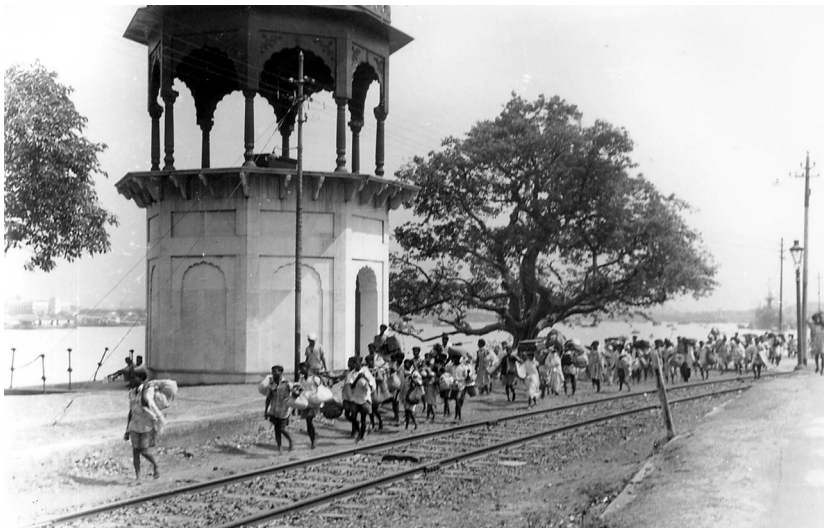


Departmental Colloquium: New Interventions in the History of Partition

# Problematic Subalterns: How Partition Refugees Negotiated State Policies

Dr. Udit Sen  
(University of Nottingham)



This talk will draw upon insights generated from a close analysis of oral histories, pamphlets and memoirs produced by partition refugees displaced from Eastern Pakistan and settled across diverse locations in India, including Dandakaranya, the Andaman Islands and West Bengal. It will illuminate the specific strategies used by

partition refugees in negotiating an apathetic state and an often-unwelcoming host society. It will present an intersectional analysis that foregrounds how class, caste and gender can fragment a supposedly common experience of displacement and resettlement. In doing so, it interrogates the axiomatic subalternity of the figure of the refugee. It will also illustrate the need for critical and contextual readings of refugee memory, at a time when multiple projects of collection of refugee memories and production of community histories has begun to find validation as a more 'authentic' record of partition, as it was lived and experienced by ordinary people.



Registration and  
Information

Thursday 20.10.2022  
16:15 CEST (Zoom)

*Image: Refugees from East Pakistan.  
ABP Archives, Kolkata*