

Friends of Anthropology Lecture Series Presents

Dr. Saleh Ahmed School of Public Service



Investigating the Complex Adaptation Landscape in Coastal Bangladesh

Friday, February 28th, 2020 12:00 - 1:00 pm Hatch Ballroom A-Student Union Building Host: Anthropology Department

ABSTRACT

Climate change is particularly challenging for the people in low-income developing societies in the Global South largely because of their limited resources and capacities to cope with any weather or climate related stresses. However, affected peoples or societies are not always the passive recipients of adverse impacts. Often, they are engaged in various adaptation initiatives. This presentation highlights the complex adaptation landscape in coastal Bangladesh, which is one of the most climate vulnerable regions. In near future majority of local people will not be able to cope with climate stresses. Some fear that people in this region will experience increasing food insecurity, further poverty and marginalization, forced migration, and even social and political unrestness. Despite some fears, uncertainties, and initiatives the questions yet to answer that what will be the future of the people who are now living in the vulnerable coastal regions? What resources they have to cope with adverse climate impacts? What needs to be done now and in future for equitable adaptation and resilience outcomes? This presentation deals with these complex questions, and provides a space for critical thinking on human adaptive strategies using the theoretical insights of critical development studies, political ecology, and cultural anthropology.



Boise State Department of Anthropology

1819 W. Cesar Chavez Ln. Boise, ID 83706 (208) 426-3023 anthropology@boisestate.edu

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