

**University of Washington**  
**Jackson School of International Studies-South Asia Center**  
**Walter Chapin Simpson Center for the Humanities**

**Call For Abstracts**

**Metropolis and Micropolitics**

Abstracts are invited for the 2009 conference on *Metropolis and Micropolitics: South Asia's Sutured Cities* to be held 15-16, May 2009 at the University of Washington in Seattle, WA.

This conference will focus on the micropolitics of urbanization in South Asia. It will complicate perspectives that theorize urbanization in the so-called developing countries as the predetermined outcomes of macroprocesses. By focusing on micropolitics, the conference will explore complex ways of understanding South Asia's sutured cities – where slums and skyscrapers, ghettos and cosmopolitan social imaginaries, public transport and private vehicles, manufacturing industries and financial institutions, sweatshops and hi-tech companies, seemingly coexist. Conference topics will extend the dialog on existing social theories of cities and interrogate their relevance for the study of South Asia

The two day conference will feature keynote speakers and panel presentations from faculty and advanced graduate students whose work contributes to an understanding of micropolitics in South Asian cities. The conference organizers invite abstracts for presentations around these themes.

- 1. Discourses of urban belonging, citizenship and the politics of exclusion**
- 2. Social Movements and Civil Societies**
- 3. Architecture and The Built Environment**

We invite scholarship that addresses these themes through studies of: a) urban renewal and gentrification b) gender and sexuality c) politics of urban amenities and resource distribution d) labor and the informal economy e) migration h) popular culture and mass media i) violence, riots, and bomb blasts in urban areas j) consumption and leisure k) identity politics

Abstracts of no more than 250 words, along with full contact information, academic affiliation, and one-page CV should be submitted by email to The South Asian Center [metro09@u.washington.edu](mailto:metro09@u.washington.edu) by 27 February 2009. Need based travel accommodation may be arranged for selected candidates.