



O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL
INSTITUTION OF EMINENCE DEEMED TO BE
UNIVERSITY
A Private University Promoting Public Service



POLITICS, SOCIETY & HISTORY
(PSH)



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

POLITICS, SOCIETY & HISTORY

As societies have become culturally, religiously, and ethnically diverse, the politics of identity has assumed greater importance as well as taken new forms. Given the diverse manifestations of identity politics in today's time, this particular constellation aims to draw insights from different disciplines like history, sociology, political science, philosophy, and economics to explore and understand the ever-evolving field of politics, its impact on issues vital to society and their roots in historical processes. Adopting a critical social inquiry approach, the constellation research will combine empirical research, theoretical reflection, and archival work to problematise ideas and raise questions pertaining to the political.



About I.D.E.A.S.

Office of Interdisciplinary Studies (I.D.E.A.S.) serves as a university-wide incubator for interdisciplinary research by providing an interdomain institutional space for cross-pedagogical learning, while entrenching its core principles, ethos in core application of interdisciplinary thought and praxis across social sciences. Through sustained engagement with scholars interested in working beyond the narrow contours of their own disciplines, I.D.E.A.S. facilitates collaborations across JGU Schools and Institutes to create a novel research ecosystem and thought architecture within each multidisciplinary research constellation.

I.D.E.A.S. hosts interdisciplinary research constellations that produce working papers, reports and scholarly publications, builds partnerships with civil society stakeholders and think-tanks, holds research outreach events for scholars, practitioners, policy makers, and others, and delivers cutting-edge training programmes for government, scholars, and third-sector organizations.



Team Lead



DR. AMBREEN AGHA

Senior Research Fellow

Constellation Lead of Politics, Society and History

Associate Professor, Jindal School of International Affairs

Email: aagha@jgu.edu.in

Dr. Ambreen Agha's research interest focuses on Comparative Studies on Muslim Societies, with emphasis on the interplay of identity politics, gender and religion. In her research, she is exploring and understanding the role of women in religious revivalist movements and how gender is mobilised in nationalist politics. She received her Ph.D. from Centre for Political Studies (CPS), Jawaharlal Nehru University (New Delhi), and holds Masters' degree in Political Science from CPS, JNU. She is currently working on her first book, 'Gendering Islam: Tabligh Women & Muslim Subjectivities in Modern India'.

Her research and book essays have appeared in Foreign Policy, Economic and Political Weekly, Contemporary South Asia, India Quarterly and others. She writes columns on politics and religion in The Indian Express, The Hindu, The Wire, Outlook, TRT World, and Himal South Asian among others.

Prior to joining Jindal, Dr. Agha was Research Fellow at Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi. Before that, she worked as Research Associate at Institute for Conflict Management, New Delhi, where her area of research was political violence and religious extremism in Pakistan.

Publication:

Review: Shweta Singh and Amena Mohsin (Eds), Mapping Feminist International Relations in South Asia: Past and Present, India Quarterly, June 2025.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/09749284251348530>

How the Bulldozer Became a Symbol of Modi's India, Foreign Policy, January 7, 2025.
<https://foreignpolicy.com/2025/01/07/bulldozer-symbol-modi-india/>

The Afghan conundrum: 'Just' war, fragmented sovereignties, and political double binds. In: Hebatallah Adam & R. Rena (eds) Polycrisis and Economic Development in the Global South. (2024). Taylor and Francis, pp. 81-92. ISBN 9781032694337

Beyond Binaries: Discourse on Hindu–Muslim Friendship in South Asia, Review of SherAli Tareen's book Perilous Intimacies: Debating Hindu–Muslim Friendship After Empire, in Economic & Political Weekly, Vol. 59, Issue 21, May 2024. <https://www.epw.in/journal/book-reviews/beyond-binaries.html>

Review: Colonizing Kashmir: state-building under Indian occupation by Hafsa Kajwal, Stanford University Press, Contemporary South Asia, 32(2), May 2024. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09584935.2024.2346695>

'Class, Gender, Race, and Muslimness in the Production of Muslim South Asia's Safarnama', Review of Daniel Joseph Majchrowicz's book The World in Words: Travel Writing and the Global Imagination in Muslim South Asia, in Economic & Political Weekly, Vol. 58, No. 42, October 2023. <https://www.epw.in/journal/2023/42/book-reviews/class-gender-race-and-muslimness-production-muslim.html>

'The Ahmadiyya Question in Pakistan: From Public Polemics to Discreet Religious Existence', Review of Adeel Hussain's book Revenge, Politics and Blasphemy in Pakistan, in Economic & Political Weekly, Vol. 27, No. 51, December 2022. <https://www.epw.in/journal/2022/51/book-reviews/ahmadiyya-question-pakistan.html>

'Competing Sovereignties, Muslim Masculinities, and the Shaping of National Imaginaries in Pakistan', Review of Shenila Khoja-Moolji book Sovereign Attachments: Masculinity, Muslimness, and Affective Politics in Pakistan, in Economic & Political Weekly, Vol. 57, No. 4, January 2022. <https://www.epw.in/journal/2022/4/book-reviews/competing-sovereignties-muslim-masculinities-and.html>

'Colonial Episteme, Political Forgetting, and the Quest for Decolonising History', Review of Manan Ahmed Asif's book The Loss of Hindustan: The Invention of India, Economic & Political Weekly, Vol. 56, Issue 40, October 2021. <https://www.epw.in/journal/2021/40/book-reviews/colonial-episteme-political-forgetting-and-quest.html>

Book Review: Adil Rasheed, Countering the Radical Narrative, India Quarterly, Vo. 77, Issue 3, August 2021. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/09749284211027143>

Book Review: Christopher Jaffrelot & Laurence Louër, Pan-Islamic connections: transnational networks between South Asia and the Gulf, Contemporary South Asia, pp. 492-493, Vol. 26, 2018. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/09584935.2018.1541587>

Media:

Why must Indian Muslims always prove their loyalty after a terrorist attack?, TRT Global, <https://trt.global/world/article/826023fcf920>, may 6, 2025.

Historic mosques targeted: Hindu far-right seeks to rewrite India's history, TRT Global, December 11, 2024, <https://trt.global/world/article/18242373>

Remembering and forgetting: How a nation is created, The Indian Express, <https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/gyanvapi-mosque-mosque-case-kashi-vishwanath-temple-7946332/>

Hijab verdict will only push Muslim women further to the margins, The Indian Express, <https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/hijab-verdict-will-only-push-muslim-women-further-to-the-margins-7841625/>

Caught in the heightened arc of communal polemics, The Hindu, April 2020. <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/lead/caught-in-the-heightened-arc-of-communal-polemics/article31383203.ece>

'We are here because you were there', Himal South Asian, March 2020, <https://www.himalmag.com/reviews/we-are-here-because-you-were-there-review-2020>

The Quran controversy in India is a political ploy, nothing more, TRT World, 2021. <https://www.trtworld.com/opinion/the-quran-controversy-in-india-is-a-political-ploy-nothing-more-12759884>

Rihanna's episode is a sign of growing social decomposition in India, TRT World, February 2021, <https://www.trtworld.com/opinion/rihannas-episode-is-a-sign-of-growing-social-decomposition-in-india-12748649>

73 years on, violence is reimagined in Modi's India, TRT World, August 2020, <https://www.trtworld.com/opinion/73-years-on-violence-is-reimagined-in-modi-s-india-38919>

Will the Tablighi Jamaat retreat or reassert itself in hostile India?, TRT World, April 2020. <https://www.trtworld.com/opinion/will-the-tablighi-jamaat-retreat-or-reassert-itself-in-hostile-india-13117431>

Is Tablighi Jamaat A Variant Of Islam?, Outlook, May 2020, <https://www.outlookindia.com/national/opinion-is-tablighi-jamaat-a-variant-of-islam-news-352385>

Team Members



DR. KAUSHALYA BAJPAYEE

Senior Research Fellow

Associate Professor, Jindal Global Law School

Email: kbajpayee@jgu.edu.in

Dr. Kaushalya Bajpayee is currently teaching as Associate Professor in O.P. Jindal Global University. She is a historian of British Imperialism/Colonialism and Modern South Asia, colonial medical health policies and public health in colonial and post – colonial India. As part of her research, she focuses on social history of medicine, health and healing, gender and reproductive health history, medical education, colonial policy and legislative debates, health enactments and making of health policies. Currently, she is working on her monograph on social history of childlessness in colonial and post – colonial India, trying to map the evolution of the ideas of motherhood and how childlessness has been perceived in colonial and post – colonial society, She is looking at the gender theories and how historically constructed gender norms and gender identities is connected to the broader debates of reproductive health and public health policies. She have published with journals like Global Public Health, Medical History, Contemporary South Asia.

She is also a member of the “Asian Society for the History of Medicine”, History of Medicine in South East Asia and a part of the “History of Body Politics in the Global South” network.

Area of Interest:

Social History of Medicine, Gender and sexuality and health, Colonial history of policy making and administration, Public Health, Medical Enactments, Legislative Debates and Policy regulations

Publication:

- Bacteriological Research and ‘Puerperal’ fever: Female Health and Childbirth in Late Colonial India” Medical History (forthcoming, accepted), 2025.
- Alternative Technologies: A Different Road to Development , Chapter in Aryendra Chakravartty and Samiparna Samanta (ed.) Technologies of Knowledge: Rethinking the Archive in Modern South Asia, Routledge, New York, 2025.
- India – Bangladesh Ties in Deep Freeze, Article in 360 info.org. <https://360info.org/india-bangladesh-ties-in-deep-freeze/>

- Legislation, activism and power play – Medical education policies in colonial and post-colonial India”, Global Public Health: An International Journal for Research, Policy and Practice, Volume 17, 2022 – Issue 10, Special Issue, (Re)imagining Research, Activism, and Rights at the Intersections of Sexuality, Health, and Social Justice, pp.2361 – 2372
- Co – edited a Volume of Seminar with Dr. Saagar Tewari, “Past and Present : History and Politics of Representation in Indian Cinema, November, 2021
- Healthcare and Working Women: Issues in Late Colonial India in Chayanika Uniyal and Rajiv Kumar Verma (ed.) In Pursuit of Gender Studies: Continuity and Change, Swaraj Prakashan, 2019
- Bharatiya Rashtravaad ki Avadharana : Ek Aitihāsik Pariprekshya” (Forthcoming), Chapter in a book “Bharatiya Rashtravaad : Ek Punarmulyayan”, Anamika Prakashan, New Delhi, 2018
- Book Review, ‘Difference and Disease: Medicine, Race and the Eighteenth Century British Empire’, by Suman Seth, Cambridge University Press, 2018, in Medical History, Vol.63, Issue 3, July 2019, ISSN No. 0025-7273, pp. 380 – 382, Cambridge University Press.
- Book Review, “Vice in the barracks: Medicine, the military and the making of colonial India, 1780–1868.” By Erica Wald, Palgrave MacMillan, March, 2014, in Global Public Health, 2015, ISSN No. 1744- 1692, Taylor and Francis.
- Book Review, “Poonam Bala (ed.), Medicine and Colonialism: Historical Perspectives in India and South Africa (London: Pickering and Chatto, 2014, in Medical History, ISSN No. 0025-7273 Volume 59, Issue 03, July 2015, pp 486 – 488, Cambridge University Press.
- Book Review, “Colonial Medical Care in North India: Gender, State and Society c.1840 – 1920”, by Samiksha Shrawat, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2013, in History and Sociology of South Asia, 2015, Vol.9, No.2, pp.200- 203, ISSN No. 2230-8075, Sage Publications.
- Book Review, “The Testimonies of Indian Soldiers and The Two World Wars: Between Self and Sepoy”, by Gajendra Singh, London: Bloomsbury, 2014, in Contemporary South Asia, 2015, 23: 2, pp.243 – 244, ISSN No. 0958-4935, Taylor & Francis.
- Book review “Indigenous and Western Medicine in Colonial India” by Madhuri Sharma, Cambridge University Press, in The Calcutta Historical Journal, Jan 2015, ISSN No. 0254-9794
- Dilemma of Modern Women: Treading a Rough Terrain”, *Communique*, Vol. 8, Number 1, March 2014, ISSN No. 0973-8584
- What ails Indian Sports”, *Yojana*, September, 2010, ISSN No. 0971-8400.
- Uchh Shiksha ki Badhali”, *Sablog*, March 2015, ISSN No 2277-5897.
- Bharat mein khel : Samasyaen aur Sambhavnaen”, *Yojana*, September, 2010, ISSN No. 0971 – 8397
- Undermining India’s primary healthcare missions
<https://360info.org/undermining-indias-primary-healthcare-missions/>
- Medical titles debate raises public health concerns
<https://360info.org/medical-titles-debate-raises-public-health-concerns/>

Conferences

- Presented a paper titled “Medical Ethics, Governance and Public Health: An Analysis through Films” at the 10th HOMSEA 20205, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 24th – 26th June, 2025
- Sexual Health and Sexology: Understanding Masculinities in Contemporary India”, paper accepted for presentation at the Australian and New Zealand Society of the History of Medicine Biennial Conference 2025, Sydney University, 8th – 11th July, 2025
- Pampered patricians and unprivileged plebs: Quacks in Colonial and Post – Colonial India”, presented at the conference of HOMSEA (History of Medicine in Southeast Asia) 2023, held at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore from 9-11 June 2023.
- Impact of Pandemic on Community participation, Religion and Health: A case study of Chhath in India”, presented at the Sixth South Asian South Asia Conference organised by Ireland India Institute, Dublin City University, Dublin, 19 – 21 April, 2023.
- Bacteriological Research and 'Puerperal' fever: Female Health and Childbirth in Late Colonial India”, presented at the Fourth Inter – University Historians’ Colloquium, organised by O.P.Jindal Global University, 10th September, 2022
- Facilitating Childbirth: The Changing Discourse of Female Health in Late Colonial India” in National Conference on Science Technology and Medicine in the History of Modern India : Exploring Recent Trends, Interdisciplinary Approaches and New Sources organised by Amity University and sponsored by ICHR, 21st – 22nd April, 2022
- Medical Enactments: Legislature as a site of contest the Late Colonial India” in Annual South Asia Conference organised by Ireland India Institute, Dublin, 30th April 2021.
- From Dais to Midwives and Nurses” in Gender and History Workshop on Health, Healing and Caring , May 20 – 21, 2020
- Defining the Legal Aspect of Motherhood in late colonial India”, in the UGC sponsored National Conference on Interrogating Gender: Literature, Law and Society in India, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee College, Delhi University, 9 – 10 August, 2019.
- Healthcare and working women: issues in late colonial India”, in the International Conference ‘gender sensitisation, equality and women empowerment: continuity and change’ organised by Rajiv Gandhi study circle, Delhi, Kirori mal college, D.U., New Delhi, 29th January, 2018.
- Drugs and Pharmacy: Legislating Public Health in early Twentieth Century” in Indian History Congress, Modern Indian Section, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, 29th December 2017.



DR. SWAPNIL DHANRAJ

Senior Research Fellow

Associate Professor, Jindal Global Law School

Email: sdhanraj@jgu.edu.in

Prof. (Dr.) Swapnil is trained in sociology with a PhD from the Centre for the Study of Social Systems, Jawaharlal Nehru University. His doctoral research focuses on the politics of nativism in Maharashtra. He received his M.Phil (Sociology) from Centre for the Study of Social Systems, JNU. He obtained his M.A degree from Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai.

Research interests: Social change and marginalized communities, social identities, social stratification, ethnicity, and social movements.

Work in Progress

- In search of Inclusive Pedagogy: Challenges and Opportunities.
- Social Media as a Site of Resistance: Understanding Digital Activism in India.

Projects

- Cultural Process, Belief, and Ceremonial
- Practices of Neo-Buddhism in India: A Comparative Study between Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra.
- The Paradox of Visibility: Notified and Denotified Tribes in Maharashtra.



DR. PRIYANKA CHANDRA

Senior Research Fellow, IDEAS

Associate Professor, JGLS

Email: priyanka@jgu.edu.in

Dr. Priyanka Chandra teaches Politics and International Relations at the Jindal School of International Affairs (JSIA), O.P. Jindal Global University. She holds PhD, M.Phil. and M.A. degrees from Jawaharlal Nehru University and B.A. from University of Delhi. Her specialisation is on the state, democratisation and political Islam. Her research interests include themes of nationalism, the public sphere, gender, especially women's movements, with a focus on West Asia, North Africa and more recently, South Asia. Her ongoing research project examines state-society relations and social transformations in the postcolonial state in the context of global neoliberalism. She also looks at intersections of religion and politics through the ideological evolutions in political Islam and its role in the contemporary world. Her works have been published as chapters in edited books as well as journals and online platforms.

Publication:

- Chandra, Priyanka (2025) Postcoloniality and Statehood: The Case of Egypt. 1st ed. Taylor and Francis, 1 – 220. ISBN 9781003648451
- Chandra, Priyanka and Human, Deléne (2024) [Decolonising] the contentious politics of seeing: Reading visual cultures. Alternatives: Global, Local, Political. ISSN 0304-3754 (In Press)



MS. TAHIBA BANU

Lecturer I.D.E.A.S.

Email: tahiba.banu@jgu.edu.in

Tahiba Banu is an accomplished academician, researcher, and grassroots enthusiast with over a decade of experience spanning teaching, research, and community engagement. She holds an M.Phil. and MA in Sociology from the Delhi School of Economics and has taught at prestigious institutions such as Lady Shri Ram College for Women and Miranda House, University of Delhi. Her work focuses on topics like economic sociology, caste, labour, gender and violence, and social movements. Tahiba has also contributed significantly to curriculum development, research supervision, and community-based literacy programs. Her publications explore Dalit representation and the interplay between ethnography and autobiography, reflecting her commitment to social change and academic excellence.

Publication:

- Dalit Representation in Ethnography. Research Review International Journal of Multidisciplinary, 2023, 8(10), 71-81.
- A Dialogue between Autobiography and Ethnography. International Education and Research Journal, 2023, 9 (2), 23-26.

Member Associates



DR. RENU SINGH

Independent Researcher

Dr. Renu Singh holds a doctorate degree in women's and gender studies from Dr B R Ambedkar University Delhi. Her doctoral work examines social and aspirational world of women in Higher education in non-metropolitan India. She is also a recipient of the Fulbright Nehru Doctoral grant 2020-21, at New York University, United States. Her research interests are cultural studies, youth studies, higher education, im/mobility, aspirations, social reproduction and gender life-course. Her work has been published in Journal of Inter-Asia Cultural Studies, Asian Journal of Women's Studies, and Melbourne Asia Review



MR. SHYAM KUMAR

PhD Candidate & SRF,
Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi

Shyam Kumar is a PhD student and Senior Research Fellow at the Dr. K.R. Narayanan Centre for Dalit and Minorities Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi. His academic interest revolves around caste, democracy, reservation, social justice, and electoral politics in India. Shyam is a Member Associate at IDEAS and is involved with the Politics, Society & History Constellation.



DR. TUSHAR GHADAGE

Visiting Faculty, Bennett University, Greater Noida

Dr Tushar Ghadage is an interdisciplinary researcher whose work critically examines the intersections of caste, religion, and social transformation in India. He has served as a Visiting Research Fellow at National Chiao Tung University in Taiwan and a Consultant for the Initiative for Caste Equity at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi. He holds a PhD in Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, an MPhil in Anthropology from the University of Hyderabad and an MA in Social Work from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. Grounded in ethnographic fieldwork, his research examines subaltern religious movements and systemic marginalisation in rural Western India. His work has appeared in peer-reviewed journals and edited volumes in the areas of sociology of religion, social movements, and critical caste studies. He is currently working on a research project titled “Contested Devotion: Caste Dynamics and Struggle Over the Ritual Sphere in Warkari Tradition in Western India.”



DR. SOBIA BHAT

Independent Researcher

PhD, Sociology,

South Asian University.

Sobia Bhat is a PhD in Sociology from South Asian University, New Delhi. In her doctoral research, she worked on “Poetics of Space: Mosque, Women, and Islam,” where she explores questions of gender, religion, spatiality, and everyday Islamic practices through ethnographic data and theoretical approaches. She was awarded Gold Medal during her M.A. in Sociology at Jamia Millia Islamia University, and holds an undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in Physics, which further inform her interdisciplinary academic orientation.



MR. ABHISHEK KUMAR

PhD candidate, Department of African Studies,
Delhi University

Mr Abhishek Kumar is a dedicated Research Scholar and Research Assistant with a strong interdisciplinary academic background in Political Science and African Studies. I have completed an M.Phil. degree and am presently pursuing doctoral research. My academic and research engagements primarily focus on tribal studies, indigenous handicraft traditions, socio-economic transformation, strategic autonomy, and India–Africa relations within the contemporary global order. I possess extensive experience in government and institutionally funded research projects, contributing significantly to policy-oriented analysis, academic inquiry, and interdisciplinary scholarship.

My doctoral research undertakes a comparative study of the socio-economic role of handicrafts among the Zulu community of South Africa and the Dhokra tribal community of Chhattisgarh, India, with particular emphasis on cultural sustainability, indigenous knowledge systems, and community empowerment. I have presented research papers at numerous national and international conferences and have published scholarly articles in reputed academic journals.

My academic interests further encompass governance studies, geopolitical strategy, public policy, indigenous development, and civilizational discourse. I remain deeply committed to intellectual engagement and to advancing research that contributes to inclusive development and global academic dialogue.

Projects

Pasmanda Politics in India: Beyond the Quest for Representation?

In the run-up to the 2024 elections, the Bharatiya Janata Party-led government has made conscious political outreach to Pasmanda Muslims, who constitute 85 percent of the Muslim population in India. With an eye on backward Muslims, the BJP planned a *sneh* (affection) and *samman* (respect) *yatra* in the year 2023 highlighting the plight of Pasmanda Muslims and Muslim women. However, these overtures belie the everyday violence that underpins the demonisation of Muslims by the majoritarian government, with the majority of victims belonging to the Pasmanda community, whether lynching, demolition of properties, or incarceration.

Highlighting the issue of disproportionate violence inflicted on Pasmanda Muslims, the All India Pasmanda Muslim Mahaz report Bihar Caste Survey 2022-2023 and Pasmanda Agenda stated, “Ninety-five per cent of the victims of mob lynching and excesses by government bulldozers belong to the Pasmanda community.” This contradiction complicates the categories of caste and religion in the (Indian) Muslim context. This study aims to explore the interplay of caste and religion in the backdrop of Hindu majoritarian politics that produces Muslims as a homogenous category while at the same time projects itself as the messiah of the backward Muslims in its politics of exclusion and (mis)representation.

Through ethnographic fieldwork in the Muslim-dominated Rampur district of Uttar Pradesh, where BJP won in civic polls, this study will investigate how Pasmanda Muslims reconcile with BJP’s duplicitous politics that promises to empower them on the one hand and systematically targets them on the other.

By: Ambreen Agha, Swapnil Dhanraj

“Anger”: Political Emotions, Feeling Publics and the Global Rise of Conservative Politics

In recent years, the role that emotions play in public life has taken center stage in debates and discussions around the rise of populist leaders across the world. These debates have delved into the productivity and counter-productivity of anger as well as relating it to ‘dialogical politics’.

In the philosophical traditions, anger has been relegated from the political sphere, which is primarily identified with “reason.” This dichotomy of reason and emotion is further problematized with the rise of right-wing populist parties that employ emotions and feelings of fear, anxiety, powerlessness, and anger in their political rhetoric. For anger to be channelized, political parties create an internal or external “enemy.”

However, anger is not monolithic. Understood as a political emotion, anger is a heterogeneous expression—an ongoing dialectical process that is both individual and collective, historical and social. This paper aims to conceptualize anger both as an expression of resentment that is mobilized by populist parties and an expression of resistance from below that challenges the dominant political narrative and hegemonic ideologies.

In doing this, the paper will explore the manipulation and mobilization of resentment into collective political anger by conservative parties and the existence of resistance movements to the exclusionary politics that comes with the resurgence of conservative politics, globally.

By: Ambreen Agha

Cultural Interventions in Political Islam: Shifting Landscapes of Ideology and Praxis in WANA

The intersection of religion and politics remains a perennial feature of postcolonial societies. In recent times, the nature of West Asian politics has been described as having shifted to an era of post-Islamism, particularly in the aftermath of what have been deemed ‘failed experiments’ in the case of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt and even the partial success of Ennahda in Tunisia. The discourse on the intersection of religion and politics itself has been limited to the Orientalist perceptions of specific movements. Yet looking beyond the Western prism of narrowly defined ‘isms’, religion continues to pervade social life, and thereby political life. What has shifted is the nature of the engagement, participation and influence, as well as the attitudes of states and political elites. This has led to a far more complex set of intersectionalities between religion, state, polity and society, which need to be urgently interrogated. This project explores two aspects of the intersections of religion and politics with reference to political Islam in WANA. First, it seeks to examine the role of religion beyond positivist approaches as a far more expansive set of phenomena. And second, it examines the shifting landscapes of political Islam in contemporary politics, focussing on ideas, ideologies, actors and cultural manifestations which continue to shape and impact public life and inform politics directly and indirectly. The study argues that political Islam must be understood as a spectrum of thought that operates across political, social and cultural domains, and that its influence and role expands beyond the binaries of religious-secular debates that have dominated public discourse particularly since the Arab Uprisings of 2011. This project brings critical studies perspectives to examine notions of belonging, unbelonging and agency in contemporary politics. By bringing in a focus on newer resources, marginalised epistemes and unconventional archives along with conventional and mainstream approaches, this project will bring a nuanced study of these themes and the theoretical concepts as well as praxis emerging from them.

By Priyanka Chandra

Events Archive

1) Roundtable Discussion on Understanding Lok Sabha Elections 2024, where we have curated two panels of diverse expertise to discuss issues of democracy and governance as we stand at the threshold of the General Elections.

Panel 1: How May India Vote?

Panelists:

Sravasti Dasgupta (The Wire),
Saptarshi Basak (The Quint),
Arun Kaushik (JGU),
Smita Sharma (Independent Journalist)

The discussion revolved around pivotal topics such as electoral reforms, voter engagement strategies, the impact of new media on elections, and other factors that impact the electoral process. It was an intellectually stimulating exchange of ideas featuring esteemed panelists and experts in the field.

Date:14 April, 2024

Video Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fsXYnbHQQ5E>



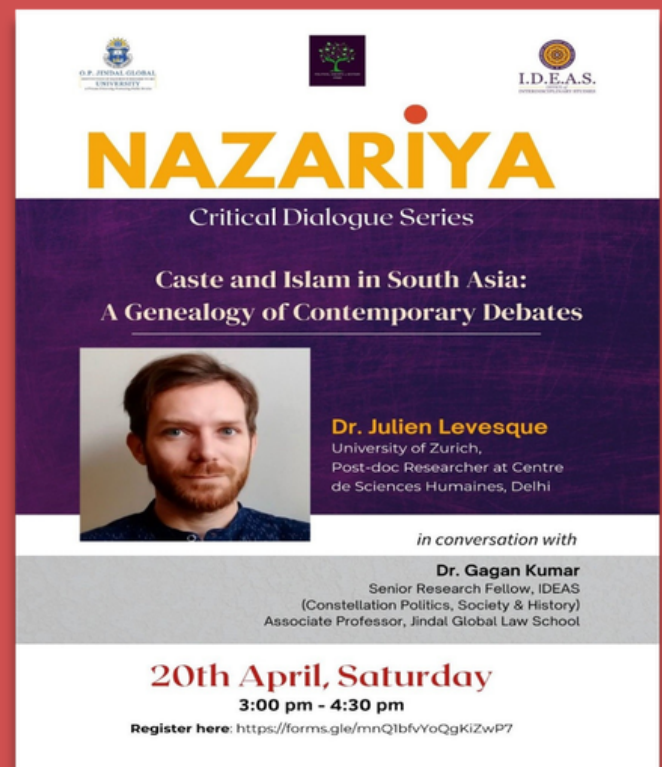
2) NAZARIYA dialogue online series:

Topic: 'Caste and Islam in South Asia: A Genealogy of Contemporary Debates'

Speaker: Dr. Julien Levesque,
Researcher, University of Zurich & Centre de Sciences Humaines,
New Delhi.

Date: 20th April, 2024

This inaugural event of Nazariya organized by PSH constellation discussed the larger debates on the question of caste and 'backwardness' among Muslims in contemporary India. This initiative brought more clarity to the understanding of Pasmanda communities and shed light on how the politics of Muslim mobilization around issues of backwardness have historically evolved. The attempt of PSH in organizing this discussion was also to see how the constellation situates their research questions in the light of presented sources, theories, and frames of analysis.



The guest speaker, Julien Levesque, examined contemporary debates on the Muslim caste in India by providing a genealogy of various categories in use. He attempted to locate the origin of these debates in several historical junctures in the colonial period. While returning to the basic question: whether a caste system existed among Muslims? Julien analyzed a plethora of historical and anthropological research spanning two centuries to show how the current political mobilization of the Pasmanda Muslims is impacted by concepts shaped historically. This talk deepened and complicated our understanding of the present debate on caste.

Video Link:

<https://youtube.com/live/84b-Sw4vY3o?feature=share>

3) IDEASx Workshop

Topic: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Social Sciences Research

Instructors:

Dr. Aejaz Wani

Assistant Professor at Higher Education, Jammu & Kashmir

Dr. Aqsa Agha

Assistant Professor & Head, Department of History

Dr. Nupur Nirola

Assistant Professor at JSIA

Dr. Shilpi Rajpal

ERC postdoctoral fellow at the Department of English, Germanic and Romance Studies at the University of Copenhagen).

Date: 11-12 May 2024

Here to see more details and register

<https://www.ideasx.in/courses/Online-Workshop-on-Research-Methods-and-Ethics-661100dd96772810be74ccc7>

Queries: ideasx.info@gmail.com



The poster is for a workshop titled "INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES TO SOCIAL SCIENCES RESEARCH". It features logos for O.P. J.S.M. GLOBAL UNIVERSITY, JAMMU & KASHMIR, and I.D.E.A.S. The text describes the workshop's focus on methodology, ethics, and research skills. It includes a "REGISTER NOW" button with a link to the workshop page and a closing date of 08 May 2024. The poster also lists the training specialists for Day 1 (Dr. Aejaz Ahmad Wani and Dr. Aqsa Agha) and Day 2 (Dr. Shilpi Rajpal and Dr. Nupur Nirola). The topics for each day are listed, and a QR code is provided for registration. Contact information for enquiries is also included.

INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES TO SOCIAL SCIENCES RESEARCH

Methodology is central to social science studies and rests on the axis of ethics. A thorough understanding of social science research methods is linked to both a better career as well as production of knowledge on complex issues of the society. This workshop will introduce participants to conceptual and methodological frameworks in collecting primary data and developing empirical tools and ethical research skills.

REGISTER NOW
<https://www.ideasx.in/s/store>
CLOSING ON 08 MAY 2024

DATE
11 & 12 May, 2024

TIME
10:00 AM - 04:30 PM

ONLINE
www.ideasx.in

Day 1: PANEL I

Dr. Aejaz Ahmad Wani
Training Specialist

Dr. Aqsa Agha
Training Specialist

Day 2: PANEL II

Dr. Shilpi Rajpal
Training Specialist

Dr. Nupur Nirola
Training Specialist

DAY 1:

- Conceptual Analytical Method and Deparochial Endeavour in Comparative Political Theory
- Participatory Research: Methods & Approaches

DAY 2:

- Case Notes and Histories - Writing Social History of Psychiatry in India
- Making Sense of Quantitative Data using Stata

Scan to Register

FOR MORE INFO
www.jguideas.in www.ideasx.in

For enquiries: Email us ideasxinfo@gmail.com 8930111290

EVENTS RECAP

SAMAGANA Working Paper Series

“Fighting over Women: Disputation and Resolution in Colonial Borderlands of Punjab and Baluchistan”

Date: 03rd June 2024

This paper examined little-known disputes involving the abduction of women in the Punjab and Baluch borderlands. By focusing on these local conflicts, the work shed light on the functioning of various practices of jurisprudence – Shariat, customs, and colonial law – that were competing with each other. This paper contributes more largely to the discussions on the questions of state-making and the nature of imperialism in these frontier regions

The poster is for the SAMAGANA Working Paper Series. It features logos for O.P. Jindal Global University, I.D.E.A.S., and the Institute for Development and Environmental Studies. The title of the event is "Fighting over Women: Disputation and Resolution in Colonial Borderlands of Punjab and Baluchistan". The speaker is Dr. Gagan Kumar, Associate Professor, JGLS, Senior Research Fellow, IDEAS. The date and time are 3rd June 2024, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm. The join online link is <https://zoom.us/j/97386963823?pwd=NE4vOUtXV0lTRkJPSTVxeFlpeG96Zz09> with password JGU. The discussant is Dr. Vanessa Chishti, Associate Professor, JGLS, Assistant Director, IHED. The contact email is ideas@jgu.edu.in.

SAMAGANA
WORKING PAPER SERIES

*Fighting over Women:
Disputation and Resolution in
Colonial Borderlands of Punjab
and Baluchistan*

This paper examines little-known disputes involving the abduction of women in the Punjab and Baluch borderlands. By focusing on these local conflicts, this presentation sheds light on the functioning of various practices of jurisprudence – Shariat, customs, and colonial law – that were competing with each other, and thereby contributing more largely to the discussions on the questions of state-making and the nature of imperialism in these frontier regions.

SPEAKER
Dr. Gagan Kumar
Associate Professor, JGLS
Senior Research Fellow, IDEAS

DATE & TIME
3rd June 2024
11:30 am - 12:30 pm

JOIN ONLINE
<https://zoom.us/j/97386963823?pwd=NE4vOUtXV0lTRkJPSTVxeFlpeG96Zz09>
PASSWORD: JGU

DISCUSSANT
DR. VANESSA CHISHTI
Associate Professor, JGLS
Assistant Director, IHED

CONTACT US ideas@jgu.edu.in

NAZARIYA dialogue online series:

Caste Discrimination & Exclusion in Indian Universities:

Date: 30th August 2024

The talk explores caste-based discrimination in higher education, discussing historical roots, current challenges, systemic barriers for marginalized students, and impacts on them. It assesses affirmative action policies' effectiveness and proposes strategies for a more inclusive academic environment, aiming to eliminate caste-based discrimination in Indian universities

The poster for the NAZARIYA Critical Dialogue Series features a purple and white design. At the top, logos for JGU Global University, a tree icon, and I.D.E.A.S. are displayed. The title 'NAZARIYA' is in large yellow letters, followed by 'Critical Dialogue Series' and the topic 'Caste Discrimination & Exclusion in Indian Universities'. Below this, two speakers are listed: Dr. Gagan Kumar as the Discussant and Prof. N. Sukumar as the Author. Each has a circular portrait and their credentials. The event date '30th August, Friday' is highlighted in a grey box. The time '3:00 pm - 4:30 pm IST' and the online format are noted. A registration link is provided, along with the website 'www.jgu.edu.in/ideas' and a contact number '+91 8930111290'.

NAZARIYA
Critical Dialogue Series
Caste Discrimination & Exclusion in Indian Universities

Discussant

Dr. Gagan Kumar
Senior Research Fellow, IDEAS
(Constellation Politics, Society & History)
Associate Professor, Jindal Global Law School

Author

Prof. N. Sukumar
Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Delhi

30th August, Friday

Online | 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm IST

Register here <https://forms.gle/tNarn4ySookAp73M9>

www.jgu.edu.in/ideas **+91 8930111290**

Video Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MJpt8EU-ttA&t=807s>

NAZARIYA dialogue online series:

Being Hindu, Being Indian: Lala Lajpat Rai's Ideas of Nationhood

Date: 13th August 2024

In recent decades, historians have converged with the Hindu Right in rediscovering Lajpat Rai as an ideological ancestor of Hindutva. But what then explains Rai's wholehearted approval of the Congress– Muslim League cooperation, and attempt to endow Hindus and Muslims with bonds of common belonging? Why did he reinterpret India's medieval history to highlight peaceful coexistence between Hindus and Muslims? Have our hasty conclusions about Lajpat Rai's nationalist thought concealed its complexities and distorted our understanding of nationalism in general? Meticulously researched and eloquently written, *Being Hindu, Being Indian* offers the first comprehensive examination of Lajpat Rai's nationalist thought.

The poster for the NAZARIYA Critical Dialogue Series features a purple background with white and yellow text. At the top, logos for JGU Global, Nazariya, and I.D.E.A.S. are displayed. The title 'NAZARIYA' is in large yellow letters, followed by 'Critical Dialogue Series' in white. The book title 'Being Hindu, Being Indian: Lala Lajpat Rai's Ideas of Nationhood' is centered in white. Below the title, the roles of the participants are listed: 'Discussant' and 'Author'. The discussant is Dr. Sagnik Dutta, Associate Professor at Jindal Global Law School, with a circular portrait. The author is Vanya Vaidehi Bhargav, Incoming Assistant Professor of Social Sciences at National Law School of India University, Bangalore, India, also with a circular portrait. A 'Moderator' section at the bottom right features Dr. Gagan Kumar, Senior Research Fellow at IDEAS (Constellation Politics, Society & History) and Associate Professor at Jindal Global Law School, with a rectangular portrait. The event date '13th August, Tuesday' is prominently displayed in red. The time 'Online | 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm IST' is shown below. A registration link is provided: 'Register here: <https://forms.gle/tNarn4ySoakAo73M9>'. At the bottom, the website 'www.jgu.edu.in/ideas' and a contact number '+91 8930111290' are listed.

NAZARIYA
Critical Dialogue Series
Being Hindu, Being Indian: Lala Lajpat Rai's Ideas of Nationhood

Discussant

Dr. Sagnik Dutta
Associate Professor
Jindal Global Law School

Author

Vanya Vaidehi Bhargav
Incoming Assistant Professor of
Social Sciences, National Law School
of India University, Bangalore, India

Moderator

Dr. Gagan Kumar
Senior Research Fellow, IDEAS
(Constellation Politics, Society & History)
Associate Professor, Jindal Global Law School

13th August, Tuesday
📍 Online | 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm IST
Register here: <https://forms.gle/tNarn4ySoakAo73M9>

www.jgu.edu.in/ideas ☎ +91 8930111290

Communal Writing for Dignity: Trauma, War, and Poetry

Date: 19th September 2024

The workshop proposes communal writing as a method to study and transform gender, sexual, and racial violence in universities. It focuses on medical trauma definitions related to war, global political economies, and different types of traumas. Communal writing follows six principles and aims to cultivate care for trauma survivors, listen to diverse needs, and address inadequate responses to trauma. Participants are encouraged to narrate their social justice projects on trauma and war, relate them to global struggles, and plan actions for social transformation



Communal Writing for Dignity: Trauma, War, and Poetry

S P E A K E R

Julio Cesar Diaz Calderon (They/Them)
Resident Scholar and Lecturer, Faculty of Science, National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). They are a trans/feminist activist-scholar, poet, and street educator, widely published in peer-reviewed journals of International Relations, Gender Studies, Literature, and Mathematics.

Faculty Coordinator
Dr. Ambreen Agha
Associate Professor (Political Science)
Jindal School of International Affairs
Senior Research Fellow, IDEAS.

Moderator
Dr. Devika Misra
Assistant Professor
Jindal School of International Affairs

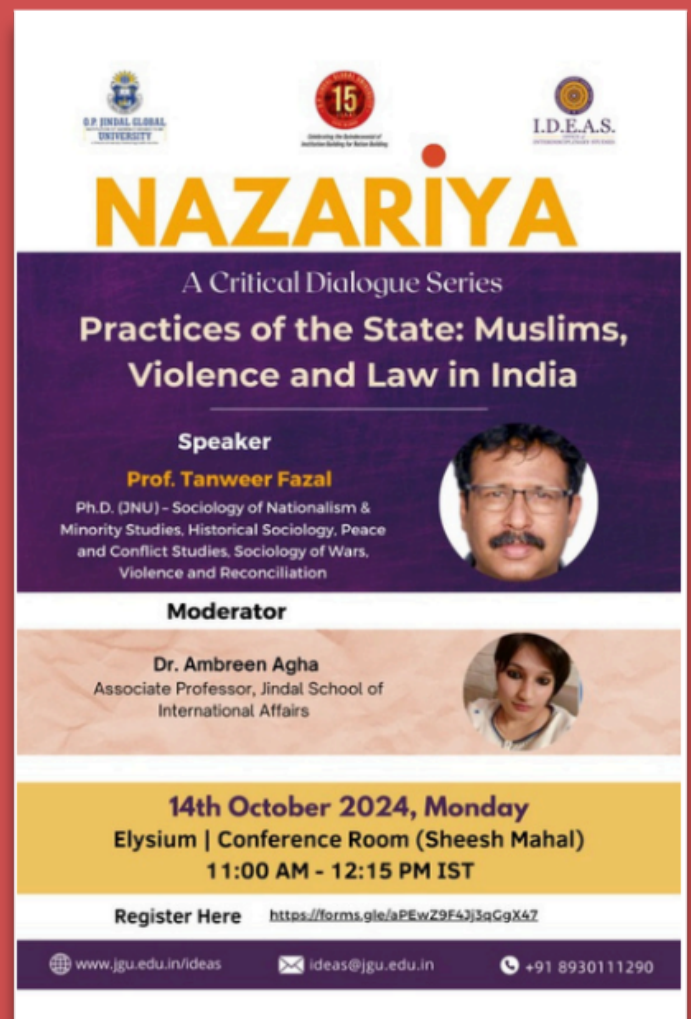
19th September, 2024 , Thursday
10:00 AM IST
Venue: Big Bang Conference Room
Prithviraj Jindal Academic Block
(T1) 1st Floor | Conference Room

NAZARIYA dialogue online series:

Practices of the State: Muslims, Law & Violence in India'

Date: 14th October 2024

On 14th October 2024, Dr. Tanweer Fazal discussed his book 'Practices of the State: Muslims, Law & Violence in India', which investigated the behavioural dimension of the state vis a vis the margin, in this case the Indian Muslim. This book looks at its quotidian, routine practices, as well as at those marked as exceptional, seeing both as convergent and complementary to each other. What is offered here is a cumulative and graded idea of marginality. The book, therefore, proposes a triadic lens, 'state-dominant public-margin' to comprehend this complex relationship of power. Practices of the State attends to the interface between the state and the ordinary Indian Muslim at multiple sites.



The poster for the NAZARIYA dialogue series features a white background with a blue header and footer. The header includes logos for O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY, a 15th Anniversary seal, and I.D.E.A.S. The main title 'NAZARIYA' is in large, bold, blue letters. Below it, the subtitle 'A Critical Dialogue Series' is in smaller blue text. The event title 'Practices of the State: Muslims, Violence and Law in India' is in bold black text. The speaker is Prof. Tanweer Fazal, with a circular portrait and a list of his qualifications. The moderator is Dr. Ambreen Agha, also with a circular portrait and her title. The event date and time are '14th October 2024, Monday' and '11:00 AM - 12:15 PM IST'. The registration link is 'https://forms.gle/aPEwZ9F4j3aGgX47'. The footer contains contact information: 'www.jgu.edu.in/ideas', 'ideas@jgu.edu.in', and '+91 8930111290'.

NAZARIYA
A Critical Dialogue Series
Practices of the State: Muslims, Violence and Law in India

Speaker
Prof. Tanweer Fazal
Ph.D. (JNU) - Sociology of Nationalism & Minority Studies, Historical Sociology, Peace and Conflict Studies, Sociology of Wars, Violence and Reconciliation

Moderator
Dr. Ambreen Agha
Associate Professor, Jindal School of International Affairs

14th October 2024, Monday
Elysium | Conference Room (Sheesh Mahal)
11:00 AM - 12:15 PM IST

Register Here <https://forms.gle/aPEwZ9F4j3aGgX47>

www.jgu.edu.in/ideas | ideas@jgu.edu.in | +91 8930111290

Film Screening and Discussion

Date: 06th March 2025

This film is a 23-minutes long documentary published by The PARI Network. It traces irregular migration pathways that youth from Punjab choose to reach from Punjab to Europe. It is the story of a migrant who left his home, his family, and his country, risked his family's assets and savings in the hope of a job and a better life in Portugal. The journey took him over a year as he was trafficked and smuggled through Dubai, Serbia, North Macedonia, Greece, Hungary, and Austria, finally reaching Portugal.



I.D.E.A.S.
INSTITUTE OF
INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Film Screening and Discussion



Trafficked and smuggled from Punjab to Portugal

This film is a 23-minutes long documentary published by The PARI Network. It traces irregular migration pathways that youth from Punjab choose to reach from Punjab to Europe. It is the story of a migrant who left his home, his family, and his country, risked his family's assets and savings in the hope of a job and a better life in Portugal. The journey took him over a year as he was trafficked and smuggled through Dubai, Serbia, North Macedonia, Greece, Hungary, and Austria, finally reaching Portugal.



Pari Saikia
An Independent Journalist working on Migration, Refugee issues and Gender-based violence.



Sona Singh
Assistant Professor at Lloyd Law College, with research interest in Gender, Law, Human Rights



Karan Dhiman
A Social documentarian and photographer working on Gender Human Rights, Trafficking and Migration.



Thursday, March 6, 2025
11:30 AM to 12:45 PM
Global Auditorium Ratan Jindal Academic Block (T3)
1st Floor





www.jgu.edu.in/ideas



ideas@jgu.edu.in



+91 8930111290

ANNUAL YOUNG SCHOLARS WORKSHOP

Date: 24th April 2025

The Annual Young Scholars Workshop 2025, organized by the IDEAS Office of Interdisciplinary Studies at O.P. Jindal Global University, brought together emerging researchers to critically engage with questions of identity, conflict, cooperation, community, and access to higher education. Through three thematic sessions—ranging from global politics to grassroots social realities—the workshop offered fresh perspectives on how power, belonging, and opportunity are shaped across different contexts.



Nazariya: A Critical Dialogue Series

Hind Swaraj: An Outline of Gandhi's Heterodoxy

19th August, 1:20 to 3:20 PM

This talk revisits Gandhi's Hind Swaraj as a work of philosophy that weaves together the seemingly opposing ideas of reconciliation and antagonism. It examines the text as a foundational articulation of Swaraj (self-rule) and its inseparable connection to Satyagraha (nonviolent resistance), exploring how Gandhi positions the former as both a moral and political goal, and the latter as its ethical method.

O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

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

POLITICS, SOCIETY & HISTORY
NAZARIYA
HIND SWARAJ: AN OUTLINE OF GANDHI'S HETERODOXY

SPEAKER

**DR. DHANANJAY RAI**
Department of Gandhian Thought and Peace Studies, Central University of Gujarat
Former visiting fellow (2022-24), Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), Delhi

MODERATOR

**DR. KAUSHALYA BAJPAYEE,**
Senior Research Fellow I.D.E.A.S.
Associate Professor,
Jindal Global Law School

DATE: 19TH AUGUST, 2025
TIMING 1:20 PM TO 3:20 PM

VENUE : TI-G03
BUILDING : PRITHVIRAJ JINDAL ACADEMIC BLOCK

Speakers:

Dr. Dhananjay Rai

Department of Gandhian Thought and Peace Studies, Central University of Gujarat
Former visiting fellow (2022-24), Centre for the Study of Developing Societies

Watch here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=orHbVrd0Dhw&t=5657s>

Nazariya: A Critical Dialogue Series

Muslims in Postcolonial Bollywood

21st August, 3:30 to 5:30 PM

Online

In Hindi films, Muslims have traditionally been portrayed through the lens of religion. Narratives associated with that specific religious identity were adapted based on the socio-political setting of the country at the time of the film's making. This webinar particularly focuses on the representation of Muslims in postcolonial Bollywood cinema. It will also engage with the changing image of Muslims in popular Bollywood films over the last few decades.

Speakers:

Dr. Nadira Khatun,

Associate Professor of Mass Communications

School of Communications, Xavier Institute of Management, Bhubaneswar, Orissa

Dr. Harish S. Wankhede,

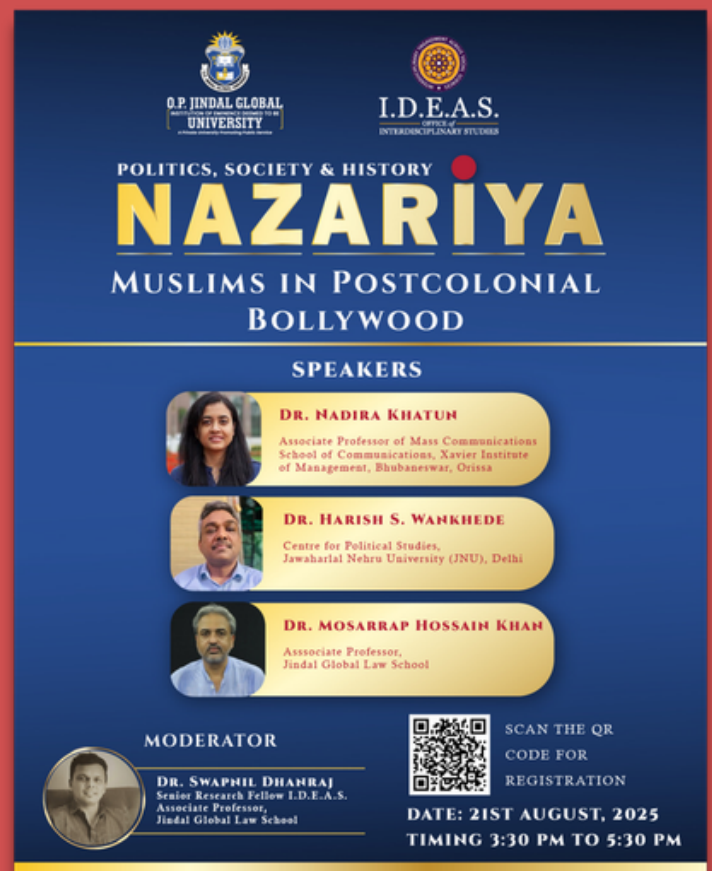
Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Delhi

Dr. Mosarrap Hossain Khan,

Associate Professor, Jindal Global Law School

Watch here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WQhAXrc7xHE&t=3153s>



The poster is for a webinar titled "Nazariya: Muslims in Postcolonial Bollywood". It features logos for O.P. Jindal Global University and I.D.E.A.S. (Interdisciplinary Studies). The title "NAZARIYA" is in large yellow letters, with "MUSLIMS IN POSTCOLONIAL BOLLYWOOD" below it. The "SPEAKERS" section lists three individuals with their photos and affiliations: Dr. Nadira Khatun (Xavier Institute of Management), Dr. Harish S. Wankhede (Jawaharlal Nehru University), and Dr. Mosarrap Hossain Khan (Jindal Global Law School). The "MODERATOR" section lists Dr. Swapnil Dhanraj (Jindal Global Law School). A QR code is provided for registration, with the text "SCAN THE QR CODE FOR REGISTRATION". The date and time are listed as "DATE: 21ST AUGUST, 2025" and "TIMING 3:30 PM TO 5:30 PM".

O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY
I.D.E.A.S. INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

POLITICS, SOCIETY & HISTORY
NAZARIYA
MUSLIMS IN POSTCOLONIAL BOLLYWOOD

SPEAKERS

DR. NADIRA KHATUN
Associate Professor of Mass Communications
School of Communications, Xavier Institute of Management, Bhubaneswar, Orissa

DR. HARISH S. WANKHEDE
Centre for Political Studies,
Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Delhi

DR. MOSARRAP HOSSAIN KHAN
Associate Professor,
Jindal Global Law School

MODERATOR

DR. SWAPNIL DHANRAJ
Senior Research Fellow I.D.E.A.S.
Associate Professor,
Jindal Global Law School

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR REGISTRATION

DATE: 21ST AUGUST, 2025
TIMING 3:30 PM TO 5:30 PM

“Gender, Education, & Aspirational Futures”

22th September 2025

Under Samagana Working Paper Series, an engaging discussion on “Gender, Education, & Aspirational Futures: Young Women and the Quest for Government Employment in North India” by Dr. Renu Singh, Independent Researcher was organized on 22 September, 2025.

Drawing on ethnographic fieldwork conducted in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, the paper explored the aspirations, educational journeys, and employment ambitions of first-generation college-going women navigating social inequalities and rising youth unemployment in contemporary India. The session was enriched reflections from discussants Ms. Tahiba Banu, Lecturer at IDEAS, and Dr. Shivani Nag, Assistant Professor at the School of Education Studies, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University, Delhi. The discussion was moderated by Dr. Ambreen Agha, Associate Professor at Jindal School of International Affairs and Constellation Lead of Politics, Society and History at IDEAS.

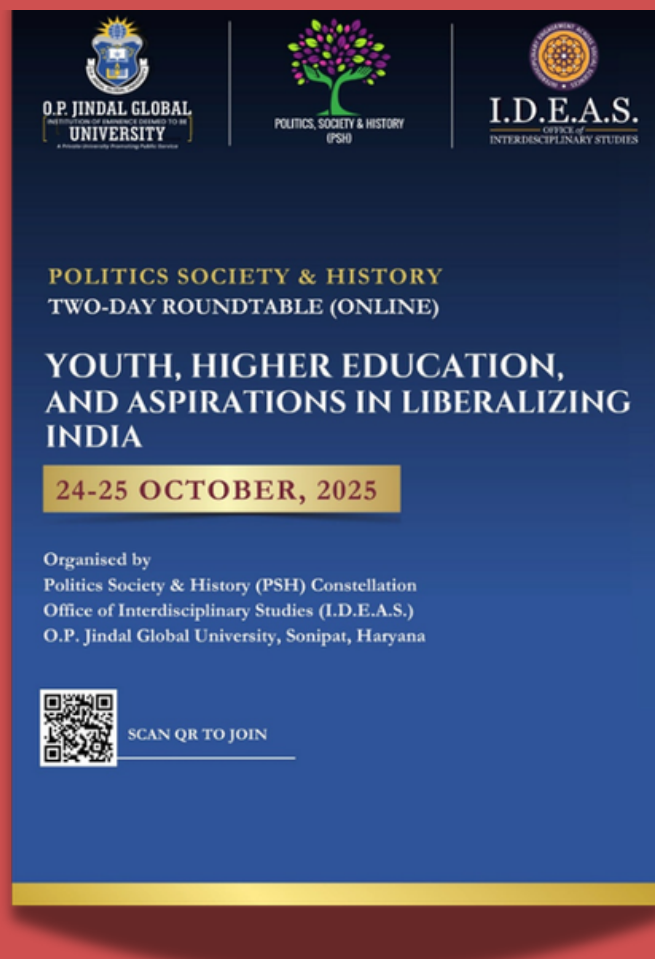


Youth, Higher Education, and Aspirations in Liberalizing India

24-25 October, 2025

The Politics, Society & History (PSH) Constellation successfully organized a two-day online workshop titled 'Youth, Higher Education, and Aspirations in Liberalizing India' on 24-25 October 2025. The workshop brought together scholars, researchers, and practitioners to engage in critical discussions on the changing dynamics of youth aspirations, the evolving landscape of higher education, and the broader socio-political transformations shaping contemporary India in the era of liberalization.

Curated by Dr. Ambreen Agha, Lead PSH Constellation and Associate Professor at the Jindal School of International Affairs, along with Dr. Renu Singh, Member Associate and independent researcher, the workshop provided an interdisciplinary platform for meaningful dialogue and knowledge exchange.



Postcoloniality & Statehood: The Case of Egypt

26th Feb, 2026

Politics, Society & History (PSH) cluster hosted the Samagana Book Launch in the Working Papers Series, featuring Postcoloniality & Statehood: The Case of Egypt by Dr. Priyanka Chandra, Constellation fellow IDEAS & Associate Professor JSIA.

The discussants were Dr. A. K. Ramakrishnan, Dr. Dr. Fazzur Rahman Siddiqui and Dr. Rohith Jyothish.

The discussion was moderated by Ms. Riddhi Deokar and Ms. Mansi Chhadia.

Watch here:

<https://youtu.be/bJs55UHud6Y>



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

27th March, 2026

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

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.

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 event. At the top, it features logos for O.P. Jindal Global University, I.D.E.A.S. (Institute for Democratic Education and Academic Studies), and the Jindal School of International Affairs. Below these is the text 'Politics, Society & History' and the title 'NAZARIYA' in large, bold, yellow letters. Underneath the title is 'Book Discussion' in a yellow box. The main title of the discussion is '“Constitution of India: 75 Years’ of World’s Largest Democracy V. Krishna Ananth”'. Below this is the date and time: '27TH MARCH 2026' and '3:00 PM TO 4:30 PM IST'. The poster lists four participants: Author (Prof. V. Krishna Ananth), Discussant (Mr. V. Venkatesan), Discussant (Dr. Maanvender Singh), and Moderator (Mr. SK MD Assad Armaan). Each participant has a small portrait photo. At the bottom right, it says 'MODE: ONLINE' and 'SCAN THE QR CODE TO JOIN' with a QR code.

O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY
I.D.E.A.S. INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRATIC EDUCATION AND ACADEMIC STUDIES
JINDAL SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Politics, Society & History
NAZARIYA
Book Discussion

“Constitution of India: 75 Years’ of World’s Largest Democracy V. Krishna Ananth”

27TH MARCH 2026 3:00 PM TO 4:30 PM IST

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.(D.B), JINDAL SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY

MODE: ONLINE
SCAN THE QR CODE TO JOIN

2nd Young Scholars Workshop

Gendering the State: Power, Knowledge & Difference

21st April, 2026

The Second Young Scholars Workshop 2026 on “Gendering the State: Power, Knowledge & Difference” was held on 21 April 2026. Conceptualised by Prof. Ambreen Agha, Lead, Politics, Society and History and Associate Professor, JSIA, the workshop brought together an inspiring community of emerging scholars to explore how gender both shapes — and is shaped by — the structures of the state, governance, labour, mobility, memory, and lived experiences

O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

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

POLITICS, SOCIETY & HISTORY (PSH)

Organised by
Politics, Society & History Constellation (PSH)
Office of Interdisciplinary Studies (I.D.E.A.S.)

Second Young Scholars Workshop
on the theme
Gendering the State

DATE: 21TH APRIL, 2026 | TIMING 10:00 AM TO 4:15 PM

VENUE: BIG IDEAS
Conference Room T-2, Sajjan Jindal Academic Block

MODE: HYBRID

SCAN THE QR CODE TO JOIN ONLINE

Feminist scholarship has long unsettled the idea of the state as a neutral or a benevolent actor. But despite the feminist critique, the state remains a powerful presence in shaping gendered lives – through law and welfare, war and medicine, development and infrastructure, care and coercion, among other mechanisms of control and conformity. What is interesting to see is that these encounters are rarely uniform; they are mediated through social differences, historical legacies, and spatial unevenness. This workshop begins with the premise that gender is not simply governed by the state but is actively produced through its everyday practices. At the same time, the state is continually remade through gendered assumptions about bodies, families, labour, security, and vulnerability. The workshop approaches the state as fragmented and relational, rather than singular. An entity that is historically produced, shaped by colonial, nationalist and neoliberal projects, the state operates within and beyond its capacities of coercion, carcerality and care and is experienced unevenly across social locations. The workshop has four sessions that are interconnected. And trace how gendered state power operates across governance, mobility, labour, bodies, punishment, security, and memory.

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

IDEAS OFFICE OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES



100+

Ideas Advisory
Council



80+

Research
and Publications



31+

Research
Fellow



10+

Collaborative
Projects



10+

Core
Faculty



10+

Institutional
Partnership



6+

Initiatives



6+

Member
Associates



6+

Research
Constellations

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.



I.D.E.A.S.

OFFICE of
INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES



jgu.edu.in/ideas/



[jgu_ideas](https://www.instagram.com/jgu_ideas)



[@JGU_IDEAS](https://www.youtube.com/@JGU_IDEAS)



[IDEAS Office of Interdisciplinary Studies](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ideas-office-of-interdisciplinary-studies)



[jguideas](https://twitter.com/jguideas)