

Year 2011-2012

Tiina Seppälä

Bio Note

She (b. 1975) holds a PhD in International Relations from the University of Lapland, Finland, where she works as a post-doctoral researcher. Seppälä is interested in critical theory, social movements, concepts of power and resistance in the context of war, peace and developmental studies. As a part of a research project 'Governing Life Globally: The Biopolitics of Development and Security' project, funded by the Finnish Academy, and led by Professor Julian Reid at the University of Lapland.

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Her Recent Publications

- *Globalizing Resistance Against War: Theories of Resistance & the New Anti-War Movement*, London, Routledge, 2012

- *Globalising Resistance against War? A Critical Analysis of a Theoretical Debate in the Context of the Anti-War Movement*, *Journal of Critical Globalisation Studies*, Issue 5: 5–23, Issue on Imperialism, Finance, #Occupy, 2012

- *A Critical Analysis of a Theoretical Debate on Power of Social Movements: a Case Study of the New Anti-War Movement*, *Journal of Critical Studies in Business and Society*, 2 (1-2):10–29, Special issue on Online and Offline Social Movements: Critical Perspectives, 2011

- *Globalizing Resistance against War? A Critical Analysis of the Theoretical Debate through a Case Study of the 'New' Anti-War Movement in Britain*, PhD thesis, Rovaniemi, Lapland University Press, 2010

Her Visiting Report

I would like to warmly thank the Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group (CRG) for accepting me as a Visiting Research Scholar in the organization, from the beginning of October 2011 until the end of March 2012.

As a part of a Finnish Academy funded research project 'Governing Life Globally: The Biopolitics of Development and Security', led by Professor Julian Reid at the University of Lapland, in Rovaniemi, Finland, my post-doctoral research on social movements, gender and development has greatly benefited from CRG's expertise. Especially important have been CRG's knowledge and experience in issue areas such as forced migration, internal displacement, gender and development in South Asia. The opportunity to be part of the research group has helped me to establish important contacts with academics, activists and NGOs.

I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to work with such a group of intelligent, good-hearted, deeply motivated, and passionate people. The hospitality that I have experienced at CRG has been beyond my expectations.

First and foremost, I want to thank Dr. Ranabir Samaddar, the Director of CRG, for all his help and encouragement, both of which have been invaluable. Secondly, I want to express my deep appreciation for Professor Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury, who has helped my research in many different ways, and invited me to give a lecture at the Department of Political Science, the Rabindra Bharati University.

Special thanks belong to Dr. Anasua Basu Ray Chaudhury, who was of great help to me when looking for an organization where to do some voluntary work. She helped me to get in contact with Dr. Jana of the Durbar Mahila Samanwaya Committee (DMSC).

From the CRG, I want to thank also Suhit K. Sen, Madruresh Kumar, Mitilesh Kumar, Paula Banerjee, and all others, who have been interested in and supported my work in one way or another.

I want to express my warm appreciation for wonderful and amazing M. Chatterji for all her help with various practical and organizational issues.

During my visit at CRG, I have gathered a lot of material for my research on social movements, gender and development. I have presented two research papers, one at the Cultural Transformations: Development Initiatives and Social Movements Conference organized by the Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Society (IACSS) at the BRAC University in Dhaka, Bangladesh on 17–18 December 2011, and another one at the CRG research seminar on 15 March 2012.

From Kolkata, I will now continue my trip to Kathmandu where I will be a Visiting Research Scholar at the Nepal Institute of Peace (NIP) for the next three months, until the end of June 2012. While continuing my research in Nepal, I hope to keep in close contact with people at CRG and help to establish more intimate collaboration between the University of Lapland and CRG in future.