CENTRE FOR REGIONAL STUDIES
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

INVITES YOU TO A TALK

“Paradoxes of the Popular: Crowd Politics in Bangladesh”

When: Friday, 6 March 2020, 3:30 p.m.
Venue: Conference Hall, School of Social Sciences

Speaker– Dr. Nusrat Chowdhury

About the Talk: In this talk, I explore some of the constitutive contradictions of popular politics. I do so by focusing on the ephemeral and accidental configurations of the crowd in the political life of Bangladesh. The paper starts with literary representations of crowds in Bangladeshi literature and ends with ethnographic vignettes from my fieldwork on protest movements. I ultimately argue that crowds are a true political pharmakon in the sense that they are both solutions and scapegoats in performances of popular politics.

About the Speaker: Dr. NUSRAT CHOWDHURY is an Associate Professor of Anthropology, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, Amherst College, USA. Recipient of numerous Awards and Fellowships, her research interests are in Political anthropology, popular sovereignty, crowds, political communication, surveillance, development infrastructure, South Asia, Bangladesh. She has published extensively, and her forthcoming book is titled “Art, Politics, and the Environment in Bangladesh: 50 Years On. co-edited with Dr. Lotte Hoek (Senior Lecturer in Anthropology, University of Edinburgh). Contracted with Anthem Press, U.K.”