



EDITORIAL

We are delighted to be publishing the first issue of IJAIS on this Open Journal Systems platform, which is part of the Public Knowledge Project's suite of Open Source Software. We have undertaken this change with the principal aim of enhancing the profile, search-ability and accessibility of the journal. We hope this will result in a more fruitful exchange among scholars who engage in Anglo-Indian Studies, as well as greater visibility of this scholarship to Anglo-Indians themselves and those who take an interest in this Community.

Over the next months, with the blessings of Adrian Gilbert (the founder and long-time editor of the journal) and Susan Dhavle (the more recent editor), we will migrate all prior publications into the archive area of the journal in the form of PDFs, again for ease of access.

Turning now to this journal issue, the focus is 'Nationalism and National Identity,' which was one of the two main themes of the researchers' workshop held in conjunction with the 9th World Reunion of Anglo-Indians held in Kolkata, January 2013. Two of the articles published in this issue, those by Brent H. Otto and Dolores Chew, evolved from their presentations at the workshop. The other two articles, by Rosinka Chaudhuri and Kuntala Lahiri-Dutt, were invited submissions, which make insightful contributions to the theme of Anglo-Indian nationalism and national identity.

Kuntala Lahiri-Dutt's article comes from what we consider a classic scholarly work on Anglo-Indians: *In Search of a Homeland: Anglo-Indians and McCluskiegunge* (1990). She has allowed us to republish the chapter we requested, 'Chapter 5: Background of the Utopia', which explores the motives behind this unique Anglo-Indian project, which had everything to do with Anglo-Indian identity as a nation and/or within a nation. In addition she wrote a further piece in the form of an author's note, reflecting on the time in which she wrote it, and her thoughts on this seminal work, now 25 years later.

Rosinka Chaudhuri, in her article, "Why, Sir, am I not an Indian?": Identity, Liberation and Nationalism in Early Nineteenth-Century India', draws on some of her own earlier work about Derozio's life and writings. She demonstrates how instrumental his voice was in the nascent discourse that later emerged as 'Indian nationalism', not specifically for Anglo-Indians but for Indians more generally. As a world-renown

scholar on Derozio and his works, we are delighted that Chaudhuri was prepared to make a significant contribution to this special issue.

Brent Otto's article, 'Navigating Race and National Identity for Anglo-Indians in the Struggle for Rights and Recognition in Colonial Calcutta, 1821-1830', examines Anglo-Indian constructions of national and communal identity through the public discourse in the colonial press. In the context of various measures by government that restricted Anglo-Indians, they argued for rights and recognition by deploying rhetoric that sometimes engaged and at other times rejected the very prejudices that lay at the root of their marginalization.

Dolores Chew, in her article 'Implanting Nation/alism, Problematizing Anglo-India/ns' turns to literary sources to explore the ways in which differently positioned intellectuals presented varying conceptions of 'nation' and 'community', and how Anglo-Indian identity is situated with respect to these. She draws on works that span from the early nineteenth to the mid-twentieth century, namely Derozio, Tagore, and Manto, as well as writings about Anglo-Indians during the turbulent time of Partition.

To varying degrees, all four papers are of an historical nature. In the future we would like to see a second a set of articles also looking at national identity and nationalism, but in more recent times. Look out for a forthcoming call for papers for this future special issue.

***Dr. Robyn Andrews** holds a Ph.D. in social anthropology from Massey University in New Zealand, where she is now a senior lecturer in anthropology. Her Ph.D. thesis was on the Anglo-Indian Community (2005), about which she continues to research and write extensively in collaboration with other scholars in Anglo-Indian Studies who belong to various disciplines.*

***Brent Howitt Otto** is currently a post-graduate student in Church History at the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University in the United States. He holds double master's degrees in history (M.A./M.Sc.) from Columbia University and the London School of Economics where he studied modern India and British Empire. His research and thesis focused on Anglo-Indians at the time of Independence, and particularly the impact of World War II on Anglo-Indian decisions about whether to migrate or to remain in India. Presently Brent is involved in research on Anglo-Indian Catholics in South India. Brent's maternal ancestry is Anglo-Indian, though he was born in the U.S.A. As a member of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits), Brent will be ordained a priest in 2015.*