Journey to India
February 7-22, 2006
with Professor Kishwar Rizvi
Dear Columbian:

In the epic realm of India, land of gods and kings, so much of the ancient, storied past is still astonishingly visible. On our Journey to India, we see it in spectacular Mughal monuments, in medieval Rajput fortresses rising out of golden desert sands, and in Hindu temples where worship rituals date to the 6th century BC, the era of Vedic India. With the camaraderie of fellow alumni and friends and an outstanding guest lecturer, Professor Kishwar Rizvi of Barnard College, Columbia University, we explore and discover India in a dazzling array of settings.

We begin in New Delhi, whose India Gate and imperial parliamentary buildings were once the architectural jewels in the crown of the British Raj. In Old Delhi, we find the vestiges of Mughal splendor in the sprawling Red Fort and soaring Jami Masjid mosque, both dating from the 17th century.

To discover the spiritual heart of India, we head to the legendary Hindu city of Varanasi, “older than history” as Mark Twain remarked, where the River Ganges flows past ancient stone stairways and the faithful bathe and pray. The rituals and practices of religious life have been the focus of Varanasi for 2,500 continuous years. Just a few miles away, we visit Sarnath, where Siddhartha Gautama, who became known as the Buddha, gave his first sermon.

After we pay our respects to the Taj Mahal, an exquisite white marble palace on the banks of the Yamuna River, we set out to discover royal Rajasthan, India at its most romantic and swashbuckling, with walled cities where princely warrior clans once fought epic battles with jewel-encrusted swords. We visit Jaipur, Jodhpur, and Udaipur, with their airy palaces of marble and onyx.

Throughout our explorations, we enjoy opportunities to meet local people and gain a better understanding of this fascinating country. We hope you will join Professor Rizvi and fellow alumni for an unforgettable journey.

With best wishes from Morningside Heights,

Eric J. Furda
Vice President for Alumni Relations

Call toll-free 1-866-325-8664
New York residents may call 1-212-472-4365
Days 1-2, February 7-8 US / Delhi
Depart USA. In the late evening of Day 2, arrive in Delhi, where you are met by our representative. Transfer to the Intercontinental Hotel.

Day 3, February 9 New Delhi
The morning is at leisure. Our afternoon drive through India Gate offers views of the majestic British-era parliament buildings designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens in the 1920s, and we explore 16th century Humayan’s Tomb, Delhi’s first Mughal mausoleum, a forerunner of the Taj with its inlaid marble and double dome. Overnight at the Intercontinental Hotel...BLD

Day 4, February 10 Old Delhi
In Old Delhi, capital of Muslim India between the 12th and 19th centuries, we explore the imposing 17th century Red Fort and the Jama Masjid mosque, both built by Emperor Shah Jahan of Taj Mahal fame. Later, we walk through the narrow lanes of colorful Chandni Chowk, visit Raj Ghat where Mahatma Gandhi was cremated, and, in the National Museum, view an array of treasures dating as far back as 2500 BC. Overnight at the Intercontinental Hotel...BLD

Day 5, February 11 Delhi / Varanasi / Sarnath
A morning flight brings us to Varanasi. This afternoon, we visit the sacred Buddhist site of Sarnath, where Lord Buddha gave his first discourse in the deer park to set in motion the “Wheel of the Dharma.” Overnight at the Radisson Hotel...BLD

Day 6, February 12 Varanasi
Pilgrims from all over India come to this city of redemption to wash away their sins or to immerse the ashes of their ancestors in the sacred Ganges. We watch these ancient rituals on our dawn boat ride as sun rises over the Ganges. Later, we visit Hindu temples and the Bharat Kala Bhawan Museum, with its unique collection of miniatures and Rajasthani paintings. This evening, we enjoy our dinner and a cultural performance at the Amrit Rao Peshwa Cultural Center. Overnight at the Radisson Hotel...BLD

Day 7, February 13 Varanasi / Delhi / Agra
After a morning at leisure or a chance to explore Varanasi’s famous silk-weaving bazaars for silk brocades, we fly to Delhi and make an afternoon drive to Agra. Overnight at Clarks Hotel...BLD

Day 8, February 14 Agra
An ancient city in India’s heartland, Agra came into prominence in medieval times when the lavish patronage of the Mughal rulers created forts, tombs, and palaces of red sandstone and marble inlaid with semi precious stones. This morning we visit the massive Agra Fort where the aging Emperor Shah Jahan,
imprisoned by his son, watched from a distance the fulfillment of his life’s dream—the building of the Taj Mahal in memory of his beloved wife. In the afternoon, we explore the Itmad-ud-Daula, a superb 16th century mausoleum, then make our pilgrimage to the legendary Taj Mahal, incredibly perfect in its symmetry. Overnight at the Clarks Hotel...BLD

Day 9, February 15  
Agra / Fatehpur Sikri / Jaipur
En route to Jaipur, we visit the haunting desert ruins of Fatehpur Sikri, a fabulous city of red sandstone that was once the capital of Mughal Emperor Akbar. The palaces and courtyards, in pristine condition, offer an extraordinarily accurate glimpse of a Mughal city. Overnight in Jaipur at the Clarks Hotel...BLD

Day 10, February 16  
Jaipur
We drive across desert plains to Amber Fort, former seat of the Rajput rulers of Jaipur, and ascend to this fortress in royal style—seated on elephants. We then wander through beautiful palaces enclosed within the walls of the fort. In the afternoon, we explore the elegant city of Jaipur, built by Maharaja Jai Singh II in the early 18th century and an unsurpassed testament to the craftsmanship of the old masters. Our explorations offer a glimpse into the grand lifestyle of India’s legendary princes. Overnight at the Clarks Hotel...BLD

Day 11, February 17  
Jaipur / Jodhpur
Jaipur is one of the most flamboyantly colorful cities in Rajasthan, with its old walled quarter, exuberant 18th century palaces, and vibrant bazaars. After a day to explore, we take a late-afternoon flight to Jodhpur and transfer to the Balsamand Palace Hotel...BLD

Day 12, February 18  
Jodhpur
Rajasthan is dotted with ancient hilltop forts, the sites of many a battle and siege. Today we explore Jodhpur’s 15th century Meherangarh Fort on a rocky bluff 400 feet above the city and Jaswant Thada, where the rulers of Jodhpur are commemorated by cenotaphs of white marble. Later we visit the Umaid Bhawan Palace museum and enjoying our dinner in the museum. Overnight at the Balsamand Palace Hotel...BLD

Day 13, February 19  
Jodhpur / Udaipur
En route to Udaipur, we visit Ranakpur, a secluded valley with Jain temples dating back to the 15th century. Ranakpur’s central temple has 1,444 intricately carved pillars, each unlike any other. After lunch at Maharanibagh, a royal retreat, we continue to the Devigarh Hotel...BLD

Day 14, February 20  
Udaipur
Udaipur is one of the most romantic cities in the world, an oasis of palaces and traditional mansions. In this 16th century capital, we explore the City Palace, with its mirror-patterned walls and inlaid marble balconies, and the notable folk museum and royal vintage
car collections. Overnight at the Devigarh Hotel...BLD

Day 15, February 21     Udaipur / Delhi
The morning is free to visit the small village next to our hotel or explore the remnants of Nagda, the ancient Mewar capital, and the fascinating Shiva temple in the town of Eklingji. In the afternoon, we fly to Delhi. On arrival, transfer to the Radisson Hotel...BLD

Day 16, February 22     Delhi / USA
Depart Delhi for USA...B

Post Trip Extension
Tigers of Ranthambore
Join our optional post-trip wildlife safari to beautiful Ranthambore National Park, haunt of tigers, leopards, and crocodiles, where the ramparts of 10th century Ranthambore Fort rise above a forest canopy. This is one of the best places in India to spot royal Bengal tigers in the wild (though it cannot be guaranteed).

Day 16, February 22     Ranthambore
Morning train to Ranthambore, once the hunting preserve of the Maharajas of Jaipur. Afternoon gameviewing by 4WD in search of tigers and other wildlife. Overnight in game lodge.

Day 17, February 23     Ranthambore
Full day of gameviewing. In addition to tigers, Ranthambore boasts sambar, chital, nilgai, gazelle, mongoose, monitor lizards, and a spectacular host of birdlife.

Day 18, February 24     Ranthambore / Delhi
After morning gameviewing, return to Delhi by train for overnight.

Day 19, February 25     Delhi
Depart Delhi for USA.

For more information, or to reserve your space, please contact:
Columbia University Alumni Travel Study Program
Toll-free: 1-866-325-8664
New York residents may call: 1-212-472-4365
Fax: 1-212-517-7770
Email: travelstudy@columbia.edu
Reservation Form

Journey to India       February 7-22, 2006

Name 1 (Please Print Your Name as it Appears on Your Passport) School/Year
______________________________________________________________________________

Name 2 (Please Print Your Name as it Appears on Your Passport) School/Year
______________________________________________________________________________

Address
______________________________________________________________________________

City                      State                      Zip
______________________________________________________________________________

Phone (H)                  (W)
______________________________________________________________________________

Email
______________________________________________________________________________

☐ I would like to join the post-trip extension Tigers of Ranthambore

☐ Yes, please arrange my flights from New York
☐ I will make my own International flight arrangements to Delhi, India

☐ Double room, rooming with ____________________________
☐ Single room
☐ I would like a roommate. If one is not available, I will pay the additional charge of $1,380
☐ Smoker ☐ Non-smoker

☐ I/we have read the Terms & Conditions section and agree to the terms therein.
Each Participant must sign below:

Signature 1 Date
______________________________________________________________________________

Signature 2 Date
______________________________________________________________________________

☐ Enclosed is my deposit check for $__________ ($600 per person).
Final payment is due by November 10, 2005.
Check made payable to Columbia University Alumni Travel Study Program

Return to: Columbia University
Alumni Travel Study Program
P.O. Box 169
New York, New York 10028

Toll-free: 1-866-325-8664
NY residents call: 1-212-472-4365

Email: travelstudy@columbia.edu
Tour Features

• Holy city of Varanasi, with sunrise on the sacred Ganges
• Buddhist pilgrimage site of Sarnath, where Lord Buddha gave his first sermon
• Ethereal Taj Mahal, “an emperor’s love wrought in living stones”
• 18th-century desert city of Jaipur, a testament to the craftsmanship of the old masters
• Jodhpur, where the color and vibrancy of Rajasthan is seen on a princely scale
• Udaipur, one of the most romantic ancient cities in the world
• Optional extension for tiger viewing at Ranthambore National Park

Kishwar Rizvi is an architectural historian and Assistant Professor of Architecture in the Department of Art History at Barnard College, Columbia University. Professor Rizvi currently teaches courses on Islamic art and architecture, including India’s Taj Mahal and other Mughal architectural treasures. She received her B.A. from Wesleyan University and a M. Arch. from the University of Pennsylvania. After practicing architecture in New York, Philadelphia and Karachi (Pakistan) she entered the Ph.D. program in Architecture at MIT, where she was a scholar in the Aga Khan program for Islamic Architecture. Following graduation, she was awarded a postdoctoral fellowship at the Yale Center for International and Area Studies and a lectureship at the Yale History of Art Department. She is currently completing a book, The Safavid Dynastic Shrine: Architecture, Piety and Power in 16th-century Iran and looks forwarding to sharing her knowledge of India's art and architecture through formal presentations and informal discussions.

Tour Costs

Land Cost, per person, double occupancy: $4,995
Single Supplement: $1,380
Round-trip International Air on Air India:
New York - Delhi - New York (Approximate cost)
Coach Class $1,150 + tax Business Class $3,595 + tax

Land Cost Includes: • Double occupancy accommodations in hotels mentioned in itinerary or similar inclusive of taxes • All meals, starting with Breakfast Day 3 and ending with Breakfast Day 15 • All air and ground transportation within India • All sightseeing, entertainment, and cultural activities listed in the itinerary • All group transfers within India inclusive of porterage • Airport taxes on domestic flights within India • English-speaking Tour Manager to accompany group throughout itinerary assisted by local tour guides each day • Gratuities to guides, drivers, and hotel personnel • Pre-departure materials.

Not Included: Visa processing; international and/or domestic U.S. airfares; departure taxes; transfers to/from Delhi airport if not utilizing designated group flights; excess baggage charges; travel insurance; items of a personal nature; meals and alcoholic beverages not otherwise specified.

Optional Extension to Ranthambore
Land Cost: $890 per person, double occupancy
Single Supplement: $195

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Email: travelstudy@columbia.edu
Please read carefully the following terms and conditions, which constitute the sole, legally enforceable agreements between the passenger and Columbia University, Columbia Travel Study Program, their agent, Travel Study Services LLC (TSS), Wilderness Travel, Inc., and their ground tour operators (collectively “TSS”).

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: A deposit of $600 per person is required to reserve your space. Final payment is due November 10, 2005. Payments may be made by personal or cashiers checks.

CANCELLATION & REFUNDS: All cancellations of confirmed reservations must be made in writing to the Columbia University Alumni Travel Study Program office and are subject to a $300 per person administrative fee. Cancellations received 120-75 days prior to departure will be assessed a penalty of $600 per person. Cancellations received 74-31 days will be assessed a penalty of 50% of the published full regular tariff, and cancellations made 30 or less days prior to departure are subject to a penalty of 100% of the published full regular tariff. No refunds will be made for any part of this program in which you choose not to participate.

AIR INFORMATION: The necessary group flights within India must be purchased as part of the package and no deviations are possible. For those interested, competitive group international airfares from New York, including special prices for business class upgrades, have been negotiated with Air India. Please call for details. Domestic connections to New York should be purchased individually. Airfare is subject to the cancellation policies of the airline in effect at time of booking.

PASSPORT/VISA REQUIREMENTS: A passport and visa are required for travel to India and are the responsibility of individual travelers. Visas must be acquired in advance. Passports must be valid for six months past the return date of the trip.

INSURANCE: We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance. Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event you must cancel your participation, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Further information will be sent upon registration.

RESPONSIBILITY: TSS acts solely as agent for the passenger with respect to all transportation, hotel and other tour arrangements and neither assumes nor bears any responsibility or liability for any injury, death, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity arising in connection with the services of any ship, airplane, train, automobile, motor coach, carriage or other conveyance, or the actions of any third-party, involved in carrying the passenger or in affecting these tours. TSS is not responsible for damages, additional expenses, or any other losses due to cancellation, delay or other changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, civil disturbances, acts or threats of terrorism, travel warnings or bans, termination or suspension of war risks or other carrier insurance, quarantine, acts of God or other causes beyond our control. All such losses must be borne by the passenger, and tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. In the event of cancellation, delay or rescheduling mandated by any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the passenger shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by us, or else, receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as we are able to recover on the passenger’s behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc., but, we shall not have any obligation or liability to the passenger beyond the foregoing. We reserve the right to make alterations to the tour’s itinerary and to substitute hotels, vessels or study leaders if this is required. We reserve the right to cancel, delay, or reschedule any tour prior to departure, and so long as this is not due to any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the passenger shall be entitled to a full refund of all monies paid to that point if he/she so desires. No refund shall be made for any unused portion of any tour. By forwarding their deposit(s), the passenger certifies that he/she and/or their dependents, minors or others covered thereby do not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that could create a hazard for them or other passengers. We reserve the right to decline to accept or to decline to retain any person as a member of any tour should such person’s health, condition or actions adversely affect or threaten the welfare or safety of other passengers or impede the tour. Baggage or valuables brought on the tour shall be transported, handled or stored at the passenger’s risk entirely, and we shall bear no liability or responsibility for any damage or other loss thereto. Prices, and Professor Kishwar Rizvi’s participation, are based on a minimum of 15 Columbia participants. We cannot guarantee the size of the Columbia group and reserve the right to invite participants from other institutions. Resolution of any disputes arising hereunder shall be affected exclusively in the state or federal courts presiding in the City of New York, pursuant to applicable New York law.

RATES: Tour costs are based upon current airfares, tariffs, and currency values. While we do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change.

CST# 1007696-40

Photography: Cover: Jon Arnold; Inside: Bill Abbott, Claudia Adams, Jon Arnold, Michele Burgess, Craig Lovell