



River Life and the Upspring of Nature

A Book Talk

6 March 2023 16.00-17.30 KOL-G-212 Rämistrasse 71 8006 Zürich

Guest lecture by Prof. Dr. Naveeda Khan (Johns Hopkins University)

In *River Life and the Upspring of Nature* I examine the relationship between nature and culture through the study of the everyday existence of chauras, the people who live on the chars (sandbars) within the Jamuna River in Bangladesh. In this talk I sketch out the curiosities that led me to study this mode of existence, a few of the central figures and ideas by which I attempt to show how the alluvial flood plains configure chaura life and how nature can both give rise to and inhabit social, political, and spiritual forms of life. I end with a brief sketch of the next steps I am taking in my research to grapple with the question of how the tempos of climate change appear to the senses, if it does at all, within such a kinetic existence.

Naveeda Khan is associate professor of anthropology at Johns Hopkins University. She is the author of *River Life and the Upspring of Nature* (2023), *Muslim Becoming: Aspiration and Skepticism in Pakistan* (2012) and editor of *Beyond Crisis: Reevaluating Pakistan* (2010) with *In Quest of a Shared Planet: Negotiating Climate from the Global South* forthcoming. She is currently working on two manuscripts "Householding on a Warming Earth" and "Schelling and the Romantic Method."

To participate in the event online, please register at <https://www.aoi.uzh.ch/en/institut/events/registration.html>

Students, staff and everyone interested is cordially invited.

Prof. Dr. Nicolas Martin