

South Asian Studies Summer Reading List, Compiled by Professor Mou Banerjee, UW-Madison (May 2020)

Non-Fiction:

Modern South Asia, 4th Edition, by Ayesha Jalal and Sugata Bose

The Argumentative Indian - Amartya Sen

India after Gandhi, by Ramachandra Guha

City of Djinns/ White Mughals/ The Anarchy - William Dalrymple

Tamil – David Shulman

Three Ways to Be Alien: Travails and Encounters in the Early Modern World – Sanjay Subrahmanyam

Crooked Stalks – Anand Pandian

Unfinished Gestures – Davesh Soneji

Crossing the Bay of Bengal, by Sunil Amrith

India in the Persianate Age, by Richard Eaton

Remnants of a Separation, by Aanchal Malhotra

The Courtesan, the Mahatma and the Italian Brahmin, by Manu Pillai

The Farthest Field, by Raghu Karnad

India, Empire, and First World War Culture: Writings, Images, and Songs, by Santanu Das

Behind the Beautiful Forevers, by Katherine Boo

The Dreamers, by Snigdha Punam

A Southern Music, by TM Krishna

A hidden history of Burma - Thant Myint U

Capital: The Eruption of Delhi – Rana Dasgupta

The Empire of Cotton, by Sven Beckert

Forgotten Wars/ Forgotten Armies, by C.A.Bayly and Tim Harper

Underground Asia: Global Revolutionaries and the Assault on Empire – Tim Harper

Empire and Information, by C.A.Bayly

Nationalisation of Hindu Traditions, by Vasudha Dalmia.

A Free Man, by Aman Sethi

Governing Islam – Julia Stephens

A Local History of Global Capital – Tariq Omar Ali

Fiction:

The Essential Tagore - edited by Fakhrul Alam, et al.

Tamas – Bhisham Sahni

The God of Small Things/The Ministry of Utmost Happiness - Arundhati Roy

The Heat and Dust - Ruth Pravar Jhauwala

In Custody - Anita Desai

Nectar in a Sieve - Kamala Markendaya

Love among the Bookshelves - Ruskin Bond

Swami and Friends - R.K. Narayan

The Sun that Rose from the Earth - Shamsur Rahman Faruqi

A Fine Balance - Rohinton Mistry

The Shadow Lines/ The Glass Palace/ The Ibis Trilogy - Amitabh Ghose

The Interpreter of Maladies - Jhumpa Lahiri

A Gujarat here, a Gujarat there - Krishna Sobti, trans. Daisy Rockwell

Shame - Salman Rushdie

Suitable Boy - Vikram Seth

Freedom at Midnight - Larry Collins and Dominique Lapierre

The Wandering Falcon - Jamil Ahmed

The Reluctant Fundamentalist - Mohsin Hamid (Also made into a great film)

In other rooms other wonders - Daniyal Mueenuddin

Broken Verses/ Home Fires - Kamila Shamsie

A Case of Exploding Mangoes - Mohammed Hanif

Sunlight on a Broken Column - Attia Hosain

Stars from Another Sky: The Bombay Film World of the 1940s - Sadat Hasan Manto tr. by Khalid Hasan.

Mottled Dawn - Sadat Hasan Manto, introduction by Daniyal Mueenuddin

Reef - Romesh Gunasekara

Anil's Ghost - Michael Ondaatje

The Story of a Brief Marriage - Anuk Arudpragasam

The Island of a Thousand Mirrors - Nayomi Munaweera.

The Kite Runner/ A Thousand Splendid Suns - Khaled Hosseini

Love Marriage - VV Ganeshanathan

Collected Plays, Vol. 1 and 2 – Mahesh Dattani

Chick Lit/Detective Fiction:

The Adventures of Feluda - Satyajit Ray

The Inspector Ghote Mysteries - HRF Keating

As the Day Darkens - Ambai

The Zoya Factor/The Battle for Bittora - Anuja Chauhan

Sujata Massey/Abir Mukherjee/Vaseem Khan/ Tarquin Hall (Vish Puri series)/Kishwar Desai

Graphic Novels:

The Sadhu by Gotham Chopra and Jeevan Kang

Delhi Calm by Vishwajyoti Ghosh

Odayan by Suhas Sundar and Deepak Sharma

Ramayan 3392 A.D.

Angry Maushi by Abhijeet Kini

Kari/Adi Parva/Sauptik/Aranyaka by Amruta Patil

Corridor/The Barn Owl's Wondrous Capers by Sarnath Banerjee

Munnu: A Boy From Kashmir - Novel by Malik Sajad

Poetry:

Says Tuka: trans. Dilip Chitre

I, Lalla: trans. Ranjit Hoskote

Very close to pleasure, there's a sick cat (Shakti Chattopadhyay): trans. Arunava Sinha

Jejuri: by Arun Kolatkar

Dangerlog/ A necklace of Skulls: Eunice De Souza

The Interior Landscape: Love Poems from a Classical Tamil Anthology – trans. A.K. Ramanujan

Collected Poems: Arvind Krishna Mehrotra

Summer in Calcutta: Kamala Surraya Das

Sycorax: Suniti Namjoshi.

Other Suggestions:

Upstairs Wife: An intimate history of Pakistan – Rafia Zakaria

Mr and Mrs Jinnah: The Marriage that shook India – Sheela Reddy

Goodbye Freddie Mercury – Nadia Akbar

In my Mother's House – Sharika Thiranagama

The incomplete Thombu – T. Shanathanan

This Divided Island – Samanth Subramaniam

The Pity of Partition – Ayesha Jalal

Discovery of India – Jawaharlal Nehru

“In the Shadow of the Crescent Moon” and “Runaways”, both by Fatima Bhutto.

Language of the Gods – Sheldon Pollock.

Annie Ali Khan's wondrous "Sita under the Crescent Moon"

Omprakash Valmiki's "Joothan"

Ant Among Elephants – Sujatha Gidla

Coolie Woman – Gauitra Bahadur

Tharu and Lalitha's "Women's Writing in India"

When I hit you – Meena Kandaswamy

Perumal Murugan's "One Part Woman"

Begum Rokeya Hussain's "Sultana's Dream"

Raga'n' Josh/ Tales of Innocents, Musicians and Bureaucrats – Sheila Dhar

The Collaborator/ The Book of Gold Leaves – Mirza Waheed

Nayanika Banerjee's 'The Spectral Wound'

'Do you remember Kunan Poshpora' - Essar Batool, Ifrah Butt, Munaza Rashid, Natasha Rather and Samreena Mushtaq

Nepal papers from Zubaan on Impunity

House of Snow Anthology on Nepal.

Vazira Yacobali Zamindar's The Long Partition

Siddhartha Gigoo's Garden of Solitude (For Kashmir)

River of Fire, *Aag ka Dariya* by Qurratulain Hyder

Singing Gandhi's India: Music & Sonic Nationalism, Lakshmi Subramanian

The Best Asian Speculative Fiction, ed. Rajat Chaudhuri

The Gollancz Book of South Asian Science Fiction ed. Tarun Saint

Requiem in Raga Janaki – Neelum Saran Gaur

The Skull of Alum Bheg – Kim Ati Wagner