STUDY DAY:
The British Empire and Imperial India

Saturday 27th February
10.00 - 3.15

Three Fascinating Lectures

Images, Architecture and Arts

with **Dr John Stevens**: academic and educator specialising in British Imperial and Indian history and often consulted on Indian affairs by the media.

Venue: Stoke Bishop Village Hall,
42 Stoke Hill, Bristol, BS99 1EX

The number 4 bus stops outside. No dedicated parking but several nearby roads with free unlimited hours parking, especially on Stoke Hill.



www.theartssociety-bristol.org.uk

Lecture 1: Images of the British Empire

British imperial power was projected through a variety of artistic mediums, from fine portraiture and grand imperial buildings to more popular forms of imagery. British artists also produced countless images of people from all over the globe who had become subjects of British rule. Through considering a variety of paintings, buildings and objects from across the Empire, this lecture provides a fascinating insight into the ways in which the British viewed themselves and their imperial subjects.

Lecture 2: Imperial Calcutta - Arts and Architecture

Calcutta was the second city of the British Empire and a hub of cultural and artistic production. This lecture provides an overview of the arts (poetry, theatre, literature, song) and architecture of this extraordinary city, which was India's capital until 1911. At the epicentre of the 'Bengal renaissance', Calcutta played a central role in shaping the arts and culture of modern India. This lecture examines how Calcutta's arts and architecture were affected by British rule, and explores the fascinating ways in which Indian artists viewed the British in India.

Lecture 3: Portraits of the Maharanis

The Maharajahs and Maharanis of India were semi-independent rulers who governed territories that were outside the direct control of the British Empire. They fascinated the British public, and functioned as powerful symbols of 'exotic India'. This lecture draws on an extensive collection of portraits and photographs of Indian Maharanis, all of which are stunning works of art in their own right. These beautiful portraits are brought to life with insights into the lives and memoirs of the Maharanis themselves, along with a broader view of the role they played in the British Empire.

The Secret of England's Greatness by Thomas James Barker (National Portrait Gallery)
Book cover: The Autobiography of an Indian Princess
Victoria memorial, Kolkata (Calcutta)







The British Empire and Imperial India

10.00 Doors Open
Registration

10.25 Welcome by the Chair

10.30-11.30 Lecture 1
Images of the British Empire
Comments and Questions

11.30-12.00 Coffee Break

12.00-13.00 Lecture 2
Imperial Calcutta: Arts & Architecture
Comments and Questions

1.00-2.00 Lunch(byo)

2.00-3.00 Lecture 3
Portraits of the Maharanis
Comments and Questions

3.15 Close

Cost: £32 pp
including tea, coffee and biscuits.

Please bring a packed lunch.

Book online on our website or via the link in your monthly newsletter

www.theartssociety-bristol.org.uk