

CENTRE FOR ASIAN AND
TRANSCULTURAL STUDIES

SOUTH ASIA
INSTITUTE



UNIVERSITÄT
HEIDELBERG
ZUKUNFT
SEIT 1386

Public Webinar

On

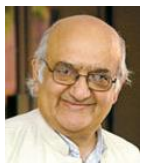
Academic Freedom in South Asia

The current situation

Event

The continuing erosion of academic freedom in South Asia is a cause for great concern in the global academic community. In order to understand the considerable variation in academic freedom across the region, the South Asia Institute has invited six renowned academics from five South Asian countries (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Nepal) to participate in a group discussion of the issue. We will begin with brief opening statements from the six participants, summarizing the current state of academic freedom in their respective countries, followed by a general discussion. A joint statement on the current state of academic freedom in South Asia will later be collectively written and distributed.

Speakers



Bangladesh

Professor Rehman Sobhan, is Founder and Executive Chairman of Centre for Policy Dialogue, Bangladesh. He is former Professor of Economics, Dhaka University and has been a member of Bangladesh Planning Commission and President's Advisory Council (1991).



India

Professor Mridula Mukherjee, is former Professor of Modern Indian History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, and former Director, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi.



Professor Nandini Sundar teaches Sociology at the Delhi School of Economics, Delhi University, and has been a recipient of multiple prestigious awards, including the Infosys Prize for social anthropology (2010), and Malcolm Adiseshiah Prize for Distinguished Contributions to Development Studies, 2017.



Nepal

Professor Krishna Bhattachan, is a Professor of Sociology, Central Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Tribhuvan University, Nepal, and the Secretary of Indigenous Peoples' Mega Front (IPMF), Nepal.



Pakistan

Dr Fatima Ihsan, is Assistant Professor, Centre of Excellence in Gender Studies, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan.



Sri Lanka

Professor Kalinga Tudor Silva is Professor of Sociology at the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. He is a co-author of *Checkpoint, Temple, Church and Mosque* (Pluto, 2014).

Moderators



Professor William S. Sax, is Professor and Head of Department of Anthropology, at the South Asia Institute, Heidelberg University.



Professor Rahul Mukherji, is Professor and Head of the Department of Political Science, at the South Asia Institute, Heidelberg University. He is currently the Executive Director of the South Asia Institute.

Date: 2 August 2021 (Monday), Time: 1130 – 1300 hrs (CEST), Online – Via Zoom
Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/93294506671?pwd=NHdpQklidWdMTGtweHZsbjhYRDlWZz09>
Meeting id: 932 9450 6671 Passcode: 892259