"We have always wanted to be modern": sovereignty, a shared river basin and the postcolonial in Pakistan

Maira Hayat

The panel co-organized by the awardee at the conference brought together papers from Pakistan, Singapore, India and Kashmir. The panel also brought together anthropologists and a historian. This presentation has fostered conversation between different disciplines, regions and timeframes of study. The awardee’s presentation focused on 1960s’ Pakistan, discussing writings by Mahbub ul Haq, Sadat Hasan Manto and Pakistan National Assembly, New York Times and World Bank archives. It has cast the Indus water treaty in a new light at a time when the treaty is once again the subject of debate and dialogue. By bringing together heretofore-understudied materials the presentation shed a new light on the treaty and the politics of democracy, dictatorship and foreign aid. The panelists are now bringing together the papers and planning to submit to a journal as a special issue publication by Spring 2019.