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# *Sacred Sites as Public Sphere in Kashmir's Contentious Politics*

Zohra Batul and Reeta Tremblay

Thursday, January 19

5:00-6:00 p.m.

\*online only\*

Join via Zoom at [uvic.ca/csrs/events](https://uvic.ca/csrs/events)

Holy sites in Kashmir are well known for their involvement in contentious politics and have proved themselves crucial for creating shared identity and meaning. Sacred sites provide the leaders and the people of Kashmir an organizational hub for protest. Consequently, these sacred spaces have emerged as the centre of struggle in Kashmir. Moreover, shrines and mosques offer a rich associational life for their members providing an opportunity for urban and rural people to interact and exchange views regarding all sorts of problems facing Kashmir—religious, social, economic, and political.

**Zohra Batul** holds a PhD in Political Science from Jamia Millia Islamia (New Delhi, India). Her research focuses on Religion, Gender and Spatial Politics, Migration and Movement. **Reeta Chowdhari Tremblay** is Professor Emerita in the dept of Political Science at UVic.

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