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Inauguration

of

Center for Asia Pacific Business Research and Innovation

Jindal Global Business School

&

Public Lecture

on

“The Origins of the Indian Capitalist Class”

by



Professor Aditya Mukherjee

Professor, Center for Historical Studies
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Short Bio of Speaker

Prof. Aditya Mukherjee teaches modern Indian history at the Center for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University. He is the author of the much acclaimed work *Imperialism, Nationalism and the Making of the Indian Capitalist Class. 1920-1947*.

Abstract

After the departure of the British colonizers in 1947, despite the general backwards of its economy, India stood out among the third world countries. The main reasons were twofold. India had, however limited, a native industrial base. Albeit few in numbers, it had also its own native capitalists – the industrial houses of the Tatas and Birlas, for example. Further, large swathes of the Indian economy had been indigenized – already in 1947, they had been freed of the domination of western capital and were capable of import substitution. The talk by the prominent economic historian, Prof. Aditya Mukherjee, will seek to explain these phenomena by dwelling on the specificity of the origins of the Indian capitalist class – the fact that the early Indian capitalists emerged by consistently opposing imperialism in the economic realm and allying with the Indian national movement. They, in other words, strategically linked their quest for economic freedom with the Indian leaderships' struggle for political independence. Eventually, this alliance had vital and largely salutary implications for the post-independence Indian economy.

Wednesday, 3 May, 2017 | 2:30 pm
Venue: T-1, The Big Bang Conference Room
O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat- 131001

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