

**Panel 13:** Religion, Literature and Film in South Asia and the South Asian Diaspora

**Convener:** Dr. Diana Dimitrova, Department of Religious Studies, Michigan State University

**Abstract:** We invite papers that discuss the interaction between religion and literature or film in South Asia and the countries of the South Asian Diaspora. The main focus is on the representation of 'otherness,' marginality and the subaltern in literature and film. The papers should explore the role religion and myth play in the construction and legitimization of 'otherness.' The essays should deal with literary texts or films (from the medieval or modern period) that have their origin in the subcontinent or the countries of the South Asian Diaspora. Discussions should be based on methodological analysis of the texts and should consider the ideological implications of the representation of religion. The papers may discuss a single text or film, or compare different texts and films, or compare films with the literary texts they are based on. If the papers form a coherent whole, publication in an edited volume is an option. Papers read in the panel should be original, not published or promised for publication elsewhere. Participation in the panel implies that the participant is willing to submit (a revised version of) his or her paper for publication in a volume.

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