

CENTRE FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES  
INDRAPRASTHA COLLEGE FOR WOMEN  
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

Report on events conducted between Aug 2020-May 2021

**Webinar Series: “Interdisciplinary Enquiries in Theory and Methods”**

This report is a brief summary of the webinar series organized by Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies, Indraprastha College for Women under ‘IPCW ON’. The series consisted of five webinars.

We heard and learnt from the experiences of our speakers of undertaking their own research. In particular they spoke about their academic journeys and the reasons behind the choice of their methodology. The webinar series touched the following themes:

- a) In what ways does interdisciplinary research map better onto real world research problems than discipline based research?
- b) How have interdisciplinary fields arisen and developed in their own research journey?
- c) How does one engender interdisciplinary research within universities, departments, research groups and for individual researchers?

The posters and the screenshots of the series are attached in the pages below:

## SESSION 1

### ‘Why do we need Interdisciplinarity?’

The first session of the webinar series was organized on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October, 2020 from 4 pm onwards. The session was titled ‘Why do we need Interdisciplinarity?’ The speaker for the session was Dr. Sunalini Kumar, Associate Professor at Ambedkar University, Delhi. The opening remarks for the inaugural session were made by Prof. Babli Moitra Saraf, Principal of Indraprastha College for Women, Delhi. Thereafter, the speaker was introduced by Dr. Ankita Pandey, Assistant Professor at Indraprastha College for Women, Delhi. Dr. Kumar prepared a presentation for the participants through which she elaborately explained the different aspects of interdisciplinarity. After the speaker’s address there was a brief Q and A round where pertinent questions were raised by the participants and answered by the speaker.

The session was attended by 60+ participants from diverse disciplines.

Poster of the session:



The poster is a vertical rectangular graphic with a light grey background. At the top left is the Indraprastha College for Women logo, which includes a crest and the text '96 YEARS'. To the right of the logo is a black rectangular box with the white text 'IPCW-ON'. Below the logo, the text 'INDRAPRASTHA COLLEGE FOR WOMEN' is centered in a bold, black, sans-serif font, followed by 'UNIVERSITY OF DELHI' in a smaller font. Below that, 'CENTRE FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES' is centered in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Underneath this, the text 'invites you to' and 'the webinar series' are centered in a smaller, italicized font. A dark grey horizontal band contains the text 'INTERDISCIPLINARY ENQUIRIES IN THEORY AND METHODS' in white, bold, sans-serif font, followed by 'Session I' and 'WHY DO WE NEED INTERDISCIPLINARITY?' in a smaller white font. Below this band is a circular portrait of Dr. Sunalini Kumar, a woman with dark curly hair, smiling. Below the portrait, her name 'Dr. Sunalini Kumar' and title 'Associate Professor' are centered in a bold, black, sans-serif font, followed by 'Ambedkar University, Delhi' in a smaller font. Below that, the text 'Opening Remarks:' is centered in a bold, black, sans-serif font, followed by 'Prof. Babli Moitra Saraf,' and 'Principal, Indraprastha College for Women' in a smaller font. The date and time '10th October at 4.00 pm IST' are centered in a bold, black, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the registration link 'Register at <https://forms.gle/kpqFcNxiMH4Wf8Te9>' and the contact information 'For queries, contact: roohi1410afreen@gmail.com' are centered in a smaller font.

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CENTRE FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

invites you to  
the webinar series

INTERDISCIPLINARY ENQUIRIES IN  
THEORY AND METHODS

Session I

WHY DO WE NEED INTERDISCIPLINARITY?



Dr. Sunalini Kumar  
Associate Professor  
Ambedkar University, Delhi

Opening Remarks:  
Prof. Babli Moitra Saraf,  
Principal, Indraprastha College for Women

**10th October at 4.00 pm IST**


Register at <https://forms.gle/kpqFcNxiMH4Wf8Te9>  
For queries, contact: roohi1410afreen@gmail.com

## SESSION 2

### ‘On the Serendipitousness of Discipline’

The second session of the CIDS webinar series was organized on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October, 2020 from 4 pm onwards. The session was titled ‘On the Serendipitousness of Discipline’. The speaker for the session was Dr. Sneha Krishnan, Associate Professor at University of Oxford. Dr. Krishnan shared with the audience her experiences and her insights about the work that she has done. The speaker’s address was followed by a brief Q and A round. The session was attended by 40+ participants.

Poster of the session:




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INTERDISCIPLINARY ENQUIRIES IN  
THEORY AND METHODS  
Session 2  
ON THE SERENDIPITOUSNESS OF DISCIPLINE



Dr. Sneha Krishnan  
Associate Professor  
University of Oxford

**19th October at 4.00 pm IST**

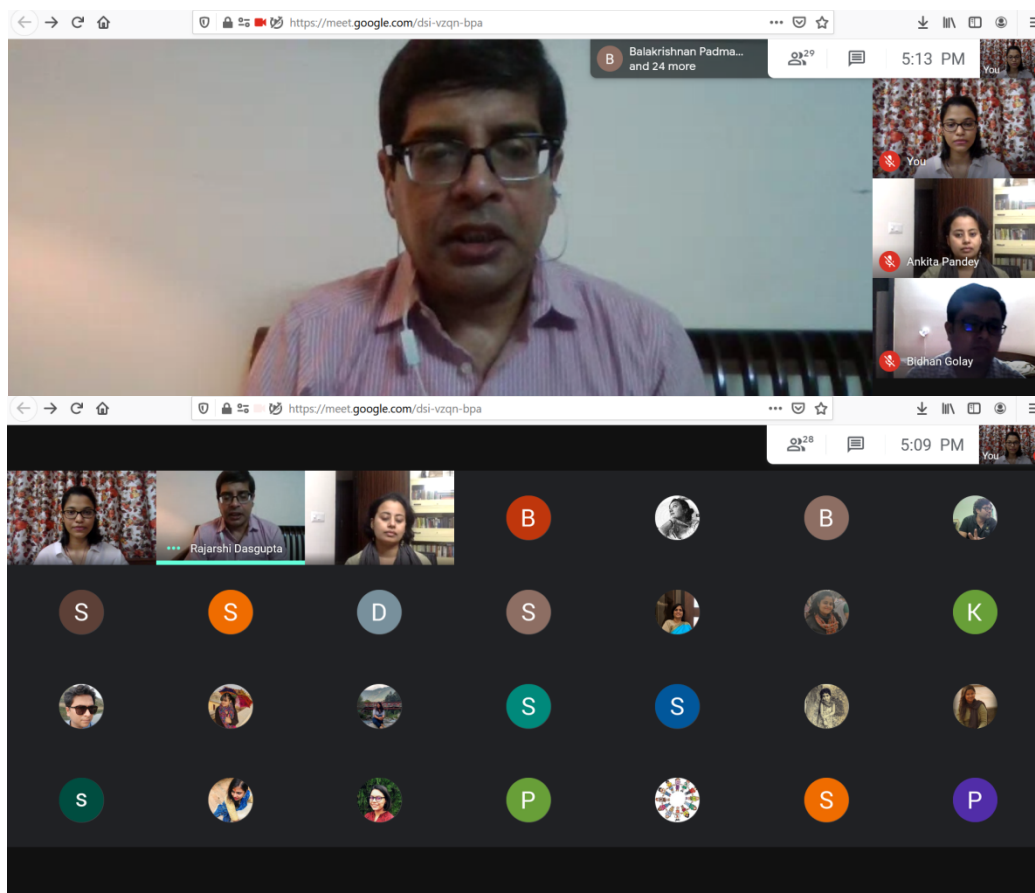
Register at <https://forms.gle/zkCk2Yv3hgEhbC6Y6>  
For queries, contact: roohi1410afreen@gmail.com




### SESSION 3

#### ‘The Messiness of Material and Making Sense’

The third session of the lecture series was organized on the 27<sup>th</sup> of October, 2020 at 5 pm. The title of the session was ‘The Messiness of Material and Making Sense’. The speaker for the session was Dr Rajarshi Dasgupta, Assistant Professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University. The speaker’s address was followed by a brief Q and A round. The session was attended by 30+ participants. Screenshots of the session:



Poster of the session:




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INTERDISCIPLINARY ENQUIRIES IN  
THEORY AND METHODS  
Session 3  
THE MESSINESS OF MATERIAL AND MAKING SENSE



Dr. Rajarshi Dasgupta  
Assistant Professor  
Jawaharlal Nehru University

**27th October at 5.00 pm IST**

Register at <https://forms.gle/esGgFYwi5zfDAFDY8>  
For queries, contact: roohi1410afreen@gmail.com

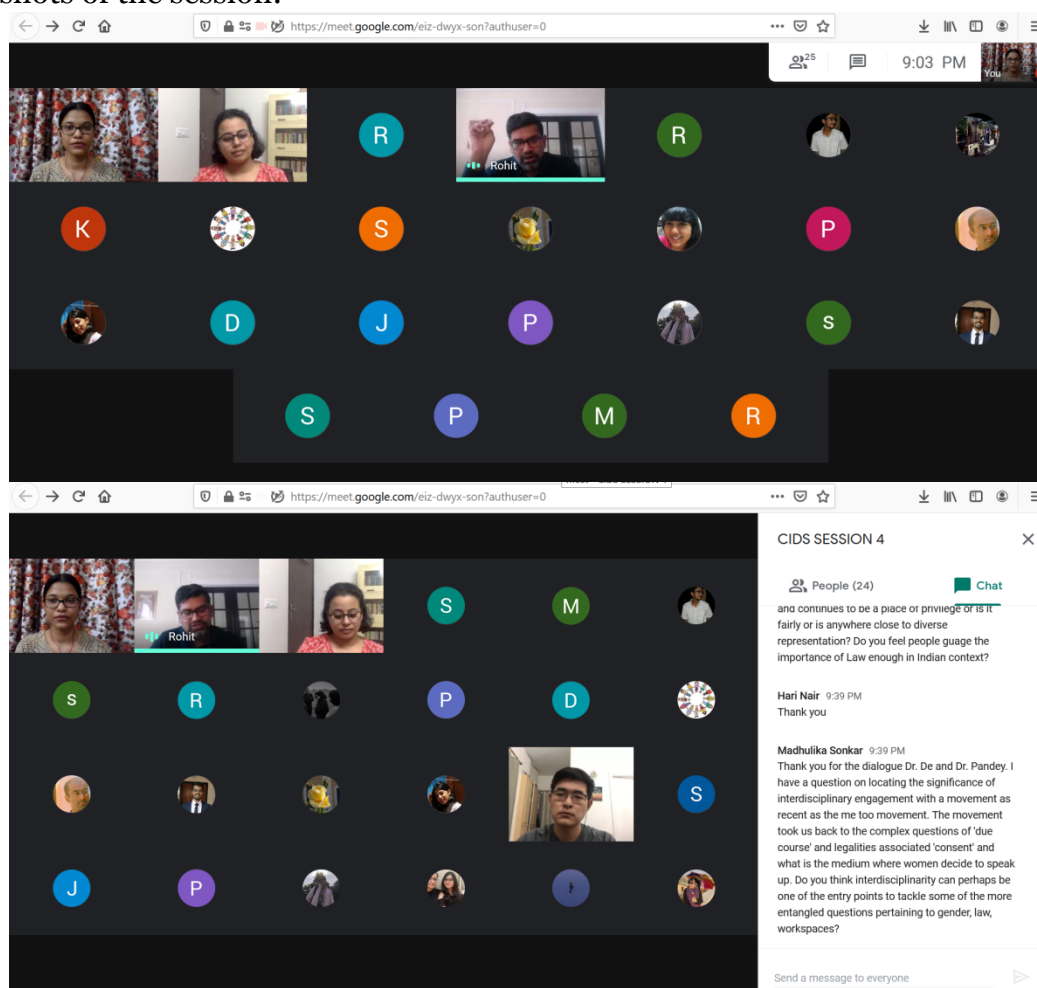
## SESSION 4

### Exploring the Edges: Legal History and Interdisciplinarity

The fourth session of the webinar series was organized on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November, 2020 from 8:30 pm onwards. The session was titled 'Exploring the Edges: Legal History and Interdisciplinarity'. The speaker for the session was Dr. Rohit De, Associate Professor at Yale University. The session was in the form of a conversation between the speaker and Dr. Ankita Pandey, Assistant Professor at Indraprastha College for Women.

The speaker touched upon the legal aspect of interdisciplinary studies and how different the legal scene is in India and elsewhere. He talked about his book and his research work and briefly touched upon the procedure he engages with to arrive at meaningful findings. The address was followed by a brief Q and A round. The session was attended by 30+ participants.

Screenshots of the session:



Poster of the session:



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INTERDISCIPLINARY ENQUIRIES IN THEORY  
AND METHODS

Session 4

IN CONVERSATION WITH ROHIT DE

On

EXPLORING THE EDGES: LEGAL HISTORY AND  
INTERDISCIPLINARITY



Rohit De  
Associate Professor  
Yale University

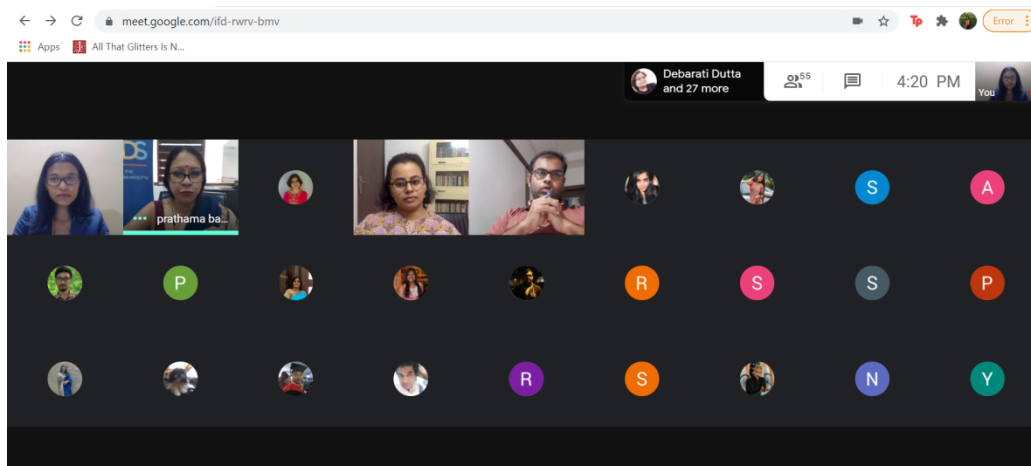
**6th November at 8.30 pm IST**

Register at <https://forms.gle/jihXmddppSzBDQRw8>

For queries, contact: roohi1410afreen@gmail.com

## SESSION 5

‘Is there a method to Interdisciplinarity? Objects, Categories and Dispositions’  
The fifth session of the webinar series was organized on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November, 2020 from 4pm onwards. The session was titled ‘Is there a method to Interdisciplinarity? Objects, Categories and Dispositions’. The speaker for the session was Prof. Prathama Banerjee from Centre for the Study of Developing Societies. The speaker talked about the problem that hybrid object of study poses on Interdisciplinarity. She highlighted the prominence of gender and environment studies as branches of interdisciplinary studies and the interdependence of different languages and disciplines. The address was followed by a brief Q and A round. The session was attended by 50+ participants. Screenshots of the session:




Poster of

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CENTRE FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES  
invites you to  
the webinar series

the session:

INTERDISCIPLINARY ENQUIRIES IN  
THEORY AND METHODS  
Session 5  
IS THERE A METHOD TO INTER-DISCIPLINARITY?  
OBJECTS, CATEGORIES AND DISPOSITIONS



Prof. Prathama Banerjee  
Centre for the Study of Developing Societies

**20th November at 4.00 pm IST**

Register at <https://forms.gle/8Nbq1t2hpRNGS7x3A>  
For queries, contact: roohi1410afreen@gmail.com

**March 10<sup>th</sup> 2021**

**Online Panel Discussion “Behind the Scenes: The Life of a Civil Servant”**

The Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies conducted an online panel discussion titled Behind the Scenes: The Life of a Civil Servant on the book *Method in the Madness: Insights from My Career as an Insider-Outsider-Insider*. The author of the book is Parameswaran Iyer [Former Secretary to the Government of India and best known for implementing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Swachh Bharat Mission]. The moderator was Anand Narasimhan [Executive editor and anchor, Network 18]. On the panel were Vrinda Sarup [Former Secretary to the Government of India] and Neha Sharma [District Magistrate, Firozabad, UP]. The host was Prof. Babli Moitra Saraf.

The poster is for an online panel discussion. At the top left is the logo of Indraprastha College for Women, University of Delhi, celebrating 97 years. The text 'Indraprastha College for Women' and 'University of Delhi' is centered at the top. To the right is a small box that says 'IPCW ON'. Below this is 'Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies (CIDS)'. The main title of the event is 'Behind the Scenes: The Life of a Civil Servant'. Below this, it says 'An Online Panel Discussion on Method in the Madness: Insights from My Career as an Insider-Outsider-Insider'. The author is Parameswaran Iyer, the moderator is Anand Narasimhan, and the discussants are Vrinda Sarup and Neha Sharma. The host is Babli Moitra Saraf. The date and time are 10 MARCH 2021 at 5pm (IST). The event is organized by Ankita Pandey, Coordinator of CIDS. On the left side of the poster is a portrait of Parameswaran Iyer with the book cover of 'Method in the Madness' overlaid. The book cover features the title 'Method in the Madness' and the subtitle 'Insights from My Career as an Insider-Outsider-Insider' by Parameswaran Iyer. A quote from Nandan Nilekani is also present: 'Lessons in management that one can't learn at business school'. At the bottom, the registration link is provided: <https://forms.gle/vdaiRc7FXRUB5h3y6>.

Indraprastha College for Women  
University of Delhi  
IPCW ON  
Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies (CIDS)

invites you to  
**‘Behind the Scenes: The Life of a Civil Servant’**

An Online Panel Discussion on  
*Method in the Madness: Insights from My Career as an Insider-Outsider-Insider*

**Author: Parameswaran Iyer**  
**Moderator: Anand Narasimhan**  
**Discussants: Vrinda Sarup**  
**Neha Sharma**  
**Host: Babli Moitra Saraf**

**10 MARCH 2021**  
**5pm (IST)**

Organised by:  
Ankita Pandey  
(Coordinator CIDS)

**Method in the Madness**  
Insights from My Career as an Insider-Outsider-Insider  
**PARAMESWARAN IYER**  
Lessons in management that one can't learn at business school  
— NANDAN NILEKANI

Registration link: <https://forms.gle/vdaiRc7FXRUB5h3y6>



**Centenary Grant Research Colloquium  
March 19th - April 26th**

CIDS hosted the Centenary Grant Research Colloquium that consisted of presentations by previous award holders of the Indraprastha College for Women, Centenary Decade Research Grants. Six sessions were conducted between March 19th - April 26th.

The first session is on March 19th 2021 at 4pm IST. Ms. Varya Srivastava and Ms. Sadaf Nausheen will present on: Democratic Peace Theory: Is War a Means to Peace?



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**CENTENARY GRANT RESEARCH  
COLLOQUIUM**

**19th March to 23rd April**

[Presentations by students who were previous  
grant holders]

**Session I: Ms. Varya Srivastava and  
Ms. Sadaf Nausheen**

**Title: Democratic Peace Theory: Is War  
a Means to Peace?**

**19th March 2021  
4 pm (IST)**

Organised by:  
Ankita Pandey,  
Convenor CIDS

Our second session is on March 27th 2021 at 4pm IST. Ms. Fabi Mathur and Ms. Arushi Middha from the B.A. (Prog) will present on "Keoladeo National Park: Tourism, Conservation, and Socio-Economic Development".



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## **CENTENARY GRANT RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM**

**19th March to 23rd April**

[Presentations by students who were previous  
grant holders]

Session II: Ms. Arushi Middha and  
Ms. Fabi Mathur

Title: Keoladeo National Park: Tourism,  
Conservation and Socio Economic  
Development.

27th March 2021  
4 pm (IST)  
Platform: Google Meet

Organised by:  
Ankita Pandey,  
Convenor CIDS



Our third session is on April 3rd 2021 at 4pm IST. Ms. Prahelika Deka from the B.A. Hons (Geography) will present on "Floods in Majuli: A Feminist View".



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## CENTENARY GRANT RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM

**19th March to 23rd April**

[Presentations by students who were previous  
grant holders]

**Session III: Prahelika Deka**

**Title: Floods in Majuli:  
A Feminist View**

3rd April 2021  
4 pm (IST)

Organised by:  
Ankita Pandey,  
Convenor CIDS

Our fourth session is on April 9th 2021 at 4pm IST. Ms. Paulomi Das, Ms. Radhika Sareen, Ms. Saurya Mishra who were at the Political Science (H) will present on "Social Movements to Electoral Politics: Mapping the Aam Aadmi Party"



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## **CENTENARY GRANT RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM**

**19th March to 23rd April**

[Presentations by students who were previous grant holders]


Session IV: Ms. Paulomi Das, Ms. Radhika Sareen, Ms. Saurya Mishra

Title: Social Movement to Electoral Politics:  
Mapping Aam Aadmi Party

9th April 2021  
(Friday)  
4 pm (IST)

Organised by:  
Ankita Pandey,  
Convenor CIDS

Our fifth session is on April 16th 2021 at 4pm. We have two groups this time. Group I comprises of Vaishali, Mitali, Sneha and Ekta Title: Mapping the Campus of Indraprastha College. They are from the Department of Geography. Group II: Rajkumari, Chanchal, and Meenu. Title: The Gandhinama of Delhi : In Search of Relics Lost to Urbanisation. They are from the Department of Political Science.



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presents  
the

**CENTENARY GRANT RESEARCH  
COLLOQUIUM**  
**19th March to 23rd April**  
[Presentations by students who were previous grant holders]

Group I: Vaishali, Mitali, Sneha and Ekta  
Title: Mapping the Campus of Indraprastha College

Group II: Rajkumari, Chanchal, and Meenu  
Title: The Gandhinama of Delhi : In Search of Relics  
Lost to Urbanisation

16th April 2021  
(Friday)  
4 pm (IST)

Organised by:  
Ankita Pandey,  
Convenor CIDS

Our sixth session is on April 23rd 2021 at 4pm. We have Ms.Ruchita Vaidya, who will present on "Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Incarcerated Women: A Narrative Study"



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CENTRE FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES  
presents  
the

**CENTENARY GRANT RESEARCH  
COLLOQUIUM**

**19th March to 23rd April**

[Presentations by students who were previous grant  
holders]

**Session VI: Ms. Ruchita Vaidya**

**Title: Rehabilitation and Reintegration of  
Incarcerated Women:  
A Narrative Study**

23rd April 2021  
(Friday)  
4 pm (IST)

Organised by:  
Ankita Pandey,  
Convenor CIDS

**International Panel Discussion on  
"Marx and Lenin in Asia and Africa"  
24<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

**International Panel Discussion  
"Marx and Lenin in Africa and Asia"**

The Panel discussion was held on May 24th at 7pm (IST) hosted by CIDS. The presenters were:

Harry Verhoeven, Assistant Professor, Georgetown University.

Julia Strauss, Professor, SOAS, University of London.

Mohammed Al-Sudairi, King Faisal Centre for Research and Islamic Studies

Kevin Fogg, Associate Director, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



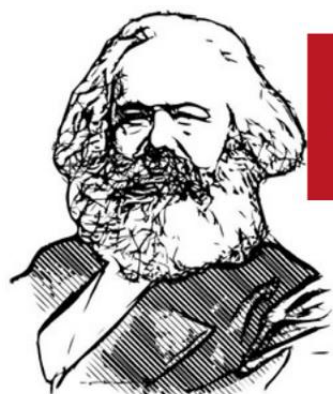
97 years

**INDRAPRASTHA COLLEGE FOR WOMEN**  
University of Delhi

**CENTRE FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES**

Presents a Panel Discussion on

**Marx and Lenin in Asia and Africa:  
papers from the special issue of Third  
World Quarterly**



**PARTICIPANTS:**

Harry Verhoeven, Convenor of the Oxford University,  
China-Africa Network

Julia Strauss, SOAS, University of London.

Mohammed Al-Sudairi, King Faisal Centre for Research and  
Islamic Studies.

Kevin Fogg, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



**MODERATOR:**

Rajarishi Dasgupta, Jawaharlal Nehru University

**HOST:**

Ankita Pandey, Coordinator CIDS, Indraprastha College for  
Women, University of Delhi

**24 MAY 2021 | 7:00 PM (IST) | GOOGLE MEET**

Link: <http://meet.google.com/wjc-ibsm-spr>

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