Many of the current crises of migration around South and Southeast Asia are also crises of health. Beginning with the age of mass migration in the late nineteenth century, this lecture traces the ways in which human mobility has shaped health in the Bay of Bengal region. The vast human movement of the nineteenth century altered permanently the landscape, the ecology and the disease environment of the region. It was also in this era that the political regulation of migration began to be formulated, through a period when ideas about citizenship, entitlement, and inequality were in ferment. The lecture will examine the long-term consequences of migration for health inequality in South and Southeast Asia.

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