

forschung im fremdsprachlichen Kontext. In gewisser Hinsicht ist dies aber auch ein Nachteil, denn die theoretischen Grundlagen qualitativer Sozialforschung geraten oftmals aus dem Blick. Dennoch stellt die Publikation dieses Bandes eine lange überfällige Maßnahme dar, um der bedeutenden Rolle der qualitativen Sozialforschung in fremdsprachlichen und „fremd“-disziplinären Kontexten zu entsprechen. Ursula Apitzsch, Expertin der politischen Soziologie und Migrationsforschung, resümierte im Mai 2012 über ihr EU-Forschungsprojekt mit acht beteiligten Ländern (und Sprachen), dass die methodischen Herausforderungen eines solchen Projektes kaum zu lösen seien und die Wissenschaft hier erst am Anfang stehe. Insofern ist dieses Buch – so divergent es auch erscheint – ein willkommener und notwendiger Vorstoß in diese Richtung.

Nora Sausmikat

**Subrata Ghoshroy, Götz Neuneck (Hgg.): South Asia at a Crossroads. Conflict or Cooperation in the Age of Nuclear Weapons, Missile Defense, and Space Rivalries**

Baden-Baden: Nomos, 2010. 330 S., EUR 69,00

The compendium of articles brings together the concentrated conclusions of a joint conference organized by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), the German Federal College for Security Studies (BAKS) and the Institute for Peace Research and Security at the University of Hamburg (IFSH), which took place in 2007 in Berlin. Foreign and security policy experts from the United States, Germany and the South Asian region came together to analyze the South Asian theatre in light of security and technology specific matters in the framework of missile defence systems as well as nuclear and space programs. India as the largest regional player stands in the focus of most contributions. India as the emerging world

power has often been portrayed and legitimized with regard to its economic growth that for years finds its local variant in inclusivity, the popularized vision of a just and equal society through a bridging of the two Indias, poor and rich. Whatever the policies in the service of this honourable goal India's political leaders from the Gandhi-Nehru ruled Congress party to the new BJP party of Narendra Modi might formulate and implement after the upcoming national elections in 2014, the country's foreign and security concerns, as it seems, still need to be clearly defined and applied to a changing regional order.

The broad number and topical range of this volume's contributions make a selection of individual chapters for review mandatory. The editor Subrata Ghoshroy explains the framework under which India as the leading South Asian nation aims at becoming a strategic regional power and military force. He analyses the deep concerns especially on the US side in the years prior to the US-Indian nuclear deal. Further, he describes the Indian mainstream and political view on the question of nuclear power but also its expectations to a military leading role from India's initial reluctance towards defensive missile systems and its nuclear program from the 1980s with the political framework given by the two successive Congress-ruled governments under Indira and Rajiv Gandhi to the 2000s in which India increasingly took a pro-American stance in the light of its opening and de-isolation of its foreign policy both on the regional and international level.

With regard to India's Nuclear Security Programme (NSP) almost all authors agree on the observation that its military strategic focus has been directed against China and, more incidentally, against its neighbor state Pakistan. The aim of India's military nuclear program is primarily to establish strategic parity with the Chinese military strength and only secondarily, to deter Pakistan's intransigence while Pakistan's nuclear arsenal and its strategic focus, from its inception in

1971, primarily centers on India. Former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto who is quoted in saying "if India builds the bomb, we will eat grass or leaves, even go hungry, but we will get one of our own", became the decisive figure within the nuclear debate. After the fall of Dhaka in 1971 and the defeat of the Pakistan Army in what became independent Bangladesh, Bhutto's claim of confronting India in a "1000-year war" and of restoring national honor in the nuclear arms race, expressed the desire of many in Pakistan's army staff despite the deep mistrust among the generals against the Bhutto clan. Islamabad's nuclear First Use strategy is thus based on the institutionalized obsessive fear of India's bomb which legitimizes its intention to counter the Pakistan Army's conventional inferiority vis-à-vis India. As has been quoted elsewhere, Pakistan's nuclear program was also aimed at fortifying the national claim for leadership within the community of Islamic states.

Philip E. Coyle who had been nominated as Associate Director for National Security and International Affairs, Office of Science and Technology Policy, by President Obama in 2009, highlights the technical challenges that missile defense systems are confronted with. Furthermore, high costs reflect their financial viability making them easy political targets for opponents of any strategic missile defense strategy in the parliamentary budget committees. Further, alleged threats as posed by Iran are subjected to a changing Middle Eastern security environment with international efforts at bringing Teheran at the negotiation table and a new Iranian leadership which by its actions indicates more willingness and commitment to demobilisation. Last, the simple fact remains that so far no power could provide proof of the real effectiveness of a missile defense system. That a defensive ground-to-air missile system, technically and in terms of a bilateral co-production can succeed despite significant political resistance in parliament and at the supreme court, has been proven by Israel's Iron Dome shield during Operation

Pillar of Defense in November 2012. Supporters estimated a success rate of 80 percent of enemy missiles and short-range rockets being shot down. However, Israel's enemy in Gaza Strip cannot be compared with Hizbullah behind the Northern border to Lebanon given that the Shiite militia's expanded arsenal includes more sophisticated and accurate missiles than during the 2006 war. Further, critical voices claim that Iron Dome can provide an accuracy of no more than 40 percent with many rockets being crippled or deflected.

Geoffrey Forden, however, calls for the establishment of a South Asian system to monitor missile launches. Considering the continuing tense situation in the Kashmir region between India and Pakistan, he portrays the worst case of a nuclear detonation in the instable South Asian region with a Cold War type of strategic balance between two hostile parties being the sole guarantor of stability. In his opinion the Indian and Pakistani weapons systems are not sufficiently tested. New Delhi has tested a two-tier missile defence system which, according to the planners, should act as a shield around the country's dense populated arteries such as Delhi and Mumbai.

In another article, Asif A. Siddiqi analyses the strategic and economic interests behind the Chinese, Japanese and Indian Space systems. As an example for the difficulties of politically explaining the need for strategic space programs in the wider framework of the security discourse to the public he refers to the launch of the first Indian lunar probe in 2008. In 2013, India launched a national Mars mission. Similar to China, the Indian space programs serve as important symbols for the Asian superpower for a leading position in the technology and science sectors. Furthermore, in the "Asian space race" all three nations compete with each other to increase their influence on the still-developing smaller Asian countries. Against this background, the ability to develop their own satellite without technological



assistance from the U.S. or Europe, is seen as a high prestige factor. Generally, only partial dimensions of the high-technology security paradigms discussed in this volume – such as cyber security – experienced a broad discussion in the international security community. A strength of the book “South Asia at a Crossroads” is without doubt that the authors highlight the strategic impact of recent national science and technology programs on international security issues – an element which in the debate on international security has been underestimated for too long and tends to be missing in the mainstream discourse on South Asian security, too.

Malte Gaier

**Cornelia Mallebrein, Johannes Beltz:  
Elefanten, schaukelnde Götter und  
Tänzer in Trance**

Zürich, Scheidegger & Spiess, 2012. 144 S.,  
EUR 38,00

Der mehrfach ausgezeichnete Bildband „Elefanten, schaukelnde Götter und Tänzer in Trance“ ist im Jahr 2012 anlässlich der Ausstellung „Streetparade der Götter“ im Züricher Museum Rietberg erschienen und ist die erste deutschsprachige Monographie zu diesem Themengebiet.

Die Ausstellung befasste sich thematisch mit indischer Stammeskunst; im Genaueren mit etwa 500 Kleinplastiken aus dem Mittelindien der ersten Hälfte des 20. Jahrhunderts, die durch die Stiftung dreier Sammlerpaare in das Museum gelangten. Die Besonderheit des Museums Rietberg liegt in der ausschließlichen Beschäftigung mit außereuropäischer Kunst. Diese wird in einem explizit als Kunstmuseum ausgeschriebenen Raum präsentiert und somit der „klassischen Kunst“ gleichberechtigt gezeigt. Auf diese Weise werden die Bronzefiguren nicht nur in den Kontext der „Volkskunst“, also eines Kunsthandwerkes, das allein zum Gebrauch produziert wird, gesetzt, es wird vielmehr

die autonome Ästhetik und Bildsprache der Arbeiten akzentuiert.

Daraus leitet sich auch der Aufbau des hier besprochenen Ausstellungskataloges ab. Die Exponate, die „Elefanten, schaukelnden Götter und Tänzer in Trance“, werden in einer Art Parade dargestellt, die über die Seiten des Kataloges führt. Die Figuren laufen über die Seiten durch das gesamte Buch und umrahmen den in der Mitte liegenden Textteil. Dieser Mittelteil besteht zum einen aus einer Einleitung, die einen Überblick und eine Einordnung der gezeigten Exponate bietet, zum anderen aus einem Essay, der reportageartig die jahrzehntelange Forschungsarbeit Cornelia Mallebreins über die tribale und ländliche Kunst Mittelindiens dokumentiert. Dieser Essay ist mit Bildern von Gießern, Tänzern und Festszenen bestückt und gibt einen Einblick in die Welt der Bastar-Bevölkerung; zugleich setzt er die Kunstwerke in einen soziokulturellen Kontext.

Durch diese besondere Form des Katalogaufbaus, bei der die Kunstwerke nicht als reine Illustration dem Text beigeordnet sind, sondern autonom für sich stehen, gewinnt das Bild, im Gegensatz zum klassischen Ausstellungskatalog, an Prominenz.

Die gezeigten Plastiken bestechen durch ihre durch Abstraktion und Stilisierung geprägte Ästhetik, darüber hinaus wohnt ihnen ein ganz eigener, feiner Humor inne, der durch die verzerrten Proportionen und Gesichtszüge der dargestellten Figuren evoziert wird. Ihr Ursprung liegt in der Bastar-Region (Madhya Pradesh), einem Landstrich Indiens, der auch heute noch größtenteils von den Ureinwohnern des indischen Subkontinents, den Adivasis (Hindi: erste Menschen) bewohnt wird. Diese indigene Volksgruppe, die bis heute eine eigenständige und noch weitestgehend unbekannte Kultur bildet, lebt, bereits seit ca. 1500 v. Chr. von indogermanischen Volksstämmen verdrängt, größtenteils in den an Bodenschätzen reichen Berg- und Waldregionen. Die Adivasi pflegen eine spirituelle Beziehung zu ihrem Land und wirtschaften ausschließlich zur