

PERIODICAL

March'26 NEWSLETTER

I.D.E.A.S. Periodical is a monthly newsletter that brings you the latest updates on research, news, and activities from across the I.D.E.A.S. constellations. It also features important 'What's Next: Mark Your Calendar!' announcements for upcoming events. Our sections, "In Print: Voices of Our Scholars" showcase recently published scholarly work, highlighting the impactful contributions of our I.D.E.A.S. Fellows.

Here you will also find our team's contributions in knowledge generation endeavours such as op-eds, media engagements, conferences, and also learn more about their upcoming projects!

You can find more information about us at <https://jgu.edu.in/ideas/>. Feel free to get in touch with us at ideas@jgu.edu.in for more information on our current and future work, and to engage with IDEAS. To see our archived talks and lectures, subscribe to our **Youtube channel @JGU_IDEAS**



1. New Research Fellows on Board



Prof. (Dr.) Akansh Khandelwal

Assistant Professor,
Jindal Global Business School

Akansh Khandelwal is a Assistant Professor at Jindal Global Business School. He has completed his PhD Economics Area at the Indian Institute of Management Indore. His research interest lies in Development Economics and Public Policy, revolving around the issues of poverty and inequality. His interests also expand to the fields of education, environment, and gender. His teaching interests expand to include Microeconomics, Development Economics, Public Policy, Impact Evaluation, and Econometric techniques. His current research projects expand to include various policy issues related to poverty measurement, inequality, labor markets, environment justice, e-governance, and migration.

He has previously worked with the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), IIMA Ventures at the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad. He has also been engaged as a policy consultant with Global Village Foundation (GVF), New Delhi related to state government projects and Outline India, Gurugram with a project commissioned by the World Bank. His work in the above organizations has broadly revolved around developing survey tools, white papers, and research reports for governments and impact evaluation for central and state government budgets and policies. He has previously taught at Dyal Singh College, University of Delhi, and BASE University, Bangalore. He has published his academic work with India Review and op-eds with Quint, and the Wire, among others.

2. Events at a Glance

Masterclass

The Masterclass Seminar Series at I.D.E.A.S. is a cornerstone of the MSc Development Practice program and reflects its broader mission of fostering critical dialogue and knowledge dissemination. While the series is an essential component of the MSc curriculum, it also welcomes participants from across JGU's diverse programs as well as external audiences, particularly from the Delhi-NCR region, thereby creating a vibrant and inclusive intellectual space.

For the month of March, we had a talk by Dr. Tom Cowan, Associate Professor, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Nottingham

watch here:

<https://youtu.be/tTPGpTQ7wJw>



The poster is for an M.Sc. Development Practice Masterclass. It features logos for O.P. Jindal Global University, I.D.E.A.S. MasterClass, and I.D.E.A.S. Office of Interdisciplinary Studies. The title is 'M.Sc. DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE MASTERCLASS'. The topic is 'Agrarian City Making in Gurgaon'. A description states: 'Dr. Cowan examines India's rapid urban transformation through the lens of land and labour politics that shaped the city of Gurgaon. Widely regarded as a model of post-liberalisation growth, Gurgaon's development reveals a more complex story—one deeply rooted in agrarian histories, subaltern experiences, and the political struggles that underpin its rise. This talk explores how these forces have shaped the city's social and economic landscape, offering new insights into contemporary urban India.' A photo of Dr. Tom Cowan is shown, along with his title: 'Associate Professor, School of Geography, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Nottingham, UK, British Academy Wolfson Fellow (2023-2025)'. The date and timing are 'Date: 3rd March, 2026' and 'Timing 3:00 PM to 04:00 PM IST'. A QR code is provided with the text 'Scan the qr code to join the Masterclass'.

O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY

I.D.E.A.S. MasterClass

I.D.E.A.S. OFFICE of INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

M.Sc. DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE MASTERCLASS

Agrarian City Making in Gurgaon

Dr. Cowan examines India's rapid urban transformation through the lens of land and labour politics that shaped the city of Gurgaon. Widely regarded as a model of post-liberalisation growth, Gurgaon's development reveals a more complex story—one deeply rooted in agrarian histories, subaltern experiences, and the political struggles that underpin its rise. This talk explores how these forces have shaped the city's social and economic landscape, offering new insights into contemporary urban India.

Dr. Tom Cowan

Associate Professor, School of Geography,
Faculty of Social Sciences, University of
Nottingham, UK, British Academy Wolfson
Fellow (2023-2025)

Date: 3rd March, 2026
Timing 3:00 PM to 04:00 PM IST

Scan the
qr code to join
the Masterclass



Visit by Prof. Imre Bangha to IDEAS

IDEAS had the privilege of hosting Prof. Imre Bangha, Associate Professor of Hindi at the University of Oxford, on 19th March, 2026. A distinguished scholar of early Hindi and Indo-Persian literary traditions, his research spans genres, literary idioms, and authors from the fourteenth to the early nineteenth century. He has published extensively in English, Hindi, Urdu, and Hungarian, with notable contributions to the study of Brajhasha and classical Hindi, as well as the global reception of Rabindranath Tagore.

During his visit, Prof. Bangha engaged with the IDEAS team and conducted a workshop titled “Hindustani in the Mughal Era.” The session traced the evolution of Hindustani as a lingua franca within the Mughal Empire, examining its social contexts and literary expressions, particularly Rekhta or mixed-language poetry. It also explored the emergence of Hindustani prose in the eighteenth century and reflected on the relative neglect of the idea of Hindustani in later periods.

The visit fostered meaningful academic exchange and opened avenues for future collaboration in the study of literary histories and traditions.

Watch here:

<https://youtu.be/9C452wCRw-k?si=mhnhwuSyGnvxOQi->



I.D.E.A.S.
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CNES 10th Anniversary Exhibition

On 19th March 2026, the Centre for New Economics Studies (CNES) commemorated its 10th anniversary by organizing an exhibition showcasing its diverse initiatives and engagements. Established in 2016, CNES has, over the past decade, evolved into a vibrant intellectual space fostering interdisciplinary inquiry and critical engagement with contemporary socio-economic issues.

The exhibition highlighted the centre's journey and brought forth the wide-ranging work of its students.



Reading Circle:

Book Discussion: Farmer Power by Sudhir Kumar Suthar

IDEAS hosted a discussion on *Farmer Power: The 2020–21 Movement, the State and Agricultural Reforms in India* by Dr. Sudhir Kumar Suthar, offering a critical engagement with one of the most significant agrarian movements in recent history. The session was moderated by Md. Assad Armaan, a Masters Student from JSIA.

The session explored the 2020–21 farmers' protest, during which nearly 300,000 farmers mobilized towards New Delhi and sustained a year-long peaceful resistance against the three farm laws. The discussion highlighted how the movement, grounded in democratic values and civil disobedience, carved out a distinct political space both nationally and globally.

https://youtu.be/tI_N00dydRA



Nazariya

Book Discussion: Constitution of India: 75 Years of the World's Largest Democracy

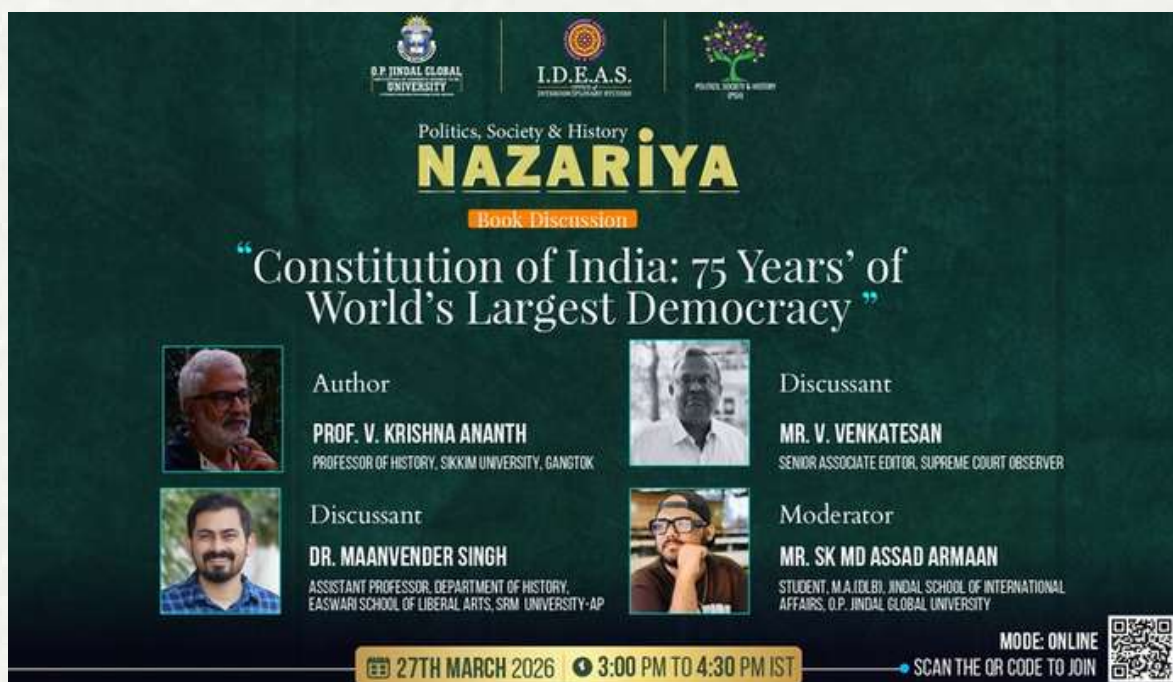
Politics, Society & History Research Constellation led by Prof Ambreen Agha organized an online book discussion on Constitution of India: 75 Years of the World's Largest Democracy by Prof. V. Krishna Ananth on 27th March 2026.

The session reflected on the evolution of the Indian Constitution over seventy-five years, examining its role in shaping the world's largest democracy. It brought together participants to engage with key historical, political, and institutional developments that have influenced constitutional practice in India.

The discussion provided a valuable platform for critical engagement with questions of democracy, governance, and constitutional values, fostering deeper understanding among students and scholars alike. The session was moderated by Md. Assad Armaan, a Masters Student from JSIA.

Watch here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JmFtAeQa8fQ>



The poster is for a book discussion titled "Nazariya: Constitution of India: 75 Years' of World's Largest Democracy". It features logos for O.P. Jindal Global University, I.D.E.A.S., and the Politics, Society & History Research Constellation. The event is moderated by Mr. SK MD Assad Armaan. The author is Prof. V. Krishna Ananth, and the discussant is Dr. Maanvender Singh. The event is held online on 27th March 2026, from 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM IST. A QR code is provided for joining the session.

Politics, Society & History
NAZARIYA
Book Discussion

"Constitution of India: 75 Years' of World's Largest Democracy"

 Author PROF. V. KRISHNA ANANTH PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, SIKKIM UNIVERSITY, GANGTOK	 Discussant MR. V. VENKATESAN SENIOR ASSOCIATE EDITOR, SUPREME COURT OBSERVER
 Discussant DR. MAANVENDER SINGH ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, EASWARI SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS, SRM UNIVERSITY-AP	 Moderator MR. SK MD ASSAD ARMAAN STUDENT, M.A.(DLB), JINDAL SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY

27TH MARCH 2026 3:00 PM TO 4:30 PM IST **MODE: ONLINE**  **SCAN THE QR CODE TO JOIN**

IDEASx Workshop

Understanding Informality: Approaches to Studying and Researching Using Ethnographic Tools

This workshop introduced participants to the foundational concepts of informality and explores how ethnographic tools can be used to study, document, and analyze informal social, economic, and spatial practices. Participants will learn how ethnographic methods allow researchers to engage with informal worlds, whether informal labour, settlements, markets, or governance systems, and gather nuanced, contextualized data that goes beyond statistical aggregates.



The poster for the IDEASx Online Workshop features logos for I.D.E.A.S., O.P. Jindal Global University, and IDEASx. The title is "IDEASx ONLINE WORKSHOP" followed by "DOING FIELDWORK: HANDS ON WORKSHOP ON USING VISUAL TOOLS, MIXED METHODS IN ETHNOGRAPHIC PRACTICE". A descriptive paragraph states: "THIS WORKSHOP INTRODUCES PARTICIPANTS TO THE FOUNDATIONAL CONCEPTS OF INFORMALITY AND EXPLORES HOW ETHNOGRAPHIC TOOLS CAN BE USED TO STUDY, DOCUMENT, AND ANALYZE INFORMAL SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND SPATIAL PRACTICES. PARTICIPANTS WILL LEARN HOW ETHNOGRAPHIC METHODS ALLOW RESEARCHERS TO ENGAGE WITH INFORMAL WORLDS, WHETHER INFORMAL LABOUR, SETTLEMENTS, MARKETS, OR GOVERNANCE SYSTEMS, AND GATHER NUANCED, CONTEXTUALIZED DATA THAT GOES BEYOND STATISTICAL AGGREGATES."

INSTRUCTORS

PROF. DEEPANSHU MOHAN
Dean, Office of Interdisciplinary Studies (I.D.E.A.S.)
Professor of Economics, Jindal School of Liberal Arts & Humanities, O. P. Jindal Global University

MR. NAJAM US SAQIB
Senior Research Analyst, CNES
O. P. Jindal Global University

DAY 1

SESSION 01	07 MARCH 2026	10:00AM- 11:30AM IST
SESSION 02		12:00PM- 01:30PM IST
SESSION 03		02:30PM- 03:30PM IST

*Certificate will be provided to attendees

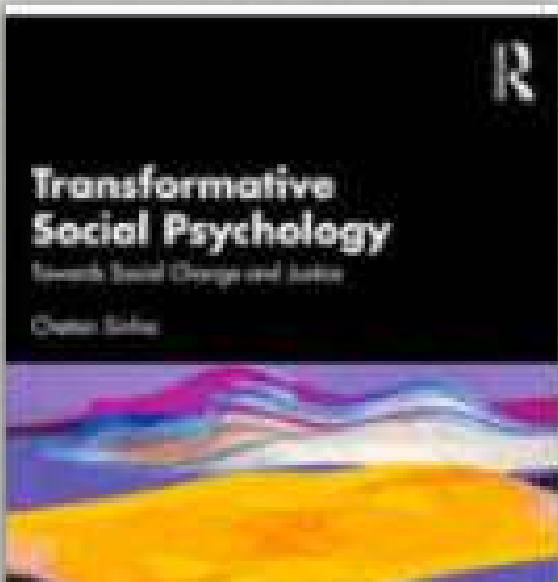
More Information
<https://www.ideasx.in/>

Register Now the QR Code



3. In Print: Voices of Our Scholars

In the News



Transformative Social Psychology Towards Social Change and Justice

The book situates social psychology within a critical interdisciplinary framework, focusing on social change and justice.

Prof. (Dr.) Chetan Sinha,
Senior Research Fellow IDEAS and
Associate Professor JGLS

Routledge Weekly | 31 March , 2026



Opinion | The \$2 Trillion Wipeout: How The Market Exposed Gold's Biggest Lie

In a world defined by 4% yields, algorithmic liquidity, and leveraged balance sheets, the traditional assumption that war automatically benefits gold no longer holds.

**Prof Deepanshu Mohan, Dean IDEAS
and Saksham Raj**

NDTV | 24March, 2026



The illusion of 41% and a quiet re-engineering of India's fiscal federal landscape

The article argues that the widely cited 41% tax devolution to states is somewhat misleading (“an illusion”), as the actual fiscal dynamics increasingly favour the Centre.

Prof Deepanshu Mohan, Dean IDEAS

THE HINDU | 11 March, 2026

IRIS Dena Sinking: Decoding India's High Stakes in the Indian Ocean



Deepanshu Mohan
07/Mar/2026 • 5 min read



The sinking of the IRIS Dena by a US submarine is a signal for India to emphasise on its maritime security architecture.



IRIS Dena Sinking: Decoding India's High Stakes in the Indian Ocean

The sinking of an Iranian frigate by a US submarine near Sri Lanka highlights India's urgent need to bolster undersea warfare, surveillance, and maritime security in the contested Indian Ocean.

Written by Prof. Deepanshu Mohan,
Saksham Raj and Aditi Lazarus

The Wire | 07 March, 2026

4. What's Next: Mark Your Calendar!

Workshop

The Macroeconomics of Conflicts and Recovery

20th April, 2026

Armed conflicts generate profound macroeconomic consequences beyond their devastating human toll. This chapter leverages global data on post-World War II conflicts to assess the economic implications of wars. The analysis shows that conflicts generate large and persistent output losses in economies where fighting occurs—exceeding those from financial crises or severe natural disasters—alongside nonnegligible spillovers to other countries. These losses trigger acute macroeconomic trade-offs across monetary, fiscal, and external sectors and leave long-lasting scars. Economic recoveries are slow and uneven, depending critically on sustained peace. Even when peace holds, recoveries remain modest relative to wartime losses, led primarily by labor while capital and productivity stay subdued. Early macroeconomic stabilization, debt restructuring, international support, and domestic reforms to rebuild institutions are essential. Comprehensive policy packages that jointly reduce uncertainty and rebuild capital stock generate positive externalities for stronger recovery.



The poster features a dark blue background with decorative flourishes in the corners. At the top center, the logos of O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY and I.D.E.A.S. are displayed. Below them, the text "on the theme:" is written in a cursive font. The main title "The Macroeconomics of Conflicts and Recovery" is prominently displayed in a large, white, serif font. A paragraph of text follows, summarizing the workshop's focus. Below this, a yellow banner contains the date and time: "20TH APRIL 2026" and "11:00 AM TO 12:30 PM IST". Another yellow banner below that specifies the location: "BIG IDEAS CONFERENCE ROOM T-2, SAJJAN JINDAL ACADEMIC BLOCK". At the bottom left, there is a portrait of Ms. Colombe Ladreit. To her right, a yellow box contains her name and title: "Ms. Colombe Ladreit, Economist in the Multilateral Surveillance Division at IMF".

O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY

I.D.E.A.S. OFFICE of INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

on the theme:

"The Macroeconomics of Conflicts and Recovery"

Armed conflicts generate profound macroeconomic consequences beyond their devastating human toll. This chapter leverages global data on post-World War II conflicts to assess the economic implications of wars. The analysis shows that conflicts generate large and persistent output losses in economies where fighting occurs—exceeding those from financial crises or severe natural disasters—alongside nonnegligible spillovers to other countries. These losses trigger acute macroeconomic trade-offs across monetary, fiscal, and external sectors and leave long-lasting scars. Economic recoveries are slow and uneven, depending critically on sustained peace. Even when peace holds, recoveries remain modest relative to wartime losses, led primarily by labor while capital and productivity stay subdued. Early macroeconomic stabilization, debt restructuring, international support, and domestic reforms to rebuild institutions are essential. Comprehensive policy packages that jointly reduce uncertainty and rebuild capital stock generate positive externalities for stronger recovery.

20TH APRIL 2026 **11:00 AM TO 12:30 PM IST**

BIG IDEAS CONFERENCE ROOM T-2, SAJJAN JINDAL ACADEMIC BLOCK

Ms. Colombe Ladreit
Economist in the Multilateral Surveillance Division at IMF

Session Timings: 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM IST,
Venue: BIG IDEAS CONFERENCE ROOM T-2,
SAJJAN JINDAL ACADEMIC BLOCK

I.D.E.A.S. *at a* GLANCE

IDEAS OFFICE OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES



98+

Ideas Advisory
Council



60+

Research
and Publications



31+

Research
Fellow



10+

Institutional
Partnership



9

Initiatives



7+

Core
Faculty



6+

Research
Constellations



6+

Member
Associates

ABOUT US

The Office of Interdisciplinary Studies (IDEAS) at O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU) serves as a university-wide platform for fostering interdisciplinary teaching, research, and community engagement across the social sciences. It brings together scholars, students, and practitioners to co-create knowledge and develop innovative responses to complex real-world challenges.

At its core, IDEAS operates as an intellectual incubator, supporting collaborative scholarship, experimental pedagogy, and research that transcends traditional disciplinary boundaries. Through its initiatives and field-based programmes, it promotes critical inquiry, applied learning, and engagement with pressing development concerns.

With a strong emphasis on interdisciplinary dialogue, global academic exchange, and community-linked research, IDEAS aims to cultivate a dynamic academic environment that connects theory with practice and advances socially relevant scholarship.



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