

Collection Level Description:

Reference code

AH

Title

SADAA: Attia Hosain

Dates of creation

1998 - 2003

Level of description

Collection

Extent

½ a box

Name of creator

Hosain, Attia

Administrative/biographical history

Attia Hosain was born into an upper-class feudal land owning family in Lucknow, India in 1913. She was educated at La Martinière School and later gained a degree at Isabella Thoburn College, one of only a few women of her background to do so and the first in her family. She married and in 1947 moved with her husband and two children to England. In England she took up broadcast journalism, joining the BBC Eastern Service in 1949 where she worked on a variety of regional services. Hosain was also involved in a number of popular shows for women and read for several plays. While continuing to work for the BBC she also acted in the West End, and was an active part of the social scene and friend to many theatrical stars.

Hosain is best known for her writing. She first published a collection of short stories, *Phoenix Fled* in 1953 and then a novel, *Sunlight on a Broken Column* with Chatto & Windus in 1961. Both draw on experiences from her upbringing and afford insights into the society of India's landed classes. Her work has influenced many writers of the younger generation.

Attia Hosain died 25th January 1998.

Immediate source of acquisition

The collection was deposited as part of the SADAA (formerly SALIDAA) archive.

Scope and content

Photocopies and print outs of some original broadcast materials from BBC radio programmes. Some paper copies of biographical material, including copies of correspondence. Also some original material on the creation of the archive.

Accruals

Collection is complete.

Collection Level Description:

System of arrangement

The collection comprises of three numbered folders.

Access conditions

Available to researchers, by appointment. Please email: special.collections@brunel.ac.uk, giving at least two working days notice.

Further details about access to our collections are available on our website.

Access to archive material is subject to preservation requirements and must also conform to the restrictions of the Data Protection Act and any other appropriate legislation.

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Language of material

English

Physical characteristics

The collection is primarily of paper print outs and photocopies with some original material pertaining to the collection history. Some of the copies are of poor quality.

Finding aids

A finding aid is available for the manuscript material.

Existence of copies

Digitised copies of some of this material are available on VADS (Visual Arts Data Service)

<http://www.vads.ac.uk>. The BBC Archive could also contain some original copies of the scripts.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/archive/>

Archivist's note

Described Joanne McPhie with amendments by Katie Flanagan

Rules or conventions

ISAD (G) 2nd ed.

Date(s) of description

March 2014

Indexing

Persons

Albany, Peter

Anand, Mulk Raj

Clifford, Rosmary

Collection Level Description:

Desai, Anita
Forsyth, Doreen
Habibullah, Shama
Horton, B.C
Hosain, Attia
Hussein, Amer
Khan, Omar
Lyons, Margaret
Marchionni, Paola
Patel, Vandana
Salaam, Iffat
White, Karen

Corporate bodies

British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC)
BBC Eastern Service
BBC World Service
Chatto & Windus Publishers
Independent Newspaper
The Guardian Newspaper
SADAA (formerly SALIDAA)

Subjects

British Broadcasting Corporation
British Broadcasting Corporation. Multicultural Programmes Department
Hosain, Attia, 1913-1998
Indian diaspora studies
Indian literature