



Sunil Amrith

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- B.A. in History from the University of Cambridge, U.K.
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Prof. Sunil Amrith is a historian of outstanding achievement, who has produced field-changing research on social, economic and environmental history of India and Southeast Asia, in a large transnational perspective.

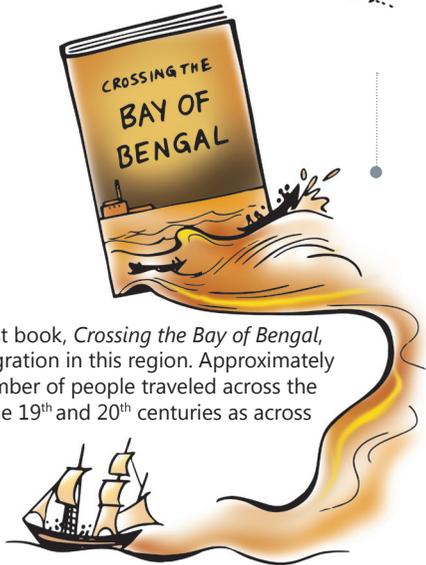
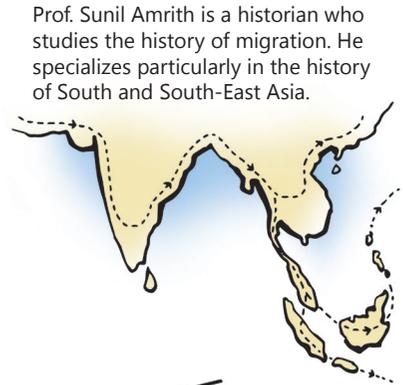
"History to me is about, how the world came to be the way it is and also how it might be different or how it might have been different. I study the choices that human communities have made in the past, choices that continue to shape our present and will continue to shape our future."



The history of humans is one of mobility. There is evidence of human populations having moved from one land mass to another from as early as 60,000 years ago.



As a result of all this migration, people from different parts of the world leave their mark on the places to which they move.



A history of movement and interconnectedness

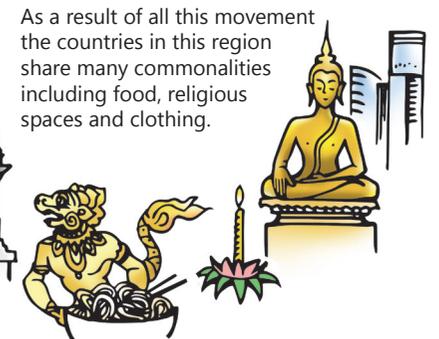
Sunil Amrith's scholarly work shows how profoundly humans shape the world around them and how interconnected our histories are no matter how different.



Yangon in Burma has mosques, synagogues, churches and monasteries. It was one of the most important multi-ethnic cities of the 19th century.



Indian foods such as rotis are ubiquitous in countries like Malaysia which saw large scale migration from South India. Colorful South Indian temples are found in Singapore, another country that saw many migrants from South India.



As a result of all this movement the countries in this region share many commonalities including food, religious spaces and clothing.

Amrith's latest book, *Crossing the Bay of Bengal*, examines migration in this region. Approximately the same number of people traveled across the bay during the 19th and 20th centuries as across the Atlantic.