# HISTORIES OF CHILDHOOD IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH- CCC 237 Instructor: Dr Divya Kannan, Department of History, Shiv Nadar University

## Course Summary:

This introductory course aims to provide a historical overview on the figure of the 'child'. It seeks to problematize notions of 'childhood' and the ways in which states, societies and communities of the Global South impinge upon childhood experiences and agency. Using an array of textual and visual sources, this course will examine case studies from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries to understand the framing of childhood as historical processes. What/who is a child and how can we write a history of childhood to understand contemporary global history will remain pivotal questions.

#### Aims:

To demonstrate that 'childhood' is a constructed category varying across time and space.

To encourage critical thinking with regard to state policies and social reform projects involving children.

To provide an overview of the links between the politics of childhood and regional and community histories

To understand the challenges involved in writing histories of children and childhood.

#### Course Themes:

## 'Local' and 'Global' Childhoods

- What / Who is a Child?
- Age as a category of analysis
- Discussion on the UN Convention on Rights of Children
- Schooling and Childhood
- Children's Voices in the Archives : Official, Autobiographical, Cultural
- Movie Screening: The White Balloon (Persian/Iran, Dir: Jahfar Panahi)

Leslie, Paris, "Through the Looking Glass: Age, Stages, and Historical Analysis", the *Journal* of the History of Children and Youth, vol. 1, no. 1, 2008.

Maynes, Mary Jo Jo. "Age as a Category of Historical Analysis: History, Agency, and Narratives of Childhood,." *Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth*, Vol. 1, no.1, 2008.

Alborn, Timothy L. Age and empire in the Indian census, 1871-1931. *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, Vol. 30, No. 1, Summer 1999. 61-89.

Global/local research on children and childhood in a global society" in *Childhood: A Journal of Global Child Research*. A 25th anniversary special Conversation with S. Aitkinson, S. Balagopalan, T. Abebe, and S. Punch, moderated by Karl Hanson. vol.25 (3), 2018, p.272-296.

Harris-Short, Sonia. "Listening to 'the Other'? The Convention on the Rights of the Child," Melbourne Journal of International Law 2, 2001

## **Childhood and Colonialism**

- Colonialism, Race, and Children
- Orphans and missionaries
- Slavery and Child Labour
- Childhood and Medicine
- Movie Screening : Kaakai Muttai (Tamil/India, Dir: M.Manikandan)

Maksudyan, Nazan. *Orphans and Destitute Children in the Late Ottoman Empire*. Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, 2014

Aderinto, Saheed (ed.) *Children and Childhood in Colonial Nigerian Histories*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015

Murdoch, Lydia. 'Carrying the Pox: The Use of Children and Ideals of Childhood in Early British and Imperial Campaigns against Smallpox", *Journal of Social History*, Volume 48, Number 3, 2015, p. 511-535.

Vallgårda, Karen Asta Arnfred. "Adam's Escape: Children and the Discordant Nature of Colonial Conversions", *Childhood*, Vol. 18, No. 3, 2011, p. 298-315

Sen, Satadru, "The Orphaned Colony: Orphanage, Child and Authority in British India", *The Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 44 (2007) pp. 463–88.

## **Childhood and Gender**

- Mother-craft and Health
- Sexuality and the 'Child'
- Schooling and Gender
- Movie Screening: Halo (English/Hindi/India, Dir: Santosh Sivan)

Lal, Ruby. In Pursuit of Playfulness: The Girl-Child/Woman in Nineteenth-Century India, Indian Reprint (Delhi: Primus Book), 2019

Pande, Ishita." Listen to the Child': Law, Sex, and the Child Wife in Indian Historiography", *History* Compass 11/9 (2013), p. 687–701

Pande, Ishita. "Sorting Boys and Men: Unlawful Intercourse, Boy-Protection, and the Child Marriage Restraint Act in Colonial India", *The* Journal *of the History of Childhood and Youth*, 6, 2, 2013,p. 332-358

## **Children, Citizenship, and Nation**

- Imperialism and Children of the Empire
- Children and War
- 'Nation' and 'Nationalisms'

Morrison, Heidi, *Childhood, Modernity, and Nation-building in Egypt, 1890-1939*, University of California, Santa Barbara, 2009

Pomfret, David. M. Youth and Empire: Trans-Colonial Childhoods in. British and French Asia. Stanford University Press, Stanford, CA, 2015

Topdar, Sudipa. "Duties of a 'good citizen': colonial secondary school textbook policies in late nineteenth-century India", *South Asian History and Culture* 6 (3), 417-439

Olsen, Stephanie (ed.) Childhood, Youth and Emotions in Modern History: National, Colonial and Global Perspectives, London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015