



INSTITUT DE HAUTES
ÉTUDES INTERNATIONALES
ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT
GRADUATE INSTITUTE
OF INTERNATIONAL AND
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Department of Anthropology and Sociology (ANSO)

Academic year 2020-2021

India: Culture, Politics and Society

ANSO090- Spring - 6 ECTS

[Schedule & Room](#)

Course Description

The course provides a unique perspective on the Indian subcontinent. India today is not only geo-politically significant but has risen to global prominence as an important locale for burgeoning economic growth and development, rapid urbanization, social and geographic mobility as well as nation building. The course situates the enquiry into contemporary India at the intersections of its civilisational context and tryst with post-colonial nation building, its diverse traditions and multi-faceted modernities, cultural production and structural violence, economic development and social exclusion, global structures and local – Indian – agency. The teaching modality is multi-disciplinary, providing a unique mix of theoretical and empirical illustrations anchored in sociological and anthropological approaches to the region.

> PROFESSOR

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Syllabus

Grading

Assessment for the course is based:

35% Class presentation

65% Final written assignment of 2500 words, this word count includes footnotes/endnotes but excludes bibliography.

Guidance on writing the assignment is provided.

Attendance and participation in the weekly sessions will also factor in the final course assessment.

The final written assignment must be submitted by **Friday, 4 June 2021**.

Guidelines for the writing assignment

Students are encouraged to write on a topic of their choosing. This should be discussed in advance with the course convener. You are encouraged to make a brief class presentation on the chosen topic.

Please note that references underneath are recommended readings. However, this is not an exhaustive list and further materials will be suggested in class. You are also encouraged to undertake topic specific searches in the library catalogue and e-journals such as: *Contemporary South Asia*, *South Asia*, *Contributions to Indian Sociology*, *SAMAJ*, *Economic and Political Weekly (EPW)*, and *The Indian Journal of Sociology*.

The written assignment should include all of the following elements:

1. Formulation of a topic or problem.
2. Explanation of how the topic is linked to a broader problem, relevant to the Indian region.
3. Breakdown of the problem/ topic in sub-problems/ parts.
4. Analytical review of the appropriate literature showing how others have approached this problem. Review literature along the lines/ dimensions you have identified in #3.
5. Comment/ state position on each subpart of your analytical review.
6. Conclusion: summarize findings and state their importance/ consequences. How does your analysis contribute to understanding the issue at stake? Which future research directions do they point at? Try and formulate and state your own theoretical argument/ position in the conclusion.

Your written assignment will be marked according to the following criteria:

1. **Relevance:** The relevance of the question chosen and the extent to which the assignment addresses the question set
2. **Material Used:** The substance of the assignment, that is, the selection and use of relevant material gained from a variety of sources. Evidence of reading as well as empirical facts and illustrations.
3. **Argument:** The extent to which the assignment sets out a clearly structured discussion and analysis of the issues raised. Evidence of clear and independent thinking (i.e., signs that you can weigh up evidence, think through and assess arguments for yourself).
4. **Scholarship:** Basic literacy, fluency and quality of presentation as well as scholarly attribution of references and use of notes.

1. **Wednesday, 24 February 2021:**
➤ 12:15pm to 2:00pm (S3) ANSO090

Course Introduction and Overview

2. **Wednesday, 3 March 2021:**
➤ 12:15pm to 2:00pm (S3) ANSO090

Reimagining and Reshaping India: Scoping and 'Scaping' the Present

India is playing a significant role in the emerging global order. As a geo-political entity it is being shaped and in turn shaping the global contours of culture, politics and economy. This lecture engages with the ever-enlarging and uniquely Indian footprint around the globe. In so doing the lecture examines the ongoing reshaping of the region and its global ramifications. The lecture

shows how seemingly 'local', Indian phenomena, are in fact anchored in processes more 'global' in nature.

References

1. Appadurai, A. 1996. *Modernity at Large: Cultural Dimensions of Globalization*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. (Chapters 1, 2)
2. Dyson, T., Cassen R. & Visaria, L. (eds). 2004. *Twenty-first Century India: Population, Economy, Human Development, and the Environment*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (Chapter 1)
3. Eck, Diana L. 2012. *India: A Sacred Geography*. New York: Three Rivers Press (Chapter 2)
4. Inden, R. 1990. *Imagining India*. London: Blackwell. (Chapter 1)
5. Jeffery, R. & Heath, A. 2010. 'Incongruities, Ironies and Achievements: India's Tryst with Modernity.' In A Heath & R Jeffery (eds.) *Diversity and Change in Modern India: Economic, Social and Political Approaches*. Oxford: Oxford University Press (pp. 1-18)
6. Kakar, S. 2010. 'Real India: On the Couch with Sudhir Kakar', with Chris Lydon, http://www.brown.edu/Departments/Watson_Institute/Open_Source/RadioOpenSource-Sudhir_Kakar.mp3
7. Kimora, Masaaki and Tanabe, Akio (ed.). 2006. *The State in India: Past and Present*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press (Chapter 11)
8. McKinsey & Company (ed.) *Rimagining India*. New York: Simon & Schuster (Chapters by Subramanian, Mallet, Graves).
9. Sen, A.K. 'India: Past and Future', *Forbes Magazine*, 14 August, <http://www.rediff.com/money/2007/aug/14forbes1.htm> or listen to him at <http://www.radioopensource.org/amartya-sen-this-open-ended-year-of-india/>
10. Sharma, P. 2009. 'India Shining? Not Quite' *Huffington Post*, May 19, http://www.huffingtonpost.com/parvez-sharma/india-shining-not-quite_b_204928.html?view=print
11. Wallerstein, I. 1991. 'Does India Exist'. In *Unthinking Social Science: The Limits of Nineteenth Century Paradigms*. Cambridge: Polity.
12. Wyatt, AKJ. and Adeney, K. 2004. Democracy in South Asia: Getting Beyond the Structure-Agency Dichotomy, *Political Studies*, 52/1, pp. 1-18.
13. Adeney, K and Wyatt, AKJ. 2010. *Contemporary India*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan Ltd (Chapters: 3,4,5,6) (please click on the hyperlink to access the book)
14. Harriss-White, Barbara. . 2011. *India's Market Society: Three Essays in Political Economy*. Three Essays Collectives. (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4.)

3. Wednesday, 10 March 2021:

➤ 12:15pm to 2:00pm (S3) ANSO090 |

The Political Economy of Change: The Economic Fault-lines

The economic terrain in India is fundamentally uneven. Twin forces of colonisation and globalisation have inextricably shaped the contemporary political economy of the region. The lecture maps this terrain and examines how the economic tectonic plates in the region are shifting in response to global circulation of capital. The resulting political economy impacts a diverse set of variables ranging from the ideology of 'economic liberalisation' to practices of 'livelihood diversification' and trajectories of 'economic migration'.

References

1. Acharya, S., Cassen, R. H. & McNay, K. 2004. The Economy—Past and Future. In T. Dyson, R. H. Cassen & L. Visaria (eds.) *Twenty-first Century India: Population, Economy, Human Development and the Environment*. New Delhi, Oxford University Press. (pp. 202-27)
2. Bardhan, P. K. 1998. *The Political Economy of Development in India*. Expanded Edition. Oxford, Blackwell. (Ch: Introduction)
3. Drèze, J. & Sen, A. (2002) *India: Development and Participation*. New Delhi, Oxford University Press (espec. Ch. 9)
4. Heath, A. & Jeffery, R. (eds) 2010. *Diversity and Change in Modern India: Economic, Social and Political Approaches* (espec. Chapters by Jeffery & Heath, pp. 1-18; Joshi, pp. 73-106; and Hasan, pp. 165-188) Oxford: Oxford University Press
5. Nayyar, Deepak. 2006. Economic Growth in Independent India, *Economic and Political Weekly*. Vol. 41, Issue No. 15, 15 Apr.
6. Nayyar, Deepak. 2017. Economic Liberalisation in India, *Economic and Political Weekly*. Vol. 52, Issue No. 2, 14 Jan.
7. Patnaik, U. 2004. 'The Republic of Hunger', reprinted in *The Republic of Hunger and Other essays*, New Delhi: Three Essays Collective, New Delhi, 2007. On-line version at <http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download;jsessionid=2FD0728AEF206A8D9BFE70B80148DB06?doi=10.1.1.559.6602&rep=rep1&type=pdf>
8. Patnaik, U. 2010. 'Trends in Urban Poverty under Economic Reforms: 1993-94 to 2004-05' *Economic and Political Weekly*. Vol 45, Issue No.4: 42-53. On-line version at <http://www.indiaenvironmentportal.org.in/files/Trends%20in%20Urban%20Poverty.pdf>
9. Saxena, N.C. 2008. 'Hunger, Under-nutrition and Food Security in India', paper given at conference on Policy Dialogues on Inequality, Hunger, Under-nutrition and Food security in India'
10. Sharma, S.D. 2009. A Political Economy of the Indian State in the Era of Globalisation: A Review. *South Asia*, Vol. 32(3), pp- 354-373

4. Wednesday, 17 March 2021:

➤ 12:15pm to 2:00pm (S3) ANSO090 |

Make in India: Manufacturing the Global Factory

India's uneven economic terrain is shaped by a multitude of conflicting interests. The lecture examines how India can be actively re-imagined as a site for witnessing the political, economic and rhetorical shift from "made in India" to "make in India." The lecture describes the intricate choreography involved in appropriating and re-scripting India as a manufacturing destination to further reputational and commercial gains.

References

1. Basu, Kaushik. 2010. *The Retreat of Democracy and Other Itinerant Essays on Globalization, Economics, and India*. Anthem Press (Chapters 1,2,4)
2. Breman, Jan. 1996. *Footloose Labour: Working in India's Informal Economy*. Cambridge University Press. (Chapters 1,4,8)
3. Breman, Jan. 2013. *At Work in the Informal Economy of India: A Perspective from the Bottom Up*. Oxford University Press
4. De Neve, G. 2008. Global Garment Chains, Local Labour Activism: New Challenges to Trade Unionism and NGO Activism in the Tiruppur Industrial Cluster, South India. *Research in Economic Anthropology*, Vol 28, pp. 213-240.

5. G. Carswell and G. De Neve. 2013. From Field to Factory: Tracing Transformations in Bonded Labour in the Tiruppur Region, South India. *Economy and Society* 42(3): 430-454.
6. Harriss-White, Barbara and Heyer, Judith (ed.). 2015. *Indian Capitalism in Development*. London: Routledge, Taylor & Francis (Chapters: 1,2,7,8,9,11,12,13)
7. Harriss-White, Barbara and Lutringer, Christine. 2015. *Mapping India's Capitalism: Old and New Regions*. Palgrave Macmillan. (Chapter 5)
8. Heath, A. & Jeffery, R. (eds) 2010. *Diversity and Change in Modern India: Economic, Social and Political Approaches*. Oxford: Oxford University Press (Chapters: Introduction and 5)
9. Mohan, Rakesh (ed). 2017. *India Transformed: 25 years of Economic Reforms*. Penguin Random House India (Chapters 1, 27, 32).
10. Nayyar, Deepak. 2015. Globalization and Democracy, *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 50, Issue No. 19, 09 May.
11. Prabhu, Nagesh. 2017. *Reflective Shadows: Political Economy of World Bank Lending to India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press (Preface and Chapters 1, 10).
12. Sanyal, Kalyan and Bhattacharyya. 2009. Beyond the Factory: Globalisation, Informalisation of Production and the New Locations of Labour. *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 44, Issue No. 22, 30 May.
13. Wyatt, AKJ, 2017, 'Paradiplomacy of India's Chief Ministers'. *India Review*, Vol 16, pp. 106-124.
14. Wyatt, AKJ. 2005a. Building the Temples of Postmodern India: Economic Constructions of National Identity, *Contemporary South Asia*, 14/4, pp. 465-480.
15. Wyatt, AKJ. 2005b. (Re)imagining the Indian (Inter)national Economy, *New Political Economy*, 10/2, pp. 163-179.

5. Wednesday, 24 March 2021:

➤ 12:15pm to 2:00pm (S3) ANSO090 |

Politics of Religion: Fundamentals of Fundamentalisms

Politics of religion and religion in politics share a symbiotic relationship in India. Religion in politics appears in various guises. The lecture explores the 'spectral presence' of fundamentalism in politics along two competing axes: (a) mainstream political parties seeking refuge in religion for reasons of political expediency (b) political implications of growing religious radicalisation on global 'war on terror.'

References

1. Breckenridge, C. A and van der Veer, P 1993. *Orientalism and the Postcolonial Predicament: Perspectives on South Asia*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. Preface, (Chapter 1)
2. Byman, D. 2005. *Deadly Connections: States that Sponsor Terrorism*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (Chapter- Introduction)
3. Basu, Kaushik and Subrahmanyam, Sanjay. 2000. *Unravelling the Nation: Sectarian Conflict and India's Secular Identity*. Penguin India (Chapter 5)
4. Jeffery, P and Jeffery, R. 2006. *Confronting Saffron Demography: Religion, Fertility, and Women's Status in India*. Gurgaon, India: Three Essays Collective. (Chapters 1, 2)
5. Madan, T. N. 1997. *Modern Myths, Locked Minds: Secularism and Fundamentalism in India*. Delhi: Oxford University Press. (Chapters 3, 4, 7)
6. Metcalf, B. 2010. Religion and Governance in India: A Comment. *South Asia*, Vol. 33(1), pp-1-12.

7. Sarkar, S. 2002. *Beyond Nationalist Frames: Postmodernism, Hindu Fundamentalism, History*. Bloomington, Ind.: Indiana University Press. (Chapters- Introduction, 7, 8, 9)
8. Sen, R. 2010. In the Name of God: Regulation in Indian Elections. *South Asia*, Vol. 33(1), pp-151-167.
9. Sud, N and Tambs-Lyche, H. 2011. Religion in the Making of a Region: Perspectives from Gujarat. Special Issue. *South Asia*, Vol.34 (3) pp-319-503
10. Van der Veer, P. 2007. "Contesting Traditions; Religion and Violence in South Asia". In M Skidmore and P Lawrence (eds.) *Women and the Contested State*. Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 7-25.
11. Wirsing, R. G. 2007. Unholy Alliance: Religion and Political Violence in South Asia. *South Asia*, Vol. 30(1), pp-25-42

6. Wednesday, 31 March 2021:

➤12:15pm to 2:00pm (S3) ANSO090 |

High Science and Low Tech: The Politics and Economics of the Techno-Scientific Imperative

The global 'high culture' of science in post-colonial India has turned into an elite project with a broad middle class support base. This lecture examines the politics and economics underscoring the uneven spread of 'big science' and the preponderance of 'low tech' interventions in the region. In particular the lecture interrogates: (a) the techno-scientific imperative (b) science and state formation projects (c) the notion of scientific citizenship.

References

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2. Bharadwaj, A. 2009. Assisted Life: The Neoliberal Moral Economy of Embryonic Stem Cells in India. In D Birenbaum-Carmeli and M. C. Inhorn (ed.). *Assisting Reproduction, Testing Genes: Global Encounters with New Biotechnologies*. New York: Berghahn Books.
3. Cohen, L. 2005. Operability, Bioavailability, and Exception. In A Ong and S. J Collier (ed.). *Global Assemblages: Technology, Politics, and Ethics as Anthropological Problems*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing.
4. Jairath, V. K. 1984. In Search of Roots: The Indian Scientific Community. *Contributions to Indian Sociology*. Vol. 18, pp. 109-130, May.
5. Krishna, V.V. 1997. Phasing Scientific Migration in the Context of Brain Gain and Brain Drain in India. *Science Technology Society*, vol. 2 no. 2, pp-347-385, September.
6. Kumar, D. 2011. *Science and the Raj: A Study of British India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press (Chapters 1 and 8)
7. Lal, V. Science in Question: A Review Article. [http://www.vinaylal.com/ESSAYS\(POK\)/sci6.pdf](http://www.vinaylal.com/ESSAYS(POK)/sci6.pdf)
8. Nandy, A (ed.), 1998. *Science, Hegemony and Violence: A Requiem of Modernity*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press. (Introduction)
9. Nandy, A and Vishwanathan, S. 1989. Modern Medicine and its Non-modern Critics: A Study in Discourse. In F Apfel-Marglin and S Marglin (ed.), *Dominating knowledge*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.
10. Robert S. Anderson, Robert. S. 1977. The Government of Scientific Institutions: Case Studies of Two Research Laboratories in the Late 1960s. *Contributions to Indian Sociology* January, 11: 137-168.

11. Vishwanathan, S. 1987. From the Annals of the Laboratory State, *Alternatives*, 12(1), January.
12. Vishwanathan, S. 1997. *A Carnival for Science*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
13. Vishwanathan, S. 1998. A Celebration of Difference: Science and Democracy in India, *Science*, Vol. 280, No. 5360, April 3.
14. Visvanathan, S. 1985. *Organising for Science*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press

Wednesday 7 April: No Class on account of EASTER BREAK: 2-11 APRIL 2021

7. Wednesday, 14 April 2021:

➤12:15pm to 2:00pm (S3) ANSO090 |

Gulabi Power? Women in/and Politics

Women in India occupy a paradoxical space. Worshiped and valorised as goddesses but frequently treated as socially inferior and unequal. The lecture unpacks this paradox through a critical examination of the political trajectories of grassroots and elite women in Indian politics. The lecture conceptualises the ascent of women on Indian political centre stage as an instance of *gulabi*, 'pink', power. It is argued that *gulabi* power is suffused with gendered irony and is both 'soft' and 'radical'.

References

1. Ciotti, M. 2006. At the Margins of Feminist Politics? Everyday Lives of Women Activists in Northern India. *Contemporary South Asia*, Vol. 15 (4) 437-452
2. Ciotti, M. 2009. The Conditions of Politics: Low-Caste Women's Political Agency in Contemporary North Indian Society. *Feminist Review*, 91: 113-134
3. Ciotti, M. 2010. 'The Bourgeois Woman and the Half-Naked One': Or the Indian Nation's Contradictions Personified. *Modern Asian Studies*, 4: 785–815
4. Ciotti, M (ed.). 2017. *Unsettling the Archetypes. Femininities and Masculinities in Indian Politics*. New Delhi: Women Unlimited (Chapters 1, 4, 5).
5. Gandhi, N. 1996. *When the Rolling Pins Hit the Streets: Women in the Anti-Price Rise Movement in Maharashtra*. New Delhi: Kali for Women.
6. Goetz, A. M. 2009. *Governing Women: Women's Political Effectiveness in Contexts of Democratization and Governance Reform*. New York: Routledge. (Chapters-Introduction, 5, 10.)
7. Hasan, Zoya (ed.) 1994. *Forging Identities: Gender, Communities and the State*. New Delhi: Kali for Women (especially Introduction & Chapters by Hasan, Chhachhi, Bacchetta)
8. John, Mary, E. 1998. Feminism in India and the West: Recasting a Relationship, *Cultural Dynamics*, Vol. 10, Issue, 2.
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12. Mohanty, Chandra Talpade (1985) 'Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourses', *Boundary 2*: 333-57. [Google Scholar](#)
13. Purushotham, S .1997. *The Empowerment of Women in India: Grassroots Women's Networks and the State*. New Delhi; London: Sage,.
14. Sunder Rajan, R. 2003. *Scandal of the State: Women, Law, Citizenship in Postcolonial India*. Durham: Duke University Press. (Chapter- Introduction)

8. Wednesday, 21 April 2021:

➤ 12:15pm to 2:00pm (S3) ANSO090 |

Political Violence and Social Suffering: The Rough and Tumble of Everyday

Political violence in India is best conceptualised as gestating in the mundane intricacies of the everyday. Whilst manifestly graphic in form and content political violence in the region is inherently symbolic. The lecture draws on the everyday articulations of violence and experience of social suffering in the region to describe how cataclysmic episodes of violence, such as the partition of the sub-continent in 1947, remain embedded in the 'rough and tumble' of the everyday.

References:

1. Basu, Amrita. 2006. *Violence and Democracy in India*. University of Chicago Press. (Chapters- 1, 3, 4, 8)
2. Brass, P. 2003. *The Production of Hindu-Muslim Violence in Contemporary India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press. (Chapters- 1, 16)
3. Butalia, U. 2000. *The Other Side of Silence: Voices from the Partition of India*. London : Hurst. (Chapters- 1, 4, 5, 8)
4. Chatterjee, R and Mehta, D. 2007. *Living with Violence: An Anthropology of Events and Everyday Life*. London: Routledge (Chapter: 1)
5. Das, V. 2007. *Life and Words: Violence and the Descent into the Ordinary*. Berkeley: University of California Press. (Chapters- 1, 2, 4)
6. Das, V. 1999. *Critical events: An Anthropological Perspective on Contemporary India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 3rd edition. (Chapters: 1,3,5)
7. Das, V. 2004. The Signature of the State: The Paradox of Illegibility. In V Das & D Poole (eds.), *Anthropology in the Margins of the State*. Santa Fe: School of American Research Press, pp. 225-278.
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9. Kleinman, A, Das, V and Lock, M. 1997. *Social Suffering*. Berkeley: University of California Press or see, "Social Suffering", special issue of *Daedalus*.1996. Vol 125, No 1, Winter. (Article by Kleinman and Kleinman)
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11. Menon, R. 2004. *No Woman's Land: Women from Pakistan, India & Bangladesh Write on the Partition of India*. New Delhi: Women Unlimited.

9. Wednesday, 28 April 2021:

➤ 12:15pm to 2:00pm (S3) ANSO090 |

Political Aesthetics: Mediascapes of Modernity

The aesthetic and the political in contemporary India are interlocked. The lecture interrogates the notion of political aesthetics and locates the genre in the realm of public culture in India. It

is argued that the key political questions, formations and conflicts are raised, resolved and represented in the field of public culture. Aesthetics provide resources to political actors to produce political solutions and allows individuals to make given political formations their own.

References

1. Ahmad, A. 2000 [1992]. *In Theory: Classes, Nations, Literatures*, London: Verso.
2. Appadurai, A and Breckenridge, C. A. 1988a. Editor's Comment. *Public Culture* 1(1): 1-4. Appadurai, A and Breckenridge, C. A. 1988b. Why Public Culture? *Public Culture* 1(1): 5-9.
3. Brosius, C and Butcher, M (eds.). 1999. *Image Journeys: Audio-visual Media and Cultural Change in India*. New Delhi: Sage. (Chapters- 1, 3)
4. Dickey, S. 2001. Opposing Faces: Film Star Fan Clubs and the Construction of Class Identities in South India. In R Dwyer and C Pinney (eds.). *Pleasure and the Nation: The History, Politics and Consumption of Public Culture in India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press. Pp. 212-246.
5. Ghosh, A. 2006. *Power in Print: Popular Publishing and the Politics of Language and Culture in a Colonial Society*. Delhi: Oxford University Press. (Chapter- Introduction)
6. Hansen, K. 2001. The Indar Sabha Phenomenon: Public Theatre and Consumption in Greater India (1853-1956). In R Dwyer and C Pinney (eds). *Pleasure and the Nation: The History, Politics and Consumption of Public Culture in India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press. Pp. 76-114.
7. Jain, K. 2007. *Gods in the Bazaar: The Economy of Indian Calendar Art*. Durham: Duke University Press. (Chapters- Introduction 3, 5, 6, Conclusion)
8. Kapur, G. 2000. *When was Modernism? Essays on Contemporary Cultural Practice in India*. New Delhi: Tulika Books.
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10. Pinney, C. 2004. *Photos of the Gods: The Printed Image and Political Struggle in India*. London: Reaktion Books. Introduction. Pp. 7-12.
11. Rajagopal, A. 2001. *Politics after Television: Hindu Nationalism and the Reshaping of the Public in India*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (Chapters- Introduction, 1, 6, Conclusion)

10. Wednesday, 5 May 2021:

➤ 12:15pm to 2:00pm (S3) ANSO090 |

Class Presentations

11. Wednesday, 12 May 2021:

➤ 12:15pm to 2:00pm (S3) ANSO090 |

Uncivil Society? The Inconvenience of Civil Society Mobilisation

It often claimed civil society across India is undergoing a process of 'political galvanisation'. That is, increasing levels of civil society activism on issues ranging from lack of governance to rampant corruption and demands for institutional reforms. The lecture describes how civil society demands for accountability came to be seen as democracy in action in the Indian subcontinent. The class contours of this political mobilisation and its 'occupation' of the public sphere will be analysed to show what constitutes civil society. The lecture will argue how certain

kinds of protest movements get celebrated as the voice of the people and certain others remain excluded from an imagined civil 'mainstream'.

References

1. Banerjee, S. 2011. Anna Hazare, Civil Society and the State. *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 46, No. 36, September.
2. Chandhoke, Neera. 2001. The 'Civil' and the 'Political' in Civil Society. *Democratization*, Vol. 8, Issue. 2.
3. Chatterjee, Partha. 2004. *The Politics of the Governed: Reflections on Popular Politics in Most of the World*. Columbia University Press (Chapters- Preface, 2, 3, 6, 7).
4. Fernandes, L. 2006. *India's New Middle Class: Democratic Politics in an Era of Economic Reform*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. (Chapters- Introduction, 4, 5)
5. Gillan, M and Biyanwala, J. 2009. Revitalising Trade Unions as Civil Society Actors in India. *South Asia*, Vol. 32(3), pp- 425-447
6. Gudavarthy, Ajay. 2013. *Politics of Post-Civil Society: Contemporary History of Political Movements in India*. Sage (Chapters- Introduction, 2, 6)
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8. Jakimow, T. 2009. Non-Government Organisations, Self-help Groups and Neo-liberal Discourses. *South Asia*, Vol. 32(3), pp-469-484
9. Lewis, D. 2004. On the Difficulty of Studying 'Civil Society': Reflections on NGOs, State and Democracy in Bangladesh. *Contributions to Indian Sociology*. Vol. 38, no 3: pp. 299-322.
10. Wyatt, AKJ. 2015, 'Arvind Kejriwal's Leadership of the Aam Aadmi Party' *Contemporary South Asia*, Vol 23, no. 2, pp. 167-180.

12. Wednesday, 19 May 2021:

➤12:15pm to 2:00pm (S3) ANSO090 |

Global Footprints: Globalization and Change

Globalization sponsored change is inherently unequal and uneven. The lecture explores the process from 'below' to interrogate the seemingly inexorable spread of change and difference. Taking into account gender, class, region and transnationally dispersed practices, the lecture seeks to trace the intensifying, albeit meandering footprint of globalizing India. While the processes undergirding globalization emerge uniquely local and yet global, these often stop short of scripting a globalization narrative that takes homogenization, heterogenization and hybridization as its conceptual point of departure.

References

1. Assayag, Jackie and Fuller, Christopher John. 2006. *Globalizing India: Perspectives from Below*. Anthem Press. (Chapters- 1, 2, 5, 10)
2. Bardhan, Pranab. 2015. *Globalisation, Democracy and Corruption an Indian Perspective*. Kolkata:Frontpage. (Chapters- 1, 3)
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4. Ghosh, Biswajit. "Cultural Changes in the Era of Globalisation". *Journal of Developing Societies* (2011).

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6. Mukhopadhyay, Bhaskar. 2011. *The Rumour of Globalisation: Desecrating the Global from Vernacular Margins*. C Hurst & Co Publishers Ltd (Chapters- Introduction, 1, 6)
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13. Wednesday, 26 May 2021:

>12:15pm to 2:00pm (S3) ANSO090 |

Borderline Citizenship? Refusing, Resisting and Reclaiming Citizenship

Despite being home to the world's largest democracy and to increasing levels of political participation and mobilisation, citizenship in India remains fundamentally tenuous. Its fragility is not simply a feature of political indifference or the elite nature of citizenship projects but rather an outcome of structural impediments to participation, entitlements and representation. The lecture critically examines how citizenship is not only 'made' and 'unmade' through series of state/subject interactions but also how citizenship is 'refused' and 'resisted' as a state sponsored imposition.

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14. Wednesday, 2 June 2021:

➤ 12:15pm to 2:00pm (S3) ANSO090 |

Class Presentations