



**WORLD INDIAN** **DIASPORA CONFERENCE 2020**

**WIDC2020**

(National Council of Indian Culture (NCIC) in collaboration with the University of the

West Indies (UWI) and the Indentured Labour Route Project.)

**22nd---23rd AUGUST 2020**

NCIC Nagar, 28-38 Narsaloo Ramaya Marg, Endeavour, Chaguanas 502128, Trinidad, W.I.

Tel/Fax: (868) 671-6242 / 789-9101 Email: info@widc2020.com Website: [www.widc2020](http://www.widc2020)

**WIDC 2020 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE UPDATE**

**PROGRAM AND PANELS**

PLEASE JOIN US USING THE zoom LINK BELOW

[zoom.widc2020.com](https://eur06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fzoom.widc2020.com%2F&data=02%7C01%7C%7C79aedb89cba1434b3ad808d8342e0bf3%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637316719650979606&sdata=zOZWTV7%2BssPAvMIXXP3KQXKbIPkn881pPjQ%2F%2Bmv%2Faaw%3D&reserved=0)

PLEASE FIND BELOW THE PANELS FOR THE CONFERENCE.

Kindly note that the times for the panels are noted in local (Trinidad) time and Greenwich Mean Time (GMT)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  **NAMES** |   **ITEM**  | **TIME****LOCAL TIME****(GMT)** |  |
| **SATURDAY 22 AUGUST 2020**  |  **OPENING CEREMONY**Deoroop Teemal (Chairman, NCIC Heritage Center)Dr. Deokinanan Sharma (President, NCIC)His Excellency, A.K.Sahu (Indian High Commissioner to T&T)Dr. Sherry Ann Singh (UWI)Rep. Indenture Labour Route Project (UN)Dr.Primnath GooptarProfessor Brij Lal (Feature Speaker) | 9.00 AM—10.20 AM(14:00-15:20hrs) |  |
| **SATURDAY 22 AUGUST 2020** | **PANEL PRESENTATIONS**  **FIVE PANELS** **FILM NIGHT** | **10.25 AM—6.35 PM** (**15:25—23:35** hrs)**6.35 PM****(23.35 hrs)** |  |
| **SUNDAY 23 AUGUST 2020**  | **PANEL PRESENTATIONS**  | **7.55 AM.-**  (**12:55** hrs) |  |
| **DAY ONE**  |  |  |  |
|  **NAMES** | **PAPER** |  **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN**  | **TIME****LOCAL TIME****(GMT)** |
| **PANEL 1** **Historical Perspectives, Diasporic Heritage, Culture and Archives**  |  |  | **10.25 AM-11.45AM** (**15:25—16:45** hrs) |
| Chair: Jerome Teelucksingh  | **Introduction of presenters by chairman** | The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine. | 10.25 AM-10.30 AM (**15:25—15:30** hrs) |
| Kathleen Boodhai | Indo-Trinidadian Heritage-ness in Diaspora.  | UK, Northumberland university | **10.30 AM—10.45 AM** (**15:25—15:45** hrs) |
| Dr. Manish Sinha  | Chulhan Singh’s Voyage to Trinidad and After. | INDIA Magadh University, Bodhgaya | **10.45AM—11.00 AM** (**15:45—16:00** hrs) |
| Amar Trivedi  | India’s ignorance of indentureship history and Indentured Hindus of Indian origin.  | Varanasi, India | **11.00 AM—11.15 AM** (**16.00-16.15 hrs**) |
| Dr. Kirk Meighoo  | Indian Indenture, East India Company de-industrialization and the Opium Wars.  | Trinidad  | **11.15 AM—11.30 AM** (**16.15-16.30 hrs**) |
| **QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION** |  |  | **11.30 AM —11.45 AM** (16.30-16.45 hrs) |
| **PANEL 2****Historical Perspectives, Diasporic Heritage, Culture and Archives** |  |  | **11.50 AM —1.25 PM** (16.50-18.25 hrs) |
| **Chair: Bridget Brereton**  | **Introduction of presenters by chair** | Professor EmeritusThe University of the West Indies, St. Augustine. | **11.50 AM —11.55 AM** (16.50-16.55 hrs) |
|  Wanita Ramnath  |  Landscape and Memory: Baithak Gana as cultural memory  | Suriname | **11.55 AM —12.10 PM** (16.55-17.10 hrs) |
| Drs. Halima-Sa’adia Kassim\* and Perry Polar |  Inadvertently written into history II: The Muslims who arrived in Trinidad, 1892-1901. | The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine. | **12.10 PM —12.25 PM**(**17.10—17.25 hrs**) |
| Dr. Anjali Singh  |  The Jahajin Voices: Reclaiming Indenture Narratives from the Caribbean  | Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur Indian | **12.25 PM —12.40 PM**(**17.25—17.40 hrs**) |  |
| Jafreen Khan  | Unconscionable Indenture Contracts.  | University of Fiji | **11.40 PM —11.55 PM**(**17.40—17.55 hrs**) |
| Satyendra Peerthum  | Daughters of Indenture. | **Mauritius**  | **12.55 PM —1.10 PM**(**17.55—18.10 hrs**) |
| **QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION**  |  |  | **1.10 PM —1.25 PM**(**18.10 --18.25hrs**) |
| **PANEL 3** **The Emergence of multi-ethnic Nations and Societies** |  |  | 1.30 PM-2.50 PM(**18.30 --19.50hrs**) |
| **Chair: Sherry Ann Singh** | **Introduction of presenters by chair** |  | **1.30 PM —1.35 PM**(**18.30 --18.35hrs**) |
| Vashti Singh  | The Response of The Sanatan Dharma Maha Sabha to The Proposal for Compulsory National Service In Trinidad And Tobago(1990).  | Trinidad | **1.35 PM —1.50 PM**(**18.35 --18.50hrs**) |
| Shalima Mohammed  |  East Indian Friendly Societies: History, Impact and Future  | Trinidad | **1.50 PM —2.05 PM**(**18.50 –19 .05hrs**) |
| Dr. Sadananda Sahoo   | Construction of “Home” in the colonial Diaspora Ethnographic study of Little India in Malaysia.   | Indira Gandhi National Open University New Delhi, India | **2.05 PM —2.20 PM**(**19.05 --19.20hrs**) |
| Dr Vishnu Bisram   | Role of Indo-Caribbean Diaspora in Combating an Ethnic Dictatorship & Restoring Voting Rights in Guyana | USA/GUYANA | **2.20 PM —2.35 PM**(**19.20 --19.35hrs**) |
| **QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION** |  |  | **2.35 PM —2.50 PM**(**19.35 --19.50hrs**) |
| **PANEL 4****Entrepreneurship, Emergence and Consolidation of Identities** |  |  |  **2.55 PM-4.30 PM**(**19.55 --21.30hrs**) |
| **Chair: Brinsley Samaroo** |  **Introduction of presenters by chairman** | **Professor Emeritus**University of The West Indies, St. Augustine,Trinidad. | **2.55 PM —3.00 PM**(**19.55 --20.00 hrs**) |
| Jennifer Khan-Janif Nazreen Shaban,  | Fiji Hindi; Our Language, Our Identity for Fiji Indians Living in New Zealand. | New Zealand  | **3.00 PM —3.15 PM**(**20.00 –20.15 hrs**) |
| Anu M. Mitra  | Ideas of self: visual culture in South Asian/Indian communities in the Caribbean.  | Union Institute & University, Cincinnati, Ohio | **3.15 PM —3.30 PM****(20.15 –20.30 hrs)** |
| Pawan Upadhyay

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

 | Challenges in searching root & families of Girmits. | India | **3.30 PM —3.4**()**5 PM****(20.30 –20.45 hrs)** |
| Kumar Mahabir  | Walking without legs in the diaspora: Stories of diabetic amputees in Trinidad. | Indo-Caribbean Cultural Centre, Trinidad | **3.45 PM —4.00 PM****(20.45 –21.00 hrs)** |
| Manpreet Kaur and Dr. Kamala Naiker  | Changing Identities and Shifting Trends.   | The University of Fiji, Fiji | **4.00 PM —4.15 PM****(21.00 –21.15 hrs)** |
| Heidi McKenzie  | Liminal Lives: Documenting the Inheritance of Post-Indentureship | Canada | **4.15 PM —4.30 PM****(21.150 –21.30 hrs)** |
| **QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION** |  |  | **4.30 PM —4.45 PM****(21.30 –21.45 hrs)** |
| **PANEL 5****Entrepreneurship, Emergence and Consolidation of Identities** |  |  | 4.45 PM - 6.20 PM **(21.35 –23.20 hrs)** |
| **Chair: Deoroop Teemal** | **Introduction of presenters by chairman** |  NCIC | **4.35 PM —4.50 PM****(21.35 –21.50 hrs)** |
| Dr Satish Rai   | Shifting homes and identities in the global village-A personal narrative.  | Australia | **4.50 PM —5.05 PM****(21.50 –22.05 hrs)** |
| Gajendran Ayyathurai    | Inclusive or Exclusive Religious Traditions? Brahmin and Non-BrahminTemples, Priests, and Publics of the Indian Diaspora in the Caribbean.   | Göttingen University, Germany | **5.05 PM —5.20 PM****(22.05 –22.20 hrs)** |
| Mansraj Ramphal  |  Beyond the Indenture Experience: Portuguese and Indians in Trinidad and British Guiana. | University of The West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad.  | **5.20 PM —5.35 PM****(22.20 –22.35 hrs)** |
| Hemraj Ramdath  | From indentureship to entrepreneurship- pioneers of entrepreneurship in Trinidad. The spirit of enterprise.  | Trinidad/Canada | **5.35 PM —5.50 PM****(22.35 –22.50 hrs)** |
| **Sarita Nandmehar** and **Rishi Gupta** | Political Transition in Nepal and Indian Diaspora: Changing Identity and Narratives | Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India. | **5.50 PM —6.05 PM****(22.50 –23.05 hrs)** |
| Dr. Archana Tewari | Ramayana : The Refuge of Indentured Indians in the Caribbeans  | India | **6.05 PM —6.20 PM****(23.05-- 23.20hrs)** |
| **QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION** |  |  | **6.20 PM —6.35 PM****(23.20-- 23.35hrs)** |
| **FILM SESSION**  |  |  |  |
| **Chair: Amrica Seepersad Reemaul** | Introduction of films | Trinidad  | **6.35 PM-7.05 PM****(23.35-23.40 hrs)** |
| Drs. Perry Polar and Sharda Patasar  | Film presentation : 'Ganga dhaara: Sacred Spaces' | Trinidad | **6.35 PM-7.05 PM****(23.35-00.05 hrs)** |
| Dr. Jerome Teelucksingh and Ramdeo Heeralal | Film presentation : **The Curse of Indentureship****(Documentary)** | University of The West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad |  **7.05PM—7.35 PM****(00.05—00.35hrs)** |
| **DAY TWO** |  |  |  |
| **PANEL 6** **Politics and Labour in the Indian Diaspora** |  |  | **7.55 AM —9.15 AM****(12.55 –14.15 hrs)** |
| **Chair: Primnath Gooptar** | **Introduction of presenters by chairman** |  NCIC | **7.55 AM —8.00 AM****(12.55 –13.00 hrs)** |
| Dr. Amba Pande  | The Girmit Diaspora as a Factor in India’s Soft Power Strategy.  | SIS, JNU India | **8.00 AM —8.15** **(13.00 –13.15 hrs)** |
| Annapurna Devi Pandey  | The Struggles and Challenges of H4 visa Holders in USA: An Ethnographic Study.  | University of California, Santa Cruz USA  |  **8.15 AM —8.30 AM** **(13.15 –13.30 hrs)** |
| Vassan Ramracha  | “LOGIE” SOCIALISM  | New York, USA | **8.30 AM —8.45 AM** **(13.30 –13.45 hrs)** |
| Dr. Ujjwal Rabidas   | The Diaspora Factor in India’s Caribbean Engagement .  | Amity University, India | **8.45 AM —9.00 AM** **(13.45 –14.00 hrs)** |
| **QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION** |  |  | **9.00 AM —9.15 AM****(14.00 –14.15 hrs)** |
| **PANEL 7** **Politics and Labour in the Indian Diaspora** |  |  | **9.20 AM —10.40 PM****(14.20 –15.40 hrs)** |
| **Chair: Radica Mahase** | **Introduction of presenters by chair** | COSTAATT, Trinidad | **9.20 AM —9.25 PM****(14.20 –14.25 hrs)** |
| Ouma Seebaluck  | India’s Outreach to its Diaspora with Particular Reference to Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s First Term of Office (2014 -2019).  | Mauritius | **9.25 AM —9.40 PM****(14.25 –14.40 hrs)** |
| Brinsley Samaroo  | Afro and Indian Women in the labour struggle in Trinidad  | Professor Emeritus, University of The West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad | **9.40 AM —9.55 AM****(14.40 –14.55 hrs)** |
| Hazel Woolford  | Organized labour and the Indian sugar workers, in British Guiana.  | Registrar of the Guyana Institute of Historical Research, Guyana | **9. 55 AM —10.10 AM****(14.55 –15.10 hrs)** |
| Movindri Reddy  | India’s political influence in South Africa.  | Occidental College, USA | **10.10 AM —10.25 AM****(15.10 –15.25 hrs)** |
| **QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION** |  |  | **9.25 AM —10.40 AM****(15.25 –15.40 hrs)** |
| **PANEL 8** **IDENTITY ISSUES** |  |  | **10.45 AM —12.10 PM****(15.45 –17.10 hrs)** |
| **Chair: Mansraj Ramphal** | **Introduction of presenters by chairman** | University of The West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad | **10.45 AM —10.50 AM****(15.45 –15.50 hrs)** |
| Kalyani K  | Role of popular culture in changing patterns of sexuality: A study of Indian Diaspora in Caribbean.  | Jawaharlal Nehru University | **10.50 AM —11.05 AM****(15.50 –16.05 hrs)** |
| Tara Singh  | Pattern and Impact of Indo-Guyanese Migration to the USA | USA/Guyana | **11.05 AM —11.20 AM****(16.05 –16.20 hrs)** |
| Ramchandra Joshi and Urvashi Kaushal   | Emergence and Consolidation of Identities in the Narratives of Chinnidad. in the literary works of Indo-Trinidadian Canadian writers  | India | **11.20 AM —11.35 AM****(16.20 –16.35 hrs)** |
| Chan E.S. Choenni  | Indians and political exclusion: the case of Fiji, Trinidad, Guyana and Suriname. | Netherlands | **11*.35 AM —11.55 AM*****(16.35 –16.55 hrs)** |
| **QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION**  |  |  | **11.55 AM —12.10 PM****(16.55 –17.10 hrs)** |
| **PANEL 9** **Sports and Visual Art****Panel 2** |   |  | **12.15 PM —1.20 PM****(17.55 –18.20 hrs)** |
| **Chair: Deokinanan Sharma** | **Introduction of presenters by chairman** |  | **12.15 PM —12.20 PM****(17.15 –17.20 hrs)** |
| Parmanand Mohan/ Shareeda Mohammed | The Impact of Indian Movie Songs on the East Indian Diaspora in Trinidad and Tobago (1960-2019)).  | Trinidad | **12.20 PM —12.35 PM****(17.20 –17.35 hrs)** |
| Jalalaudin Khan  | The heritage of East Indian Indentured Martial arts traditions and cultural practices in Trinidad. | Trinidad | **12.35 PM —12.50 PM****(17.35 –17.50 hrs)** |
| Marcus Kissoon   | Ramleela: A Space for Empowerment; Sita’s Role.  | Trinidad  | **12.50 PM —1.05 PM****(17.50 –18.05 hrs)** |
| **QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION**  |  |  | **1.05 PM —1.20 PM****(18.05 –18.20 hrs)** |
| **PANEL 10** **Gender Issues**  |  |  | **1.20 PM —2.40 PM****(18.40 –19.40 hrs)** |
| **Chair: Brinsley Samaroo** | **Introduction of presenters by chairman** |  | **1.20 PM —1.25 PM****(18.20 –18.25 hrs)** |
| Bina Makhan  | Strong daughters of Hindostani Indentured Labourers: A tribute to my Nani Jagdei.  | Netherlands | **1.25 PM —1.40 PM****(18.25 –18.40 hrs)** |
| Shazia Khan  | Women and their Mutilated bodies: Voices of female workers in plantation with reference to Gauitra Bahadur’s Coolie Woman: The Odyssey of Indenture.  | India | **1.40 PM —1.55 PM****(18.40 –18.55 hrs)** |
| Nisha Ramracha   | Hindu Warrior Queens: Decolonizing historical narratives and reshaping the perspective of West Indian women through their history | City University of New York USA  | **1.55 PM —2.10 PM****(18.55 –19.10 hrs)** |
| Chan Choenni  | Revival of honourability among Hindostani women in Suriname | Netherlands | **2.10 PM —2.25 PM****(19.10 –19.25 hrs)** |
| **QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION** |  |  | **2.25 PM —2.40 PM****(19.25 –19.40 hrs)** |
| **PANEL 11** **Biographies and Publications** |  |  | **2.40 PM —4.00 PM****19.40-21.00hrs** |
| Chair :J. Vijay Maharaj | **Introduction of presenters by chair** | University of The West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad | **2.40 PM —2.45 PM****(19.40 –19.45 hrs)** |
| Primnath Gooptar  | **Ranjit Kumar’s Hindu Maha Sabha and the Quest for Hindu Unity in Trinidad in the 1940s.** | NCIC, Trinidad.  | **2.45 PM —3.00 PM****(19.45 –20.00 hrs)** |
| Dr Nivedita Misra | The (His)Story of IBIS: A Reading of Amitav Ghosh’s Sea of Poppies, River of Smoke and Flood of Fire.  | Trinidad. | **3.00 PM —3.15 PM****(20.00 –20.15 hrs)** |
|  Nutan Ragoobir  | Bihar and Beyond: the biography of Kunj Behari (1878-1938) - creating his own space | Trinidad | **3.15 PM —3.30 PM****(20.15 –20.30 hrs)** |
| Dr. J. Vijay Maharaj | The ABRESS Indian: Repression, Erasure, Suppression and Suspension in Diasporic Indian Auto/Biography.  | UWI, Trinidad. | **3.30 PM —3.45 PM****(20.30 –20.45 hrs)** |
| **QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION** |  |  | **3.45 PM —4.00 PM****(20.45 –21.00 hrs)** |
| **PANEL 12****Biographies and the Environment**  |  |  | **4.00 PM —5.35 PM****(21.00 – 22.35 hrs)** |
| **Chair: Deoroop Teemal**  | **Introduction of presenters by chairman** |  NCIC | **4.00 PM —4.05 PM****(21.00 –21.05 hrs)** |
| Mohan K Gautam  | The Role of Diasporic Life Histories and Biographies in Understanding the Settlement Pattern and Identity Formation of Indian Emigrants in Caribbean Countries  | Netherlands | **4.05 PM —4.20PM****(21.05 –21.20 hrs)** |
| Sally Radford Attachments area | Pioneers to Professors | U K | **4.20 PM —4.35 PM****(21.20 –c21.35 hrs)** |
| Dr. S. S. Somra   | Ethnicity Factors and Environment of Global Migration  | University of Rajasthan, Jaipur India | **4.35 PM —4.50 PM****(21.35 –21.50 hrs)** |
| Doolarchan Hanomansingh  | A historical review of the Indian media in Trinidad | Trinidad (ICDN) | **4.50 PM —5.05 PM****(21.50 –22.05 hrs)** |
| Kirtie Algoe  | Religion & Healing in Suriname: A case study of foreign Vedic astrologers  | Suriname | **5.05 PM —5.20 PM****(22.05 –22.20 hrs)** |
| **QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION**  |  |  | **5. 20 PM —5.35 PM****(22.20 – 22.35 hrs)** |
| **PANEL 13** **Linguistics Round table Panel** | **The merits of a Universal Roman Orthography** |  | **5.35 PM —6.35 PM** **(22.35 ----23.35 hrs)** |
| **Chair: Farzana Gounder** | **Introduction of presenters by chair** |  |  |
| Trinidad: Visham Bhimull South African Hindustani: Rajend Mesthrie Sarnami: Moti Lal Marhe Sarnami: Maurits S. Hassankhan Sarnami: Preetema Jong-A-Lock –Pahladsing Fiji: Jennifer Janif Fiji: Farzana Gounder Netherlands (Sarnami): Rabin S. Baldewsingh Fiji: Nazreen Shaban Fiji: Rajendra Prasad  Jeff Seigel Nikat Shameem    | **The merits of a Universal Roman Orthography** |  Fiji, Suriname, Trinidad, Netherlands,South Africa |  |
| **PANEL 14****Health Panel** | **Cause and response to inequalities in the indentured labour diaspora: The CARE framework for comparative Analysis**  |  | **6.35 PM —7.20 PM****(23.35 — 00.20hrs)** |
| **Chair: Farzana Gounder** | **Introduction of presenters by chair** |  |  |
| Fiji: Farzana GounderSuriname: Maurits HassankhanMauritius: Satyendra PeerthumNew Zealand: Jane BuckinghamFiji: Dr Neil SharmaGuyana :Dr. Lomarsh Roopnarine  | Cause and response to inequalities in the indentured labour diaspora: The CARE framework for comparative Analysis  | New Zealand/ Fiji/Suriname/Guyana/Mauritius. |  |
| RESOLUTIONS AND CLOSURE |  |  | 7. 20pm---7.50 pm**(00.20—00.50 hrs)** |