



32nd
annual
British
Commonwealth
and
Postcolonial
Studies
Conference

February 10-11, 2023
A Virtual Conference

ACCESSING THE CONFERENCE

Getting Zoom

In order to attend the Conference, you'll need to have the Zoom application installed on your computer. You can choose a desktop version or a browser extension at this URL: <https://zoom.us/download>.

Using Zoom

Our format this year features a streamlined process for attending specific panels. We'll have one main lobby each day, which you can access either by copying and pasting the URL below into your browser, or using the meeting code for your desktop client.

Friday:

Web entry: <https://georgiasouthern.zoom.us/j/89940533059>

Desktop client entry: Meeting ID: 899 4053 3059

Saturday:

Web client: <https://georgiasouthern.zoom.us/j/88544210222>

Desktop client entry: Meeting ID: 885 4421 0222

Ten minutes before each session is scheduled to begin, we'll generate a breakout room for each panel from this lobby, and you'll be free to join any of them. You can move freely between breakout rooms throughout the session.

The lobby will always have at least one member of the Conference Committee in it, who will be able to direct you to the panel you'd like to attend.

SESSIONS AT A GLANCE

Session A: Friday, 9:00 am EST

Session B: Friday, 10:30 am EST

Session C: Friday, 1:00 pm EST

Session D: Friday, 2:30 pm EST

Session E: Friday, 4:00 pm EST

Session F: Saturday, 9:00 am EST

Session G: Saturday, 11:00 am EST

Session H: Saturday, 1:00 pm EST — Keynote Address

Session I: Saturday, 3:30 pm EST



Ousseina D. Alidou

Professor of African Languages and
Literatures, Rutgers University

Director, Rutgers Center for Women's Global
Leadership

President, African Studies Association

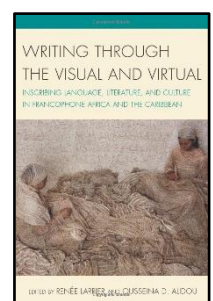
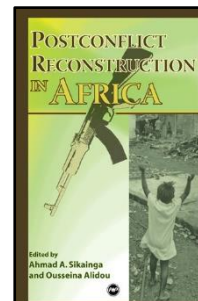
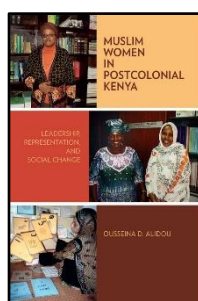
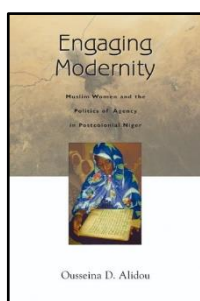
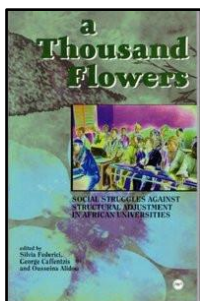


Professor Alidou is a theoretical linguist and cultural critic whose research focuses on women's agency in African Muslim societies in the Sahel and East Africa (Kenya); gendered discourses of citizenship and rights; gender, education, politics and leadership.

Her published books include *Muslim Women in Postcolonial Kenya: Leadership, Representation, Political and Social Change*; *Engaging Modernity: Muslim Women and the Politics of Agency in Postcolonial Niger* (a runner-up for the Aidoo-Schneider Book Prize); and three co-edited volumes. She has published in journals such as *Research in African Literatures*; *Sprache und Geschichte in Afrika (SUGIA)*; *Comparative Literature*; and *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East*; and *Africa Today*.

She is actively shaping the future of a continent, working with UNESCO in Dakar as the Main Advisor and Editor of the Gender and Transformative Leadership Curriculum for African Universities and NGOs, and is a board member of the Africa America Institute.

Dr. Alidou has been internationally recognized for her work, receiving, among other awards, the Obafemi Awolowo Center for Gender and Social Policy Studies Distinguished Visiting Scholar Service Award, the Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship Award, and the Africa America Institute's Distinguished Alumni Award.



Panel 1
Writing the South Asian Diaspora

Chair: Prabal Gupta, *Georgia Southern University*

Where in the World: The Woman as Wanderer in Jhumpa Lahiri's *Whereabouts*

Amrita Bandopadhyay *Independent Scholar*

Identifying Jhumpa Lahiri: Entrapment of the South Asian Diasporic author by the Second-Generation Minority

Swati Anwesha *University of Texas at Dallas*

Otherness and the American Dream in Imbolo Mbue's *Behold the Dreamers*

Lana Stanic *University of Split*

Panel 2
Imposing Politics

Chair: Brandon Loper, *Georgia Southern University*

The Language of Colonialism: A Study of the Speeches of the Viceroy of India

Gauri Jhangiani *University of Virginia*

The Western Digital Rhetoric Campaign against FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022: Online News Outlets and/as "Economies of Distraction"

Ahmed Aljaberi *North Dakota State University*

Postcolonial Identity Retrieved and History Recouped: Arab Merchants, Peddlers, Grocers and Camel Drivers under the Radar of Midway Plaisance at Columbian Expositions (1893)

Tritha Abdelaziz *Hassan I University*

Panel 3
Colonies, Crime, and Crime Fiction

Chair: Julia Griffin, *Georgia Southern University*

Decolonizing Science Fiction: Reflections on Courttina Newland's *A River Called Time*

Rebecca Blanchard *University of Tours*

Surveilled Futures: Representations of Alternate Technical Imagination in Postcolonial Futurist Fictions

Samridhi Aggarwal *National University of Singapore and King's College London*

Criminality, the Colonial Gaze, and Othering: Contextualizing the Subaltern and Gothic Tropes of Historical Crime Fiction in India

Pallabi Konwar *Jawaharlal Nehru University*

Panel 4
Islam, Afghanistan, and Women

Chair: Lindsey Chappell, *Georgia Southern University*

Revisiting Indian Memoirist Sushmita Banerjee's Depiction of the Lives of Rural Women in Afghanistan

Mitali P. Wong *Clafin University*

The Neo-Orientalist Representation of Afghan Women in Afghan Anglophone Novels

Mona Khaled Alebrahim *Umm Alqura University*

Fact and Fiction: Negotiating the Space for the Women and Children of Afghanistan through Literature

Ritobina Chakraborty *University of Edinburgh*

Panel 5
Migration, Identity, and Literary Perspective

Chair: Michael Basista, *Georgia Southern University*

The Securitization of British Citizenship in Levi David Addai's *Oxford Street*

Shereen Wyatt *University of British Columbia*

Fictional Narratives, Migration, and Hybridity: A Phenomenological Study of Commonwealth Migrants' Identity Formation in Germany

Mahtab Dadkhah *University of Erfurt*

Anglicized Social Hierarchies and Migrant Displacement in Andrea Levy's *Small Island*

John Kurpiel *West Virginia University*

Panel 6
Through a Postcolonial Lens

Chair: Pamela Rooks, *Francis Marion University, retired*

"The Postcolonial Exotic" and Audiences in the Works of Ayad Akhtar

Suhaan Kiran Mehta *University of Colorado, Colorado Springs*

The Limits of the Western Gaze in *Heart of Darkness* and *El Vorigine*

Thomas Alexander *University of South Carolina*

Hind Swaraj: A Radical Critique of Colonial Modernity

Pritam Majumdar *Indian Institute of Technology Delhi*

Panel 7
Literature and Translation

Chair: Mary Villeponteaux, *Georgia Southern University*

Rituals of Food, Prayers, and Offerings: Reading the "Rural" in Select Short Stories of Tarasankar Bandyopadhyay

Sohini Gayen & Arnapura Rath *Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar*

Literary Feud: Kalki, Pudumaipittan, and Magazine Culture in the Madras Presidency of the 1940s

Catherine Shilpa. X *Indian Institute of Technology Madras*

Panel 8
Black Identity and Literary Space

Chair: Lisa Costello, *Georgia Southern University*

"I am a black man": Claude McKay's Assessment of His Transnational Identity through His Nonfiction

Matt Miller *University of South Carolina Aiken*

Neoliberal Precarity and Postmodern Parody in Gauz's *Standing Heavy*

Minna Niemi *Arctic University of Norway*

"Male Feminist Writing" in Abdulrazak Gurnah's *Dottie*: "A Successful Failure"

Cheng Qiuji *Shanghai International Studies University*

Panel 9
Intersectionality in the Postcolonial Diasporas

Chair: Hapsatou Wane, *Georgia Southern University*

Unsituating Intersectionality in Balli K. Jaswal's *Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows*

Necole Deloach *Georgia Southern University*

Diasporizing Intersectionality in Adichie's *Americanah* and Yaa Gyasi's *Homegoing*

Sydney Ware *Georgia Southern University*

Transglocalizing Intersectionality in Akwaeke Emezi's *Dear Senthurian: A Black Spirit Memoir*

Hapsatou Wane *Georgia Southern University*

Panel 10
Environmental and Ecocritical Reading

Chair: Lindsey Chappell, *Georgia Southern University*

Toward a New Eco-Poetics of Climate Change: Amitav Ghosh's *Gun Island* and *The Nutmeg's Curse*

Rajender Kaur *William Paterson University*

African Eco-Criticism and Women's Resistance in Kenya

Stefanie Sevcik *Georgia College and State University*

Postcolonialism and Environmental Humanities: Indian Environmentalism in the Context of Caste Hierarchy

Mallika Bala *Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur*

Panel 11
Narratives of Settlers and Slaves

Chair: Suhaan Kiran Mehta, *University of Colorado, Colorado Springs*

"It means I can pick up and go wherever I want": Pandemics, Runaway Productions and the Settler American South in Ti West's *X* and *Pearl*

Jerod Ra'Del Hollyfield *Carson-Newman University*

Resistance to the Colonial Grand Narrative: Reading *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano*

Subrata Chandra Mozumder *University of Louisiana at Lafayette*

Epigraphs and Authority in William Wells Brown's *Clotel, or the President's Daughter*

Lilly Tew *University of North Florida*

Panel 12
Folk Tales and Fairy Tales of the Colonial Legacy

Chair: Amanda Konkle, *Georgia Southern University*

Folktales in Amos Tutuola's *The Palm-Wine Drinkard*

John Rooks *Morris College, retired*

The Vertical Farm: Modularity and Settler-Colonial Logics

Hayley Birss *University of Toronto*

Colonial Discursive Forces and the Alienation of Individual Selves: A Postcolonial Critique of Amitav Ghosh's *The Glass Palace*

Arnab Das *Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur*

Panel 13
Climate Migration and Refugees

Chair: Marla Bruner, *Georgia Southern University*

Climate Migrations in Postcolonial Fiction

Pavithra Tantrigoda *University of Central Florida*

The Refugee Camp as a Gendered Space in Sulaiman Addonia's *Silence in my Mother Tongue*

Paula Brauer *University of Munster*

The Refugee Narrative: Renegotiating Empire in Arab American Literature

Rasha Aljararwa *University of Texas at Dallas*

Panel 14
Postcolonial Africa and Female Subjectivity

Chair: Jane Rago, *Georgia Southern University*

The Secret Story: A Question of Power and *The Madwoman in the Attic*

Elinor Rooks *Independent Researcher*

Social Reproduction and the Postcolonial *Bildungsroman*: Temporalities in Saleem Haddad's *Guapa* and Natasha Brown's *Assembly*

Julia Wurr *University of Oldenburg*

Nostalgia and the Narrative of Progress in Chinua Achebe's *No Longer at Ease*

Rume Kpadamrophe *University of South Carolina*

Panel 15
Narrative, Perspective, and Medical Humanities

Chair: Christopher Garland, *Georgia Southern University*

Michael Ondaatje, Narrative Medicine, and the South Asian Physician-Writers

Laverne Nishihara *Indiana University East*

Secrecy and Survival in Nicole Dennis-Benn's *Here Comes the Sun*

Jennifer Rickel *University of Montevallo*

Problematizing the "Perspective[s] from Below": Dinaw Mengestu's *All Our Names* as a War Narrative

Suchetana Sarkar *University of South Carolina*

Panel 16
Inter / National: Beyond the Border

Chair: Jerod Ra'Del Hollyfield, *Carson-Newman University*

Memory in Armenian Diasporic and Turkish National Literatures in the 21st Century

Meltem Safak *University of Georgia*

Trade, Taming, and Turmoil in Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*

Dyanna Coffey *Georgia Southern University*

Across the Border: Race, Citizenship, and British Colonialism

Mridula Sharma *University of Glasgow*

Panel 17
Island Developments

Chair: Kim Evelyn, *Bowie State University*

The Empire State of Mind: Benjamin Zephaniah's Hybrid Poetry and the Collective Impact of Imperialism

Faith Rush Winthrop University

The Exploration of Caribbean and African Diaspora in the Poetry of Olive Senior

Misa Gould *Bowie State University*

Anti-Development Aesthetics and the Philippine Postcolonial Novel

Alden Sajor Marte-Wood *Rice University*

Paradise/Not Paradise: The Indomitable Environment of Paule Marshall's *The Chosen Place, the Timeless People*

Kim Evelyn *Bowie State University*

Panel 18
Race, Gender, and Justice

Chair: Joyce White, *Georgia Southern University*

Race, Coloniality, and Indigeneity in Tana French's Fiction

Molly Slavin *Clark Atlanta University*

Paradox Abounding: Implementing a Race, Equity, and Inclusion Requirement at a Public HWI in the South

Simon Lewis *College of Charleston*

"And no one helped her": Postcolonial Hierarchy and the Intersection of Race and Gender in *The Buddha of Suburbia*

Claire Tuohy *The College of New Jersey*

"So I have to go back?": The Curious Case of Women's Mobility in 19th-Century Bengali True Crime Writings

Isha Lahiri *Utrecht University*

Panel 19
Empire and Imperial Quest

Chair: Prabal Gupta, *Georgia Southern University*

Bridging the Gap: Gender Equality and Higher Education Policy in Former British Colonies

Rhody-Ann Thorpe *University of the Littoral Opal Coast* Alexander

(Tiger) Skin Deep: Imperialism, Hybridity, and Animal Sensationalism in Aurora Floyd

Shalea Palmer *Northern Arizona University*

Foreign Soldiers of the Empire: Analyzing the Traumatic Identity of a "Lahure" in Parijat's *Shirish ko Phool*

Manish Pandey *Texas Tech University*



Panel 20

Minority Identity, Society, and “Other”

Chair: Hapsatou Wane, *Georgia Southern University*

Minorities Identity and Conscious Pariah: Shyam Selvadurai’s *Funny Boy*

Ubaraj Katawal *Valdosta State University*

Decolonizing Justice in India: A Solidarity-based Approach to Postcolonial Justice

Sumit Kumar *Eötvös Lorand University*

Dreams and Seances: The Casted World of RK Narayan

Antony Arul Valan *Ashoka University*

Portraying “Asian” Identity Beyond the “Asian Australian” Label in Contemporary Australian Fiction

Olivia Jayne De Zilva *The University of Queensland*

Panel 21

Memory and Resistance

Chair: Simon Lewis, *College of Charleston*

Intertextuality as Anti-Colonial Resistance in Erna Brodber’s *Myal*

Jessica Hutchins *Southern Illinois University Edwardsville*

Colonial Mimicry or Robust Resistance? — Sarojini Naidu and the Aesthetics of Fin-de-Siècle Decadence

Sriya Chakraborty *Florida State University*

Unsettling Partition and the Politics of Gender: Feminist Killjoy and Magic Realism in Geetanjali Shree’s *Tomb of Sand*

Sushree Routray *Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee*

Madness, Memory, and Trauma in Trajectory: Reading *Wide Sargasso Sea* in a New Light

Masrufa Ayesha Nusrat *University of Texas at Dallas*

Panel 22

Vulnerable Bodies at Risk

Chair: Mitali P. Wong, *Claflin University*

The Corporeal Politics of (Non)violence: Gandhi’s Reclamation in Postcolonial Non-normative Space

Rangnath Thakur *Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee*

The Melanin Debate and a Critique on Pigmentocracy through Feminist Visual Art in *Drawing the Line: Indian Women Fight Back*

Aashna Viswanathan *Manipal Centre for Humanities*

Re-assessing the Entanglement between the Anthropocene and Colonialism in Indian Children’s Fiction: A Study of Deepak Dalal’s *Andaman Adventure: The Jarawa*

Damayanti Das *Raiganj University*

Panel 23

Black Diaspora and Chimamanda Adichie

Chair: Alexander Fyfe, *University of Georgia*

Educating the West: How Adichie’s *Half of a Yellow Sun* Challenges Systemic Injustice

Caitlin Hera Cronin *University of Buckingham*

The Danger of a Single Diasporic Chronotope: Black Diaspora and Blogging Beyond Middle Passage Epistemology in Adichie’s *Americanah*

Anmol Sahni *Emory University*

Postcolonial Critique and Intertextuality in Adichie’s *Americanah* and Kincaid’s *Lucy*

Maurine Ogbaa *University of Texas at Dallas*

Gendered Precarity and Postcolonial Liberation in Adichie’s *Americanah*

Jaseel P *Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee*

Panel 24

Politics and Other Performing Arts

Chair: Arnapura Rath, *Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar*

Karmen Gei: African Womanism Meets Merimee and Bizet in African Cinema

Lynn Anderson *University of West Georgia*

Postcolonial Spiral of Madness: Crises of Governance and Forms of Political Behavior in Postcolonial African Literature

Komi Akakpo *University of Upper Alsace*

From Exclusion to the Renaissance of Indigenous Theatre/Performance Practices in Canada during Social, Environmental, and Spiritual Crises

Eugenia Sojka *University of Silesia*

Postcolonial Moroccan Directors as Organic Intellectuals: Ahmed Bouanani's *Mirage* and Hakim Belabbès' *Fragments* as Cases in Point

Azzeddine Tajjiou *Ibn Zohr University*

Panel 25

Sovereignty, Violence, and Postcoloniality

Chair: Ankita Rathour, *Louisiana State University*

Intimate Futures and the Violence of Single National Imaginaries

Sean Weaver *Kutztown University*

Drawing the Enemy "Other"—An Examination of Epistemic Violence of Clichéd Construction of Muslim Identity in Select post-9/11 Comics

Azharuddin *Louisiana State University*

Narrating Loss and Resistance: The Legacy of Settler Colonialism in Kenya

Denis Waswa *Louisiana State University*

Necromale

Ankita Rathour *Louisiana State University*

Panel 26

Contemporary South Asia Looks Back

Chair: Hans-Georg Erney, *Georgia Southern University*

This Be the Pukka Variorum

Hans-Georg Erney *Georgia Southern University*

Narrating the Buried: A Mode of Resistance in Aruni Kashyap's *There is no Good Time for Bad News*

Uttam Boruah *Sibsagar College, Joysagar*

The Ghost of Diaspora in Contemporary British South Asian Writing

Misbah Ahmed *Queen Mary University*

Fallacies and Thresholds: A Critique of the Self-Orientalist Discourse in Tarik Ali's *The Book of Saladin* — co-authored with Mohamed Boussekaa

Soumaya Bouacida *Université 20 août 1955-Skikda*

Panel 27

New Tropes and Modern Modes

Chair: Rajender Kaur, *William Paterson University*

Digital Decoloniality: Videogames in Contemporary African Fiction

Alexander Fyfe *University of Georgia*

Postcolonial Content Creation: White Indigeneity and Indigenous TikTok

Laura Jungblut *Europa Universität Flensburg*

Decolonial Worldbuilding: A Thousand Thousand Islands and the Anticipatory Illumination of Postcolonial Writing

Ameeth Vijay *University of California, San Diego*



**Keynote Address
Third Annual Kundu Lecture**

Ousseina D. Alidou

Professor of African Languages and Literatures, Rutgers University

Director, Rutgers Center for Women's Global Leadership

President, African Studies Association

THE JOURNAL OF GLOBAL POSTCOLONIAL STUDIES



The Journal of Global Postcolonial Studies publishes interdisciplinary and cross-cultural articles, interviews, and creative writings on the literatures, the histories, the politics, and the arts whose focus, locales, or subjects involve Britain and other European countries and their former colonies, the now decolonized, independent nations in the Americas, Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean, and also Australia, Canada, Ireland, and New Zealand. The journal seeks to investigate the areas of convergence (and divergence) that exist between these fields and Postcolonial Studies, especially in their mutual awareness of history and relations of power—and thus to reveal, in the words of Arif Dirlik, “societies globally in their complex heterogeneity and contingency.”

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Panel 28

Beyond Binaries: Theoretical Approaches to Decolonization

Co-Chairs: Mukti Lakhi Mangharam, *Rutgers University* & Arnab Dutta Roy, *Florida Gulf Coast University*

Hindu Nationalism's Complicity with Colonial Discourse and India's Buried Paths to National Liberation

Mukti Lakhi Mangharam *Rutgers University*

Deconstructing Cosmopolitanism: A Critique of Ethics and Religious Identity in UR Ananthamurthy's *Samskara*

Arnab Dutta Roy *Florida Gulf Coast University*

Srinivasa Ramanujan's "Internal Equipment": Mathematics and the Narration of the Universal Human

Moyang Li *California State University Long Beach*

Tagore's Prescience: Containing Nationalism in a Time of Nations

Monika Bhagat-Kennedy *University of Mississippi*

Recovering 1857: V.D. Savarkar, the Ghadar Party, and the Paradoxes of Anticolonial Militancy

Pranav Jani *Ohio State University*

Panel 29

Re-imagining Representation for Caribbean Liberations

Chair: Randi Gray Kristensen, *George Washington University*

Queer Recuperation in Marlon James' *The Book of Night Women*

Belinda Deneen Wallace *University of New Mexico*

The Biopoetics of Maryse Conde's *Waiting for the Waters to Rise*

April Shemak *Sam Houston State University*

Anna Jai Kingsley in Song and with Sympathy

Tanya Shields *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*

Pull Focus: Depictions of Violence in Haiti in the Films of Raoul Peck

Randi Gray Kristensen *George Washington University*

Panel 30

Bodies: Natural, Denied, and Transcended

Chair: Ubaraj Katawal, *Valdosta State University*

Gender Identity and Marginalization in Mistry's *A Fine Balance*

Dhanya Ann Mathew *University of Hull*

Interrogating Biriyanis: Ethical Ambivalence in the Pop Cultural Depiction of a Rhizomatic Religious Minority in India

Anitta Thajudheen Jia *University of Calicut*

Minari, Where the Nonhuman is Entangled with Humanism

Dah Kim *University of Georgia*



Support provided by

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