

PERIODICAL

December'25 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**





Dr. Lorenza Monaco

PhD, School of Oriental and African Studies, (SOAS), London, England

Dr. Lorenza is a Research Fellow in the Economics of Innovation and Industrial Policy at the Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose. She is also a Senior Research Associate at the South African Research Chair in Industrial Development (University of Johannesburg), a Fellow of the Italian CiMet (National University Centre for Applied Economic Studies), member of the Steering Committee of the International Research Network on the Automobile Industry (GERPISA) and on the Council of the International Initiative for Promoting Political Economy (IIPPE). She is the coordinator of the GERPISA Working Group on “The Global Auto Industry: Value Chains, Emerging Players and the Global South” and co-coordinator of the Working Group on the “Political Economy of Industrial Development” for the International Initiative for Promoting Political Economy (IIPPE). She has been on the UNIDO Roster of Experts since July 2021.

She has authored articles on education and sustainable development that have been published in international journals and publications and has presented papers at prestigious international conferences like the biennial International Conference on Education and Development, UK, and the Human Development and Capability Association (HDCA) annual conferences. She is also member of the **HDCA**, an association that was established in 2004 by Prof. Amartya Sen and Prof. Martha Nussbaum.



Dr. Tom Cowan

Associate Professor, School of Geography,
Faculty of Social Sciences, University of
Nottingham, UK

British Academy Wolfson Fellow (2023-
2025)

Dr. Tom is an urban and digital geographer working at the intersection of urbanisation, technology and society. My research contributes to debates on expanded urbanisation, critical property studies, digital geographies and agrarian-urban transitions.

He is currently a British Academy Wolfson Fellow (2023–2025), conducting a project, Digital enclosures: automating property in India that examines the politics of PropTech schemes in rural and peri-urban areas of India.

He holds a PhD in Urban Geography from the Department of Geography at King's College London. Prior to joining the School at Nottingham he was a Leverhulme Early Career Postdoctoral Fellow at University College London, and a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Bergen.

His book, *Subaltern Frontiers: agrarian city-making in Gurgaon, India* was published by Cambridge University Press in December 2022. The book explores the social, political and economic geographies of India's spectacular urban transformation since the early 1990s, examining the development of the 'Gurgaon model' of privatised urban planning and development.

Elsewhere his work has been published in *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, *Antipode*, *Urban Geography*, *City*, *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, *Focaal*, *Geoforum*, and *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space*.



1. Events Recap

A. IMPACT Workshop

The Industry-linked Modules for Practice, Advancement, Capacity building, and Training (IMPACT) Workshop on the theme “Health and Development” held from 1st December–3rd December, 2025 were designed as value-added, skill-based learning modules that extend beyond conventional classroom pedagogy. Unlike standard academic courses, these workshops emphasize practice-oriented learning, combining theoretical grounding with real-world application.

The resource persons for this workshop were, Dr. Sunil Kaul, Founder & Managing Trustee, The ANT – Action North-East Trust and Ms. Enakshi Dutta, Director, Roots to Branches Foundation

<https://youtu.be/pCPBXwtOtyw?si=ufVt90FiyKX3RYBR>



B. First STS India Network Conference

The **First STS India Network Conference** was organised by I.D.E.A.S. in collaboration with **Jindal Global Law School (JGLS)** and **IIT Delhi** marking a significant milestone for the field of Science and Technology Studies (STS) in India. The conference represented an important step in fostering a national and international platform for critical engagement with the intersections of science, technology, and society.

Held from **15th –17th December, 2025** the conference brought together leading scholars, researchers, and practitioners from across India and around the world. Through a series of panel discussions, paper presentations, and interactive sessions, participants reflected the complex, evolving, and context-specific relationships between scientific knowledge, technological change, and social processes.



2. Voices from the Ground

A. Field Reflections from Monuli Village, Haryana

A field visit was conducted on 3rd December, 2025 to Monuli Village, Haryana, by our Dean Prof. Deepanshu Mohan, Dr. Sunil Kaul, Mr. Najam Us Saqib and Mr Nirmal Lather providing valuable on-ground insights into the everyday realities of farmers and ASHA workers. The visit involved walking through agricultural fields and engaging directly with members of the local community.

Through these interactions, the team gained a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by farmers and frontline health workers, as well as the resilience and aspirations that shape their livelihoods.

Such field-based engagements play a crucial role in strengthening our commitment to evidence-based and community-informed work. The visit reaffirmed our mission of being “Haryana ki Awaaz”, ensuring that authentic voices and lived realities from the ground inform research, dialogue, and policy engagement.



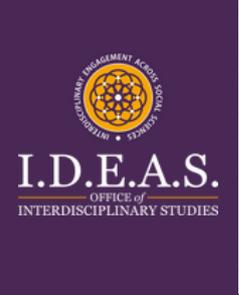
B. Field Visit to Cambodia

As part of Centre for New Economics Studies (CNES), Dean Prof Deepanshu Mohan has focused on Cambodia since 2015, documenting the lived experiences of informal workers, across provincial networks while studying patterns of undocumented migration and mobility into the informal workforce.

He visited Cambodia in December for a field project at a time when country faces a precarious border crisis with Thailand. The CNES research led by Prof Mohan has been more recently presented earlier during his assignment at LSE's Saw Swee Hock South East Asia Centre (<https://lnkd.in/g/C5C-Em>) and published with journals like Cities, Asian Ethnicity etc. A working paper written on cultural minority groups like the Cham Community and their life is documented here: <https://lnkd.in/g/F8RC4Ae>



3. In Print: Voices of Our Scholars



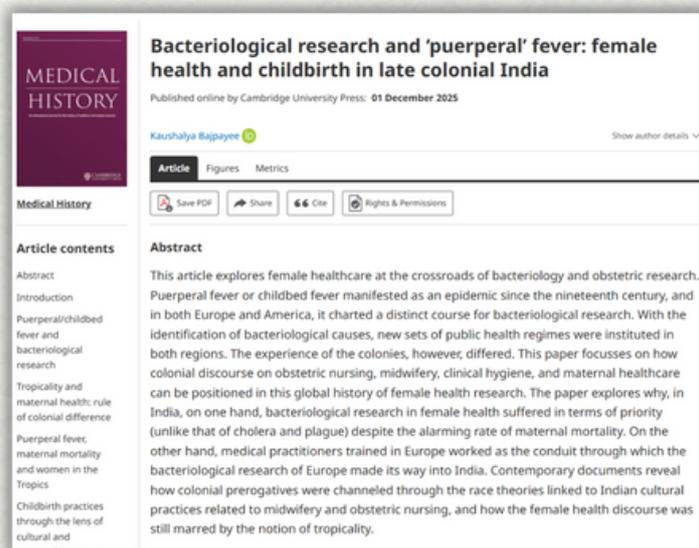
In the News



Book review: Sadhna Arya and Lata Singh (Eds), Feminist Movements in India: Issues, Debates, Struggles

The article “Book review: Sadhna Arya and Lata Singh (Eds), Feminist Movements in India: Issues, Debates, Struggles” provides a critical overview of this edited volume that explores the history, trajectories, and contemporary debates within feminist movements in India.

Prof. (Dr.) Gayatri Balu, Assistant Director and Assistant Professor, I.D.E.A.S.
Sage | 29 December, 2025



Bacteriological research and ‘puerperal’ fever: female health and childbirth in late colonial India

The paper analyses female health in late colonial India, particularly in the context of bacteriological causes of puerperal fever, resulting in a large number of maternal and infant deaths. This discussion is carried through the lens of race and tropicity, guiding colonial policies on sanitation, hygiene and midwifery.

Dr. Kaushalya Bajpayee
Constellation Fellow, IDEAS
& Associate Professor, JGLS

Cambridge University Press | 01 December, 2025

The forgotten movement for Haryana

To reduce Haryana to a byproduct of the Punjabi Suba agitation is to erase its own rich political churn.

PRACHY HOODA
Updated At: 07:04 AM Dec 01, 2025 IST

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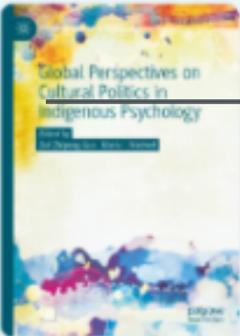


Base: The demand for Haryana was rooted in the quest for equitable development. PIB photo

The forgotten movement for Haryana

The article reflects on the 60th anniversary of Haryana’s formation, arguing that the dominant narrative—linking the state’s creation mainly to the Punjabi Suba movement—oversimplifies its history. It emphasizes that the demand for a separate Haryana was rooted in a distinct quest for equitable development and political recognition, with its own socio-political dynamics.

Written by Ms. Prachy Hooda, Lecturer I.D.E.A.S.
The Tribune | 01 December, 2025



Global Perspectives on Cultural Politics in Indigenous Psychology

Chapter Title: Critical Indigenous Psychologies in India: Striving for Human Liberation.

This article focus on how Indigenous psychology is interpreted (or misinterpreted) and its implications for the quest for human liberation. Instead of stimulating emancipatory values and social change, there are differences in the interpretation and critical understanding of Indigenous psychology.

Written by Prof. (Dr.) Chetan Sinha
Constellation Fellow, IDEAS, Professor, JGLS
Springer

As VB-G RAM G Bill is Railroaded Through Parliament, MGNREGA’s Historical Context is Forgotten

Deepanshu Mohan and Centre for New Economic Studies
28 Dec 2025 • 3 min read

The shift – from rights-based employment to budget-managed provisioning – is the real story. And it is a story the data has been telling for years.



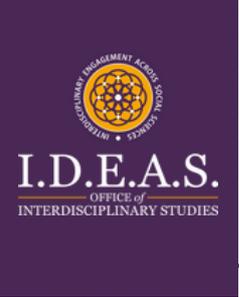
As VB-G RAM G Bill is Railroaded Through Parliament, MGNREGA’s Historical Context is Forgotten

The article explains that India’s flagship rural employment law — the **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)** — is being fundamentally altered by the new **VB-G RAM G Bill**, which replaces the rights-based, demand-driven framework with a budget-managed scheme.

Written by Prof. Deepanshu Mohan
Professor of Economics, Jindal School of Liberal Arts & Humanities,
Dean, IDEAS Office of Interdisciplinary Studies
Director, Centre of New Economic Studies

The Wire | 18 December, 2025

4. Our Scholars in Spotlight



Participated in The British Psychological Society (BPS): Social Psychology Annual Conference taking place on 8th - 10th September 2025 at Lady Margaret Hall, University of Oxford.

Theme: Beyond Tribalism in Social Psychology: Bringing Together Diverse Research Traditions.

Prof. (Dr.) Chetan Sinha

Constellation Fellow, Justice Urban Systems and Technology (JUST) & Professor, Jindal School of Liberal Arts and Humanities

Glimpses from the Event

Social Psychology Annual Conference 2025

08 September 2025 - 10 September 2025

Social and behavioural

[See 'Registration' Page](#)





Visited the UK as a Visiting Academic Research Fellow at the University of Oxford and an Honorary Research Fellow at Birkbeck, University of London. During the visit, he delivered seminars and lectures at the London School of Economics (LSE), University of Oxford, Birkbeck, University of Warwick, and UCL. His engagements focused on ethnocentric research methodologies, informality and low-income migrants, embedded knowledge systems in India's craft sector at the Centre for New Economics Studies (CNES), and his forthcoming book *“The Practice of Visual Ethnography: Working with Marginalised Communities”*.

Prof. Deepanshu Mohan

PDean, IDEAS,
Director, Centre for New Economics Studies,
Senior Research Fellow, International Institute
for Higher Education Research,

Glimpses from the Event





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