



*Talk:*  
**Elemental City: Ecology, Media and  
Narratives of Crisis in Postcolonial  
Calcutta**

FEB  
**22**  
MON

5:00 – 6:00 PM  
Registration required at  
<http://bit.ly/Mukherjee-IHC>

This talk explores how the cultural politics of elemental media influence crisis narratives produced in relation to urban change. Taking Calcutta as a case study, doctoral candidate Somak Mukherjee argues that the crisis of postcolonial cities has a distinct ecological imaginary, borne of tension between mediated pairings of elements and more typical civic imaginaries such as civility, citizenship, community, development, or progress. The presentation will be followed by a discussion moderated by Surojit Kayal. *All are welcome but registration is required.*

**SOMAK MUKHERJEE**

UC Santa Barbara

Somak Mukherjee is a doctoral candidate in the Department of English at UCSB. His interests lie at the intersection of Environmental Media and Criticism, Urban History, and Postcolonial Studies. Somak's writings have appeared in various print and digital publications in India, including *Huffington Post*, *Scroll*, *The Citizen*, *Humanities Underground*, and *Anandabazar Patrika* (ABP).



*Sponsored by the IHC's Sustainability and the New Human Research Focus Group*