



Academic Freedom and its Discontents in India

Contesting the assumption that academic freedom is simply a function of the contingent predispositions of state power, Dr. Jayal will argue that the prospects for academic freedom depend substantially on the idea of the university in a given society, and the way in which this expresses the relationship between power and knowledge.

The present imperilments of academic freedom in India emanate not only from conspicuous political-ideological tendencies, but also from a creeping techno-managerial orientation and audit culture that reflects global practices. Documenting historical shifts in conceptions of academic freedom, this talk will explore how both these strands converge to jeopardise academic freedom in contemporary India.

Photo: Dedicated to the Silent Protesters by Ramesh Lalwani CC BY 2.0



Presentation by **Dr. Niraja Gopal Jayal**

Dr. Jayal is a Professor at the Centre for the Study of Law and Governance at the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

She is the author of *Citizenship and Its Discontents* (Harvard University Press, 2013), *Representing India: Ethnic Diversity and the Governance of Public Institutions* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2006) and *Democracy and the State: Welfare, Secularism and Development in Contemporary India* (OUP, 1999). Jayal has held visiting appointments at King's College, London; the EHESS, Paris; Princeton University; and the University of Melbourne. In 2009, she delivered the Radhakrishnan Memorial Lectures at All Souls College, Oxford.

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