

9th AEEII INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FRACTURED BODIES, BODY HEALINGS: CRISIS AND RESTORATION PROCESSES AND NARRATIVES IN THE SUBCONTINENT AND ITS DIASPORAS

26-28 November 2025 | Universitat de Barcelona Abstract submission deadline: 15 June 2025 Notification of acceptance: 15 July 2025

In our times, two seemingly contradictory narratives coexist: one of decline, decadence and imminent collapse, and another of healing and resilience. Nowadays, we are confronted with ecological, political, social, community, family, individual, health, and psychological issues that are often perceived as extremely urgent, destabilizing any attempt to find reliable and lasting solutions, and causing serious concern in various spheres. Simultaneously, however, the present moment witnesses numerous initiatives and gestures aimed at restoring and strengthening structures and bodies affected by such problems. These arise from multiple locations; from individuals—including writers and other public figures—to communities, institutions of all kinds, governments, and transnational bodies. They're all investing great efforts in repairing, restoring, reuniting and healing all those fractured frameworks and bodies.

This conference invites exploration of this paradoxical reality, namely, the coexistence, the frictions and/or the alternation between experiences and narratives of decline and collapse and experiences and narratives of restitution, healing and resilience, and the specific forms these processes take in the South Asian subcontinent and its multifarious diasporas.

Thus, we invite proposals to present communications in English or Spanish that address the decline/collapserestoration/healing segment, where the emphasis can be placed on either end or on both, in South Asian cultures and their diasporas, from any discipline or point of view, and with a special interest in inter- and trans-disciplinary approaches. Here are some possibilities that would be interesting to explore, although they are not the only ones:

- Ecological narratives of decadence/collapse and/or recovery/recuperation in the Subcontinent or its diasporas.
- Healing initiatives related to the environment in the Subcontinent or its diasporas.
- Ecological experiences of caring for the land and the agricultural and primary sector communities in the Subcontinent or its diasporas.
- Crises in the more-than-human spectrum and restoration experiences in the Subcontinent or its diasporas.
- Intra-human violence due to caste, class, origin, gender, age, sexuality, or religion and processes of neutralization and healing in the Subcontinent or its diasporas.
- Processes and narratives of individual and collective memory of events involving cycles of decline/collapse and restoration/healing, and their forms of memorialization in the Subcontinent or its diasporas.
- Human and more-than-human bodies as receptacles of processes of decline/collapse and/or restoration/healing in the Subcontinent or its diasporas.
- The literary, artistic, and scientific representation of processes of decline/collapse and/or restoration/healing in the Subcontinent or its diasporas.

Organized from the *Observatory: UB Centre for Australian and Transnational Studies* and the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures and English Studies at the Faculty of Philology and Communication of the University of Barcelona, the conference will be held on November 26, 27 and 28, 2025. Please send 250-word abstracts, along with a 50-word biographical note, to <u>aeeiiconference2025@gmail.com</u> by June 15, 2025. Acceptance will be notified by July 15, 2025.

Proposals for full panels, round tables, workshops, book presentations and creative or artistic interventions are also welcome, either on the conference topics or on other issues related to the Subcontinent or its diasporas.

A selection of papers will be published in *Indialogs: Spanish Journal of India Studies* in 2027, after a blind review process by external evaluators.

The conference website for registration and conference updates will be available as of April 1 at <u>9thaeeiiconference25.wordpress.com</u>.

Barcelona, 21 March 2025 Isabel Alonso Breto and Dolors Ortega Arévalo