Spectacular and Domestic Atmospheres: India, London and 1930s Senses

Stephen Legg

Over 100 Indian delegates visited London for three sessions of the Round Table Conference between 1930 and 1932 that set India’s colonial constitutional future. Building on previous work which explored the meteorological and affective dimensions of the conference’s “political atmospherics” (Legg 2020) this paper will explore two seemingly different conference atmospheres. The first regards the spectacular ceremonies used to launch and close the conference. The second regards the alterity of domestic spaces in London curated by ‘Mahatma’ Gandhi and his entourage. Building upon earlier reflections on the difficulty of representing non-representational affective atmospheres, this paper will dwell on how particular senses were used as representational media for these public and private atmospherics.

Thursday, September 17
at 13h00

Please write to cissc@concordia.ca (with "ATMOSPHERES" in the subject line) to register and you will be sent a Zoom link.

Stephen Legg undertook his degree, doctorate and Junior Research Fellowship at the University of Cambridge before joining the University of Nottingham in 2005. His research centres on the geographies of late-colonialism, with a particular focus on British-Indian relations in the interwar period. He has published two monographs, Spaces of Colonialism: Delhi’s Urban Governmentalities (2007, Blackwell) and Prostitution and the Ends of Empire: Scale, Governmentalities and Interwar India (2014, Duke University Press) and co-edited three volumes regarding Carl Schmitt on nomos, Michel Foucault on governmentality and the geographies of Subaltern Studies.

For more information see: https://stephenleggeog.wordpress.com/