

List of Contributors

Parminder Bakshi-Hamm has researched and taught in India and the UK before coming to Germany. Her fields of interest include cultural theory, race, gender and sexuality and British and Indian fiction.

Rita Banerji is an author, photographer, and gender activist. She is the founder of The 50 Million Missing Campaign (www.50millionmissing.info), a global lobby that raises international awareness about the ongoing female genocide in India. Born and raised in India, Rita has also lived in the U.S. where she attended Mount Holyoke College (B.A.), and later The George Washington University (M.Sc, M. Phil., Ph.D. discontinued). Her education and work has largely been in the environmental field, and many of her projects had a gender focus, including one with the grassroots organization, Chipko. She received awards and recognition for her work from *The American Association for Women in Science*, *The Botanical Society of America*, *The Charles A. Dana Foundation*, and *The Howard Hughes Foundation*. Her book *Sex and Power: Defining History, Shaping Societies* (Penguin Books, 2008), a historical study of the relationship between sex and power in India, was long-listed for *The Vodafone-Crossword Non-Fiction Book Award (India)*. Many of her articles published focus on issues of gender, for which she received *The Apex Award for Magazine and Journal Writing* (U.S.A.) in 2009. Her website is www.ritabanerji.com

Julia Hoydis is assistant professor at the University of Cologne. Her PHD thesis “Tackling the Morality of History: Ethics and Storytelling in the Works of Amitav Ghosh” (University of Cologne, 2010), was published by Universitätsverlag Winter, Heidelberg in 2011. She also holds an MA in English, Theatre-, Film-, and TV studies and Philosophy from Cologne as well as a diploma degree in Ballet and Contemporary Dance from the Rambert School/Brunel University in London. Currently she is conducting research towards her post-doc thesis on “Risk Perception and Management in the English Novel (1780-210)”. Other areas of interest/teaching include postcolonial theory, the New English literatures, ethical criticism, transculturalism, globalization, cultural studies, postmodernism, literature and science, literature and other art forms. She is assistant editor of the bi-annual journal *ANGLISTIK: International Journal of English Studies*.

Dr. Bir Pal Singh is working as Assistant Professor at National Law Institute University, Bhopal (M.P.), India. His academic and research interests include: Sociology of Law, Legal Anthropology, Tribal and Customary Law, Gender and Law, Social Exclusion and Law, and Democratic Decentralization in Rural India.