



Call for contributions to collective publications

Announcement Form

Please fill in what applies.

Name of publication: *Lea – Quaderni di Lea*

...

Issue number and theme: *Transimperial Encounters: Networks of Cultural and Literary Exchange Between India and Europe, 1870-1947*

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Deadline for proposal submissions: 8 June 2026

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Issue edited by Ujjwal Jana (University of Delhi) and Greta Perletti (University of Trento)

Issue theme / Volume presentation

This special issue of the journal *LEA* seeks to explore the transimperial intellectual, cultural, and political exchanges between India and Europe in the colonial period (1870-1947) by examining the complex, multidirectional flows of ideas, people, and cultural forms across imperial boundaries. While the notion of 'transimperial encounters' immediately evokes postcolonial theory and frameworks, the issue also intends to respond to the recent 'global turn' of Victorian studies, with scholars advocating for the need to "widen" (Banerjee, Fong and Michie 2021) or "undiscipline" the field (Chatterjee, Christoff and Wong 2020). The special issue *Transimperial Encounters* builds on such approaches by investigating how exchanges between the East and West – whether through travel, political activism, literary production, philosophical or religious discourse – reshaped anti-colonial thought, cultural movements, and intellectual traditions on both sides of the colonial divide.

The issue is especially interested to explore transimperial cultural movements like feminism, radicalism, vegetarianism etc. (Gandhi 2006; Selbin 2024), as well as transimperial literary genres like science fiction, spiritual autobiographies, realism etc. (Joshi 2002; Boehmer 2015; Gibson 2019). We welcome contributions from a range of disciplines, including literary studies, history, intellectual history, cultural studies, and transnational studies. In addition, we aim to bring together scholars working on different national and linguistic contexts to explore how anti-colonial and cultural networks functioned beyond the Anglo-Indian binary. We thus encourage also contributions that examine less-explored East/West connections (e.g., between India and Italy, France, Germany, etc.), as well as the role of multilingual and cross-cultural literary production.

We invite proposals that engage with, but are not limited to, the following themes: transimperial intellectual networks and literary genres; religious and philosophical exchanges; transimperial perspectives on feminism and the 'New Woman'; Anti-colonialism and radical thought in India and the West; models of education and pedagogy across empires; theoretical perspectives on transimperialism.

Works Cited

Banerjee, Sukanya, Ryan D. Fong, and Helena Michie. 2021. "Introduction: Widening the Nineteenth Century." *Victorian Literature and Culture* 49.1: 1–26.

Bohmer, Elleke. 2015. *Indian Arrivals, 1870-1915: Networks of British Empire*. Oxford University Press.

Chatterjee, Ronjaunee, Alicia Mireles Christoff, and Amy Wong. 2020. "Introduction: Undisciplining Victorian Studies." *Victorian Studies* 62. 3: 369-391.

Gandhi, Leela. 2006. *Affective Communities: Anticolonial Thought, Fin-de-Siècle Radicalism, and the Politics of Friendship*. Duke University Press.

Gibson, Mary Ellis. 2019. *Science Fiction in Colonial India, 1835-1905*. Anthem.

Joshi, Priya. 2002. *In Another Country: Colonialism, Culture, and the English Novel in India*. Columbia University Press.

Selbin JC. 2024. "The Global New Woman and the Invention of Modern Feminism." *PMLA/Publications of the Modern Language Association of America*. 139(1): 32-49.

Timeline

- Article ready for publication (no longer than 6,000-7,000 words in length) should be submitted by 8 June 2026
- Accepted articles (following double blind peer reviewing) will be published in **February 2027**.

Website address

[Call for Papers – FUP Journals](#)

[Transimperial Encounters – Call for Papers](#)

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