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**Title:**

**Materialising Exile: Material Culture and the Embodied Experience of Karenni Refugee-ness**

**Summary:**

This innovative project on forced migration will explore relationships between identities, material culture, the body and physical experience, in a refugee camp on the Thai-Burma border. The principal research question is:

*What are the relationships between material culture and embodied experience, and how refugees see and represent themselves?*

The project defines 'material culture' broadly, including within it landscape and the body. By privileging embodied experience, it emphasises both notions about the refugee body and individual, physical experience including all the senses but especially sight and touch. The project will look at all of these dimensions in refugee remembering, forgetting and (re-)imagining, particularly in relation to real and metaphorical journeys. It will also examine how refugees perceive, represent, manipulate, use as metaphor and otherwise engage with material objects and spaces. This unique focus will advance the ways in which refugees and refugee-ness are conceptualised and theorised more generally, as well as furthering particular understanding of the diverse refugee population concerned.