

Teach-In Organizing Committee:

Tariq Ali (History), Anustup Basu (English/Media and Cinema Studies), Manisha Basu (English), Behrooz Ghamari-Tabrizi (History/Sociology), Susan Koshy (English/Asian American Studies), Sibin Mohan (Computer Science), Rini Bhattacharya Mehta (Comparative and World Literature), Shuddhabrata Sengupta (RAQS Media Collective, Sarai Media Lab)

Graduate Student organizers: Roshni Bano (Biophysics), Setu Chakrabarty (Plant Biology), Purba Chatterjee (Physics), Sambarta Chatterjee (Chemistry), Utathya Chattopadhyaya (History), Susmita Das (Institute of Communications Research), Eduard Fanthome (Anthropology), Raj Iyer (Cell & Developmental Biology), Tariq Khan (History), Shikha Lakhanpal (Geography & GIS), Ranjani Murali (Biochemistry), Shruti Syal (Urban & Regional Planning), Apoorv Tiwari (Physics), Radha Venkatagiri (Computer Science)

TEACH-IN

Dissent, Democracy and the Crisis of the Indian University

March 9, 6-8:30pm CST / March 10, 5:30-8am IST

Digital Computer Lab 1310
1304 W. Springfield Ave.

Schedule:

6:00pm

Opening Remarks:

Susan Koshy (Director, Unit for Criticism & Interpretive Theory)

The JNU Protests:

Susmita Das (UIUC Graduate Student)

6:15pm

Featured Speakers:

Arvind Rajagopal (NYU) Prof. of Media and Culture Rohit De (Yale University) Assistant Prof. History - via Skype Siddharth Narrain (Lawyer, CSDS, New Delhi) - via Skype Saib Bilaval (JNU Graduate Student) - via Skype

7:30pm

Q & A with Audience

Moderated by Tariq Ali (History)

Featured Speakers

Arvind Rajagopal is a Professor of Media Studies at NYU, and an affiliate faculty in the Depts of Sociology and Social and Cultural Analysis. His scholarly work is at the intersection of sociology, cultural history and media theory, and explores the history of publicity vis-a-vis postcolonial state formation. His book *Politics After Television: Hindu Nationalism and the Reshaping of the Public in India* (Cambridge, 2001) won the Ananda Kentish Coomaraswamy Prize from the Association of Asian Studies in 2003. His edited volumes include *The Indian Public Sphere* (Oxford 2009), and *Media and Utopia* (the latter with Anupama Rao), Routledge 2016. Recent articles include "The Emergency and the New Indian Middle Class" in *Modern Asian Studies*, and "Special Political Zone" on the anti-Muslim violence in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, in *South Asian History and Culture*, "Putting America in its Place" in *Public Culture*, and "Indian Politics Under Modi" in *Social Text's Periscope*. He has held fellowships at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, and the Institute for Advanced Studies in Princeton. He has been a visiting professor at the University of Goettingen (Germany), the Delhi School of Economics (University of Delhi), and the Central University of Hyderabad. His current research draws on archives in India, the UK, Germany, France and the United States, and locates India's postcolonial state form in the context of Cold War history and the mediatic afterlives of state socialism.

Siddharth Narrain is a lawyer and Research Associate at Sarai - Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), Delhi. His research interests revolve around the intersection of law and media, debates around the freedom of speech and expression, and gender and sexuality rights. He has co-edited *The Shifting Scales of Justice: The Supreme Court in Neo-liberal India* (Orient Blackswan 2014), a collection of essays on the politics of the Indian Supreme Court. He has worked earlier as a legal researcher for the Alternative Law Forum, Bangalore, and as a journalist with The Hindu group of publications.

Rohit De is a historian of modern South Asia and is particularly interested in legal history. He received his Ph.D from Princeton University, where he was elected to the Society of Woodrow Wilson Scholars. His dissertation won the Law and Society Association Prize in 2013. He was the Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow at the Centre for History and Economics and at Trinity Hall at the University of Cambridge before coming to Yale in 2014. He received his law degrees from the Yale Law School and the National Law School of India University, Bangalore.

He is currently completing a book, *Litigious Citizens: Constitutional Law and Everyday Life in the Indian Republic*, that explores how the Indian constitution, despite its elite authorship and alien antecedents, came to permeate everyday life and imagination in India during its transition from a colonial state to a democratic republic. Mapping the use and appropriation of constitutional language and procedure by diverse groups such as butchers and sex workers, street vendors and petty businessmen, journalists and women social workers, it offers a constitutional history from below.

He is also interested in comparative constitutional law. He has assisted Chief Justice K.G. Balakrishnan of the Supreme Court of India and worked on constitution reform projects in Nepal and Sri Lanka. He is an Associate Research Scholar in Law at the Yale Law School and the co-curator of the History and the Law digital archive.

Saib Bilaval was born and grew up in Delhi. He completed his BA in History from Ramjas College, Delhi University, and is currently pursuing his M.Phil in Modern History at the Center for Historical Studies, JNU. He is studying right-wing propaganda in India during the period from 1947-52, focusing on the *Organiser*, *Panchajanya* and *Hindu Outlook* journals.