

POLITICS, SOCIETY & HISTORY

As societies have become culturally, religiously, and ethnically diverse, the politics of identity has assumed greater importance as well has 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 Constellation Fellow of Politics, Society and History Associate Professor, Jindal Global Law School

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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 <u>Issue 10, Special Issue, (Re)imagining Research, Activism, and Rights at the Intersections of Sexuality, Health, and Social Justice</u>, 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 Aitihasik 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 : Samasyaein aur Sambhavnaein", Yojana, September, 2010, ISSN No. 0971 8397

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 Constellation Fellow of Politics, Society and History Associate Professor, Jindal Global Law School

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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.



MS. TAHIBA BANU

Lecturer I.D.E.A.S.

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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



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.

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

Chhath & Subalternity: Dismantling Hegemonies?

Chhath is traditionally a festival of the masses, celebrated mainly in Bihar, Jharkhand, and eastern Uttar Pradesh. A marker of socio-cultural identity, this festival is an expression of indigeneity that resists any attempts at homogenization of identity, rituals, and tradition. However, over the years, Chhath has moved out of its geographical confines into urban cities due to rapid migration. In these urban spaces, the celebrations of Chhath have led to its mainstreaming alongside other popular festivals like the Durga Puja.

Primarily a subaltern festival that prevent(ed) appropriation by the social elites [Sinha, 2023], today Chhath is marked by a "reverse trend" with its entry into metropolitan cities wherein the elites have adopted the subaltern culture. Given this change in the social aspect of Chhath, this study aims to explore the continuities and changes that exist in the performance of the rituals in this four-day festival across urban and non-urban social settings.

Does ritual performance enthrone hegemonic Brahmanical practices with the 'priest' as the center of activity, or does it dismantle Brahmanical performativity? It has been observed that Chhath celebrations blur the social boundaries across religious, caste, and gender lines in its traditional non-urban spaces. How are these social boundaries navigated in urban spaces? Does the celebration of Chhath in metropolitan cities continue to blur social boundaries or rigidify them?

Taking a multi-site ethnographic approach and Chhath as the subject of study, this paper advances the argument that there is a link between human migration and the mutation of socio-religious traditions.

By: Ambreen Agha & Kaushalya Bajpayee

"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 & Aejaz Ahmad Wani

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

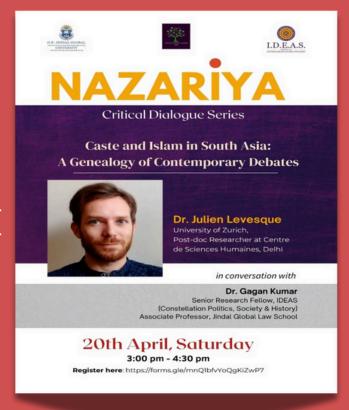
2) NAZARIYA dialogue online series:

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 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



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



NAZARIYA dialogue online series:

Caste Discrimination & Exclusion in Indian Universities:

Date: 30th August 2024

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



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 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.



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 Communal traumas. 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

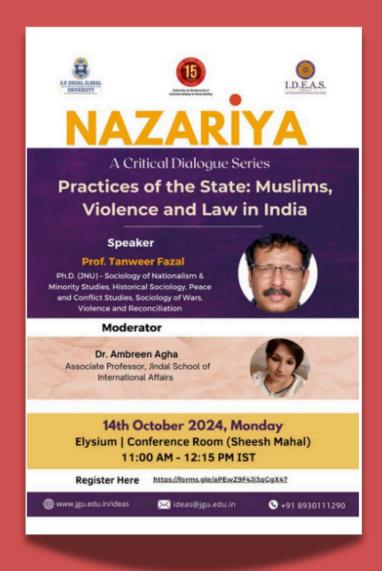


NAZARIYA dialogue online series:

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

Date: 14th October 2024

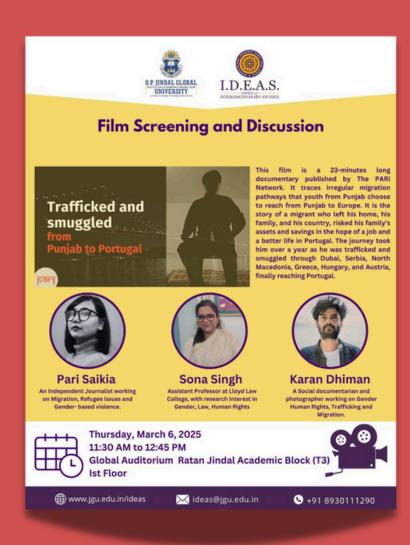
On 14th October 2024, Dr. Tanweer Fazal discussed his book 'Practices of the State: Muslims. Law & Violence in India', which investigated the behavioural dimension of the state vis a vis the margin, in this case the Indian Muslim. This book looks at its quotidian, routine practices, as well as at those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



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, Macedonia, North Greece. Hungary, and Austria, finally reaching Portugal.



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 social realities—the grassroots fresh workshop offered perspectives how on power, belonging, and opportunity are shaped across different contexts.



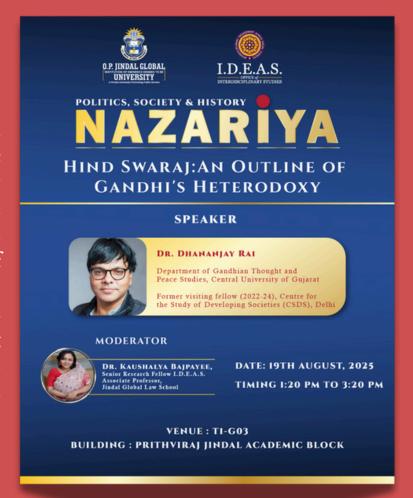
Upcoming Events: Mark Your Calender

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.



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

Venue: T1-G03

Building: Prithviraj Jindal Academic Block (T1)

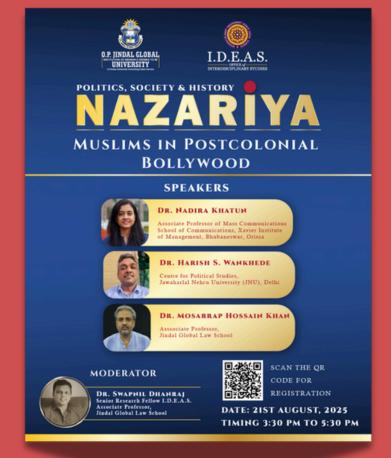
Upcoming Events: Mark Your Calender

Nazariya: A Critical Dialogue Series

Muslims in Postcolonial Bollywood

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

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,

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Dr. Harish S. Wankhede,

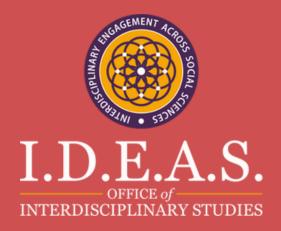
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Webinar link:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SgFW9dE0RcWlVSTb7aowkQ#/registration





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