concern. This paper is not about the algorithmic architecture of neoliberal ecosystem or digital capitalism but concerns itself with the sociology of labour in neoliberal times with focus on platform labour. The research will be published as *Policies and Practices*.

A.1.III. Investigative Field Visits and Authoring of a Primary Report on Precarious Labour in the Time of the Pandemic and Lockdown

- **Journeys and Internal Migrant Workers: An Ethnographic Study of Railway Connectivity**
(Researcher: Ishita Dey, Assistant Professor, South Asian University, Delhi, and Member, CRG)

The research foregrounds the ‘journeys’ that India’s migrant workers undertake between their place of origin/home to their destination/place of work. Studies on India’s migrant workers have mostly focussed on studying the causes of distress migration, occupational choices of migrant workers, the gendered nature of internal migration, specially invisibilising the migration of women as workers independent of marriage or family or as dependants and access to social welfare in places of work, especially wages, health care, food, and housing. Two sites have emerged critical in the scholarship across social science disciplines – the place of origin and place of arrival/ transit/ destination. Trains have played an important role in the post-colonial infrastructure of the Indian

subcontinent and also cross-border travel. Samjhauta Express and Thar Express connected India and Pakistan. And on the Eastern side of the border Maitryee Express, Bandhan Express, and Mitali Express continue to run in India and Bangladesh. According to the portal of Indian Railways it is the largest rail network in Asia and world's second largest. Despite the significance of railways in the history of mobility, it remains under-examined in migration studies beyond quantitative assessments of the number of passengers in trains especially during the pandemic or its critical role in the arrival narratives to destination. The research findings will be published as a Report. For the abstract of the research see: http://www.mcrg.ac.in/IWM_Migration_2023/Ishita%20Dey%202023%20Journeys%20and%20Migrant%20Workers.pdf and for further details see: http://www.mcrg.ac.in/IWM_Migration_2023/IWM_Migration_Research_2023.asp

A.2. Research Activities of the Distinguished Chair in Migration and Forced Migration Studies

Professor Ranabir Samaddar is the Distinguished Chair in Migration and Forced Migration Studies since 2015. In the year under consideration, the Chair piloted CRG's research programmes and assisted in its orientation activities. He conceptualised the Summer Camp in Kathmandu, Nepal (2022), and the Winter Camp in Darjeeling as a Youth Meet (2023), to bring together pioneers, leaders, activists, community volunteers from varied social backdrops to voice their experiences, work and initiate discourses on care, protection, justice and peace for especially people vulnerable to conflicts, disasters, displacement and shock migration. He also completed his work on the critiques and alternatives to capitalism series, published by Routledge in 2023 as the book volume *Alternative Futures and the Present: Postcolonial Possibilities*. His efforts in bringing together scholars from different parts of the globe to share their experiences and studies on defining as well as emerging terms focusing on delineating and outlining concepts in the study of refugees and forced migrants, culminated in the conceptualisation and taking forward the work on the handbook "Postcolonial Compendium: Keywords in Forced Migration and Refugee Studies," published by Frontpage in 2023 (in collaboration with Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung), compiles brief explications of key terms used in the multidisciplinary field of refugee and forced migration studies. Ranabir Samaddar has also conceptualised a volume comprising primary field investigative reports on pandemic and precarity [edited by Rituparna Datta] published by Sampark in 2023.

• Memberships

- IMéRA Chair in Transregional studies-EHESS [Ecole de Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociale]/IMéRA [Mediterranean Institute for Advanced Research] at the Aix-Marseille University, Marseille [2023-].
- Fellow, Humanity's Urban Future Research Programme, Canadian Institute for Advanced Research [CIFAR], 2023-2028.
- Member, Advisory Board, European Master in Migration and Intercultural Relations [EMMIR] Programme, at the University of Oldenburg [2022].
- Member, Editorial Committee, Inventory, on Mobility and Socio-Economic Change, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology [2021-].
- Member, Advisory Board, Human Migration Research, F1000 Research, Taylor & Francis Open Research Gateway [2021-23].
- Member, International Advisory Committee and Member of Jury of the ZEIT-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius, Hamburg, for Ph.D. Scholarship Programme in Beyond Borders [2020-23].
- Member, Advisory Board, and Fellow, Soft Authoritarianisms Research Group, University of Bremen [2019-23].
- Visiting Fellow and one of the Heads of Project for the Europe-Asia Research Platform on Forced Migration, Institute for Human Sciences [IWM], Vienna [2017-].

• Visits and fellowships at various institutions

- Resident Researcher and IMéRA Chair in Transregional studies-EHESS [Ecole de Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociale]/IMéRA [Mediterranean Institute for Advanced Research], also known as Institute for Advanced Study [IAS] of Aix-Marseille University [February-July 2023] working on "Necessary Utopias" and "Biopolitics From Below".
- Visited the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research [CIFAR], Naples, between February and July 2023, as Fellow in the Humanity's Urban Future Research Programme, 2023-2028.
- Ranabir Samaddar as one of the Heads of Project for the Europe-Asia Research Platform on Forced Migration, Institute for Human Sciences [IWM], Vienna, and Visiting Fellow of the institute, was at the Institute for Human Sciences [IWM], Vienna, Austria, in October 2023.

Among other projects in 2023, Ranabir Samaddar has also worked on the text provisionally titled, “Biopolitics from Below: Conjuncture, Crisis, and Politics of the Lower Classes,” to be published by the CEU Press. He wrote an article for the IWMpost on populism and rewriting the grammar of democracy, based on a postcolonial analysis of the claims of representative democracy, published in the IWMpost Issue 132 (2023). As part of the Fellows’ Colloquium at the IWM, Ranabir Samaddar presented his research on “Crisis, Conjuncture, and Biopolitics from Below” on 16 October 2023. The presentation took place as a discussion with Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury and Ayse Caglar. He participated in the IWM-CRG workshop on “Keywords in Refugee and Migration Studies”, on 12-13 October 2023 and presented notes in the session. There was also discussion on a proposed volume on ‘The Politics and Poetics of Keywords in Refugee and Migration Studies.’ Ranabir Samaddar has also been conducting research on “Borders and Crossing Borders” to be published in the Oxford Handbook on Cosmopolitanism. He participated in a workshop in Bonn (23-24 October 2023) convened by the German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS) on “Equitable Research Cooperation between the Global South and North – From affirmations to practice” and presented his research on refugee and migration studies; he also presented on “Biopolitics from Below” at the German Institute of Development and Sustainability, Bonn, on 25 October 2023.

• Publications

Books/Edited Volumes/Chapters

- Alternative Futures and the Present: Postcolonial Possibilities. London and New York: Routledge, 2023.
- “Introduction.” In Postcolonial Compendium: Keywords in Forced Migration and Refugee Studies, edited by Paula Banerjee, Nasreen Chowdhury and Priya Singh. Kolkata: Frontpage, 2023.
- Bandyopadhyay, Ritajyoti, Paula Banerjee, and Ranabir Samaddar. India’s Migrant Workers and the Pandemic. London and New Delhi: Routledge and Social Science Press, 2022
- “Towards a Postcolonial Theory of Crisis, Neoliberal Government, and Biopolitics from Below,” in Handbook on Governmentality, Research Handbooks in Political Thought, edited by William Walters and Martina Tazzioli. Northampton, Mass: Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd., 2023.
- “For the Migrant, the Way is the Life,” in Viapolitics: Borders, Migration, and the Power of Locomotion, edited by William Walters, Charles Heller, and Lorenzo Pezzani. Durham: Duke University Press, 2022.
- “Refugees and Migrants as Subjects of Economy and Politics,” in New Frontiers in the Register of Migration and Refugee Studies, edited by Nasreen Chowdhury. (Springer, forthcoming).
- Biopolitics from Below: Conjuncture, Crisis, and Politics of the Lower Classes (CEU Press, forthcoming).
- Revised entry titled, “Borders and Crossing Borders” to be published in the Oxford Handbook on Cosmopolitanism.

Journal Publications

- Samaddar, Ranabir. “[Populism and Rewriting the Grammar of Democracy](#),” *IWMpost* 132, Art and Society (2023).
- “A Compendium of Keywords in Refugee and Migration Studies is a Collective Work.” *International Migration* 61, No. 1 (February 2023).
- (With Biao Xiang). “The Russia-Ukraine War: A View from the Southern Left.” *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies* 24, No. 1 (February 2023): 174-180.
- “An Intelligent Guide to the Discriminatory History of Responsibility.” CRG Chair Lecture Series, Calcutta Research Group (December 2022): 1-22.
- Selected text from the lecture titled “Texts from the Void: Machiavelli’s The Prince and Lenin’s What is to be Done?” held on 18 September 2023, will be published as CRG Chair Lecture Series (Calcutta Research Group, forthcoming).

Online Publications

- “[Why we should be talking about shock mobility?](#)” *360info*, Shock Mobility Special Report Series. 19 June 2023.
- [Co-authored with Ritajyoti Bandyopadhyay]. “[How riots formed Kolkata’s ghettos.](#)” *360info*. 12 January 2023.

• Interviews

- “The Bottom-Up Biopolitics, a New Power Model and an Alternative Politics of Life.” A Conversation with Ranabir Samaddar, Resident Researcher and EHESS / IMéRA Chair in Transregional Studies, IMéRA [Mediterranean Institute for Advanced Research/Institute for Advanced Studies of Aix-Marseille University]. July 3, 2023

• Lectures

- Lecture in the IMéRA [Mediterranean Institute for Advanced Research/Institute for Advanced Studies of Aix-Marseille University] Programme. Aix-Marseille University, Marseille. 16 March 2023.

- “The Practical Ethics of Care and Protection.” Lecture. Europe Underground Programme, Genoa University. 27 March 2023.
- “What make Keywords in Refugee and Migration Studies?” Opening Talk, Migrants, Refugees, States and Societies, The Association of the Friends of the Foundation Maison des Sciences de l’Homme, Paris. 24 April 2023.
- “Humanity’s Urban Future Research Programme.” Lecture. Canadian Institute for Advanced Research [CIFAR], Naples. 10–11 June 2023.
- “Crisis, Conjuncture and Biopolitics from Below.” Inaugural Lecture. Two-Day Workshop at IMéRA [Mediterranean Institute for Advanced Research/Institute for Advanced Studies], Aix Marseille University, in Marseille. 19–20 June 2023.
- “Keywords in Refugee and Migration Studies: Words in Motion across the World.” Lecture. Antiracism Work in Migration Context [Professorship: Childhood and Migration at the Magdeburg-Stendal University of Applied Sciences] and the project Integrative Research on Democracy in Saxony-Anhalt, Institute for Democratic Culture of Magdeburg-Stendal University of Applied Sciences. 23 June 2023.
- Keynote Speech, “Ethic of Solidarity and Care.” 2023 Association for Cultural Studies [ACS] Institute, Decolonization in the 21st Century. International Centre for Cultural Studies, National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, Taiwan. 10 August 2023.

● Panel Discussion/Webinars

- Book Discussion, Samaddar, Ranabir, *Imprints of the Populist Time* (Hyderabad: Orient Blackswan, 2022) on 19 March 2023. The discussants in the online session were Ranabir Samaddar [CRG], Samita Sen [University of Cambridge and CRG], and Sandro Mezzadra [University of Bologna], speaking on several aspects of populism and populist regimes and critically examining the role of populism and populist policies in contemporary times, while Samir Kumar Das [University of Calcutta and CRG] moderated the session.
- Discussant, Member, International Advisory Committee and Member of Jury of the ZEIT[1]Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius, Hamburg, for Ph.D. Scholarship Programme in “Beyond Borders.” ZEIT-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius, Hamburg. 13–15 April 2023.

● Participation in Workshops and Conferences

- Speaker in the Inaugural Session “‘Calcutta Riots’ and ‘Photo Display - Trail of Blood: Calcutta Killings of 1946 and Its Aftermath.’” A Youth Meet on Crafting Peace and Justice Politics Today, 25–27 January 2023, organised by CRG in collaboration with Institute for Human Sciences [IWM], Vienna, in Darjeeling. 25 January 2023.
- Discussant in the Session “Child Protection: Issues and Concerns.” A Youth Meet on Crafting Peace and Justice Politics Today, 25–27 January 2023, organised by CRG in collaboration with Institute for Human Sciences [IWM], Vienna, in Darjeeling. 27 January 2023.
- “Inaugural Session and Introduction to the work of Krishna Trust and the ‘Dialogue with Caregivers.’” Tenth Krishna Memorial Awards Programme for Women Educationists, Students and Caregivers, and the Tenth Krishna Memorial Lecture by Abhay Shukla [2023], organised by CRG in collaboration with Institute for Human Sciences [IWM], Vienna, and Krishna Trust, in Kolkata. 10 February 2023.
- Inaugural programme of the project on “Necessary Utopias”, IMéRA [Mediterranean Institute for Advanced Research/Institute for Advanced Studies] at Aix-Marseille University. 2 March 2023.
- Speaker and organiser of a Two-Day Workshop on “Crisis, Conjuncture and Biopolitics from Below,” as Chair of Excellence in Migration and Forced Migration Studies, EHESS/Iméra Chair in Transregional Studies [2022–23], IMéRA [Mediterranean Institute for Advanced Research/Institute for Advanced Studies], Aix-Marseille University, in Marseille. 19–20 June 2023.
- “Keywords in Refugee and Migration Studies: Words in Motion Across the World,” SACHSEN-ANHALT, June 23, 2023.
- 2023 Association for Cultural Studies [ACS] Institute. “De-colonization in the 21st Century.” International Centre for Cultural Studies, National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, Taiwan. 10–15 August 2023.
- “[Keywords in Refugee and Migration Studies](#),” Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna, in collaboration with CRG, 12-13 October 2023.
- Fellows’ Colloquium, IWM, Vienna, “[Crisis, Conjuncture, and Biopolitics from Below](#)” Ranabir Samaddar, with Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury and Ayse Caglar, 16 October 2023.
- “Equitable Research Cooperation between the Global South and North—From affirmations to Practice,” German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS), Bonn, 23–25 October 2023.

A.3. Workshop, Conference & Camp

A.3.I. Eighth Annual Conference on War, Climate Disaster and Displacement: Call for New Protection Strategies [21-22 November 2023]

The Eighth Annual Conference on War, Climate Disaster, and Displacement: Call for New Protection Strategies (21-22 November 2023) was held at Hotel Monotel, Kolkata. The call for application was released in June 2023 and the last date of abstract submission was 20 July 2023. Applications were sought on the following thematic concerns: the matrix of migration, relief mechanisms, protection strategies, mobile geographies, disaster and gender roles, the visceral effects of disaster, war, narratives and media, climate and displacement in popular culture. A total of 64 applications were received. A Selection Committee Meeting was held on 2 August 2023 and a total of 28 abstracts were selected. They were informed from time to time regarding the modalities of the Conference. Participants were selected from India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Poland. However due to visa issues, one participant from Bangladesh could not travel to India and another participant presented online. The Polish participant too could not come as she suffered an injury. The final count of selected participants including the ones from Bangladesh and Nepal who presented their papers at the Conference was 19. Based on the abstracts that were selected, the parallel sessions were designed as —Wars and Aftermath; Health, Resources and Climate Change; Media, Identity, Conflict and the Challenges of Planning; Disasters and the Road to Relief; Camps and Protection; Long Migrations; Climate Change, Disasters and Relief. The Conference began with the introductory remarks by Shyamalendu Majumdar (Director of the Calcutta Research Group).

The Conference was introduced by Amit Prakash who apart from teaching at the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi is also a senior member of CRG and has been a part of the Conference organising committee. In the introductory remarks, Prakash spoke about the importance of negotiating between the lines when it comes to talking about wars, climate disasters and displacements and trying to develop protection strategies which would come in the aid of people who are displaced as a result of these. Prakash insisted on the necessity of adopting a multi-pronged approach while dealing with these issues as these are mostly results of anthropocentric interventions and can subsequently impact the social, political, economic and cultural structures of the places in which they occur. After a round of self-introduction by the participants of the conference, the keynote lecture titled “Governing the Displaced in Cities” was delivered by Ayse Caglar, University of Vienna and IWM. Ayse Caglar in the keynote address spoke about the changing urban spaces and their governance as a result of displacement that is induced by such sudden and shock calamities. The lecture focussed on urban constitution and the power structures that operate within with respect to how these affect the migrant population in such spaces. There were 3 special panels out of which 2 panels had presentations by the Contracted Researchers from IWM and RLS respectively. The IWM panel was titled “Migration, Governance and Protection: Journeys through the Pandemic and Beyond” and the presenters were – Samir Kumar Das, Paula Banerjee, Anita Sengupta and Ishita Dey. The RLS panel was titled “Discussion on Policy Briefs on Climate Change” and the presenters were Shatabdi Das and Sohini Sengupta. The panel on “Policy Making for Stateless People” was organised by CRG with the support and collaboration of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada, and IWM (Vienna).

The book, *Pandemic and Precarity* edited by Rituparna Datta was released and discussed by Arup Kumar Sen during the Conference on 21 November 2023. Arup Sen, Rituparna Datta and publisher (Sampark) Sunandan Roy Choudhury delivered their comments on the work of the book and the primary investigative reports that the volume compiles of the challenges and journeys of migrants and workers through precarity and the pandemic. Ioana Vrabiescu, from the Vrije Universiteit, Netherlands, gave the valedictory lecture titled, ‘Illiberalism, Migration and the Politics of De-development in Europe’. The Conference came to an end after the valedictory session which was presided over by Subhash Ranjan Chakraborty. A [secure web-portal](#) was created for the participants of the Eighth Annual Conference (2023).

A.3.II. Eighth Annual Research & Orientation Workshop on Global Protection of Refugees and Migrants [17-20 November 2023]

The advertisement for the workshop was published on 12 February 2023. An online workshop planning meeting was held on 25 February 2023. 18 persons, including Module Tutors, CRG administrative and staff members, joined online. A discussion on the remodification of course structure had extensively taken place in the planning meeting. Applications for the Winter Workshop were duly sorted for the Selection Committee Meeting held on 5 May 2023. The Selection Committee comprising Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury, Shyamalendu Majumdar, Samir Kumar Das, and Ishani Naskar, selected 25 participants from a total of 74 applications, selecting participants from India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Canada, Austria, Germany, for the workshop. Eight persons were kept on the waiting

list. Selected candidates were intimated immediately after the selection. An online orientation meeting on 12 July 2023 introduced the workshop participants to the respective module themes allocated and the proceedings and structure of the online segment of the workshop as well as the module assignments designed for the course. The Module coordinators, organisers, representatives of the collaborating institutes, workshop module participants and Members of CRG attended the first online orientation meeting of the workshop.

The Modules of this workshop were divided in two parts.

A. Core Modules

Module A: Shock Migration in the Wake of Crises Like War, Famine, Flood, other Natural Disasters, and Pandemic (visibility, scale, migrant networks, adaptability, policy response, and migrant's autonomy)

Coordinators- Nasreen Chowdhory, University of Delhi, India and Manish K. Jha, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (Mumbai Campus), India

Module B: Legal Regimes and Policy Frameworks (international human rights law, international humanitarian law; global compact, refugee protection regime, and the limits of the Convention, and Global Compacts, regional conventions, national jurisprudence, etc.);

Coordinator: Sahana Basavapatna, Trial Courts, Bengaluru and Karnataka High Court, India

Module C: Statelessness

Coordinator – K. M. Parivelan, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (Mumbai Campus), India

Module D: Gender, Race, Religion, and other Fault Lines in Protection Architecture

Coordinator: Paula Banerjee, IDRC Chair, AIT, Thailand

Module E: Refugee and Migrant Labour, Precarious forms, and Globalisation

Coordinators: Arup Kumar Sen, Calcutta Research Group, India and Iman Kumar Mitra, Shiv Nadar University, India

B. Secondary Module Options (participants chose any one from the options):

Module F1: Climate, Ecology, and Displacement

Coordinator- Shatabdi Das, Calcutta Research Group, India

or

Module F2: Ethics of Care and Protection

Coordinator- Samir Kumar Das, University of Calcutta, India

or

Module F3: Media and Displacement

Coordinator- Samata Biswas, The Sanskrit College and University, India

Participants submitted their revised abstracts by 15 August 2023. The Module Coordinators of the respective modules started taking online classes from the third week of July 2023 till the first week of November 2023 as part of the distance segment of the workshop, with each Module coordinator(s) organising up to three meetings or more, during this period. The Module Theme papers and research work as well as creative pieces of the workshop module participants were extensively discussed along with critical engagement with the participants on their research topics. The module assignments were reviewed and discussed by the respective tutors and there were also online presentation sessions before the final panel presentations in the workshop in Kolkata. Finally, 18 participants presented their research in the workshop in Kolkata, additionally 7 students from the European Masters Programme in Migration and Intercultural Relations (EMMIR) also participated and presented their research in the workshop. The physical segment of the workshop began on 17 November 2023 in Kolkata with a brief inaugural session. Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury welcomed all the participants and other guests. Nadja Dorschner, Resident Representative, Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung-South Asia, gave the inaugural remarks. Apart from module lectures and participants' presentations, there was one book release and discussion on the handbook of Keywords in Forced Migration and Refugee Studies on 17 November 2023. Nadja Dorschner, Resident Representative Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung-South Asia, formally released the book. The book release was followed

by a session where the volume editors Paula Banerjee, Nasreen Chowdhory and Priya Singh talked about the work on the publication and Samir Kumar Das discussed the compendium along with publisher (Frontpage) Abhijit Mazumder sharing a few comments. The Documentary Series made by CRG was screened on 17 December 2023 together with a discussion moderated by Iman Mitra. CRG's Travelling Photo Exhibition on the 1946 Calcutta Riots (artist: Dipanwita Saha and curator: Debasree Sarkar) was open for viewing on all days of the workshop and conference in a hall at the workshop venue. Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury delivered a special lecture titled "Platformed Precarity: A Tale of Two Cities in India" on 18 November 2023, on his research on platform economy. For details of the workshop see: <http://www.mcrg.ac.in/wc.asp>.

Field Trip

A short field trip on "Port Walk" was organised on the last day of the workshop in collaboration with Know Your Neighbour. Sabir Ahamed, Research Coordinator of the Pratichi (India) Institute, and Member, CRG, facilitated the field trip in the port area. The main aim of the field trip was to guide and introduce workshop participants to the history of the oldest migration routes and the making of the migrant city of Calcutta. The Calcutta Port area is one of the oldest port areas in India that connected India to the global commercial networks of British/French empires. The port not only witnessed the transshipment of goods and commodities but also became the point of creating labouring routes of the colonial empire in the form of lascars, indentured labour, etc. The field trip included visits to the Suriname Ghat, Indenture Memorial and Clock Tower, Mariners' Club, Armenian Church, and visit to a fully operational active dock in the port with operating marine vessels, worked by migrants.



Workshop Participants at the Indentured Labour Memorial, Kolkata Port Trust



Workshop Participants at Wet Dock, Kolkata Port

Evaluation of the Workshop

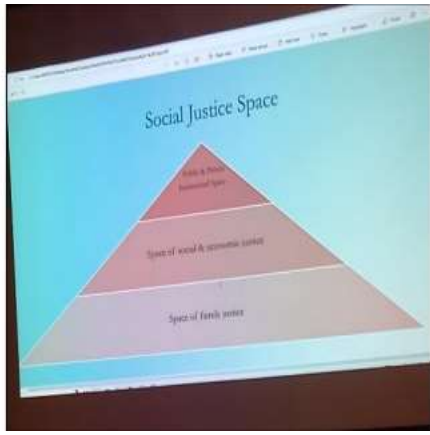
The workshop ended with an evaluation session with Hari Sharma, educationist and Director of Purak Asia, Nepal. The session was moderated by Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury. The evaluation session brought to light the ways and methods for possible improvement along with appreciation and positive feedback and constructive suggestions for future endeavours, workshops and conferences of CRG. During the workshop and conference, the evaluator interacted with participants, CRG team members, and mentors, shared comments and co-chaired sessions, in addition to an hourlong dedicated feedback session in the closing session of the workshop. Commenting on the design of the programme, the evaluator said that CRG has attracted many young researchers from far and wide and are very conscious of representation of minorities and marginalised communities. Over the years with vast network of alumni CRG has been able to create a community of practice in migration and refugee studies. He was appreciative of the remote mentoring of the participants that helped in creating a long-term collegiality among the scholars. Each module was designed to attract policy questions or concerns. Participants discussed policy issues of urban-rural linkages, environmental degradation and costs, health and care, women and so on. Hari Sharma suggested that next year's workshop could be organised as Alumni Workshop/Conference.

A.3.III. Teachers' Workshop

The Calcutta Research Group in collaboration with the Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna, has been organising inter-disciplinary workshops and online teaching and research orientation courses for teachers of schools, colleges, and universities as well as courses and workshops on methodology, syllabus making, and pedagogy in migration and refugee studies since 2020. This year CRG organised a two-days teachers' workshop on 25-26 August 2023 with a focus on the dissemination of syllabus on teaching migration studies and the methods of "Teaching Local Histories and Geographies of Climate-Induced Migration," through the approaches of community involvement, alternate resources, ethics, and the role of environmental education in building perceptions on climate-induced migration. This year CRG aimed to bring together learnings on teaching local anthropology on climate through the approach of 'field school', discussing the challenges of teaching climate, displacement and the role of disaster policies, looking through the lenses of narratives in literature, festivals and folklore in stressing on the significance of environmental awareness and education on conservation of heritage and natural resources. The workshop deliberations centred on the understanding of the influences of local histories and geographies on migration, while the discourse foregrounded the integral attributes of ethics in migration studies and the invaluable contribution of alternative resources in vernacular medium and translation/transliteration, new vocabulary on geographies of mobility, perceptions in climate-induced slow onset of landscape transformations, sudden migration and tools such as excursions, training with stakeholders, community approaches to teaching migration studies for young learners along with the objectives of developing curriculum frameworks for micro-regions. The Call for Application was rolled out in April 2023. Selected participants from the pool of applications and invited guests participated in the Workshop. Franz Graf (one of the CRG-IWM Visiting Fellows in 2023 and faculty at the University of Vienna, and Fellows Programme Coordinator at IWM), gave the inaugural keynote lecture on "Teaching Local Anthropology on Climate: An Example of Field Schools in the LTSE Region Neusiedler See-Seewinkel". There was a special session on the book launch of *Labour Train* authored by Manjira Saha, translated by Purna Banerjee, published by Frontpage (2023). The book was translated with the assistance and collaboration of IWM; the volume *Mahamari Ki Sarbadein* was also released in this session of the Teachers' Workshop. The valedictory lecture was delivered by Sanjay Barbora on "High Ground: Reflections on Colonialism, Conflicts, and Environmental Justice in Northeast India." For details of the Teachers' Workshop (2023) see: http://www.mcrg.ac.in/IWM_Migration_2023/IWM_Migration_Teachers_2023.asp. The full report of the workshop can be read at: http://www.mcrg.ac.in/IWM_Migration_2023/Teachers%20Workshop/REPORT/CRG-IWM%20Teachers%20Workshop%20Report%202023%20.pdf.

A.3. IV. Youth Meet

CRG organised a three-day Youth Meet on "Crafting Peace and Justice Politics Today," 25- 27 January 2023, in Darjeeling, West Bengal, India. It was an attempt to gather minds across disciplines and professions to share their own experiences of justice, injustice, peace, and violence, considered as a way of bringing a harmonious union of peace and justice, and discussing the social experiments of peace and politics of justice today. Selected from a pool of more than 120 applications that CRG received, a total of fifteen candidates selected from the applications, apart from researchers and senior colleagues from CRG and IWM, participated in the event. The major themes of care, justice, protection, and governance that encapsulate the research programme and the paths CRG has taken to put in efforts in building and strengthening networks and constituting the voices of people in precarity and crisis situations in varied ways, through dialogues, meets, camps, discourses, workshops, conferences, discussions, resolutions, declarations, publications, and dissemination over the years, was the inspiration behind the Youth Meet. The Youth Meet was designed as a winter camp in an attempt to bring activists and young scholars together to initiate discourses that would transcend borders and bindings and help bring social leaders to the foreground to disperse the barriers that divide society, belongingness, and individuality, along with the state as an agency of change and to create bridges of solidarity, preservation of rights and unity. The discussion over the three-day event aimed to question the basic philosophical concerns related to identity, justice, protection, and the intertwined politics, and went on to acquire glimpses of how the varied exposures and experiences of innate differences open up dialogues to re-problematise the continued notions of what is considered as 'not a problem' and unsettling of the set beliefs, notions, faiths, and perceptions. The deliberations in the Youth Meet, sharing of experiences of solidarity, leadership, innovative social initiatives and the digital screening of the travelling photo exhibition prepared by CRG in collaboration with IWM — encouraged a word cloud that represented thoughts, ideas, and expressions of peace, justice, governance and creation of social-spaces.



Sessions in the “Youth Meet,” 25-27 January 2023, Darjeeling

The understanding of these issues, stem from the traditional notions of ‘justice’ and ‘peace’ which are historically generated and are concrete products of experience rather than abstract questions of deliberation. One of the key questions that constantly remained in focus, as pointed out by Ranabir Samaddar—why do societies need to link justice and peace, and whether these will be investigated as two independent categories of interaction or as constitutive categories? What does one desire in justice and what is derived through peace; in other words, justice that can be desirably achieved by peace and the trajectories that individuals/communities/state/nation choose, to achieve this justice. Peace as a reconciliation mechanism accommodates certain viewpoints and positions through the pre-conditioned notion and trajectory to follow or achieve justice. The link between the two notions of peace and justice is precisely when one thinks of justice as achievable, practical, and minimally possible. The Youth Meet was designed as a window to see and hear the voices that speak of differentials through not just ethical lens but to critically engage in discussions on the guarantee mechanisms of the State and its shortcomings in the recognition of the existent fissures in protection policies, in addition to the redressal mechanisms taken to compensate for the injustice caused or else still living in the limbo of an acknowledgment. The Youth Meet had a pan-India representation and tried to create an inclusive environment for everyone beyond the categories of gender, caste, religion, region, etc. For a detailed overview of the Youth Meet see:

http://www.mcrg.ac.in/IWM_Migration_2023/IWM_Migration_Youth_Meet_2023.asp; and the full report of the programme is available at: http://www.mcrg.ac.in/IWM_Migration_2023/Youth_Meet_Report_2023.pdf.

A.3.V. Dialogue with Caregivers

In association with Krishna Trust, CRG organised the [Tenth Krishna Trust Memorial Lecture and Awards](#) on 10 February 2023, at Hotel The Sojourn, Salt Lake City, Kolkata. The programme designed to recognise and bring to prominence the contributions, achievements and eminence of women who work as educators, health advocates, and carers to improve the health and education of women and girls, has been a focus of Krishna Trust and Calcutta Research Group, for almost a decade. Krishna Memorial Award is a humble attempt to recognise the world of work and the contribution women themselves make to ameliorate the condition of gender and inequality, and the Award as a gesture of appreciation was initiated by the Krishna Trust. This year, two public libraries, Aharnish and Piyalir Bioghar (a project of Ebong Alap), received the Krishna Awards. The awardees shared their opinion on the role of ‘care’ not just as emotional support but as a necessary condition of life system support that often comes from women ‘caregivers’ while sharing their experiences of living with persons suffering from Alzheimer’s disease. Scholarships from the Krishna Trust were awarded to Sagarika Sardar and Shibani Patra, two girl children of Bali Dweep in the Sundarbans. Last year [2022] Krishna Trust planned a compilation of the experiences of grassroots social leaders in the difficult time of the pandemic. The primary survey on the gendered experiences of COVID-19 and social leadership that emerged during the pandemic was carried out by Sangbida Lahiri under the aegis of Krishna Trust in collaboration with Calcutta Research Group, with the support of the Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna. The Report “Covidkale Bipannata O Sanghati” was published by Progressive Publishers, Kolkata (2023), and was formally released by Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury, Honorary Director, Calcutta Research Group. Dr. Sunandan Basu’s public lecture “[Humanity in the COVID-19 Era](#)” delivered at the Ninth Krishna Memorial Awards programme was published by the Krishna Trust on this occasion. The Tenth Krishna Memorial Lecture on ‘Innovative Public Actions, New Politics of Health, and Life Emerging from the Pandemic’ was delivered by eminent public health activist Dr. Abhay Shukla on 10 February 2023. He recalled how ordinary people like Anganwadi workers, autorickshaw drivers and common man became heroes, relentlessly serving people during the pandemic. A new politics of health developed through voluntary mobilisation of the ‘public’ and

collaboration between the effortless synergies of public and private to contribute to society—it was a turn when the individualistic mindset of the society was taking a turn towards the building up a health system for the ‘common’ good as reflection of the collective spirit of the society. The text of the lecture is in the final stages of publication and will be available tentatively by the end of January 2024. The details of the programme are available at: http://www.mcrg.ac.in/krishna_trust/index.html

A.4. Media Programme

The media programme of CRG this year focused on migrants and the politics of the road/routes. The members of the Media Fellow Selection Committee of CRG were Anirban Chattopadhyay (former Executive Editor, Anandabazar Patrika), Rajat Roy (Independent Journalist and Member, CRG), Shyamalendu Majumdar (Secretary, CRG) and Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury (Honorary Director, CRG). The members of the Media Workshop Planning Committee were Bharat Bhushan (360info and Member, CRG), Swati Bhattacharjee (Senior Assistant Editor, Anandabazar Patrika), Samata Biswas (Assistant Professor, The Sanskrit College and University, Kolkata and Member, CRG), Jayanta Roy Chowdhury (Regional Bureau Chief, Press Trust of India) and Rajat Roy.

A.4.I. Media Fellowship(s)

This year the media fellowship theme was “Climate, Routes and Ports of Migration and Protection of Refugees and Labour Migrants”. The call for application was rolled out in the first week of February 2023. Out of 50 applications received, three fellows were selected. Ritwika Mitra (Independent Journalist) wrote a report on “Women Bear a Disproportionate Burden of Distress Migration”. This longform piece investigates the conditions of unsafe migration of women from the source and destination states of Rajasthan and Gujarat respectively. The ground coverage is embedded in the bigger context of distress migration in India, the lack of social welfare schemes, and how the migration crisis is unfolding in the post-lockdown period. A part of her work was also published with Missing Perspectives as “[Climate Refugees Scramble for Basic Rights in Indian Cities.](#)” Farhana Ahmed (District Correspondent, The Assam Tribune) prepared a report on the “State of Migrant Workers from Assam in Kerala”. Large portion of migrant workers from Assam to Kerala are from the marginalised Muslims of East Bengali descent often dubbed as ‘foreigners’ or Bangladeshis. Social insecurity, political volatility of the recent past and declining resources due to climate induced flood and river bank erosion compounded by a population increase in the community has propelled a large chunk of their youth to migrate to faraway places like Kerala for work in the last three decades. The Kerala state government too has adopted policies in providing better social security measures for its migrant workforce. The report studied the trend of migration to Kerala from Assam, its social contacts and relations with the host population and the possible outcome it might bring to the state which has the distinction of one of the best one in the country in the human development indexes. Riya Singh Rathore’s (Editorial Manager, Social and Policy Research Institute, Delhi) survey-based report on “Know Thy Neighbour: How Strengthening the Host-Refugee Relation Can Aid Refugee Protection,” was a micro-study on the refugee-host relation of the Rohingya refugees in Delhi’s Kalindi Kunj area. The Media Fellows presented their report at the Media Workshop on 28 July 2023. For details on the Media Fellowships, see: http://www.mcrg.ac.in/IWM_Migration_2023/IWM_Media_Researchs_2023.asp

A.4.II. Media Workshop and Media Training Programme

This year the Media Workshop was organised on the theme of “Migrants and Roads: Reporting in the Wake of Disasters and Migration” on 28 July 2023, at the Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan Kolkata. The Workshop was organised in collaboration with the Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna, South Asian Women in Media (SAWM), DW Akademie and South Asia Network for Communication, Displacement and Migration (SAN-CDM) and the Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan Kolkata. Incidences of climate related disasters are on the rise and so do cases of migration and displacement that manifest in either shock displacement or gradual outmigration. In case of the latter, people move out of their native places leaving behind their traditional occupations. Agrarian communities, fishing communities, riverine and coastal communities, people living in mountainous terrains, etc., are the worst affected in such cases. Reporting such cases becomes all the more difficult because of the chain of events that precedes the process of displacement. The primary challenge while reporting climate change and climate induced displacement is basically ‘getting the message across’ to the general public. This necessitates the need to engage in conversations about reporting climate change and related migration and remained the main focus of the Media Workshop. The workshop was divided into the following panels: Reporting on the Complex Life of Migrant Labour; New Migrants, New Refugees in South Asia; Climate Calamities: Reporting on Displacements due to Climate Disasters; New Routes, New Techniques: South Asian Scenario; and

Gendered Vulnerabilities. The inaugural lecture on “Reporting in the Wake of Disasters and Migration”, was delivered by Patricia Mukhim (Editor, The Shillong Times and Member, SAWM). The hybrid session of the Conference was joined by Lachlan Guselli, Shahira Hamid and Ria Ernunsari from 360info, and focused on the role of the field in reporting migrants and disasters, with sharing and discussion on field reporting experiences in the wake of disasters. CRG’s media fellows presented their research reports in the Workshop. The detailed Media Workshop Report can be read at: http://www.mcrg.ac.in/IWM_Migration_2023/IWM_Media_2023/FINAL%20REPORT%20IWM%20Media%20Workshop%202023.pdf.



Sessions in the “Media Workshop”, 28 July 2023, Kolkata

The Media Training Workshop ‘Reporting Migration: Values, Structures, Linkages’ was organised in congruence with Calcutta Research Group’s (CRG) previous endeavours on media studies and practices. The South Asia Network of Communication, Displacement and Migration (SAN-CDM) and CRG jointly organised the Media Training Workshop on July 29, 2023, in Kolkata, with the support of DW Akademie. The programme was divided into 3 sessions. For the first session, the trainer was Subir Bhaumik, senior journalist, and for the second session, Debashish Chakrabarti, Professor and Dean, School of Communication, G. D. Goenka University, India, in his brief presentation, discussed the ethics of writing a journalistic report with a focus on migration, the types of migration, the tools to report migration, and so on. In the last session, chaired by Prof. Paula Banerjee, IDRC Endowed Chair, Gender and Forced Displacement, Director, Centre on Gender and Forced Displacement, Gender and Development Studies, Department of Development and Sustainability, School of Environment, Resources and Development, Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, and Bharat Bhushan, Associate Editor, 360info interacted with the participants and gave insightful comments on their proposed reporting ideas. The sessions touched upon several aspects such as joining the larger dots; facts and going beyond the biases of reporting, humanitarian approach; challenging hatred; thorough fact checking; identification of types of migration; refugee flow or internal displacement (and the possible spill overs) or phased migration (conflict induced or economy or environment induced migration); linkages of migration to economy and the politics of host societies; understanding the structures of reporting migration; usefulness of networks and tools for reporting migration; and objectivity in reporting migration. For details on the Media Programme, see: http://www.mcrg.ac.in/IWM_Migration_2023/IWM_Media_Researchs_2023.asp

A.4.III. Travelling Photo Exhibition: ‘The 1946 Calcutta Riots and its Aftermath’ and Film “Calcutta: A Migrant City”

Dipanwita Saha prepared a visual photo documentation “Trail of Blood: Part I: The Calcutta Killings of 1946 and its Aftermath” of the city of Calcutta by revisiting the localities for the Direct Action Day of 1946. A photo exhibition based on the project outcomes was curated by CRG at the Two-Day Youth Meet on “Crafting Peace and Justice Politics Today” in January 2023. In the Eighth Annual Research Workshop and Conference, 17-22 November 2023, in Kolkata, CRG together with Debasree Sarkar (Media Officer, CRG) curated the photo exhibition. The documentation was supported by IWM. View the photo-project at: http://www.mcrg.ac.in/IWM_Migration_2022/Trail%20of%20Blood%20Final.pdf



Photo Exhibition on “1946 Calcutta Riots” at the Eighth Annual Workshop and Conference, 17-22 November 2023, Kolkata

The film *Calcutta: A Migrant City* [the first film of the series] and *City of Transit* [the third film of the series] were screened at the “Beyond Migration Kolkata/Guwahati Forum: The Art of Living Together,” at the Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan Kolkata, from 1–4 December 2022 and later by Goethe-Institut Südafrika in 2023. The films’ flyers, with the QR codes that link to the YouTube videos of the films were distributed during the event. The film *Calcutta, A Migrant City* and *City of Transit* were screened at the “Migration Research Methodology Workshop” organised at the Sivanath Sastri College, in Kolkata, in November 2022. The CRG films have been screened at the CRG Teachers’ Workshop held in September 2022. The docuseries are also shown as part of the Under-Graduate six semester course on “Partition Text” in the Department of English of the Sanskrit College and University in Kolkata. *Calcutta: A City of Transit* was also filmed at the Nottingham Trent University on 10 February 2023. The trilogy was also screened at the Youth Meet organised by CRG and IWM Vienna in January 2023, in Darjeeling, and also the films were screened at the Eighth Annual Research and Orientation Workshop on Global Protection of Refugees and Migrants in November 2023, in Kolkata. The films were also screened in the “[Decolonization in the 21st Century](#)” conference hosted by National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, Taiwan, in August 2023.

A.5. Visiting Fellowship(s)

This year four fellows from Austria, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Kyrgyzstan were nominated for CRG's Visiting Fellowship Programme in 2023—1) Sayeda Rozana Rashid (Professor, Department of International Relations, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh), 2) [Gulzina Mamatalieвна Daniyarova](#) (Faculty of International Relations, Osh State University, Kyrgyzstan), 3) [Man Bahdur Karki](#) (Human Rights Officer, Nepal Human Rights Commission, Nepal), 4) [Franz Graf](#) (Faculty, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Vienna, and Fellows Programme Coordinator, at IWM, Vienna, Austria). Due to certain consequential circumstance, Sayeda Rozana Rashid could not avail the Fellowship in Kolkata. Franz Graf delivered the keynote lecture on “Teaching Local Anthropology on Climate: An Example of Field Schools in the LTSER Region Neusiedler See-Seewinkel” at the Fourth Teacher’s Workshop on Teaching Local Histories and Geographies of Climate-Induced Migration on 25 August 2023. His lecture will be published by CRG as Occasional Papers *Policies and Practices*. Man Bahadur Karki’s fellowship research paper on “The Human Rights Challenges of Migrant Workers from the Karnali Region, Nepal in India’s Informal Unskilled Sector” and Gulzina M. Daniyarova’s research essay on “EAEU: Problems And Perspectives of Labour Migrants from Kyrgyzstan to Russia” will be included in Issue 63 of Journal Refugee Watch.

Under its programme on “Justice, Protection, and Government of the People: A Two Years Research and Orientation Programme on Protection and Democracy in Post-COVID World [2021-23]” in collaboration with the Institute for Human Sciences [IWM], Vienna, [Ishita Dey](#) (Assistant Professor, South Asia University, Delhi, and Member, CRG) went to Vienna as a Visiting Fellow to join the research platform “The Challenge of Urban Futures” hosted by University of Vienna, Austria, for the period 1 to 31 October 2023, and developed on the research project “How does precarious labour arrive in a city?”. Similarly, [Som Niroula](#) (Nepal Institute for Peace,

Nepal) joined Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna, as a Visiting Fellow from CRG in October 2023. He worked on “The Practices Protection, Care and Treatment of Refugees in Nepal”. [Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury](#) (Professor, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, and Honorary Director, CRG) and [Ranabir Samaddar](#) (Distinguished Chair in Migration and Forced Migration Studies, CRG) went to IWM (Vienna) during 1-31 October 2023. Their research themes were “Sublimating Injustice in Neoliberal Times: Labour in India’s Platform Economy and Crisis, Conjecture,” and “Biopolitics from Below” respectively. As part of the Fellowship, a colloquium was organised on 16 October 2023 on “[Crisis, Conjecture and Biopolitics from Below](#)” and Ranabir Samaddar and Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury presented their research in this discussion session. During the fellowship period in IWM, Vienna, Ranabir Samaddar also participated in the workshop on “[Keywords in Refugee and Migration Studies](#)”, on 12 October 2023.

A.6. Advisory Committee Meeting on Programme Planning and Evaluation

The CRG Annual Research Planning Meeting was held on 3 February 2023 at Hotel Sojourn, Kolkata. CRG invitees, academicians and experts of migration studies, history, economics, literature, environment, political science, disaster, climate and urban studies, among other disciplines joined the planning meet to design the research programmes of CRG for the academic year of 2023. The inaugural session was chaired by Paula Banerjee, who spoke about the necessity of CRG’s research expansion into South Asian networks and highlighted how the collaborations with IWM, KDC, DW Akademie, RLS-South Asia, 360info, and other institutes are getting manifested in the programmes. The importance of making research popular and understandable to the masses received most attention in planning the research agenda. Discussions were held on planning a [Handbook on Keywords on Migration](#) and preparation of a popular book on [routes and ports of migration](#). Debashree Chakraborty, Rajat Kanti Sur, Rituparna Datta, and Shatabdi Das, presented their research proposals. Debashree Chakraborty’s presentation titled “Literary Imagination of Climate Change and Climate Disaster” proposed to look into the effects of climate change – climate disaster, migration, etc., as these have been represented in literature. Subhoranjan Dasgupta advised Chakraborty to look into the aspects of human hubris and primeval sanctity of forest and the indigenous people who live and take care of it to understand the close mechanism of human and non-human factors catalysing climate change. Rajat Kanti Sur’s presentation titled “The Need to be Organised: A Case Study on Domestic Workers and Workers in Small Industries” with focus on the unorganised workers in small factories and business sector, and domestic workers. Arup K. Sen advised Sur to focus on studying the changes in the patterns of organisations as well as to undertake a study on the alternative initiatives taken in the late 1980s. Rituparna Datta, presented her research proposal titled “Death in Diaspora: A Social History of Coolie Lives in Mauritius” focusing on a qualitative reading of death and its relation to labouring practices. Samir Kumar Das suggested to include the role of civic politics, cities, necropolitics while developing the research. Shatabdi Das presented her research proposal on the theme “Climate Disaster Mitigation in Coastal Megacities of India,” and discussed the limitations and challenges of combating climate crises for the coastal megacities of India, namely Mumbai and Kolkata. Contracted researchers, Paula Banerjee, Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury and Samir Kumar Das also presented brief outlines of their proposed research on law and migration, platform economy, and pandemic and governance, respectively. This session was moderated by Ranabir Samaddar. The detailed report of the planning meeting can be read at: http://www.mcrg.ac.in/RLS_Migration_2023/CRG_ANNUAL_PLANNING_MEETING_2023_Report.pdf.

The first online workshop planning meeting of the Annual Research and Orientation Workshop of CRG on Global Protection of Refugees and Migrants and the Annual Conference was held on 25 February 2023. 18 persons, including Module Tutors, CRG colleagues and staff joined the meeting. Successive meetings were held on 5 May 2023 and the first online orientation meet with the workshop module participants, module tutors and several experts and CRG Members, was held on 12 July 2023.

An Advisory Committee Meeting was held on 24 November 2023 in Kolkata. Asye Caglar, Ranabir Samaddar, Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury and Shyamalendu Majumdar discussed about the IWM funded project plans and programmes for the year 2024, and the collaboration between CRG and IWM. Research on the flow of population, migration, and the construction of urban life under its impacts were emphasised. Ranabir Samaddar referred to literatures and films depicting migrations, forced and otherwise, and genesis of cities. Asye Caglar highlighted the issue of large-scale labour migration from the eastern parts of Europe to the fully developed states of Western Europe. She also referred to Turkey and the nature of migration there. The ensuing project plans for the academic year 2024 were discussed in details.

B. Supporting Activities

B.1. Visits and participation in conferences

B.1. I. Participation in Seminar and Conferences

The Association for Cultural Studies in collaboration with Calcutta Research Group, International Centre for Cultural Studies, National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, Taiwan, Institute for Culture and Society, Western Sydney University, Australia, International Master's Program in Inter-Asia Cultural Studies, and Department of Cultural Studies, Lingnan University, Hong Kong, organised the conference on *Decolonization in the 21st Century* at National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, Hsinchu, Taiwan, from 10 to 15 August 2023. Ranabir Samaddar as the keynote speaker delivered a lecture on “[Practical Ethics of Responsibility and Protection](#).” Paula Banerjee spoke on “Conundrum of Trafficking and Statelessness in India,” Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury discussed “On the Edge of Law in the Platform Economy: A Tale of Two Cities in India,” in the panel on [Marginalized Populations, Stateless Persons and Migrant Labourers](#). A joint presentation was done by Paula Banerjee and Samata Biswas on “Migrants and the Epidemic: Gender, Race and Other Vulnerabilities,” in the same panel. The documentary films produced by CRG, *Calcutta: A Migrant City (I, II, III)* were also screened at the Conference.



Poster of the Conference “Decolonization in the 21st Century,” August 2023

Ranabir Samaddar also participated in the Conference “Equitable Research Cooperation between the Global South and North – From affirmations to practice,” convened by the German Institute of Development and Sustainability, and the German Commission for UNESCO, at Bonn, on 23-24 October 2023. He also participated and presented his work on “Biopolitics from Below” in the workshop at the German Institute of Development and Sustainability, at Bonn, on 25 October 2023. Ranabir Samaddar participated in several conferences in Geneva, Naples, Paris, Toronto between February and October 2023. Paula Banerjee on behalf of CRG participated in the Conference “Connecting the Dots: Debating Displacement in South Asia” in Kathmandu, Nepal, organised by CRG in collaboration with DW Akademie and the South Asia Network for Communication, Displacement and Migration (SAN-CDM), 3-6 November 2023. On behalf of CRG and as Members of the Academic Committee of the Vidyasagar Academy Kolkata, Shatabdi Das and Rajat Kanti Sur participated in the Conference on Pandit Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar at the Vidyasagar Academy Kolkata on 26 September 2023. Rajat Kanti Sur also participated in the Workshop “An Intensive Workshop on Research Methods and Publication,” organised by the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur, West Bengal, from 4 to 10 December 2023 and jointly conducted classes in the workshop on the theme “‘Archive as Method’: How to use archives in multidisciplinary research.”

B.1. II. Webinars

• Urban and Environmental Histories: The Legacy of Mike Davis, 20 January 2023

The Panel discussion was organised as a tribute to Mike Davis, the American born historian. The discussion was chaired by Sabyasachi Ray Chaudhary, the Honorary Director of CRG, who began by giving a detailed account of the life and works of Mike Davis as well as a brief overview of the major arguments that Mike Davis put forward in his books. Mike Davis was a pioneering radical historian of the US working class and a fierce critic of the economic, political, and military apparatuses of the US State machinery and of empires in general. The panel discussion had two eminent scholars, Ravi A. Palat (Professor, Department of Sociology, Binghamton University, State University of New York), and Sohini Sengupta (Assistant Professor, Centre for Community Organisation and Development Practice, School of Social Work, TISS, Mumbai). Ravi Palat talked about three of Davis's books namely, *Prisoners of the American Dream* (1986), *City of Quartz* (1990), and *The Late Victorian Holocausts*. He discussed the three books from the American national perspective, local and global perspectives respectively. Palat argued that Davis' world view and historical understanding of the worlds as is reflected in all of his works was shaped by the kind of life and upbringing he had as belonging to the working-class community. Sohini Sengupta focussed her discussion on *The Late Victorian Holocausts*. She began by how Davis integrated the disciplines of Political Science, Economics, Climate Science, Anthropology, and History to talk about human suffering. She highlighted Davis' continued focus on 'people' who face the risks that arise as a result of policy decisions and irresponsible governance. She discussed in detail how pre-colonial agrarian practices ensured a certain security of food and supplies for the community—a practice that was destroyed as a result of imperial and colonial designs in the Global South. Citing examples of the Bengal Famine, Sengupta consolidated Davis' contentions all the more. Following Davis, she noted how contemporary academics must be wary about the way they use climate data and information to substantiate and draw connections between catastrophic events and climate change. She also talked about Davis' cardinal focus subsistence crisis and noted how Davis brought to light the human angle of climate change at a time when the event of climate change itself was perceived as a scientific phenomenon, the understanding of which was largely based on scientific data. The discussion streamed live on Facebook: <https://fb.watch/p11rihHKJY/?mibextid=ZbWKwL>. A detailed report on the webinar is available at:

http://www.mcrg.ac.in/IWM_Migration_2023/2_REPORT_Webinar%20on%20Mike%20Davis_20JANUARY2023.pdf



Webinar: “Urban and Environmental Histories: The Legacy of Mike Davis,” 20 January 2023

• Book Discussion: Imprints of Populist Time, 19 March 2023

A Book Discussion on “Imprints of the Populist Time” by Ranabir Samaddar (Orient Blackswan, 2022), was organised on 19 March 2023. The Speakers were Ranabir Samaddar (Distinguished Chair in Migration and Forced Migration Studies, CRG), Samita Sen (Vere Harmsworth Professor of Imperial and Naval History, University of Cambridge, and Member, CRG), and Sandro Mezzadra (Professor, Department of Arts, University of Bologna). The Moderator for the session was Samir Kumar Das (Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Calcutta, and Member, CRG). Ranabir Samaddar began the discussion with the idea of preparing the book. The idea came as a response to the Left Politics in India as well as in the global scenario. He said that the book which is the second one of his writings on populist politics, was a response to his colleagues who told his book “Passive Revolution in West Bengal 1977-2011” (2013) is ‘under-theorised’. According to Samaddar, ‘populism’ defines an ensemble of popular political practices which is difficult to theorise all the time. Therefore, the book is a mix of theoretical exercises and experiential understandings. Samita Sen discussed the complicated framework of the book. She said that Samaddar’s approach towards populism pointed out both historical as well as theoretical complexities. Although Ranabir Samaddar tried to define populism with a particular historical context, he also

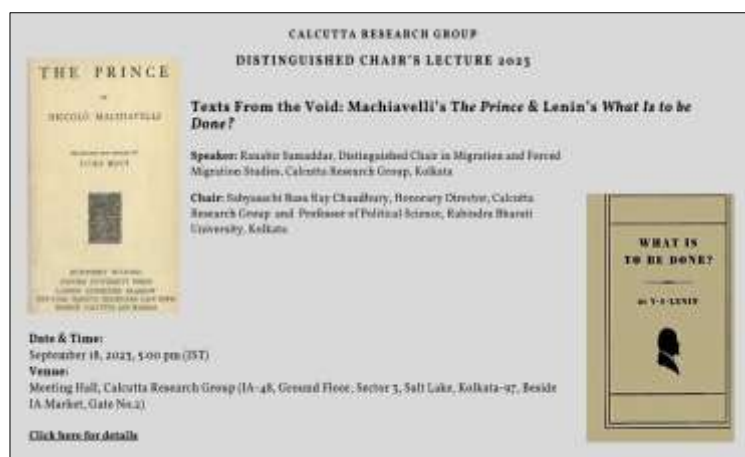
brought an analysis of contemporary global politics with a historical understanding of populism. There are many spatial and territorial layers in the book which make the argument interesting. Secondly, Samaddar took an empirical stand to study the relationship between populism and representation by studying elections (both General and Assembly Elections) of 2014, 2016, 2019 and 2021 which according to Samita Sen, showed the relationship between populism and representation. According to Mezzadra the book searches for a new class politics that is capable of new democratic and socialist transformations. The book along with Samaddar's "Passive Revolution in West Bengal (2013)" shows the transformation in the materiality of politics in West Bengal which led to a specific kind of class politics emerging into populism. The book provides one of the most important debates on populism. A report on the webinar is available at: http://www.mcrpg.ac.in/IWM_Migration_2023/2_REPORT_Book%20Discussion_19MARCH2023.pdf. The discussion was live streamed on Facebook: <https://fb.watch/p11cOD7Rry/?mibextid=ZbWKwL>. The YouTube link to access the discussion: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MC0fSDfeqmw>.



Webinar: "Imprints of the Populist Time," Book Discussion, 19 March 2023

• Distinguished Chair's Lecture Series: Texts from the Void: Machiavelli's The Prince and Lenin's What is to be Done? 18 September 2023

The lecture was delivered by Ranabir Samaddar and the session was moderated by Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury. What connects the two texts separated from each other by nearly four hundred years – Niccolo Machiavelli's The Prince (1513) and Vladimir Ilyich Lenin's What is to be Done? (1902), was the pivotal theme of the lecture. The first is a compendium of formulations on what a Prince ought to be, the pitfalls on the path of his success, how to rule, how the Prince should relate to his subjects, and what is necessary to mobilise the people to the unity and glory of a principedom. The second written in the Russian revolutionary age discusses how to build a revolutionary party, how to unite an ideology and a class and how a political party can become a tribune of the people. The contexts are different, situations vastly dissimilar. Yet, there is a strange connection between the two. Both carry the enigmatic quality of being timeless while being entirely focused on the problems of the time. Both resonate with concerns that share similar grounds. Both evoke themes that play upon the great question of contingency and uncertainty. They seem to carry no lineage, as if, they came out of void. The discussion was live streamed on Facebook: <https://fb.watch/p1116NhM0B/?mibextid=RUbZ1f>.



Distinguished Chair's Lecture: "Texts from the Void," 18 September 2023

B.2. Refugee Watch Journal and RefugeeWatchOnline (RWO) Blog

CRG has been publishing the journal *Refugee Watch: A South Asian Journal on Forced Migration* for the last 25 years focusing on micro studies relating migration and forced migration. It is a peer reviewed journal. Over the past few years feeling the necessity to bring migration related news, and scholarly works into popular domain, CRG ventured into blog posts through RefugeeWatchOnline (RWO).

Refugee Watch: A South Asian Journal on Forced Migration

This is a bi-annual peer reviewed open access journal from CRG. Paula Banerjee is the editor of the Journal and Samata Biswas is the book review editor for the Journal. 2023 marks the 25 years of the Journal. To commemorate this event, two special issues of the Journal were planned in 2023 on the theme of Partition and South Asia, and a selected collection of essays from the Seventh Critical Studies Conference 2022, as well as selected themes of research for 2023, will be published. The joint issue 61 and 62 on the theme of Partition was guest edited by Samata Biswas. The “Migrant Asias” issue due as December 2023 special supplementary will be guest edited by Sanam Roohi (International Fellow, KWI, Essen, and Member, CRG), Ishita Dey (Assistant Professor, South Asian University, Delhi, and Member, CRG), Sahana Basavapatna (Advocate and Member, CRG) and Samata Biswas (Assistant Professor, The Sanskrit College and University, Kolkata, and Member, CRG), and will be available tentatively by the end of January 2024.

1. Refugee Watch Issue 61 & 62: Politics, Space, Memory: Identity Making in the Wake of Partition, http://www.mcrg.ac.in/rw%20files/RW61_62/RW61_62.pdf
2. Refugee Watch Issue 63: Migrant Asias: Refugees, Statelessness & Migrant Labour Regimes (Forthcoming).

For details, see: <http://www.mcrg.ac.in/ci.asp>

RefugeeWatchOnline (RWO)

Blog RWO hosted by CRG is a popular approach to discuss migration and mobility through an interdisciplinary approach and to widen the outreach of the scholarship, this year the blog started a special section on *Migration Matters* containing articles by eminent journalist Bharat Bhushan. The list of articles published this year are listed below:

1. Bharat Bhushan, “Daily wage worker suicides unlikely to end soon,” *RefugeeWatchOnline*, March 4, 2023, <https://refugeewatchonline.wordpress.com/2023/03/04/daily-wage-worker-suicides-unlikely-to-end-soon/>
2. Mohamed Shafeeq Karinkurayil, “A Lasting Laugh on the Last Word: A Review of Orhan Pamuk’s Nights of Plague,” *RefugeeWatchOnline*, March 8, 2023, <https://refugeewatchonline.wordpress.com/2023/03/08/a-lasting-laugh-on-the-last-word-a-review-of-orhan-pamuks-nights-of-plague/#more-1935>
3. Sucharita Sengupta, “In between the Sea and fire: The Rohingya in Bangladesh,” *RefugeeWatchOnline*, March 1, 2023, <https://refugeewatchonline.wordpress.com/2023/03/11/in-between-the-sea-and-fire-the-rohingya-in-bangladesh/#more-1948>
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- For further details see: <https://refugeewatchonline.wordpress.com/>

B.3. Publications of Research Papers and Volumes

This year CRG published widely on the themes of pandemic, governance, climate change, disaster management, environment, migrants and migrants’ journeys, populist politics, cities, refugees, protection policies, etc. Additionally, series of online research articles were published by CRG in collaboration with 360info and Monash University. The forthcoming occasional papers are currently in the final stages of publication and will be available tentatively by the end of January 2024. The forthcoming book publications also are in the final stages of publication or with the publication houses. Ranabir Samaddar’s lecture on “Texts from the Void” has been planned to be published with selected text from the Distinguished Chair’s Lecture held on 18 September 2023 in the *CRG Chair Lecture* series. The cumulative publications include—Books: 8 [4 published, 4 forthcoming]; Book Translations: 3 [2 published, 1 forthcoming]; Occasional Papers: 16; Photobook: 1.

• Books

1. Bhushan, Bharat, ed. *Media, Migrants in the Time of Pandemic: A Reader*. New York: Routledge, 2023.
2. Datta, Rituparna, ed. *Pandemic and Precarity*. Kolkata: Sampark, 2023.
3. Lahiri, Sangbida. *Covidkale Bipannata o Sanghati*. Kolkata: Progressive, 2023.
4. Saha, Manjira. *Labour Train*. Translated by Purna Banerjee, Kolkata: Frontpage, 2023.
5. Krishna, Gopal, and Anamika Priyadarshini. *Mahamari Ki Sarbadein*. Translated by Ashok Jha and Pranav Jha. New Delhi: Aakar Books.
6. Srinivasan, Piya, ed. *Living with the Weather: Climate Change, Ecology and Displacement in South Asia*. New Delhi: Yoda Press, 2023.

Forthcoming

7. Bose, Pradip, ed. *Paschimbangey Udbastura: Pratisthanik Udyog o Parichitir Sanghat*. Translated by Prasit Das. Kolkata: Progressive Publishers (forthcoming).
8. Banerjee, Paula, ed. *On The Margins of Protection*. Hyderabad: Orient Blackswan (forthcoming).
9. Chowdhury, Nasreen, ed. *New Frontiers in the Register of Migration and Refugee Studies*. Springer (forthcoming).
10. Sengupta, Kaustubh Mani, Paula Banerjee, and Subhas Ranjan Chakraborty, eds. *The Long 2020: Reflections of Epidemiological Times*. Springer (forthcoming).
11. Basu Ray Chaudhury, Sabyasachi, Ayşe Çağlar, and Ranabir Samaddar. *Sites of Statelessness: Laws, Cities, Seas*. SUNY Press (forthcoming).

• Articles

12. Das, Shatabdi. “Shohor Kolkata’r Jalbayu Sankot.” *Prasangik-Oprasangik*. March 27, 2023.
13. Bandyopadhyay, Rityajyoti and Ranabir Samaddar. “How Riots Formed Kolkata’s Ghettos.” *360info*, January 12, 2023. <https://360info.org/how-riots-formed-kolkatas-ghettos/>.
14. Samaddar, Ranabir. “Why We Should Talk about Shock Mobility.” *360info*, June 19, 2023. <https://360info.org/why-we-should-be-talking-about-shock-mobility/>.
15. Das, Shatabdi. “Coal Mining in India Has a Human Cost.” *360info*, June 19, 2023. <https://360info.org/coal-mining-in-india-has-a-human-cost/>.

16. Das, Shatabdi. "Black Days Ahead If Coal City Does Not Change." *360info*. January 12, 2023. <https://360info.org/black-days-ahead-if-coal-city-does-not-change/>.
17. Das, Shatabdi. "Plastic Dream," *YAWP05*, NEER, Annual Edition, 2023.
18. Banerjee, Paula. "Human Trafficking, Gender and Agency." *IWMpost 132*, Art and Society (2023). <https://www.iwm.at/publication/iwmpost-article/human-trafficking-gender-and-agency>.
19. Samaddar, Ranabir. "Populism and Rewriting the Grammar of Democracy," *IWMpost 132*, Art and Society (2023). <https://www.iwm.at/publication/iwmpost-article/populism-and-rewriting-the-grammar-of-democracy>.

• Occasional Papers

Policies and Practices

20. Som, Niroula and Kamal Thapa Kshetri. "Policies and Protection for Migrants in Nepal." *Policies and Practices*, No. 143 (December 2022). <http://www.mcrg.ac.in/PP143.pdf>.
21. Sengupta, Sohini. "Indian Droughts, Drought Policy and Climate Change." *Policies and Practices*, No. 142 (December 2022). <http://www.mcrg.ac.in/PP142.pdf>.
22. Datta, Rituparna. "Witnessing the Birth of a Nation: Narrative Frames of Refugee and Relief in Bangladesh Liberation War, 1971." *Policies and Practices*, No. 141 (December 2022). <http://www.mcrg.ac.in/PP141.pdf>.
23. Das, Shatabdi. "Kolkata and Climate Crisis." *Policies and Practices*, No. 140 (December 2022). <http://www.mcrg.ac.in/PP140.pdf>.
24. K. D., Johny and Ankita Singh. "Urban Renewal Stage in City's life and its Impact on Slums and Slum Dwellers – A Case Study of Noida City." *Policies and Practices*, No. 139 (December 2022). <http://www.mcrg.ac.in/PP139.pdf>.
25. Sarkar, Santi. "Politics of Populist Policies in West Bengal." *Policies and Practices*, No. 138 (December 2022). <http://www.mcrg.ac.in/PP138.pdf>.
26. Sengupta, Anita. "Pandemic and Governance in Central Asia." *Policies and Practices*, No. 137 (December 2022). <http://www.mcrg.ac.in/PP137.pdf>.
27. Das, Samir Kumar. "Governing the Pandemic: Negotiating Democracy in Our Time." *Policies and Practices* (forthcoming).
28. Banerjee, Paula. "Is Protection Only a Legal Matter? Migrant Labour in South and Southeast Asia." *Policies and Practices* (forthcoming).
29. Mitra, Ritwika, Riya Singh Rathore and Farhana Ahmed. "Media and Migration." *Policies and Practices* (forthcoming).
30. Das, Shatabdi. "Kolkata and Mumbai: Climate Disaster Mitigation in Coastal Megacities in India." *Policies and Practices* (forthcoming).
31. Datta, Rituparna. "'Bhootlane Ki Katha': Habitation and Construction of Dignity, Health and Well-Being in Indentured Mobility 1830-1920." *Policies and Practices* (forthcoming).
32. Datta, Rituparna. "Death in Diaspora." *Policies and Practices* (forthcoming).
33. Chaudhury, Sabyasachi Basu Ray. "Platformed Precarity: A Tale of Two Cities in India." *Policies and Practices* (forthcoming).

CRG Chair Lecture Series

34. Samaddar, Ranabir. "An Intelligent Guide to the Discriminatory History of Responsibility." *CRG Chair Lecture* (December 2022). http://www.mcrg.ac.in/IWM_Migration_2022/DCL.pdf.
35. Samaddar, Ranabir. "Texts from the Void: Machiavelli's *The Prince* and Lenin's *What is to be Done*." *CRG Chair Lecture* (forthcoming).

• Report

36. Basu, Sunandan. *Humanity in the COVID-19 Era*, Ninth Krishna Memorial Lecture 2022. Kolkata: Calcutta Research Group, 2023. http://www.mcrg.ac.in/krishna_trust/Ninth_Krishna_Memorial_Lecture_2022.pdf.
37. Dey, Ishita. *Journeys and Internal Migrant Workers: An Ethnographic Study of Railway Connectivity*. Kolkata: Calcutta Research Group (forthcoming).
38. Shukla, Abhay. *Innovative Public Actions, New Politics of Health and Life Emerging from the Pandemic*, Tenth Krishna Memorial Lecture 2023. Kolkata: Calcutta Research Group (forthcoming).

• Photo Book

39. Sunuwar, Muna and Banhi Sarkar. *Waters off the Valley, Traversing the Delta*. Kolkata: Calcutta Research Group, 2022. http://www.mcrg.ac.in/IWM_Migration_2022/Photo%20Book%20Muna%20Sunuwar%20and%20Banhi%20Sarkar.pdf.

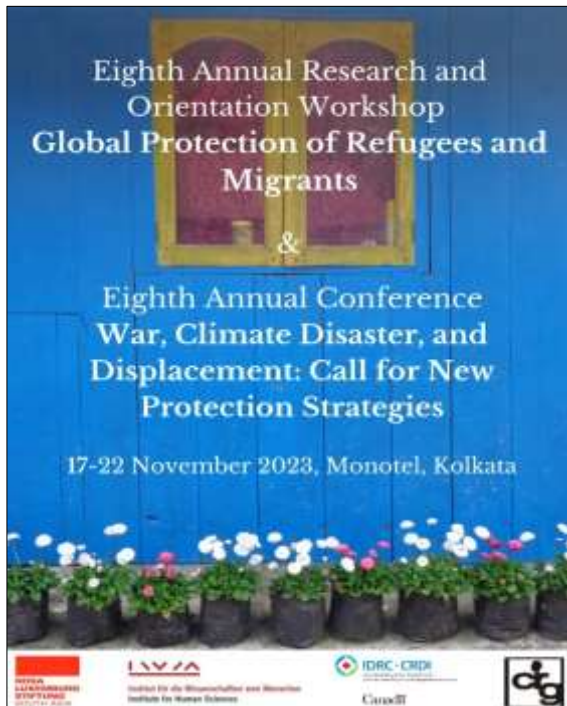
B.4. Library and Digital Archive

The library of the Calcutta Research Group holds a significantly specialised collection of print and audio resources on topics pertinent to areas of social science such as migration, forced migration, human rights, peace, justice, post-colonial democracy, migration studies, and more. This Resource Centre is linked with the Refugee Research Network, which is responsible for gathering information from a number of institutions and networks. The library has digital access, allowing members of several colleges, universities, research institutes, and NGOs, along with research scholars, students, and faculty, access to academic material. Books and CDs, however, are available only as hard copies in the library. In terms of numbers, the Library and Resource Centre has about 3556 books, 1383 documents, and 237 audio CDs, videos, and lectures on topics such as law, migration, food, environment, urbanisation, displacement, minority rights, advocacy, child rights, human rights, and migration from Northeast India, India's Look East policy, and more. There are exclusive collections of newspaper clippings on Northeast India and archived materials on forced migration. The library also has a good collection of donated books on topics such as modern India, human culture, the sociological imagination, Dalit literature, and more. The library has subscribed to Integrated Library Management Software 'Koha' from the Bengal Library Association since November 2021. Most of the books and bibliographic data have been migrated to Koha. Users can easily access the library book collection through KOHA OPAC. The OPAC URL has been recently changed, i.e., <https://mcrg-opac.blcal.in/>. Some other new books are under the process of updating of access. Two reading lists have been compiled in HTML format, one for the CRG's "2023: Fourth Teachers' Workshop" and another for the "2023: Eighth Annual Research and Orientation Workshop", also made available to the workshop participants and module coordinators in digital format as reading resources. The library books are arranged in a systematic way as per the latest DDC 23rd edition classification number. All the huge copies of the 'Policies and Practices' are arranged chronologically. A Xerox machine has been installed in the library so that readers can take printouts as required. Since the longevity of the data is very low on CD, all the digitised documented data in the library is backed up from CD to an external hard disk drive. The Calcutta Research Group is a subscriber to journals of repute such as JSTOR and Economic and Political Weekly. The subscription to Project-Muse began in September 2021. The current library advisory committee consists of Ranabir Samaddar, Samata Biswas, and Lina Dey. They are responsible for determining the rules and modes of operation. Lina Dey is the current librarian and is responsible for most of the library-related activities.

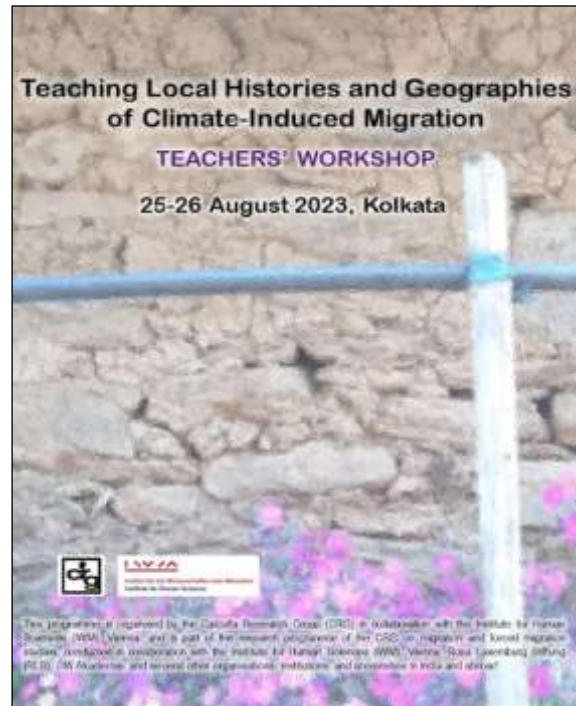


CRG Library

Photo Plates



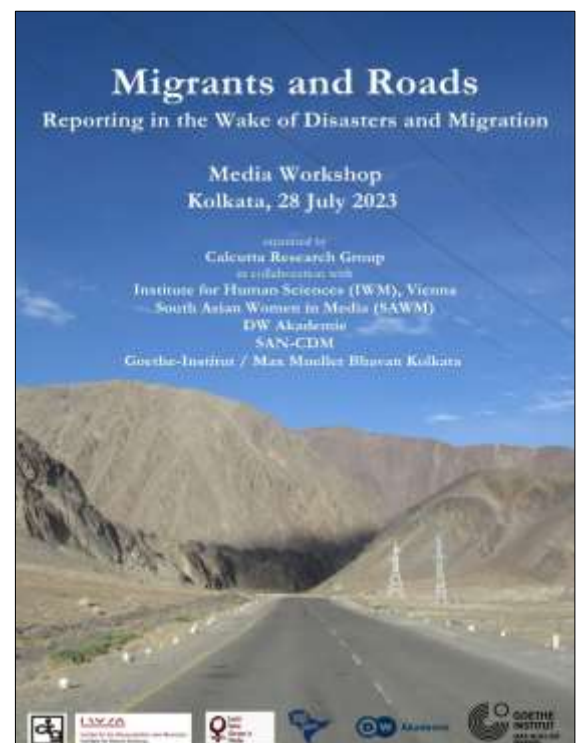
Annual Winter Workshop and Conference 2023



Fourth Teachers' Workshop 2023



Winter Camp 2023



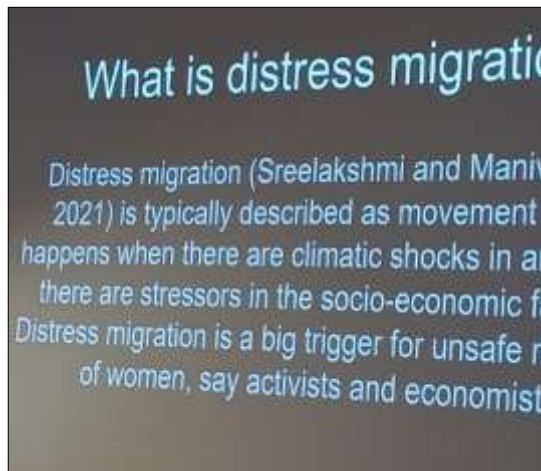
Media Workshop 2023

Event Posters



SOCIAL LEADERSHIP SOCIAL WAR
 DISPARITY SOLIDARITY
 Empowerment Erudites and War bindings PROTEST database family
 Re ordering Association Transition
 Us-Them = ? Negotiation ABSENCE
 Self Claim-Making CHOICE equality
 COMMUNITY RECOGNITION
 neighbours normative or heteronormative? SILENCE exploitation
 Inclusion (IN)VISIBILITIES
 violence militarisation SHARING RIGHTS
 RISK IDENTITY Retrace
 neglected histories of belonging
 resource restorative justice POWER BEING
 Home PROTECTION Path Undoing
 NOSTALGIA Memories CONTROL PRESSURE Groups
 Social space Co-existence
 Reclaiming Space Acceptance

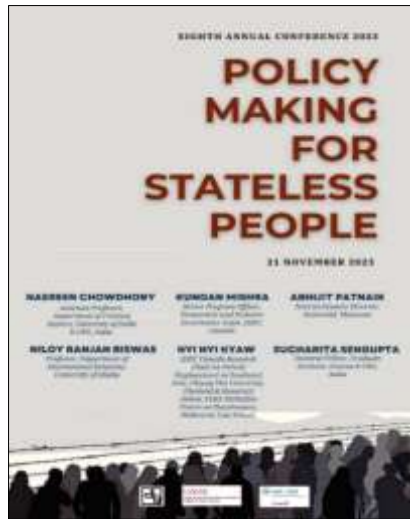
Sessions of the Winter Camp, “Youth Meet: Crafting Peace and Justice Politics Today,” 25-27 January 2023, in Darjeeling



Glimpses from the Media Workshop on 28 July 2023, in Kolkata



The Travelling Photo Exhibition on “1946 Calcutta Riots”, Exhibited at the Eighth Annual Research and Orientation Workshop and Eighth Annual Conference, 17-22 November 2023, in Kolkata



Poster: Panel on “Policy Making for Stateless People”, 21 November 2023



Eighth Annual Conference: Panel on “Policy Making for Stateless People” organised by CRG in collaboration with IWM, Vienna, and IDRC, Canada, 21 November 2023, in Kolkata.



Participants of the Eighth Annual Research and Orientation Workshop on “Global Protection of Refugees and Migrants” and Eighth Annual Conference on “War, Climate Disaster, and Displacement: Call for New Protection Strategies,” 17-22 November 2023, Kolkata.