

## Asia

Underpinning much of the contemporary unease around immigration is the tension between economic agendas that see population movement and globalisation as a necessity, and political responses that privilege the defence of what is perceived as a coherent national identity. In his chapter, ‘Not Singaporean Enough? Migration, History and National Identity in Singapore’, John Solomon explores this dynamic in a nation that is a symbol of the global economy. He argues that more recent patterns of movement tend to be treated as forming part of a ‘long present’ rather than integrated into settled understandings of the national story. For Solomon, historians have an important part to play in challenging received ideas about contemporary citizenship by producing more fluid and dynamic accounts of the city-state’s past that integrate recent movements and do justice to the complexity of the distant past.

Anindya Raychaudhuri’s contribution to this volume, “‘They Don’t Call Us Indian’: Indian Muslim Voices and the 1947 India/Pakistan Partition”, lays the ground for another shift of focus in migration history, looking at non-movement as a decision in itself. We are quick to assume that mobility should be the locus of enquiry—that it is in a way abnormal, of interest by definition. Focusing on decisions of Indian Muslims not to leave their country in spite of Partition and the divide between a majority Muslim Pakistan and a majority Hindu India, Raychaudhuri shows how listening to those who stayed and their reasons for doing so can also act as a counter to the political agendas that underpin hegemonic national narratives.