Anthropology and Diaspora Studies: An Indian Perspective

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Abstract

This paper discusses the Indian diaspora in an external sense—its geographic, demographic and historical features—and in an internal sense: how Indians abroad conceive and organize themselves in diaspora, especially in comparison to overseas Chinese. In my conclusion I discuss the broader implications of the Indian diaspora in the context of anthropology at large: What can studies of the Indian diaspora contribute to anthropology?

Introduction

In this paper I discuss the diversities in the Indian diaspora under three major rubrics:

• External (demographic features, geographical zones, old and new diasporas, occupational diasporas);

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