

Transnational Asia

Speaker Series

October 10, 2019, at 4pm - Mechanical Lab. 209

Free and open to the public.



TAKING TO THE STREETS: THE 1919 UPHEAVALS IN SHANGHAI AND BOMBAY— AND HOW 1919 HELPS US UNDERSTAND THE HONG KONG OF 2019

Abstract: The protests that swept through the streets of Shanghai and Bombay in 1919 are often viewed as local variations of national outrage over the actions of imperialist powers in the aftermath of the First World War. A close look at the evidence suggests that the protests shared much in common with what Manuel Castells characterized as urban social movements. The protests also share much in common with the protests that have swept Hong Kong in 2019. This talk explores the evolution of similar political geographies and the connections between Bombay and Shanghai in the nineteenth century, and their emergence as leading centers of protests that shared many tactics in common and that involved broader claims of urban citizenship, in 1919 and the decade that followed.



Mark W. Frazier is Professor of Politics at The New School for Social Research and Co-Director of the India China Institute at The New School in New York City. His research interests focus on labor and social policy in China and, more recently, on political conflict over urbanization, migration, and citizenship in China and India. His most recent book, *The Power of Place: Contentious Politics in Twentieth Century Shanghai and Bombay*, examines long-term changes in political geographies and patterns of popular protest in the two cities. He is also the author of *Socialist Insecurity: Pensions and the Politics of Uneven Development in China* and *The Making of the Chinese Industrial Workplace*, and Co-Editor of the *SAGE Handbook of Contemporary China*.

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