

### **AIPS Travel Grant Final Report**

The significance of this panel, entitled “The Multiple Locations of Modern Punjabi Literature” is that it looks at how Punjabi literature is no longer confined to the territory of the Punjab, but has, rather, migrated around the world along with the migration of Punjabi-speaking people.

The panel looked at various genres and spaces in which the cultural location of Punjabi literature has shaped literary output, whether the writers are located in Lahore, Delhi, Vancouver, London or Ontario. Thus, social critique can be expressed in short story form reflecting the lives of Punjabis in Canada or the U.K, while it can also be expressed through the re-working of traditional stories in the form of drama.

In integrating the diaspora as part of the space of literary production, the Partition of the Punjab in 1947 is “overcome” so that Punjabi itself need not be tied to one nation or another, and Punjabi readers and writers have access to one another’s work which the “cold war” between India and Pakistan had previously worked to keep isolated from one another.