



International Seminar Gandhi and the Adivasi Question

October 1, 2020 (1:00pm to 7:00pm IST)

Interdisciplinary panel discussion on Gandhi and the Adivasi Question

Gandhi and the Category of Adivasis: Understanding Extra Parliamentary Vocabulary.

Dr. Dhananjay Rai (Central University of Gujarat, Gandhinagar)

Historicising political discourse of Gandhians and Adivasi communities in Western India

Dr. Bina Sengar (Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad)

Perceptions of Gandhi among Tana Bhagats of eastern India

Dr. Sangeeta Dasgupta (Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi)

Hind Swaraj from a contemporary Adivasi perspective

Shri. Arjun Rathva (Shri. M.C. Rathva Arts College, Pavi-Jetpur)

Keynote: The Question of Human Dignity in Adivasi Studies

by Dr. Daniel J. Rycroft

(Chair, India Dialogue, University of East Anglia, UK)

Conversation and Discussion with

Dr. Jitendra Vasava (Convenor of the Adivasi Sahitya Sabha)

Shri. Ashok Chaudhari (Senior Adivasi Leader, Gandhian Activist)

Rapporteur

Dr. Mudit Trivedi (The University of Chicago)

The seminar will be held online through zoom. For attending the seminar, visit: tiny.cc/attendee-isgaq



Indigenous Cultural Heritage as a Facilitator for the Sustainable Development Goals (Grant Number SPARC/2018-2019/P1274/SL)

(Alok Kumar Kanungo and Nishaant Choksi, IIT Gandhinagar; Claire Smith and Chris Wilson, Flinders University)



International Seminar Gandhi and the Adivasi Question

October 1, 2020 (1:00pm to 7:00pm IST)

Gandhi's views on Adivasis are less discussed than his views on Dalits, peasants, and other communities. Of the few times he raised the Adivasi question, it was to discuss how they, as considered marginal communities, may be incorporated into the mainstream, such as when he says in *Hind Swaraj*, "The Bhil, Pindari, and Thag are our own countrymen. To win them over is my and your work" (HS, Sect. 8).

However there has been Gandhian engagement with Adivasis and his ideas have influenced the trajectory of Adivasi political movements in post-independence India. In this one day webinar series we seek to go deeper into Gandhian political philosophy, the history of Gandhian movements post-independence, and contemporary struggles for Adivasi rights to critically assess Gandhi's legacy in relation to Adivasis. We ask about the impact that Gandhi's efforts to address Adivasis through the "Ashram" system, particularly in Western India, has had on Adivasi political formations? How has Gandhian thought influenced national policy toward the Adivasis? What about the counter-narratives to Gandhian political philosophy with respect to Adivasis and Adivasi struggle? How did Gandhi address the economic and material development of Adivasis? Finally, what impact has Gandhi's ideals had on the contemporary political social movements as Adivasis struggle for their right to land and resources in the wake of development and displacement?

Programme Includes

Welcome Remarks

Interdisciplinary panel discussion on Gandhi and the Adivasi Question

Keynote: The Question of Human Dignity in Adivasi Studies by Dr. Daniel J. Rycroft

Conversation and Discussion

The seminar will be held online through zoom. For attending the seminar, visit: tiny.cc/attendee-igag



We hope this webinar may help us understand the legacy of Gandhi and Gandhian for our understanding of Adivasi communities, politics, and identity today.

International Seminar on Gandhi and the Adivasi Question

Programme Schedule

01:00 - 01:15 pm

Welcome remarks

by panel convenors

Nishaant Choksi and Alok Kumar Kanungo (IIT-Gandhinagar)

Chris Wilson and Claire Smith (Flinders University)

01:15-03:30pm

Interdisciplinary panel discussion on Gandhi and the Adivasi Question

Moderator: Dr. Dyotana Banerjee (IIT-Gandhinagar)

Panelists & Titles

Dr. Dhananjay Rai (Central University of Gujarat, Gandhinagar)

Gandhi and the Category of Adivasis: Understanding Extra Parliamentary Vocabulary

Dr. Bina Sengar (Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad)

Historicising political discourse of Gandhians and Adivasi communities in Western India

Dr. Sangeeta Dasgupta (Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi)

Perceptions of Gandhi among Tana Bhagats of eastern India

Shri. Arjun Rathva (Shri. M.C. Rathva Arts College, Pavi-Jetpur)

Hind Swaraj from a contemporary Adivasi perspective

04:00-05:30pm

Keynote: Dr. Daniel J. Rycroft (Chair, India Dialogue, University of East Anglia, UK)

The Question of Human Dignity in Adivasi Studies

05:00-07:00 pm

Conversation & Discussion

Dr. Jitendra Vasava (convenor of the Adivasi Sahitya Sabha)

Shri. Ashok Chaudhari (Senior Adivasi Leader, Gandhian Activist)

Rapporteur: Dr. Mudit Trivedi (The University of Chicago)

Indigenous Cultural Heritage as a Facilitator for the Sustainable Development Goals

(Grant Number SPARC/2018-2019/P1274/SL)

Alok Kumar Kanungo and Nishaant Choksi, IIT Gandhinagar; Claire Smith and Chris Wilson, Flinders University

