

International Conference
on
State, Civil Society and India's Religious Margins
Organised by the
Centre for the Study of Social Systems
School of Social Sciences
Jawaharlal Nehru University
New Delhi
December 7 & 8, 2017
Venue: Lecture Hall 2, Convention Centre, JNU

● **Day 1: December 7, 2017**

Inaugural Session: 9.45am to 11.15am

Religious Margins as Development Categories: Indian Experience and Global context

Introducing the theme of the Conference: Divya Vaid (Assistant Professor, CSSS, JNU)

Chair: Nilika Mehrotra (Professor and Chairperson, CSSS, JNU)

1. Emma Tomalin (Professor, University of Leeds)
2. T.K. Oommen (Emeritus Professor, CSSS, JNU)

Tea Break: 11.15am-11.30am

Session 2: 11:30am to 1pm

Symposium on Sachar Committee: Reflections and Looking Forward

Coordinated by Tanweer Fazal (Associate Professor, CSSS, JNU)

1. Rakesh Basant (Professor IIM, Ahmedabad and Member, Sachar Committee)
2. Farah Naqvi (Independent Researcher and Social Activist)
3. S.S. Jodhka (Professor, CSSS, JNU)

Lunch: 1pm to 2pm

Session 3: 2pm to 3.30pm

Social mobility, Middle Class Formation and Structural Re-arrangements

Chair: Sanjay Srivastava (Professor, IEG, Delhi)

1. Divya Vaid: Social Mobility among minority religions in India
2. Sanjeer Alam: Who Gets White-collar Jobs? Social Inequality in Education and Labour Market Outcomes in India
3. Tanweer Fazal: The 'Missing' Muslim Middle class: Structure, Identity and Mobility

Tea Break: 3.30pm-3.45pm

Session 4: 3.45pm to 5.15pm

Law, Citizenship and Reform

Chair: Neshat Quaiser (Professor rtd., JMI, New Delhi)

1. Rowena Robinson: Triple Talaq, Religious Freedoms: The Anatomy of a Judgment
2. Manisha Sethi: Ritual Death in a Secular State: The Jain Practice of Sallekhana
3. Farhana Ibrahim: Refugees, migrants, and infiltrators: Encounters and regulations among Muslim women migrants in Western India.

• **Day 2: December 8, 2017**

Session 5: 9.45am to 11.15am

Minorities and Minoritisation: Politics of Culture and Identity

Chair: Maitrayee Chaudhuri (Professor, CSSS, JNU)

1. Qudsiya Contractor: Forbidden food, forgotten margins - The politics of food and the limits of majoritarian cultural accommodation in contemporary urban India
2. Adnan Farooqui: The Challenges of Muslim representation: Asaduddin Owaisi and the changing politics of the AIMIM
3. Ankur Datta: Complicating the minority voice: The politics of victimhood and a Kashmiri community

Tea: 11.15am to 11.30am

Session 6: 11.30am to 1pm

Violence, Survivors and the State

Chair: Paul D'Souza (Director, ISI, New Delhi)

1. Salah Punathil: Interrogating Communalism: Violence and Marginality among Minorities in Kerala, South India
2. Pusham Azad Babu: The Anatomy of Conflict and Violence in the Contemporary Meitei-(Meitei-Pangal/Pangal) Society of Manipur.
3. Heewon Kim: A vulnerable minority? Hindu nationalism and Sikhs in post-Independence India

Lunch: 1pm to 2pm

Session 7: 2pm to 3.15pm

The Contestations Within: Traditionalism, Development and Justice

Chair: Sanghamitra Acharya (Director, IIDS and Professor, CSMCH)

1. R. Santhosh: Traditionalism and development; the case of Sunni Muslims in Kerala
2. Bidhan Dash: At the Margins of the Mainstream: Mahima Dharma and Contestations over Cultural Nationalism in Odisha
3. Padmanabh Samarendra: Caste after conversion: The Supreme Court and the Question of Membership of a Scheduled Caste

Tea: 3.15pm to 3.30pm

Session 8: 3.30pm to 4.45pm

Marginality and Identity: The Political Economy of Exclusion

Chair: Diya Mehra (Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, South Asian University)

1. Zarin Ahmad: Holy Cow and Qureshi butchers: Negotiating occupation, sensitivity and stigma in colonial north India
2. Anasua Chatterjee: Spatial Exclusion and Muslim Identities in Contemporary Urban India: A Case Study from Kolkata
3. Pradeep Shinde: Of limen and border: the Kunchikorves of Dharavi and their problem of 'the inner life'

Session 9: 4.45pm-6.00pm

Panel Discussion: State, Civil Society and Religious Margins: The Global Discourse

Coordinated by S.S. Jodhka (Professor, CSSS, JNU)

1. Jorg Hausteин (Senior Lecturer in Religions, SOAS, University of London)
2. Dereje Feyissa Dori (Professor, College of Law and Governance, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia)
3. Dena Freeman (Senior Visiting Fellow, Department of Anthropology, LSE)
4. Ghazala Jamil (Assistant Professor, CSLG, JNU)