Contemporary urbanization, migrations, and the transportation revolution of Asia are fundamentally challenging our inherited knowledge-models about Asia. Asia is shifting from rural to urban, the Himalayan barrier between China and India is rapidly becoming part of the past with accelerating bilateral trade, while Japan, which was the first to become a largely urban society, is rapidly strengthening its ties with South Asia. This is an exciting moment for us to be engaging in the study of post-Cold War Asia and the post-Area studies world, to generate cross regional conversations and research, while opening up new avenues for exploring the study of Asia in interdisciplinary trans-regional and global perspectives. Two Workshops, 2 Nov. 2013 and 15 Feb. 2014 are being held as part of the Duke-UNC Global History-Asian Studies Initiative: “Global Asia, New Asia?” Conveners: Sucheta Mazumdar (Duke, History Dept.) Miles Fletcher (UNC, History Dept.)

11:00 -12:30:
Keynote: Vivek Bald, (MIT)
“Bengali Harlem: Exploring the Lost Histories of South Asian America”
Vivek Bald: Comparative Media Studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and a member of MIT’s recently formed Open Documentary Lab. Bald’s recently published book, Bengali Harlem and the Lost Histories of South Asian America (Harvard University Press, 2013), explores the histories of two little-known groups of South Asian Muslim migrants who arrived in the U.S. in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and integrated into Black neighborhoods, exploring how these men navigated U.S. immigration restrictions, racialization, and segregation; and examining the ways that New Orleans’ heterogeneous neighborhood of Tremé provided them with shelter and possibility during the Asian Exclusion era.
Comment and Discussion: Adriane Lentz Smith (History Department, Duke University)

12:30- 1:30:
Lunch Break

1:30- 3:00:
Roundtable “Migrations and International Encounters”
Michael Tsin, (UNC History: “On Transnationalism and "Chineseness")
Ji-Yeon Jo, (UNC Asian Studies: “Korean Return Migrants: Diaspora Comes Home”)
Eileen Cheng-Yin Chow, (Duke AMES: “Chinatowns, Circuits, and Contagion”)
Margaret Lee, (UNC African and Afro American Studies: “Trade and Chinese Trading Post, Oshikango, Namibia”)
General Discussion: Asian migrations, local societies and cultures

3:00- 3:15:
Coffee Break

3:15-4:15:
Nora Fisher Onar, (National Humanities Fellow; Bahcesehir University, Turkey / Oxford University, UK)
“Historical Legacies: Toward an (Eur) Asian Approach”
Comment and Discussion: Vasant Kaiwar (History Department, Duke University)

4:30- 5:30:
Bai Gao, (Duke University, Sociology)
Comment and Discussion: Cemil Aydin (UNC History Department)

For paper abstracts and additional information: duke.edu/apsi/events/globalasia-newasia.html
If you plan to attend lunch, please email by 13 Feb, RVSP Needed: mw249@duke.edu