ICSSR-Sponsored National Seminar

Towards a Just-India: Challenges and Prospects

April 30—May 01, 2019

CONCEPT NOTE
This seminar may be seen as an attempt towards developing an organic understanding of the theory of justice for the developing world and beyond. It's an attempt to develop a framework of justice which is best suited for the Indian needs while engaging with the contemporary practices of justice in India. Another running theme of the seminar is to go beyond the academic categories and concepts which make little sense to the lived-experiences of Indian masses. The seminar will try to analyze the dilemmas of justice both in practice and theory. Given the rich philosophical traditions of India, its cross-cutting diversity and issues specifically related to India, like caste, the seminar will interrogate the question of justice from varied lenses specifically suited to Indian needs. We will try to evaluate the social justice framework in India from the standpoint of universalistic western paradigms. An attempt will also be made to go beyond Eurocentric theories of justice while developing an indigenous organic framework of justice.

Therefore, we are trying to move beyond the traditional conceptualization of justice in terms of desert, virtue, distribution, fairness and bring into the fold of justice the emerging concepts like Capabilities, Svaraj and Recognition in global south with special reference to India. With revisiting of Mahatma Gandhi and B.R. Ambedkar and emergence of Amartya Sen, Nirmal Chandhoke, Rajeev Bhargava, Gurpreet Mahajan, Aakash Singh Rathore on the Indian academic scene, there is a quest for developing an Indian theory of Justice. The assertion of Ambedkarite forces, marginalization of minorities and atrocities and emergence of a mainmooth Indian Urban Middle Class has changed the dynamics of academic discourse in India in big way. After more than seventy years of Indian Independence and its interaction with the fast changing global world, the academic categories to capture Indian reality are falling short. This conference attempts to meaningfully engage with the ground reality of the Indian masses vis-a-vis the academic theorization while contesting the western gaze on Global South.

SUGGESTED SUB-THemes

**Section I: Theoretical Debates and Underpinnings on Justice**
- Classical Paradigms of Justice
- Contemporary Paradigms: Liberal, Neo-Liberal and Communitarian Perspectives on Justice
- Towards Integrating Classical and Contemporary Paradigms of Justice
- Non-Western Perspectives on Justice
- The Universalist and Relativist Conceptions of Justice
- Global Justice: Implications for Developing World
- Universalization and Institutionalization of Welfare State: Normative and Empirical Dimensions
- Democracy and Justice: Representation, Recognition, Participation, Inclusion and Redistribution
- Capability Paradigm of Justice and Global South
- Post Modern and Post Colonial Theorization of Justice

**Section II: Issues and Debates in India**
- The Constitutionalization of Justice in India
- Human Rights and Justice in Indian Context
- Legal Initiatives and Social Rights Jurisprudence
- Redistribution, Recognition and Representation Debates in India
- Multicultural Framework and Justice in India
- Affirmative Action Programs: Policies, Performance, Implementation and Outcomes
- The Democratic Practice, Complex Diversity and Justice in India
- Intersectionality of Caste, Class and Gender

- Rawlsian Justice: Exploring the Possibilities of Engagement in India
- Contextualizing Communitarian Approaches to Justice with reference to India
- Amartya Sen’s Idea of Justice: Deconstructing Contemporary India
- Neo-Liberal tilt of Indian State and its Implications for Marginalized Sections
- Globalization and its Impact on Marginalized Sections
- Justice in Digital India: Implications of WhatsApp, Twitter, Facebook
- The Question of Growth with Equity
- The Issue of Migration, Displacement and Development: State Corporatism and Social Movements
- Land Acquisition and the Question of Justice
- Communal Violence and Justice
- State of Gender Justice
- Public Interest Litigation and Legal Aid
- Ancient Hindu Traditions, Hinduutva and Justice
- Buddhist Ethics and Justice
- Islamic Perspectives on Justice
- Gandhi’s Conception of Justice
- Ambedkarite Vision of Justice
- Static of Environmental Justice and Sustainable Development

**Important Dates**
- Submission of Abstract: 10th April 2019
- Intimation of Acceptance of abstract: 12th April 2019
- Submission of Full Paper: 22nd April 2019
- Intimation of Acceptance of final paper: 24th April 2019
- Date of Seminar: April 30—May 01, 2019
- Email: justindiaamu@gmail.com

**Organised By**
Department of Political Science,
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Aligarh—202 002, Uttar Pradesh, India
www.amu.ac.in/departments.jsp?did=83

**Registration Fee**
- Faculty: Rs. 2000/-
- Research Scholars/Students: Rs. 1000/-

**Registration will be on-spot prior to the Inaugural Session.**

**Advisory Committee**
- Prof. A. R. Vijayar
- Prof. M. Ameen Beg
- Prof. Andh Khan
- Prof. Arif Hameed
- Prof. Md. Nafees Anser
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