COMPARATIVE CONSTITUTIONALISM IN SOUTH ASIA

(Co-organised by South Asia Studies, The Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, John Hopkins University and the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore)

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Format: We have a relatively small group, and the format of the symposium is designed to take full advantage of this trait. Sessions II-V feature three presenters, who will each be allocated speaking time of 20 minutes. Each individual presentation will be followed by a 20 minute discussion. The emphasis throughout will be on dialogue and discussion among all members of the group.

Thursday, June 11, 2009

1800 Informal Pre-symposium Dinner
Meet at the hotel lobby and proceed to dinner venue

Friday, June 12, 2009

0825 Speakers at hotel to assemble in hotel lobby
0835 Bus leaves hotel for symposium venue

0900-0930 Registration & Coffee

0930-1000 Introductory Session

Kumaralingam Amirthalingam, Director, Asian Law Institute, National University of Singapore

Sunil Khilnani, Vikram Raghavan and Arun Thiruvengadam

Overview of the Project
Friday, June 12, 2009 (contd.)

1000–1215  Session I – The Predicaments and Possibilities of South Asian Constitutionalism

Moderator: Sunil Khilnani, John Hopkins University

Panelists: Sujit Choudhry, University of Toronto; Deepika Udagama, University of Colombo; and Martin Lau, University of London

[After short presentations of 15 minutes by each the panelists, the discussion will be thrown upon to each individual participant by turn]

1215-1315  Lunch

1315-1545  Session II – The Making and Unmaking of South Asian Constitutions

Moderator: Vikram Raghavan, World Bank

Dr. Kamal Hossain, Supreme Court of Bangladesh

Perspectives from Bangladesh and Pakistan on the making and un-making of South Asian Constitutions

Anil Kalhan, Drexel University

‘Gravitational Pull’ as a measure of constitutional success: The success of the 1973 Constitution of Pakistan

Sujit Choudhry, University of Toronto

Linguistic Nationalism and Constitutional Design in South Asia

1545-1600  Tea/Coffee
**Friday, June 12, 2009 (contd.)**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session III – South Asian Linkages: Exchanges between Judges, Legislators, Regulators and NGOs</th>
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<td>1600-1830</td>
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<td><strong>Moderator:</strong> Kumar Amirthalingam, National University of Singapore</td>
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<td>Justice Ruma Pal, former judge, Supreme Court of India <em>Legal Interaction as a response to Globalisation</em></td>
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<td>R. Sudarshan, UNDP Bangkok <em>Socio-economic rights, democracy and technocratic institutions</em></td>
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<td>Sara Hossain, High Court of Bangladesh <em>Tbc</em></td>
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**Saturday, June 13, 2009**

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Session IV - Cultural, Religious, Political and Social Dimensions of South Asian Law</th>
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<td>0930-1200</td>
<td>Session IV - Cultural, Religious, Political and Social Dimensions of South Asian Law</td>
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<td><strong>Moderator:</strong> Michael Hor, National University of Singapore</td>
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<td>Justice Muralidhar, High Court of Delhi <em>Politicization of the Judiciary, and Judicialisation of Politics in India</em></td>
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<td>Martin Lau, School of Oriental and African Studies <em>The Politics of Judicial Independence in Pakistan</em></td>
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<td>Deepika Udagama, University of Colombo <em>The Democratic State and Religious Pluralism: Constitutional Experiences of Sri Lanka</em></td>
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<td>Lunch</td>
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Saturday, June 13 (contd.)

1315-1530    Session V - Emergency Powers, Human Rights and allied issues

Moderator: Victor Ramraj, National University of Singapore

Rohan Edrisinha, Centre for Policy Alternatives, Sri Lanka
    *Approaches to Constitutional Interpretation and Emergency Powers in Sri Lanka*

Jayanth Krishnan, Indiana University
    *Free Speech and the Promotion of Legal Services in South Asia*

Arun Thiruvengadam, National University of Singapore
    *Revisiting ‘The Role of Judiciaries in Plural Societies’: Changing Progressive conceptions of the role of the judge in South Asia*

1530-1545    Tea/Coffee

1600-1715    Session VI – Towards a South Asian Constitutionalism?
    Reassessing the project and developing a road map for the future

Roundtable discussion involving all participants

1730         Bus departs Faculty of Law for Hotel

1930         Meet at hotel lobby and travel by bus to dinner venue

2000-2200    Concluding Dinner

2215         Bus departs for Hotel