

Contributors and Abstracts

Prof. Dr. Claudia Derichs



Claudia Derichs, is professor of Transregional Southeast Asian Studies at Humboldt Universität zu Berlin (HU). She has studied Japanese and Arabic in Bonn, Tokyo and Cairo and holds a PhD in Japanology (1994, University of Bonn, Germany). Her research covers gender, religion, and political violence in Southeast Asia and the Middle East, looking particularly at transregional Islamist movements in and beyond the "long 1960s". She is the editor-in-chief of the scopus-listed *International Quarterly for Asian Studies* (IQAS) and works towards new orientations in Area Studies and subscribes to current approaches of epistemic decolonisation in Western academia.

Living together, the feeling of belonging, and social coherence manifest strongly in language. The personal pronoun WE signifies togetherness and commonality. However, not all languages have a pronoun that translates into WE. Some have inclusive and exclusive terms for WE, while others express personal relations with a range of different expressions (oftentimes referring to social hierarchies and normative orders). The seminar "Who is we?" addresses this fact and discusses terms and expressions for WE in Asian languages. It draws from inspirational and explanatory inputs by the language instructures of the IAAW and studies how language influences people's emotional connectivities, i.e. analyses languages' including and/or excluding effects.

Dr. Faiza Muhammad Din



Faiza is a Lecturer of Urdu at the Institute of Asian and African Studies (IAAW), since October 2023. She brings over 10 years of experience in teaching and research, focusing on languages and religion. Her doctoral research delved into the worldview of female madrasa students in Pakistan through discourse analysis. Later she worked on the "Women's Pathways to Professionalization in Muslim Asia" project (2020-23). Faiza's research interests encompass language and literature, gender and religion, eco-theology, social media Islam, and consumer identities within the context of South and South-East Asian Islam.

"Faiza's contribution on the concept of "Hum" is related to her interest in language structures which form the basis for creating and sustaining social institutions.

Dr. Monika Freier



Monika Freier has led the Hindi language and literature program at Humboldt University of Berlin since 2018. She earned her PhD in History from Freie Universität Berlin, focusing on Hindi advice literature in late colonial India. Her research interests include the history of emotions, moral education, religious reform movements in South Asia, and colonialism.

Monika's passion for the topic of "Hum" stems from her deep interest in literature and the emotions tied to languages.

Dr. Fritzi-Marie Titzmann



Dr Fritzi-Marie Titzmann holds a doctorate in South Asian Studies from Humboldt University. She was Assistant Professor of South Asian Studies at the University of Leipzig and Humboldt University. Her research focuses on gender, media and social movements in contemporary India. From 2021-2024, she was a postdoctoral researcher at RePLITO with a project on the mediated communication of solidarity in recent Indian socio-political movements. Since 2024 she is Alliance Manager of the European University Alliance Circle U. at Humboldt University.

Mediatized Solidarity: Media Practices of Contemporary Indian Social Movements

"Mediatized Solidarity" examines dimensions of solidarity within Indian social and protest movements. For the period from 2014 onwards, it analyses the interplay between media practices, including social media, and the expression and performance of solidarity.

Prof. Dr. Nadja-Christina Schneider



Nadja-Christina Schneider is currently professor of Gender and Media Studies for the South Asia Region at HU Berlin. She is RePLITO's co-speaker and the HU project leader. In her RePLITO related research activities, her focus is on the role of media and journalism in debates on social cohesion; on alternative/ less publicly visible actors, concepts, and practices of living together peacefully and on equal terms, and on urban studies & the housing question. Her most recent publication is a monograph titled *Reimagining Housing, Rethinking the Role of Architects in India* (HASP 2024, open access). More information at <https://replito.de/team/schneider1>