The JU-SYLFF Association invites you to

JU-SYLFF Lecture Series
Lecture No. 2015-6

Speaker:

Sahana Ghosh
Ph.D Candidate, Department of Anthropology,
Yale University, United States of America

Topic:

Du-nombori: Ethnography of Networks along and across the India-Bangladesh Border

Date:

November 16th, 2015 (Monday)

Time:

4:15pm - 5:15pm (Including Q&A Session)

Venue:

Global Change Programme,
First Floor, Biren Roy Research Laboratory
Jadavpur University

Note on the Speaker

Sahana Ghosh is a PhD candidate in Anthropology at Yale University, USA. Her dissertation is, broadly, a study of how men and women living in the Bengal borderlands have negotiated changing border control practices and increasing militarization of this border since the 1950s to present times. She is currently in a long spell of fieldwork on both sides of the Bangladesh-India border in northern Bengal. For 2014-15 she is affiliated to the Department of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University.

Note on the Lecture

The India-Bangladesh border runs through regions that are historically and culturally linked, and densely inhabited by Hindu and Muslim Bengalis, with generations-old economic and socio-familial ties, commercial and religious routes. These ties are reconfigured and new economies generated through people's negotiations of mainly the Indian state's attempts to control the flow of people and goods between the two countries since the 1990s. Through years of ethnographic research I have been studying how Bengali men and women in both countries are differently involved in "illegal" transborder networks in their everyday lives as a part of the political economy of the borderland. This involvement includes complex relations of power as residents contest and are also complicit with male security forces deployed by India and Bangladesh on their respective sides of the border. In this talk I will explore some of the methodological and ethical dimensions of researching "illegal" transborder networks and sites of border security.