



**JAIN**  
DEEMED-TO-BE UNIVERSITY

CENTRE FOR  
RESEARCH IN  
SOCIAL SCIENCES  
AND EDUCATION

# The Social Science Perspective

NEWSLETTER FROM THE CENTRE FOR RESEARCH  
IN SOCIAL SCIENCES AND EDUCATION

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## MESSAGE FROM CHANCELLOR

As we are about to step into a new year, I would like to take this opportunity to wish the whole readership of The Social Science Perspective (TSSP) from the Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CeRSSE) a Happy New Year. The next edition of TSSP is here and I applaud the editorial team for their persistence, vision, and determination. The significance that social science research holds today is beyond measure, as it provides workable solutions for various social, business, and economic problems.

The CeRSSE has been an instrumental initiative of JAIN (Deemed-to-be University) in carrying out research in the field of social science with a dedicated focus on education and development. In this exceptional journey, TSSP has been the voice CeRSSE relies on when it comes to providing a passage for discussion and showcasing the university's contribution to the field of research. I firmly believe that the upcoming editions of the newsletter will bring forth excellent research work undertaken and the endless potential of our scholars. Thus, I look forward to reading the upcoming editions and wish the team the very best.

Best Wishes,  
Dr. Chenraj Roychand  
Chancellor - JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)



**Dr. Chenraj Roychand**  
Chancellor  
JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)

## MESSAGE FROM PRO CHANCELLOR

*"There are no facts, only interpretations."— Fredrich Nietzsche*

It is about looking at facts all over again. The post-pandemic world has led humans to interpret various socio-economic issues in different parlance. As we stare at the world three years down the line, the pandemic has affected numerous lives and livelihoods. The contribution of social science research in identifying the gaps in policy approaches will help policymakers in the formulation of inclusive policies that would help in the post-pandemic recovery phase.

Though India has gained the status of 5th largest economy, it is yet to gain momentum in the field of social science research. In India, social problems are complex, financing social science research is scarce, and researchers are not well equipped with the latest research techniques. These kinds of challenges impair the process of research – particularly, social science research. The means to overcome these challenges would determine the future of social science research. However, despite multifarious challenges, the government sectors, think tanks and academic institutions are playing an important role in promoting social science research. It is through research that society is consistently developing and given the pace at which our society is moving, there is a need for more quality research.

Therefore, at this critical juncture, The Social Science Perspective (TSSP) provides scope to express the perspective of scholars and researchers on a variety of issues. I applaud the uphill battle undertaken by the Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CeRSSE) at our University in bringing out this newsletter. I hope that the centre contributes to the growth of social science research. I wish it the very best. Wishing Happy New Year, 2023!



**Dr. N. Sundararajan**  
Pro Chancellor  
JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)

## MESSAGE FROM VICE CHANCELLOR

As we await embracing the new year with open arms, I wish all TSSP readers an intellectually stimulating 2023. The fast-evolving globalised world of today stands in dire need of critical thinking and curious minds infused with an insatiable quest for learning. In the wake of fast-paced digitisation, Steve Jobs once said, "Technology alone is not enough. Its technology married with the liberal arts, married with the humanities, that yields us the results that make our hearts sing." Embedded in social realities and empowered by the commonality of purpose, humanities and social sciences demystify the intriguing and multilayered nature of humanity.

In the course of its ongoing journey, the CeRSSE Newsletter has beautifully blossomed into a liberated thought space. Successively, The Social Science Perspective issues remain a steady witness to a confluence of unique visions and voices on wide-ranging evocative issues confronting humankind across the globe. It has opened up fresh avenues of engagement between educators, scholars and researchers. I commend the dynamism of the CeRSSE team members to reach out to diverse communities and to draw in substantive contributions for the newsletter cutting across disciplines and hierarchies. I do believe that the TSSP initiative, besides unleashing the latent potentials of our research scholars, will eventually lead to fruitful intra and inter-University research collaborations along an expansive spectrum. I applaud the untiring efforts of the editorial team, the contributors and scholars alike for their unwavering commitment to taking this newsletter to greater heights. Wishing everyone a very Happy New Year 2023!



**Dr. Raj Singh**  
Vice Chancellor  
JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)

## MESSAGE FROM REGISTRAR

Ancient Indian culture gives us an eternal mantra of Lokah samastha sukhi- nu bhavantu- Let the world be happy. This year at the beginning of 2023, I wish the TSSP readers in the same spirit- upholding the well-being of everyone, irrespective of our social positions in realising the true essence of justice. As the new year ushers in new possibilities, we need to embrace the idea of a culturally embedded society- drawing the cultural roots of the social formation surrounding us.

This is where TSSP promises to be intellectually stimulating as well as challenging our deep-seated prejudices through the prism of self-reflection. May the endeavour of disseminating the spirit of questioning and interdisciplinarity through the creation of discourses be upheld by CeRSSE and TSSP in the days to come. In the end, we should not forget that every effort counts if channelised constructively by being socially aware.



**Dr. N.V. H. Krishnan**  
Registrar  
JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)

## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

### Centre for Researcher Training and Administration

Human tendency is to expect every year to be good in order to make our life more meaningful with a bright future, full of joy and happiness. A new year also makes us reflect on our previous experiences and plan for better desirable goals and make everyone happy and peaceful in order to make human society a prosperous one.

It is through a well-structured educational approach, human potential and abilities that can develop in making people serve society for all-round development. In this direction, the Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CeRSSE) is bringing out the new year issue of its quarterly

In this context, I wish every reader a happy and prosperous New Year 2023 and that they follow the principles of social science and the purpose of education for the Human Endeavour.



**Dr. S. Srikanta Swamy**

Director, Centre for Researcher Training and Administration  
JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)

## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

### Academics & Planning

As the sun rises on the horizon of the New Year, humanity around the globe is awakened to new hopes for peace and progress even as the harsh memories of the pandemic are fading away and the fresh realities of conflict-ridden societies around the globe are challenging the indomitable human spirit to overcome their pains. At no other time in history perhaps, has the knowledge and application of humanistic and social sciences been called upon to bring solutions and solace than the present times, to societies which are mightily empowered with technological tools but widely impoverished with inequities of diverse kinds. However, there is the optimism of the pervasive positive spiritual consciousness all-round the globe and as Indians, we are well-positioned to embrace it.

Turning to our own institution, we have been earnestly seeking to unfold the opportunities presented by the new National Education Policy and its integrative aspects including the emphasis on imaginative and broad-based multidisciplinary liberal education as a foundation for holistic development of the growing young generation of students at JAIN. Particularly in the fields of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, in addition to the research outreach we had already, we had embarked on many new steps such as unveiling Shanta Mani Kala Kendra; strengthening our scholarly pursuits on Jainology and its rich traditions, and initiating and expanding the programmes on visual arts, public policy and leadership to mention a few. We are looking forward to the expansion of these and also a greater connection with industry, NGOs and other communities that we serve. Distinctive research at CAHC brought laurels to our University, which is now recognised as an Indian Knowledge Systems Centre by the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India. Further, we can see new emphasis emerging in the university to provide a quantum jump in our quest to create entrepreneurial talents as we had created new institutional mechanisms. All these can augment the demands for creative efforts of our faculty members in Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences. Let us resolve to make the New Year a year of creative growth, bringing the joys of sharing and caring.



**Prof. K R Sridhara Murthi**

Director, Academics and Planning  
JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)



## EDITOR'S DESK

### “Children must be taught how to think, not what to think.” – Margaret Mead

Contemporary education is dominated by engineering, sciences, artificial intelligence (AI) and other disciplines that have better ‘job prospects’. However, with the advancement of technologies, it is pertinent to understand the social prospects of it and thus, make the education system interdisciplinary by introducing humanities and social sciences. The introduction of these fields would cater to the development of society, let alone technological development. Interdisciplinary education would seek to apply knowledge and skills in real-world settings and to think critically. The need of the hour is to strive towards achieving integration of arts, humanities, sciences, engineering, and medicine that would address real-world challenges like climate change and poverty, to name a few. Interdisciplinarity in higher education will not only guide students to address global problems but also make them realise civic responsibility.

We, at CeRSSE, committed to our social responsibility of inculcating social awareness among our readers, are bringing to you a selection of editorial articles, also, presenting our interdisciplinary social approach reflected through our various activities. This is the eighth edition of TSSP covering the period between October and December 2022. The introductory piece discusses the domain of Climate Change to capture The World Perspective. The other original articles cover vital issues such as India’s refugee policy vis-à-vis Myanmar in India Matters; issues of women’s body and rights discourse vis-à-vis the protests against hijab in Iran in The Gender Perspective; an insight into research in humanities and social sciences in Approaching Research. Along with this, we also share with you the reports on the events organised and attended by the Centre during this period and reports on student’s field trips among others. This issue also introduces a section on Faculty Achievements to highlight the work that the faculty have been involved in during this period. This issue also highlights the activities of the students from the Master of Arts in Public Policy and Administration (MAPPA) which the Centre has launched last year as part of the Students’ Corner. Other than this, with much pleasure, we have showcased the academic achievements of the PhD scholars from JAIN. We hope you enjoy reading this issue as much as we took pleasure in curating it for you.

- **Priyanca, Rubina, Debangana**  
Editors, TSSP



## THE WORLD PERSPECTIVE

### European Union Emission Trading Scheme (EU ETS): Regional Efforts to Curb Carbon Footprint<sup>1</sup>



**Dr. Rubina Pradhan**

Assistant Professor

Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education  
JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)

#### Introduction

The emission trading Scheme of the European Union (EU) is the flagship scheme in the world and has been a significant approach in contributing to curbing carbon footprint. Covering approximately 11,000 installations (power plants and factories including airlines running flights within Europe) across the region, EU Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) is the biggest carbon market in the world (Creti and Joets 2017 and Abnett 2020) and covers 41 per cent of the total EU emissions (Abnett 2020). The system operates across the 27 EU member states including Iceland, Norway, and Liechtenstein and also has a link with the Swiss ETS (LIFE ETX 2021). The extent of membership to implement the EU's ETS makes the mechanism a viable option for expansion outside the region. However, the major argument made is that due to multifarious issues, the EU system of emission trading cannot be a viable option for most of the developing and least developed countries due to the nature of the economic and political environment.

#### Background

EU ETS is considered to be a 'flagship measure' (Ellerman and Joskow 2008) adopted by the EU to meet the obligation of the carbon reduction plan and mechanism inspired by the Kyoto Protocol but is independent of the same. The ETS of the EU became operational even before the Kyoto Protocol came into force in 2005. The EU started to strategise the agenda for achieving climate neutrality. The phases for the implementation of the EU ETS are:

##### *i. Phase I (2005-2007)*

In 2005, the EU launched its maiden carbon trading phase which covered emissions from power plants, steel plants, oil refineries and cement factories in the then-25 EU countries (Abnett 2020). This phase can be considered a preparatory phase for phase 2. Some of the major features of this phase are: the inclusion of only CO<sub>2</sub>, granting free allowances, and the imposition of penalties (40 Euros per tonne) for non-compliance (European Commission 2022, a).

<sup>1</sup>The paper was presented at Europe Conclave, November 2022 organised by NIAS in collaboration with Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, Bangalore.

*ii) Phase 2 (2008-2012)*

During this phase, the Kyoto Protocol also had the first commitment period wherein the European countries needed to meet their emission targets. However, the EU went ahead with phase 2 of ETS with certain key features like reducing the cap on granting the allowances; this phase also saw the joining of Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway; the inclusion of nitrous oxide emissions; non-compliance penalty was increased to 100 Euros per tonne; around 1.4 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent international credits could be bought by businesses; National Registry and Community Independent Transaction Log was replaced by Union registry and European Union Transaction Log respectively; the aviation sector was brought under the ambit of EU ETS on January 1, 2012 (European Commission 2022, a). By now, the data availability had become easier as a result of which the cap on allowances was reduced in this phase based on emission. The recession of 2008 also had an impact on the carbon price as there was a surplus of allowances and credits.

*iii) Phase 3 (2013-2020)*

Phase 3 has brought considerable change in the framework of EU ETS as compared to the previous two phases. Some of the changes include national caps being replaced by a single EU cap on emissions; instead of free allocation, the auction was chosen as a default method; inclusion of added gases and more sectors; around 300 million allowances were put aside to fund the deployment of new innovative technologies for renewable energy through the New Entrants Reserve (European Commission 2022, a). These policies could also complement the EU's green scheme by fostering new technologies that would curb carbon emissions.

It is now in the fourth phase of its implementation which started in 2021 and will continue until 2030. Its aim during this phase is to attain climate neutrality in the region by 2050 which is in line with the Paris Agreement of 2015 whose objective has also been to keep the global temperature below 1.5 degrees Celsius (European Commission 2022, b). It is a matter of time to see if such an aggressive and ambitious aim of the EU would be achieved given the nuanced nature of the scheme itself.

## The Working of the EU ETS

The EU ETS functions on the principle of cap and trade which means that the GHG allowances are considered as a product which can be traded on the carbon market in the EU (Environmental Protection Agency 2022). The regulated companies included in the EU ETS included the installations like power plants, industrial plants, companies that use heavy energy, and airlines. The cap is set at the EU level on the sum of the GHGs emitted by companies included in the EU ETS (Environmental Protection Agency 2022). The EU also sets the timeline on how the pace of limiting emissions should be met and the cap moves downwards every year to meet the target of reducing emissions. The cap is divided into several permits for pollution which is known as EU Allowances (EUA) and 1 EUA = 1 tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (LIFE ETX 2021). The EU ETS installations are bound to surrender allowances which are equal to their emissions in the previous year (LIFE ETX 2021).

For example; if an installation emitted 1 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> in 2020, it would require 1 million EUAs to transfer to the European Commission's central registry in 2021 (LIFE ETX 2021).

The online banking system called the Union Registry was established which holds carbon allowances instead of money and operates electronically (Environmental Protection Agency 2022). Companies under the EU ETS must have accounts on the same to hold carbon allowances. The companies are levied a heavy penalty if not complied to. The EU ETS is essentially a work in progress wherein, more strong regional policies may be concluded in future for its economic gain as well as its effort to curb emissions in the region.

## Achievement and the political economy of EU ETS

The cap and trade system of the EU ETS has been successful in limiting emissions in the region because of the nature of its integration. According to Convery (2009), the success of the EU ETS was inevitable because of the Single European Market for the economy, and its ability to impose a carbon energy tax based on qualified majority voting which nullifies the veto of any country, etc. the GHG emissions from the stationary installations under EU ETS has decreased from 1530 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> in 2019 to 1355 million tonnes in 2020 which is a decrease of 11.4 per cent and 43 per cent as compared to 2005 (European Environment Agency 2022). This shows that there has been a drop in emissions which was only witnessed during the time of recession in 2009.

The policymakers in the EU made a political calculation that for their plan to take shape, they need to allocate free allowances based on the emission history of the polluters (known as grandfathering) and the economist had also advised that the system would be cost-effective irrespective of the way allowances were allocated (Sato, Rafaty, Call and Grubb 2022). It was also stipulated that allocating allocations for free to the highest emitters can create incentives to emit more in the present so that they can obtain more allocations for free in the future. Therefore, there was a huge public resentment for reforms in the allocation of allowances as the system of providing free allowances would profit the biggest polluters.

The year 2022 saw allowances price hike beyond 90 Euros per tonne of Carbon after years of depression in carbon prices ((Sato, Rafaty, Call and Grubb 2022 and Toplensky 2022). It has been observed by Sato, Rafaty, Call and Grubb (2022) that the allowance allocation is not as simple as it seems, it is a “complex tug of war between environmental ambition, principles of aggregate economic efficiency, and the politics of distribution”. Hence, it is essential to look at the politics of lobbying and bargaining among environmentalists, bureaucrats, politicians as well as other stakeholders which impacts the decision-making regarding allowances. It has been highlighted by Toplensky (2022) that the rules can be adjusted according to the needs of the EU objectives as carbon credits are conceptual

## An Alternative to Global Carbon Reduction Mechanism?

EU ETS has been functioning in the region with efficiency since its inception but it would be difficult to implement as a global common carbon trading mechanism in future due to multiple reasons. The domestic political economy might be one of the reasons for their failed emissions trading scheme.

Countries worldwide are committed to limiting carbon emissions to address the existential crisis of climate change in the globalising era. Some of the major tools or mechanisms used by governments all around the world to curb greenhouse gases include imposing pollution taxes, emission restrictions, emission trading policies, afforestation, promotion of renewable energy, etc. (Wei, Gong, et.al. 2021). Amongst these measures, the market-oriented emission trading scheme is considered to be a more cost-effective option according to Schmalensee and Stavins (2017). However, this argument can be refuted because the mechanism has not been able to take shape as an environmental policy to cope with climate change as witnessed in the recent 27th Conference of Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change held in Egypt. In this summit, the EU proposed the ‘Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism’ policy intending to impose a tax on the products like steel and cement which are regarded to be highly carbon intensive and would be effective from 2026 (The Hindu 2022, a). This proposal by the EU has been opposed by India, China, Brazil, and South Africa also known as (BASIC) (The Hindu 2022 a). Instead, the parties including G77 and China insisted on a decade-old demand for the creation of a ‘loss and damage’ fund to compensate target countries that are bearing the brunt of climate-related tragedies (The Hindu 2022 b). Hence, the real issue is to examine if the model emission trading scheme of the EU will be able to bring the parties to agree to a carbon trading scheme to fulfil the goal of reducing global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

## Conclusion

The EU’s mechanism to curb carbon footprints in the region would continue to drive the enthusiasm of the researchers to study the dynamics of the system and its potential to contribute to the global emission trading scheme. The membership already includes four members outside the EU, therefore it might have an opportunity to involve other countries outside the union. Europe had the mechanism for curbing Carbon even before the Kyoto Protocol came into force in 2005 and has been able to expand and improvise the system since the trial phase of its implementation. Though the EU ETS is regarded as a flagship model for curbing carbon footprints, the question that needs to be reflected is if it could be a global model for emissions trading. In the recent COP27, the EU proposal CBAM was rejected by BASIC. This kind of hindrance might be an obstacle to the EU’s policy to curb carbon at the International level. As efforts are being made by countries around the world to achieve carbon neutrality, we must see if the carbon trading scheme becomes a viable option to be implemented globally.

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## INDIA MATTERS

### India and Her Refugees: Understanding the Influx from Myanmar to India



**Dr. Priyanca Mathur, Ph.D**

Head and Associate Professor,  
JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)

Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CERSSE)

### India’s Refugee Policies

Upholding the principle of ‘Vasidaiva Kutumbhakam’ (One World One Family) India has always taken pride in being a recipient of refugees from all across the world. Being neither a signatory of the UN Refugee Convention on the Status of Refugees 1951 nor its Optional Protocol, India has no legal accountability on the condition of refugees on its soil - other than being bound by customary international law which upholds the principle of ‘non-refoulement’ which pleads that no one fleeing for his life should be denied entry.

Borders are said to determine the validity and utility of a nation-state as drawing borders marks territories of nation-states and, as Samaddar had stated way back in 1999, it also fixes the illegality of migration. Those within the borders are the legitimate citizens of a state, while those outside, are not. This fixation with borders was termed by Chimni as 'borderosis'. The obsession with borders was questioned by the global economy of the borderless world with technology and challenged by the increasing numbers of people 'voting with their feet' and crossing borders all over the world, both for fear of life and to make a better life.

The nation-state, migration and membership debate has always been a heated political one. When migrants and refugees demand rights they challenge the exclusive rights of citizens. When the nation-state draws its own borders closer, it leads to a lateral increase in the domain of the rights of migrants. International and national politics is perpetually trying to address these tensions. The Russia-Ukraine war has led to millions of people fleeing the violence and spilling onto neighbouring countries. According to the UNHCR, as of December 6, 2022, nearly 7,832,493 refugees from Ukraine were recorded across Europe. Meanwhile, since the military coup at midnight on 12 February 2021 in the South-East Asian nation of Myanmar, Myanmarese refugees have also been seeking shelter across that country's right-hand side border into the north-eastern Indian states of Manipur and Mizoram. Over 4,600 Myanmarese individuals have approached UNHCR in Delhi for registration and refugee status determination since February 2021.

In the absence of any domestic law or policy applicable for refugees, unlike other non-signatory countries like Indonesia, refugees on Indian soil are governed under The Foreigners Act, 1946 – which means that India at any point in time can label a certain group of refugees as "illegal immigrants" or treat them as defaulters under this act and can also deport any "foreign citizen" based on the government's discretion (Bhalla, 2022). This grey zone muddles any approach to understand and address the unique vulnerabilities that refugees face as refugees are thus dealt with on a case-to-case basis, in a politically expedient manner. Besides, while the Indian government directly manages refugees arriving from its neighbouring countries, mostly from Tibet and Sri Lanka, the UNHCR has been mandated to provide documentation and determine refugee status for people arriving from non-neighbouring countries of India including Myanmar.

## India and Refugees from Myanmar

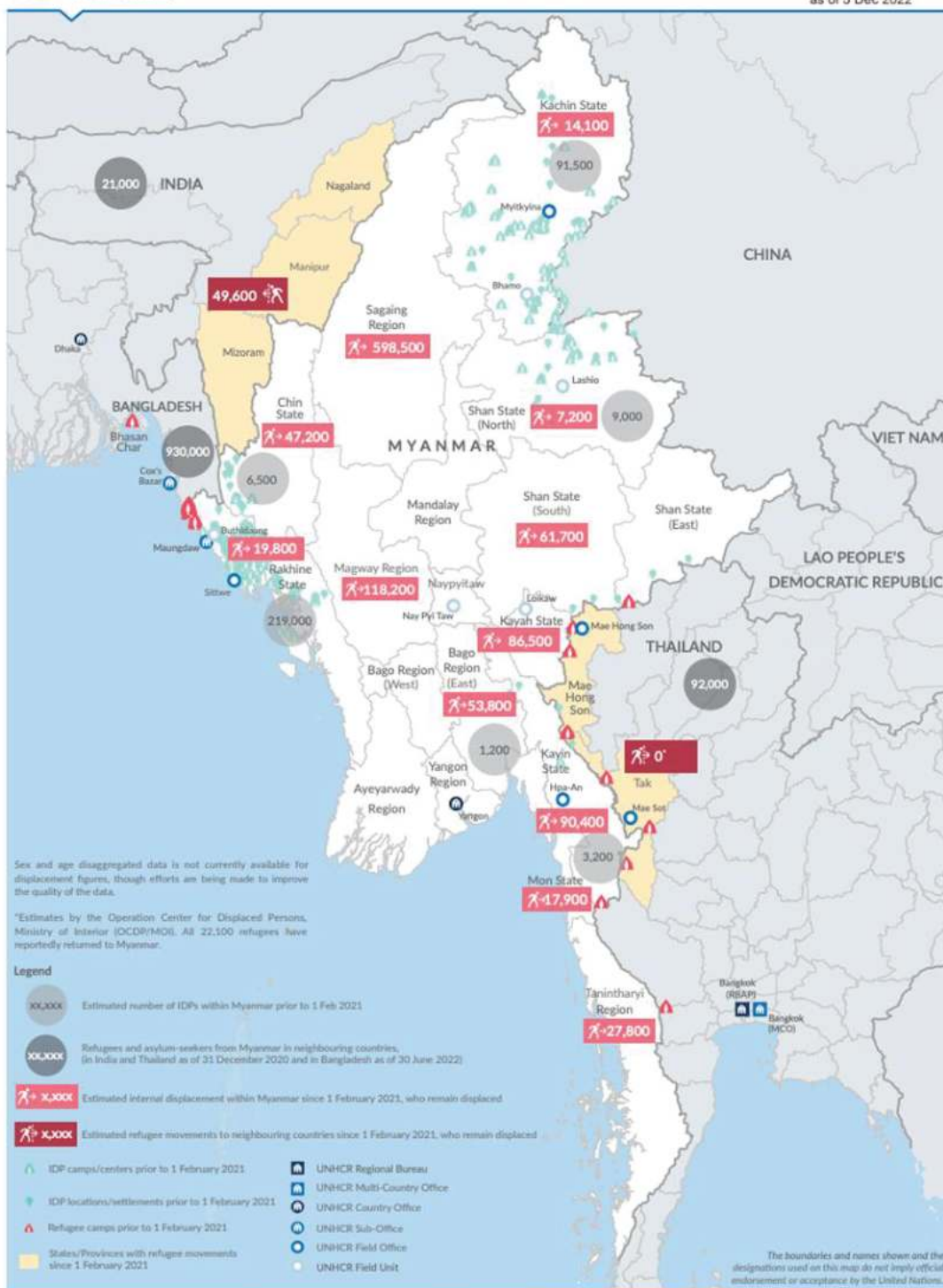
During colonial times a large number of Indians moved to Burma for a better life and work. However, post-independence, Myanmar's volatile political conditions, ethnic conflicts, and military coups led to the mass out-migration of not just settled Indians but Myanmar nationals who fled military regimes and political crackdowns. Many ethnic minorities and tribal people also took refuge in India from 1988 onwards to escape poverty and persecution and mostly stayed in the north-eastern states on the other side of the India-Myanmar border. Gradually many also started moving to the northern part of India, to its capital city New Delhi. The pull was better job opportunities and having the UNHCR refugee card - the only form of identification to get access to work in the informal sector where income is low, unstable and there is little or no social security (Bhuyan, 2013). Myanmarese refugee women reported experiencing sexual harassment both within and outside the workplace by co-workers and locals (Nandi, 2014). This led to further marginalisation and spatial exclusion of refugee groups within urban city spaces like New Delhi (Field et al., 2020).

The most recent wave of refugees from Myanmar has arrived after the 2021 military coup in Myanmar. The National League for Democracy (NLD) led by Aung San Suu Kyi secured a landslide victory in the general elections in Myanmar in November 2020. However, on 1st February 2021, the military of Myanmar seized power after making claims of electoral fraud and voter irregularities, which the election observer organisations asserted to be completely false (Domestic Election Observer Organizations, 2021). NLD's key leaders including Aung San Suu Kyi were detained on the morning of February 1st, 2021 after raids were carried out in their homes. Post this detainment the military declared Myanmar to be in a state of emergency for a year and handed over power to army chief Min Aung Hlaing (Reuters, 2021). In the north-western and western parts of Myanmar which lie close to the Indian border, the People's Defense Forces (PDF) which were created to protect the people from military violence, clashed with Myanmar's military (Ambarkhane & Gathia, 2022). Violence spread also to major cities in Myanmar like Mandalay and Yangon. Caught in the crossfire, people started fleeing to neighbouring Thailand and India to save themselves.

In the first wave, refugees mostly consisted of students, teachers, activists, anti-coup protesters, lawmakers, civil servants, and defected police and army personnel. The majority of refugees that have come into India, mainly through Manipur and Mizoram, in the past two years are ethnic Chins, Kachins and Karens. UNHCR estimates that 49,500 Myanmarese refugees entered India via Mizoram and Manipur from Myanmar in search of refuge between February 2021 to November 2022 (UNHCR, 2022). Unofficial numbers are higher. Mizoram, which shares a 510km long unfenced border with Myanmar, was the first state to receive refugees. Refugees, mainly from Chin-Kuki ethnic groups, also crossed over to Manipur. As winter draws in, civil society and faith-based groups taking care of these refugees have been sending out pleas for funding support. With the political situation inside Myanmar not being conducive for their return, thousands of Myanmarese refugees in north-east India are now dependent entirely for their lives and livelihoods on the state governments of Manipur and Mizoram. A compassionate policy and outlook towards them are what is expected of the Government of India too. How the geopolitics of this region play out in reality, only time can tell.



UNHCR REGIONAL BUREAU FOR ASIA AND PACIFIC (RBAP)  
**MYANMAR EMERGENCY - REGIONAL OVERVIEW MAP**  
 as of 5 Dec 2022



Publishing date: 8 December 2022 | Data sources: UN in Myanmar | Author: UNHCR Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific (RBAP)  
 For feedback and clarifications, please write to UNHCR RBAP at <rbapdina@unhcr.org> and <rbapext@unhcr.org>

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## GENDER PERSPECTIVE

### Mapping Gender: Putting Iran and Its 'Burning' Hijabs in Perspective<sup>2</sup>



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The anti-hijab protests across the streets of the Islamic Republic of Iran have been making headlines for months now. The protests spread like a wildfire when on 16 September a 22-year-old Kurdish woman, Mahsa Amini, succumbed to her injuries, allegedly caused due to custodial assault, for donning her hijab 'inappropriately'. The protesting women are burning their hijabs and chopping their hair off. The protests, claiming hundreds of lives so far in Iran, are against the country's morality police- infamous for their hideous religious impositions. Though reports indicate that the Iranian morality police has been disbanded, the situation still lacks clarity. Morality police, though ignited the fire, the regime's repressive measures go beyond it and should be looked at holistically. While women's resistance against the notorious hijab laws has been thriving for over 40 years since the Islamic revolution of 1979, it is only now that it gathered momentum due to the incessant media attention.

Hijab, in this regard, cannot simply be understood as an article of cloth. Mired in contentious political discourses associated with Islam, it has been a persistent source of political controversies. While hijab means 'segregation', its symbolic values, associated with an idea of modesty as well as the identity, are of paramount importance. In short, despite being a form of bodily coverage, it creates a political spectacle around Muslim women and their identities. Such is also the case in Iran where at this point anti-veiling sentiments are looming large against the Iranian government under the presidency of Ebrahim Raisi.

If we are to look at this conflict scenario from a gendered perspective, we need to unfold two caveats surrounding it. Firstly, it is essential to understand the Iranian historical context behind the hijab; Secondly, the bearing of this context on women's rights in Iran as well as in different settings debating on women's choice and agency needs to be explored; An analysis of what it entails for the larger conceptual question on gender may be a worth concluding point.

### Understanding the Iranian Context

The genesis of the political contention over the hijab in Iran dates back to 1936. The Kashf-e hijab (unveiling) edict of 1936 banned all forms of Iranian veiling practices. The Reza Shah regime's Western-influenced decree coerced women to either abandon the hijab or stay away from public view.

<sup>2</sup> This commentary first appeared in the 150th Special Issue of Conflict Weekly, published by the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore in collaboration with Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) on 17 november 2022. For this TSSP issue, recent developments have been incorporated to make it more relevant.

In the mid-1930s, in spite of the imposed measures, only four thousand Iranian women (mostly from Tehran), hailing largely from the Western-educated upper class, foreigners and middle-class religious minorities, ventured into public domains unveiled (Abrahamian 2008: 84). This move, therefore alienated rural as well as middle- and lower-class women. The secularist high-handedness of the Shah regime was commented upon by one of the British diplomats by saying "There is nothing to take the place of religious influence, save an artificial nationalism which might well die with the Shah, leaving anarchy behind" (British Legation 1935; Cited in Abrahamian 2008: 95). While the next regime of Reza Pahlavi saw a dilution in the obligatory nature of the diktat, veiled women continued to be discriminated against and their upward social mobility was hindered significantly due to the prejudiced connotations attached to all forms of veils (El Guindi 1999: 174-175). This atmosphere of forced unveiling prevailed until the polar opposite diktats were issued under the new Islamic Republic of Iran post-1979 revolution. From forced unveiling to forced veiling- with the 1979 Islamic Revolution Iran walked from one extreme to another- this time reifying Islamic veiling vigorously.

The resistance against the Shah regime in the 1970s was built upon a redefined construction of women's modesty. Under the leadership of eminent sociologist Dr. Ali Shariati, modesty was now being redefined emulating the spirit of the Prophet's daughter Fatima's legacy. A sartorial combination of manteau (a long jacket) and rusari (headscarf) brought back a functional sense of modesty, alongside the traditional Iranian chadors (cloaks). The veil was now assigned a resistive meaning as ripples of veiled women were seen on the streets opposing the Shah regime. Even the women who are not the regular wearers of the veil, came on the streets veiled in solidarity with those who chose to veil. But once the Revolution took place in 1979 and the Shah regime was toppled by a new regime established by Ayatollah Khomeini. In the 1980s, the Islamic Republic declared a diktat of forced veiling under the pretext of 'moral cleansing'. Article 638 of the Book Five (the only permanent part of the Penal Code) of Iran's Islamic Penal Code passed in 1996, reads as follows:

Anyone in public places and roads who openly commits a harām (sinful) act, in addition to the punishment provided for the act, shall be sentenced to two months' imprisonment or up to 74 lashes; and if they commit an act that is not punishable but violates public prudency, they shall only be sentenced to ten days to two months' imprisonment or up to 74 lashes (Government of Islamic Republic of Iran 1996).

It will not be presumptuous to say that the measures of repression remained unchanged for both forced unveiling and veiling. Only the morality police (formally known as Guidance Patrol/Ghast-e-Ershad) of the Islamic regime soon took the place of the Shah regime's secret police (formally known as SAVAK). In short, the Iranian women's fate was taken from the fire to the frying pan in the hands of the repressive state regimes- no matter Westernised or Islamic. In short, the androcentric state regimes, irrespective of their so-called modern or religious tilt, decide to tell women what to wear and in turn, control their bodies.

## Iran, Hijab and the Contemporary Times

Over the last five years, there have been several sporadic movements stemming from disenchanting people. The Iranian 'forced veiling' measures were also vehemently resisted, especially at the behest of the social media exfoliation post-2010. An Iranian Facebook page named My Stealthy Freedom featuring photographs of bare-headed women spearheaded the online White Wednesday movement where women post online materials of them wearing anything white on Wednesdays to show their opposition to compulsory veiling in May 2017 (Persio 2017). The same year in December, expressing her solidarity with the movement Vida Movahed (31), The Girl of Enghelab Street, posted a video where she was shown removing her white headscarf and waving it while placing it on a stick for an hour on Tehran's Engelab Street and was consequently, arrested for her act, resulting into social media uproar worldwide (Gerretsen 2018).

Having said that, the amount of media attention that the hijab protests garnered in Iran at this point is unparalleled. It is both due to the contentious nature of the attire associated with Islam and the negative perception that the country's cleric authority receives for being at loggerheads with the West. As much as it feeds into a Western essentialisation of drawing an equivalence between embracing the hijab and backwardness, it fans the global discourses on Islamophobia. Overall, in Iran, no substantial regime change may be envisioned simply banking on these protests- precisely because the country's coercive measures are known to be notorious for quelling people's resistance. Yet, Iran and its women are the rays of hope inspiring generations of women fighting for their rights across the world.

## Impact on Women's Rights

The operative here, 'inappropriate', is known for dictating women's lives. Thus, talking of women's rights with the hijab as the bone of contention echoes different implications in different settings. For instance, its narrative pans out differently in a Muslim majority Islamic Republic of Iran or Saudi Arabia for that matter, compared to a Muslim minority France or India. Women's rights vis-à-vis bodily practices like the hijab are complex and multi-layered and therefore, seek to be understood from varied historical, and socio-political perspectives.

We may say that the hijab per se may not be having fixated negative implications, as the conventional media tends to suggest. Rather, the Iranian context runs parallel with the hijab controversy in France or in India. Pertaining to the hijab, these are comparable yet contrasting contexts. In France, the controversies may be traced back to 2004 when the country disallowed 'conspicuous religious symbols' in schools and in 2010 when the country joined the European face-veil banning spree under the pretext of its secularism debate (Amer 2015). In India, the debate has been raging since the beginning of 2022 when educational institutions in Karnataka restricted hijab-clad Muslim students from attending educational institutions. While in Iran women are oppressed because of forced hijab, in France and India, the idea of hijab is closely entangled with the idea of 'other'. In France, the 'other' is painted in the image of an immigrant Arab. In India, it is the image of a Muslim 'other' shown in the light of the country's communal history and minority politics.

On a whole, irrespective of the locale or the issue, it is the repugnant peril of controlling women's bodies that remains at the heart of the rights discourse- it is indeed a basic right to live with dignity and self-respect. And an infringement of that forms the basic premise of patriarchy.

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## APPROACHING RESEARCH

### Research in Humanities and Social Sciences



**Dr. Mythili P. Rao**

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JAIN(Deemed-to-be University)

*“Throughout history, the arts and humanities have helped men and women around the globe grapple with the most challenging questions and come to know the most basic truths. In our increasingly interconnected world, the arts play an important role in both shaping the character that defines us and reminding us of our shared humanity.” Barack Obama*

These words of Barack Obama, Former President of the USA, encapsulate the critical position of subjects studied under the domain of Humanities & Social Sciences (HSS).

### Humanities & Social Sciences in Higher Education

It is a well-known fact that higher education programmes feed research. Therefore, the lower the number of students of HSS in higher education, the lower the number of researchers and research in HSS. To understand this phenomenon, we will have to take stock of the situation at the higher education level in HSS.

Almost all the Universities of the world, not just in India, show citizenship and nation-building at the core of their vision statement, but do not seem to be applying their mind, and policies, to achieve this. This is evident with the lack of interest shown in developing and nurturing the subjects/courses under the broad spectrum of HSS. As a domain of knowledge, the Humanities can be seen as a network of varied subjects. The demand for speedy changes by society and the Government has resulted in a lopsided approach towards the art and science of education.



Led by learning by a collaborative approach, the various disciplines in HSS observed, recorded, interpreted and made an attempt to understand human behaviour and experience. However, in the post-colonial scenario, academic disciplines with more 'utility' in terms of job and employment gained more importance over what was necessary for building a holistic personality and balanced human being. Education is largely seen as a ticket to good employment and a good social life, with all the material wealth that one can possess. The course of study also became a symbol of prestige in the person's social standing. Therefore, over a period of time, Engineering programmes became the first choice of education, with Medicine and Chartered Accountancy and Management following them, with a reasonable following for pure and applied sciences. Also, there was this understanding of these being tough and Humanities being easy. It was also understood that subjects under Humanities and Social Sciences were chosen by those who would score low marks in the qualifying exams or did not have any other option for building a future. All this led to a marginalisation of HSS. Parallely, the other Programmes became more and more exclusive ignoring the need for softer skills which were needed for meeting the challenges of a globalised world. Steve Jobs said, "Technology alone is not enough. It is technology married with liberal arts, married with the humanities, that yields us the results that make our hearts sing" - emphasising the need for bringing Humanities and Sciences together in programmes being offered at the Higher Education Institutions.

An interesting special issue titled "How to Build a Student for the 21st Century" in TIME Magazine, on December 18, 2006, said that "This is a story about ... whether an entire generation of kids will fail to make the grade in the global economy because they can't think their way through abstract problems, work in teams, distinguish good information from bad, or speak a language other than [their own]." Charles Fadel Global Lead, Education Cisco Systems, Inc. conducted research for OECD/CERI Paris, in May 2008 with the topic, "21st Century Skills: How can you prepare students for the new Global Economy?" While enumerating the skill sets apart from language competency and communication skills in subjects it identified Mathematics, Science, Economics, Government, History, Geography, and Foreign Languages and in the other skills it recognised the potential of Critical Thinking, teamwork/collaboration, diversity, IT application, life-long learning, Ethics/Social Responsibility and some others as the important skills needed for the individual in the 21st Century. It also recommended that apart from the core subjects these topics should be disseminated in the classrooms for bringing out strong individuals who can contribute positively to the growth of the society and nation.

However, the implementation, in the true spirit, of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 may change this scenario to some extent. This is also helped because of the changes in the socio-psychological needs of the ongoing and upcoming generations. NEP 2020 has proposed many changes at all levels of education. It has also shown a change in the academic structure, which if implemented in true spirit will bring about a sea change in society and the nation. Apart from changes in the academic structure, it has shown an increased focus on higher-order thinking skills, innovative and technique-based pedagogy and so on. While this has been welcomed by everybody, education providers are now finding out a way in which they can implement this to achieve the desired results.

## Current Status of Research

Apathy towards subjects under the umbrella of HSS at the higher education level has resulted in a decrease in the research being conducted in these domains. The lack of people with the right skills and mindset for research has dealt a hard blow to research in this domain.

There are many factors which are contributing to the slow pace of research in the domains of HSS despite the understanding that more needs to be done. The factors range from lack of funds to lack of students interested in pursuing research in HSS. The challenge is compounded because research is being conducted in the various subjects under HSS as stand-alone topics, restricting the study to HSS. Good and productive research needs funds and since HSS does not enjoy the funding for research the way STEM does and this severely restricts the ambitions of the researcher. Research in HSS may lead to a deeper understanding of the world around us but not necessarily lead to any innovation, business idea or any improvement in sales, profits and so on. This being the necessary 'outcome' of any research in the present day, makes the students pull back from venturing into this. Priorities and expectations in terms of job opportunities, new options of upward movement, social standing and other aspirations of young research scholars make them hesitate to choose HSS as their domain of study.

As per Social Science Research in India A Mapping Report; DFID South Asia Research Hub September 2011, "largely structural, one of the fundamental shortcomings of social science research in India is the lack of proper institutional support and funding. Driven largely by the huge volume of undergraduate enrolment in the social sciences, as mentioned earlier in the report, less than 20 per cent of Indian universities combine teaching and research with most universities emphasising teaching over research. This limits the scope of research opportunities within universities."

## Possibilities

Also, there seems to be a limitation in understanding the vast possibilities that the broad spectrum of HSS offers when it is seen in the context of other domains of study like Engineering, Sciences, Medicine and so on. We are living in exciting times of collaboration and synergies. It would be foolish to operate in silos with the immense opportunities available if only we can look at HSS from Inter, Multi and Transdisciplinary perspectives.

The era of globalisation in the early 1990s welcomed this kind of collaborative and synergistic view of all knowledge domains. Globalism, multiculturalism, cosmopolitanism, dynamics of identity and culture, new media, new messages, new meanings in the "information society". Human representations and expression through art, media, technology, design, Interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary humanities, the relationship of humanities to other knowledge domains (technology, science, economics) digital humanities, medical humanities, environmental humanities, literary humanities....the list can be endless.

There is an impressive list of thought leaders and business leaders of the world who had a background in Humanities, like Steve Jobs, Anand Mahindra, Oprah Winfrey, Michel Eisner, Arundhati Bhattacharya, Howard Schultz, Denise Morrison and many others. Similarly, there are achievers and popular figures from a Science and technology background who have ventured into the domains of HSS.

## Conclusion

There is an imminent and urgent need for exploring ways to broaden the scope of the humanities and creating a wider canvas through inter, multi and transdisciplinary perspectives. Traditional disciplines must respond to changes and bring critical perspectives to academic disciplines. Orientation towards Humanities will enable one to examine the interrelationship between society, technology and the environment. This will enable us to learn about the new shifts in conceptual frameworks and research methodologies and suggest new directions for HSS.

In the past two decades, social science research has grown beyond the traditional disciplinary boundaries into areas that are pertinent to the current socio-economic and political context in the country. Globalisation and development have emerged as major areas of focus. With the obvious changes in the world order, politically and academically, society's dismissive attitude towards the social sciences is also undergoing a slow and steady change.

Problems of today and the complex world of tomorrow need to be viewed from multiple lenses – of the past and future. While technology and sciences may have the answers to many challenges faced by human civilisation, HSS will help us in a seamless integration of technology and the human world which is led by empathy and ethics. More and more research into such inter and multi-disciplinary domains will not only bring the various societies together, but bridge the gap between the various knowledge streams, and help create a new world order.

# EVENT REPORTS

## Book Discussion - SJC

**ST. JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY**  
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DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,  
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In association with the  
**EKAM SAT TRUST**  
cordially invite you to

**BOOK DISCUSSION ON**

**DISCOVERING  
NEW  
INDIA** | A. RAVINDRA  
PRIYANCA MATHUR

initiated by the Editors of the book  
**A. RAVINDRA & PRIYANCA MATHUR**

CHAired BY  
**DR. ANITHA V**  
Department of International Relations, Peace and Public Policy

Time: Starts from 3:30pm  
Date: 14th November, 2022  
Venue: Denobli Hall, St. Joseph's University

STUDENT COORDINATORS :  
Shehnaz Chowdhury      Alka Bala      Ayush Bhattacharjee

**PROGRAMME SCHEDULE**

3:30-3:40pm	Introduction and Welcome speech
3:40-3:50pm	Introductory Remarks by Dr. Ravindra, Editor of the book
3:50-4:10pm	Book reading by Fr. Dr. Maxim Dias and Sabareesh Anil
4:10-4:45pm	Interaction with the students
4:45-4:55pm	Concluding remarks by Dr. Priyanca Mathur, Editor of the book
4:55-5:00pm	Vote of thanks

**VENUE: DENOBLI HALL, ST. JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY**



*Dr. Priyanca Mathur being greeted with a plant*







Dr. Priyanca Mathur and Dr A Ravindra, Editors of the Book with the dignitaries

### Book Discussion- B.M.S. College of Law

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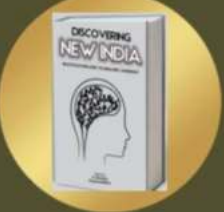
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**| Chapter Authors**  
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Dr. V Sreemathy  
Faculty Coordinators

**Dr. Anitha F N D'Souza**  
Principal

Students & Staff  
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BOOK DISCUSSION

**11:30 AM**  
9th December 2022

College Auditorium  
lit.bangalore19@bmscl.ac.in

SCHEDULE		
INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS	11.30 AM	DR. A RAVINDRA
BOOK READING	11.40 AM	DR. AJAI KUMAR SINGH DR. D. JEEVAN KUMAR DR. DEBANGANA CHATTERJEE
BOOK REVIEW	12.15 PM	STUDENT MEMBERS
CONCLUDING REMARKS	12.40 PM	DR. PRIYANCA MATHUR
VOTE OF THANKS	12.50 PM	STUDENT MEMBER



*Dr. Priyanca Mathur and Dr. Debangana Chatterjee with other authors, dignitaries and students*



*Dr. Debangana Chatterjee discussing her chapter*



*Dr. Priyanca Mathur during her remarks*

# VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK

India and Her Corruption Perils

Learnings, Challenges and Prospects

Panel Discussion - Nov 4, 2022(Friday)-3:30 pm to 5:00 pm

JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)

Commemorates

Vigilance Awareness Week (31 Oct- 6 Nov)

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# India and Her Corruption Perils

Commemorates

**Vigilance Awareness Week**

(31 October - 6 November 2022)

Presenting

A Panel Discussion on

**India and Her Corruption Perils**

Learnings, Challenges, & Prospects

📅 **04 November 2022** | 🕒 **03:30 P.M. – 05:00 P.M.**

📍 2nd Floor Auditorium, Conference Hall 3, JAIN Knowledge Campus,  
JAIN (Deemed-to-be University), Jayanagar, Bengaluru

### Chair



**Justice Santosh Hegde**  
Former Judge, Supreme Court of India

### Panellists



**V. Balasubramanian**  
IAS (Retd.)



**Kathyayini Chamaraaj**  
Executive Trustee at CIVIC, Bangalore



**Cynthia Stephen**  
Independent Journalist  
Researcher & Activist

### Patrons

<p><b>Dr. Chenraj Roychand</b> Chancellor JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)</p>	<p><b>Col (Hony.) Dr. N. Sundararajan</b> Pro-Chancellor JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)</p>
<p><b>Dr. Easwaran Iyer</b> Pro Vice-Chancellor JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)</p>	<p><b>Professor (Dr.) Raj Singh</b> Vice-Chancellor JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)</p>
<p><b>Dr. N. V. H. Krishnan</b> Registrar JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)</p>	<p><b>Prof. K. R. Sridhara Murthy</b> Director - Academics and Planning JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)</p>

**E-certificates shall be issued for all the attendees**

Vigilance Awareness Week, celebrated every year, commemorates the birth week of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Born on October 31st, 1875 he is also hailed as 'the iron man of India' for his high moral integrity and dignified conduct. The idea of celebrating the week was first floated in 2000. This year, Vigilance Week is being observed between October 31 and November 6. The Vigilance Week, observed under the aegis of the Central Vigilance Commission, aims at combating the ills of corruption both at the individual and systemic levels.

In order to establish a healthy democratic space for discussion on corruption, this Vigilance Awareness Week (2022), JAIN sought insights from the stakeholders deliberating upon its various facets. JAIN (Deemed-to-be University), would like to ensure that these young minds are nurtured in a well-informed manner. After all, the bottom line of corruption remains to hamper and hinder public life and people's interests. A panel discussion on the theme of Corruption Free India for a Developed Nation, as mandated by the University Grants Commission (UGC), titled India and Her Corruption Perils: Learning, Challenges & Prospects was held on November 4 between 3.30 pm and 5 pm at the JAIN Knowledge campus. The event commenced with the emcee, Dr. Debangana Chatterjee from the Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CeRSSE) formally introducing the distinguished dignitaries.

The discussion was chaired and moderated by Justice N. Santosh Hegde, Former Judge at the Supreme Court of India. The expert speakers for the event were Mr. V. Balasubramanian, IAS (Retd.), Ms. Kathyayini Chamaraj, Executive Trustee at CIVIC, Bangalore, and Ms. Cynthia Stephen, Independent Journalist, Researcher & Activist.

Through the course of the discussion, the dignitaries mainly attempted to address the current challenges emanating from India's existing governance mechanisms. Reflecting on their experiences, the speakers reflected largely on Karnataka. While Mr. Balasubramanian provided an administrative perspective, Ms. Chamaraj and Ms. Stephen shared some of their grassroots experiences. Mr. Balasubramanian, known for his report on Greed and Connivance which he went on to publish unequivocally, presented a rather grim picture of the hard reality of corruption in India. It has been to the degree of calling corruption in the country eradicable. He, in fact, drew an Indian parallel with the United Kingdom and discussed the nexus of international corruption, particularly highlighting the specifics of the Panama Paper revelations of recent times. Ms. Chamaraj, on the other hand, highlighted the role of the right to information for people. At the same time, she expressed her concerns about how corruption affects marginalised communities disproportionately. As a result, a nominal bribe though may be affordable for particular social strata, may hinder access to basic services by the marginalised communities. From potholes to the illegal encroachment resulting in the uncalled-for deluge in Bengaluru- were highlighted during the discussion.

Ms. Stephen drew from Ms. Chamaraj as she mentioned how the post-facto demolitions of illegal constructions let the real perpetrators of corruption go scot-free. She discussed how governance at the different state levels may be characterised. In fact, taking a tour of the Indian states, she showed how the various levels of corruption infest the Indian polity- be it political, economic, or administrative. Having said that, she expressed her optimism going forward as she emphasised the phrase Vigilance Works- a pledge characterising the national motto of the country reflected in Vigilance Awareness Week. Justice Hegde drew from all the speakers and further opinionated on the matter incisively. Though not a pessimist, Justice Hegde highlighted the difficulty in finding the proper way out of the corruption perils in India. He identified greed, innate to human nature, being the driving force behind continued corruption in the country and directed the youth to a path to contentment and humanism. He underlined the importance of nurturing the values instilled by our ancestors. In fact, Dr. Rajani Jayaram, Dean of Students' Welfare, while pledging the formal vote of thanks mentioned how these values may be found even in the various Hindu scriptures.

Indian democracy, despite its rich heritage, magnitude, and opulence, has been facing the question of transparency and accountability since its inception. Thus, vigilance and awareness are key to the functioning of a healthy democracy, to say the least. Yet, Indian democracy time and again has suffered from political decay, especially due to multi-level corruption. Acknowledging this facet of democracy, thus, calls for the willingness to fight against the



*The lighting of the lamp during the event*





*MAPPA students with Justice Santosh*



*Panelists during the event*



*Dr. Priyanca Mathur and Dr. Debangana Chatterjee with Justice Santosh Hegde holding the book 'Discovering New India' published by Jain University Press.Hegde*

# THE CONSTITUTION DAY

INDIA: THE MOTHER OF DEMOCRACY

Date: 26 November (Saturday) Time: 9 am – 5 pm

Venue: LH2, JAIN (Deemed-to-be University), J. P. Nagar, Bengaluru



Celebrating  
**The Constitution Day**  
Samvidhan Diwas



## India: The Mother Of Democracy

### Guest Lecture

Time: 02:30 pm - 05:00 pm



### Shashank G. M

District Treasury Officer/Assistant Director  
Commissionerate of Treasuries  
Finance Department, Govt. of Karnataka

### MA-Public Policy and Administration Students' Activities

Programme	Time
Skit Performance: Preamble Reading and Significance of Constitution in India	09:00 am – 10:00 am
Poster-making	10:15 am - 12:30 pm
Lunch Break	12:30 pm – 01:30 pm
Poster Presentation by the Students	01:30 pm – 02:30 pm

📅 26 November 2022 | 🕒 09:00 am – 05:00 pm

📍 LH2, JAIN (Deemed-to-be University),  
J. P. Nagar, Bengaluru

### Patrons

**Dr. Chenraj Roychand**  
Chancellor  
JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)

**Col (Hony.) Dr. N. Sundararajan**  
Pro Chancellor  
JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)

**Professor (Dr.) Raj Singh**  
Vice Chancellor  
JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)

**Dr. Easwaran Iyer**  
Pro Vice Chancellor  
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**Dr. N. V. H. Krishnan**  
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Director - Academics and Planning  
JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)

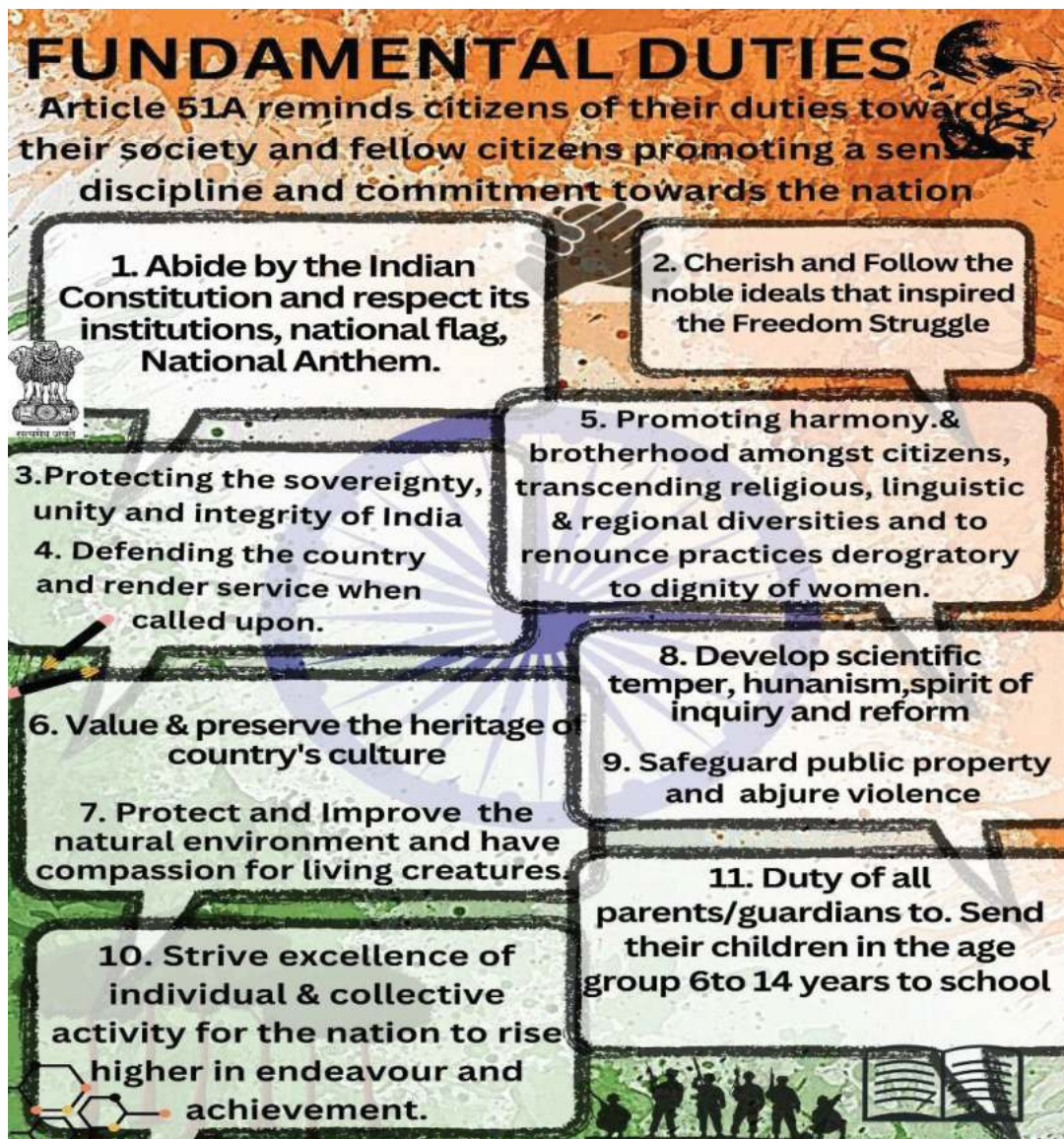
[www.jainuniversity.ac.in](http://www.jainuniversity.ac.in)

On November 26th, 2022, the students of MA in Public Policy and Administration (MAPPA) at the behest of the Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CeRSSE) gathered to celebrate Constitution Day, also referred to as Samvidhan Diwas commemorating the adoption of the Indian Constitution on the same day in 1949. The activities were conducted in Lecture Hall 2 of the J. P. Nagar Campus of the University. The day honours the father of the Indian Constitution, Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar alongside the other members of the Constituent Assembly who deliberated hard in laying out the founding principles of the country's constitution.

Celebrating Constitution Day makes us stay connected in the current era when people are forgetting the importance of democracy. India was initially governed by the regulation of princely states and there was a need to have a document which laid the framework for our country's political code, rules, procedures etc. There was also a necessity for a document which describes the fundamental rights and duties of the citizens residing in our country so that we could flourish and add up to the overall development of the country to reach new heights.

The students and teachers of the Centre began the day-long activity by uttering the Preamble of India upholding its values. Followed by it they engaged in a skit performance reiterating the principles laid out in the Constitution of India. During the skit, the students performed three scenes on the constitutional principles of liberty, fraternity, and justice. After the skit performance, the students worked together for the next two hours creating an e-poster on fundamental duties and consequently, presenting them one by one.

After the poster presentation, Mr. Shashank G. M, District Treasury Officer/Assistant Director, Commissionerate of Treasuries, Finance Department, Govt. of Karnataka, engaged with the students till the end of the day discussing various facets of public administration while relating it to the Indian Constitution.



*E-poster created by the Students on Fundamental Duties*



*MAPPA students and faculties after the skit performance*



*MAPPA students during the act*

Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CeRSSE)  
In Collaboration with  
Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)

# A Session on Gender Sensitization- Awareness, Vigilance, & Accountability



In collaboration with  
Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)



By Presenting a Sensitisation Session  
**Gender Sensitization**  
- Awareness, Vigilance, & Accountability

## Speaker



**Dr. Debangana Chatterjee**  
Assistant Professor  
Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CeRSSE)  
JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)

📅 10 December 2022 | 🕒 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

Mode: Online | Platform: ZOOM

## Patrons

**Dr. Chenraj Roychand**  
Chancellor  
JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)

**Col (Hony) Dr. N. Sundararajan**  
Pro Chancellor  
JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)

**Professor (Dr.) Raj Singh**  
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Registrar  
JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)

**Prof. K. R. Sridhara Murthy**  
Director - Academics and Planning  
JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)

## Register Now

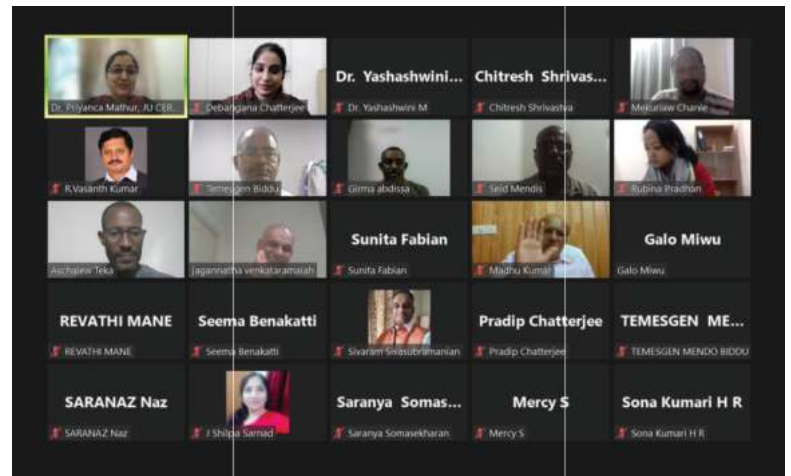
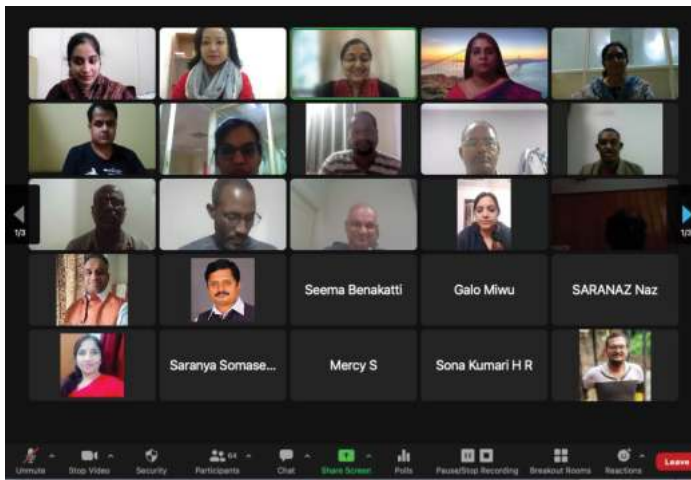
<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwkd-ytqzgiHNDrjlsaBuUG2D0ANqUjxxMR>

Participation confirmation and details shall be sent through email upon successful registration  
E-certificates will be issued to all the participants

On December 10, 2022 (Saturday)- on the occasion of International Human Rights Day and based on the UGC mandate for conducting sensitisation sessions/workshops, the Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CeRSSE) in collaboration with Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), JAIN (Deemed-to-be University) organised an online (Zoom) gender sensitization session where a total number of 114 people participated. The sensitization session was conducted along the line of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 and (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal of sexual harassment of women employees and students in higher educational institutions) Regulations, 2015 notified by UGC. The session was titled Gender Sensitization: Awareness, Vigilance, and Accountability which focused primarily on spreading awareness regarding sexual harassment, seeking people to be more vigilant of an act of harassment, and accountable for their mis(conduct).

The speaker for the session, Dr. Debangana Chatterjee, is an Assistant Professor at the Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CeRSSE), JAIN (Deemed-to-be University) and commits herself to specialise, research and write about matters related to gender rights. Her presentation began by outlining the feminist movements and linking them up with the conceptual framework surrounding gender. She went on to cite practical examples from life which reflect clear gender bias. The later part of her discussion focused on the legalities involved with regard to workplace sexual harassment and how casual sexism at the workplace contributes to rape culture which is one of the grievous perils of society at large. The speaker made a comprehensive presentation on gender sensitisation highlighting various challenges that women (not restricted to) face in everyday life, particularly in the workplace. The speaker threw some light on the gender question reflecting on the fact that it is not only the men-women interaction- sexual harassment is gender-neutral and needs to be treated in an inclusive and intersectional manner. The major focus of the lecture was on creating a gender-neutral workspace. The session was an essential intervention in sensitising people about gender biases and learning about the prevailing gender norms in society.

An hour-and-a-half session ended with multiple thoughtful interactions among the participants- some of them sharing their experiences during the interaction. While this session covered the sensitisation part, feedback has been received both during and after the session in continuing with gender-related sessions covering themes which include but are not limited to SDGs, climate change, social media, and other socio-political concerns related to gender.



*Participants during the session*

# STUDENT'S FIELD TRIP

Karnataka Convention on Electoral Democracy

Time: 10:00 am

Date: 29 October 2022

Venue: Indian Social Institute, Benson town, Bangalore

## KARNATAKA CONVENTION ON ELECTORAL DEMOCRACY

Saturday, 29 October, 2022 from 10.00 AM  
Indian Social Institute, 24, Benson Road, Benson Town, Bangalore



### 10- 11 am

Registration and tea  
Songs and a skit on the electoral process

### 11 am - 1 pm

Co-Chairs: Pronab Dasgupta & Medha Patkar  
Presentation: Count every vote & make every vote count  
-M G Devasahayam  
Presentation: Impact of money power on elections  
-Anjali Bhardwaj  
Presentation: ECI's conduct of fair elections  
-Trilochan Sastry  
Floor Discussion

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm: Lunch

### 2 - 4 pm

Brainstorming on action plan, way forward & setting  
up of Karnataka Election Monitoring Platform  
Chair: Aruna Roy  
Panel: Medha Patkar, Nikhil Dey,  
Kathyayini Chamraj & Harish Narasappa

### 4 - 5 pm

Interaction with political party representatives  
on engagement with civil society for free & fair elections

#CountEveryVote

#MakeEveryVoteCount

organised by Constitutional Conduct Group, Jan Sarokar, People-First,  
National Alliance for People's Movements and Election Watch (Karnataka)  
For further details- 9731817177, 7338513066, 9945395587



The students of MAPPA, CeRSSE, JAIN (Deemed-to-be University), accompanied by Dr. Rubina Pradhan, Assistant Professor, CeRSSE, participated in “Karnataka Convention on Electoral Democracy” on 29 October 2022 at Indian Social Institution, Benson town, Bangalore from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. The event consisted of a diverse audience and speakers from various members of civil society organisations to political party representatives. The major agenda of the convention was to come up with an immediate action plan for a free and fair election aimed at the 2023 Karnataka elections and the 2024 general election. The convention centred around 3 ‘Ms’ i.e. money power, muscle power and machine power. The session started with a round of introductory sessions among the audience. The first speaker, P.R. Dasgupta, highlighted the disturbing nature of press reports on elections concerning the naming and shaming of the people who are eligible to vote but do not vote. This practice by the media should be checked.

The second speaker was a renowned civil society activist, Ms Medha Patkar who focussed on the ill practices of electoral bonds between the corporates and the political party exchequer. She highlighted that this kind of bond must end. Another aspect she highlighted was the crime associated with money and how money has been capturing every space of the citizens’ lives. Therefore, a revolutionary change is essential, not just electoral reforms. The agenda being carried out by different parties before elections is an antithesis to the basic need fulfilment of the people. Citizens as the first pillar of democracy must take up these vital issues. Another crucial issue highlighted by the speaker was the accountability and responsibility of the Election Commission regarding the functioning of the EVM machines. Since EVM machines are manufactured by companies under the EC, they must be accountable for the EVM tempering. She asks, “Why has it not been corrected?” “Why have the engineers not been made to demonstrate its functioning to prove that it cannot be tempered?” She claims that no action has been taken since EC itself is politicised. Ms Pathkar also focussed on the role of media is supposed to be people-to-people contact and non-partisan and which has been highly partisan. In such a situation, the real concern is to find a way to control media or to spread alternative media. She also suggested that the propaganda of the party should be in the open public domain. Most importantly, she came up with the 4th ‘M’, ‘Mafia’, which has now controlled electoral issues.

This was followed by M.G. Devasahayam’s talk on people’s participation in governance at every level— local, state and national. He argued that in recent years the sanctity of the electoral process has been questioned mainly because of the flaws in the EVM voting and VVPAT counting. He specifically opined that the EVMs are hijacking the will of the people and hence are unfit for democracy. In order to check this flaw, he highlighted the public demand to “count every vote and make every vote count” and to launch it into a country-wide movement.

The next speaker was professor Trilochan Sastry whose major arguments revolved around how the political parties have already started their money propaganda for the 2023 Karnataka election. He suggested that the EC should be pressured to recognise its accountability and responsibility to conduct a free and fair election. Also, he emphasised that we need to reach out to the people and build awareness among them regarding the fair practice of election.

The last speaker, Ms. Anjali Bhardwaj highlighted the anonymous funding that the political parties receive from different actors across the world. The government got rid of the clause that stated that 20 thousand rupees were acceptable for party funding through the 2017 amendment on electoral bonds. It was done through an undemocratic process by amending some sections of the below Acts:

- A. IT ACT
- B. Foreign Contribution Regulation Act
- C. Representation of People’s Act
- D. Company Act

This amendment allowed the funders to make anonymous funding without people knowing about it. The issue of transparency which is a vital aspect of any good governance was lost.

This was followed by the discussion sessions keeping in mind the challenges and the agenda of the discussion was to map the way ahead for the 2023 Karnataka elections. Some of the immediate suggestions that emerged out of the discussion were: to have an exact voter list from the 29 constituencies in Karnataka and analyse to find out the duplicate voters or suspected entries; operate the model code of conduct right from the beginning and not just before the election; ensure the proper counting of votes; along with election watch, there has to be a media watch especially social media watch to monitor false and wrong information; there is a need to organise campaigns against hate speech and make citizens’ realise the value of votes.

The event ended with discussions among the civil society representatives and the political representatives from the Aam Admi party, CPI, and Congress party.



*MAPPA students after the convention*



*MAPPA students with Medha Patkar, Anjali Bhardwaj, and Kathyayani Chamaraj after the convention*

## STUDENTS VISIT TO PARIKRMA- CENTRE FOR LEARNING

Students of Master of Arts in Public Policy and Administration (MAPPA) visited Parikrma Centre for Learning, Koramangala, Bengaluru on 8 November 2022 as a part of their learning activity. One of the fundamentals of Parikrma is to free education for the poor. They provide free education to children coming from 99 slums and 4 orphanages in Bengaluru and offer them high-quality CBSE English medium learning modules along with three meals and health check-ups.

Students of MAPPA got to interact with the students at parikrama and also the functionality of the learning centre. Students also interviewed the founder, Shukla Bose regarding the management of schools, the opportunities it provides for the underprivileged, and her vision and mission for the centre. Our students also got an opportunity to visit one of the slumps called Mayabazar in Koramangala where they interacted with the parents of the students



*MAPPA students and faculties at one of the houses in Mayabazar*



*MAPPA students along with faculties with Shukla Bose (Founder and CEO, Parikrma*



*MAPPA students and faculties at one of the houses in Mayabazar*



*MAPPA students and faculties outside Mayabazar*

## ABOUT TSSP

The Social Science Perspective, being brought out by the Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CeRSSE), JAIN University, is a very timely professional initiative. The novelty of this Newsletter lies in three things: a) it covers diverse topics ranging from international to regional/ local, which is really the need of the hour, b) it contains articles from experts from different academic institutions giving their insightful comments on contemporary issues.

I must make mention of the relevance of a write-up like the "Significance of Computational Social Sciences: Benefits and tools", by Dr. Soham Das, c) most importantly, the section dealing with "views from the Field" covering the views of research scholars is a much-needed academic input from student researchers.

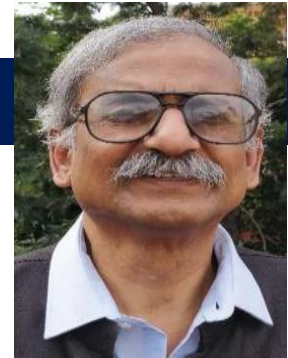
Sections on "Experiential Account", "Event report" and "Student Achievements" go a long way in helping the readers to be aware of the happenings in the field of academia. All in all, the Newsletter is a well-thought-out initiative by the Centre. It deserves all encouragement.



**Dr. P. S. Jayaramu,**  
Former Professor of Political Science & Dean,  
Faculty of Arts, Bangalore University,  
Former Senior Fellow, ICSSR, New Delhi.

## ABOUT TSSP

There is no doubt that the newsletter is getting better with every issue, but it is also getting lengthier and hence takes much longer to read. With the October 2022 issue running into nearly 40 pages, it cannot be read in one sitting. One tends to put it away promising to read the rest of it later, but that rarely happens. I would suggest restricting the newsletter to events and happenings at Jain University. The Centre should think of starting a journal and include big articles in it. A journal, with an ISSN Number, would enhance the status of CeRSSE.



**Prof. Jeevan Kumar**  
Superannuated Professor in Political Science at  
Bangalore University & Honorary Professor,  
Panchayati Raj University, Gadag, Karnataka

## ABOUT TSSP

It is a pleasure to put my viewpoints regarding the quarterly newsletter called The Social Science Perspective (TSSP), under the aegis of the Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CeRSSE), JAIN (Deemed- to -be University). The trajectory of the growth of TSSP has been quite remarkable. Writing for TSSP has been a great opportunity as it has been a very dynamic platform that puts forward the miscellaneous issues concerning social sciences, quarterly in a year. The newsletter not only makes us aware of the contemporary challenges that affect social sciences as a discipline but also provides enriching knowl-

knowledge about the various activities undertaken by the research unit of CeRSSE, thereby, highlighting the vibrant nature of research conducted at JAIN. However, what makes the bulletin stand apart is the inclusivity factor, as it contains short pieces written not only by some of the prominent people in the discipline but also, by the students of JAIN, who are an integral part of the institution. In my opinion, TSSP is a very good initiative that has been carried out by CeRSSE and its core team members, and I hope it will be continued in future with its vigorous content..



**Dr. Shreejita Biswas**  
Assistant Professor.  
Department of Political Science  
St. Joseph's University, Bengaluru

# FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

## DR. PRIYANCA MATHUR

- **Awarded Research Project as Lead Consultant by the Foundation for the Rights of Displaced Populations, Bangkok, Thailand**

Duration- November 2022 - March 2023

Project title - **Legal and Protection Mechanisms to Refugees from Myanmar into India**

Grant Amount- 23,000 Euros

Award Date- November 28, 2022

- **Invited as International Trainer for a 3 Day International Workshop for the Forum of Federations, Canada for its 'Strengthening Gender Equality and Federalism Programme in Myanmar' held in Bangkok, Thailand.**

Dates - November 23-25, 2022



*Dr. Priyanca Mathur interacting with the participants*



*Dr. Priyanca Mathur conducting her session with the translator at the workshop*

- **Invited as International Resource Person to deliver two Workshops for UN WOMEN online on Gender and Federalism in Myanmar.**  
Dates - 2-3 November and 7-8 November, 2022
- **Presented a paper at the Cooperation Federalism Round Table organised by the Department of International Studies, Political Science and History, Christ University, Bengaluru and the Hans Steidel Stiftung**  
Place - Christ University, Bengaluru  
Date - November 15th, 2022  
Title of Paper - Gendering Federalism: Obstacles and Challenges



*Dr. Priyanca Mathur presenting a paper at Christ University, Bengaluru*

- **Invited as a Resource Person to deliver two lectures online at 14th Refresher Course in Political Science, organised by the UGC - Human Resource Development Centre (HRDC), University of Mysuru.**

Date: November 28th, 2022

Topics: 1. Idea of India: Democracy and Development Dilemmas in 2022

2. Idea of India: Refugees and Migrants - Insider/Outsider Paradox

## DR. DEBANGANA CHATTERJEE

- **Publication (Peer-reviewed journal article)**

Chatterjee, Debangana. (2022), 'Sanctions in Ukraine War: The Racial Tilting of International Politics', *Economic & Political Weekly*, 57 (40): 23-28 (Scopus Indexed)

- **Event Type: International Workshop (Online- Zoom)**

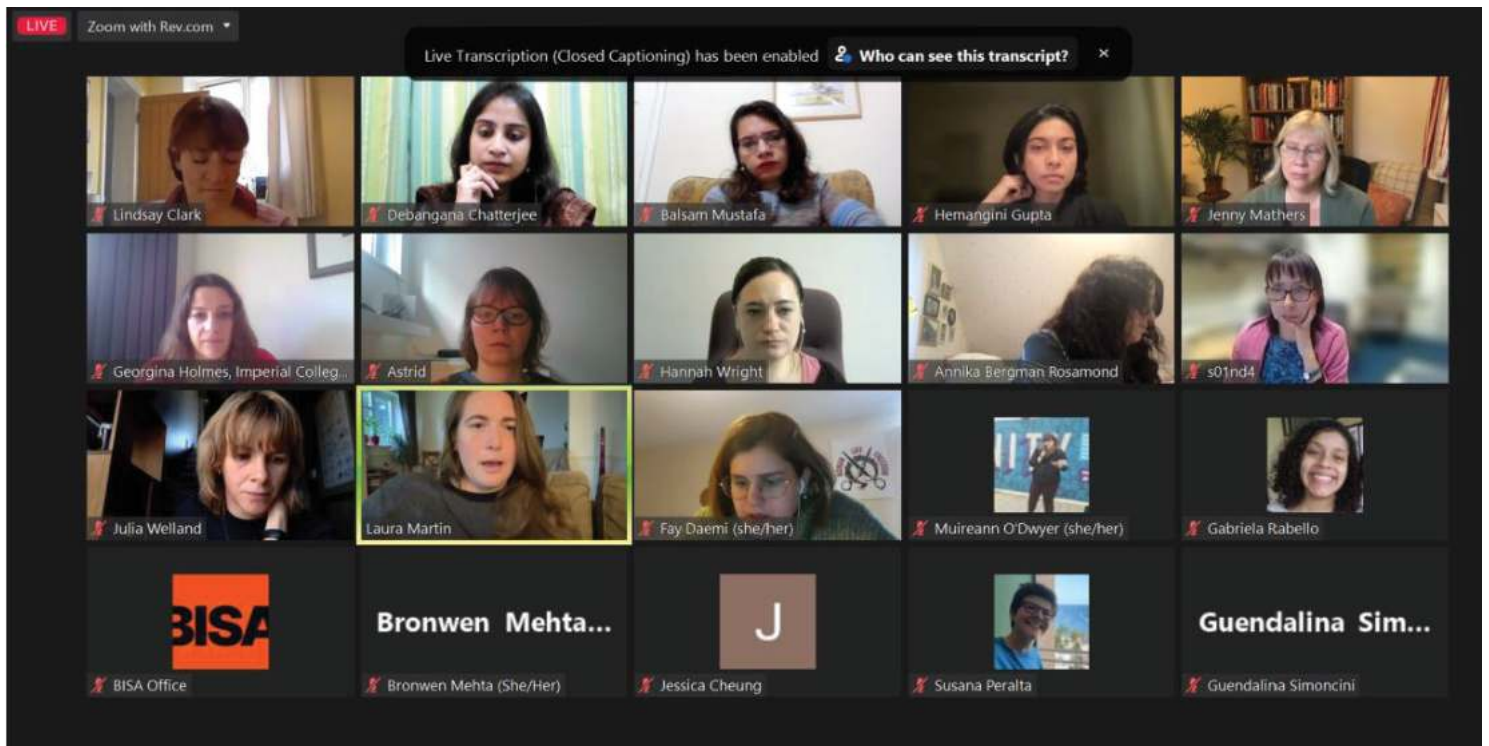
Organised by: British International Studies Association (BISA)- Gendering International Relations Working Group (GIRWG)

Date: 14 November 2022

Time: 1 pm to 4 pm (British Standard Time)/6 pm- 9 pm (Indian Standard Time)

The theme of the Event: **Feminist solidarities in times of crises**

The topic for the Presentation: **Solidarities in Crises**



#### • Research Project

Indian Council of Social Science Research- Southern Regional Centre

Duration- Short Duration Research Project (6 Months)

Project Investigator - **Dr. Debangana Chatterjee**

Project title - **Pandemic and the Peripheralisation of Sex Workers: Narratives, Agency, and the Saga of Survival from Bengaluru**

Grant Amount- 1,25,000

Award Date- 10.11.2022

#### • Op-ed Publication

Published in: moneycontrol.com

Title of the Opinion: **Shraddha Walkar Murder Case | Let's not blame the victim, but focus on society**

Date of Publication: 22 November 2022

Link: <https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/opinion/shraddha-walkar-murder-case-lets-not-blame-the-victim-but-focus-on-society-9578251.html>

#### • International Workshop

Organised by: National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bengaluru with Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS)

Date(s)- 28-30 November

Participation Details:

29 November- Paper presentation on **The Ground Reality of Feminist Foreign Policy: Analysing the European Framework in 2022**

30 November- Indo-German Dialogue (Panel Discussion) on **Europe and Ukraine (The Effectiveness of Sanctions)**





*Dr. Debangana Chatterjee with the panel members*



*Dr. Debangana Chatterjee presenting during panel discussion*

# DR. RUBINA PRADHAN

## Paper Presented at Young International Peace Research Initiative Workshop

1. Presented a paper at a Workshop conducted by NIAS, Bangalore at Pondicherry University on the theme: "Why Conflict Continue?"

**Title of the paper presented: "Eleven years of Libya Conflict: Four Reasons why it Continues?"**

Date: 3-4 November 2022

Venue: Pondicherry University



*Dr. Rubina Pradhan presenting her paper*



## 2. Paper Presented at the International Workshop

Theme of the Workshop: First NIAS Annual Conclave on “Europe in 2022” and Second Indo-German Dialogue on “Global Strategic Landscape”

**Title of the paper: European Union Emissions Trading Scheme: Regional Effort to curb Carbon Footprint**

Venue: NIAS and Taj, Yelahanka, Bangalore

Date: 28 to 30 November 2022



*Dr. Rubina Pradhan presenting her paper*



*Dr. Rubina Pradhan with her fellow panelists*



## STUDENT'S CORNER

Students learning through activity

Name of the Activity: Round Robin Chart- Pandemic and Child Rights



*Students after the presentation*



*Students after the presentation on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on Child Rights*



Students after winning Competitions (Poster-making and Dance) organised by JAIN-SHSS in collaboration with K.S. Narasimhaswamy Trust (Regd). Government of Karnataka, based on the theme UN Women 2022



Name of the student: Shatabdee

Position: 1st

Type: Dance Competition

Organised by JAIN-SHSS in collaboration with K.S. Narasimhaswamy Trust (Regd) . Government of Karnataka, based on the theme UN Women 2022



Name of the student: Riya Itisha Ekka

Position: 3rd

Type: Poster Making Competition

Organised by JAIN-SHSS in collaboration with K.S. Narasimhaswamy Trust (Regd) . Government of Karnataka, based on the theme UN Women 2022



Yashaswini Sedde  
 MA Public Policy and  
 Administration (2022-2024)  
 JAIN (Deemed-To-Be University)  
 Type: Poetry Recitation  
 Organised by JAIN-SHSS in  
 collaboration with  
 K.S. Narasimhaswamy Trust (Regd)  
 Government of Karnataka, based  
 on the theme UN Women 2022

## *I am She*

*I am She  
 Who dances in the rain  
 Who runs with the wind*

*I am She  
 Who gracefully floats through  
 The rough streams*

*I am She  
 Who burns with Passion  
 Who is engulfed by excitement*

*I am She  
 Whose spirit silently soars  
 Over oceans and Seas*

*I am She  
 Whose voice resonates  
 From every corner*

*I am She  
 Who lifts the mountains  
 To fulfil her dreams*

*I am She  
 Who fights  
 For her equal rights*

*I am She  
 Who speaks of love  
 Not of hate*

*I am She  
 Who is sun-kissed by fire  
 Who stands tall as a tree*

*I am She  
 Who desperately wants to walk  
 Under the night sky without fear*

*I am She  
 Whose strength and boldness  
 Are cloaked by fate*

*I am She  
 Who craves new adventures  
 Conquering challenges as they come*

*I am She  
 Who chases dreams  
 To the end of the earth*

*I am She  
 Whose success is negligible  
 Who is devoid of attention*

*I am She  
 Who is the invisible goddess  
 Who is respected in the scriptures  
 But not in the real world*

*I am She  
 Who will change the world  
 One step at a time*

*I am Bold  
 I am Strong  
 I am She  
 I am a WOMAN*



## Students learning through activity

**Name of the Activity:** Round Robin Chart on Comparative Analysis of British, American and Chinese Constitutions



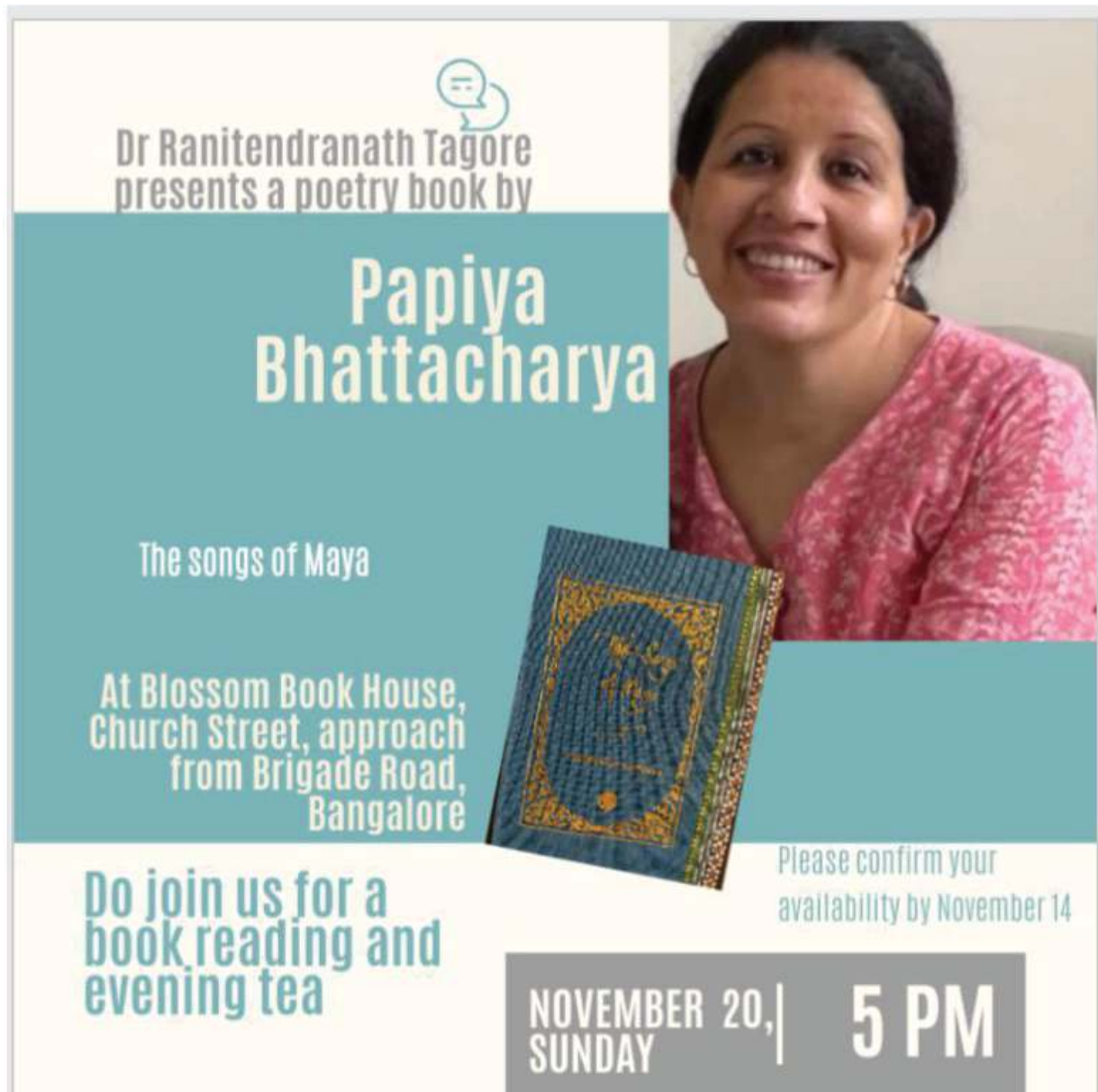
Students after the presentation on the comparative study of the constitutional features

## STUDENT'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Belay, B. K. (2022). The Post-1991 Religious Conflicts in Ethiopia: The Case of Two Religious Organizations in Addis Ababa. IRE Journals. 6(4), pp 55-68.



Bhattacharya, Papiya (2022). The songs of Maya. Writers Workshop. 2022. ISBN: 978-81-958199-4-2



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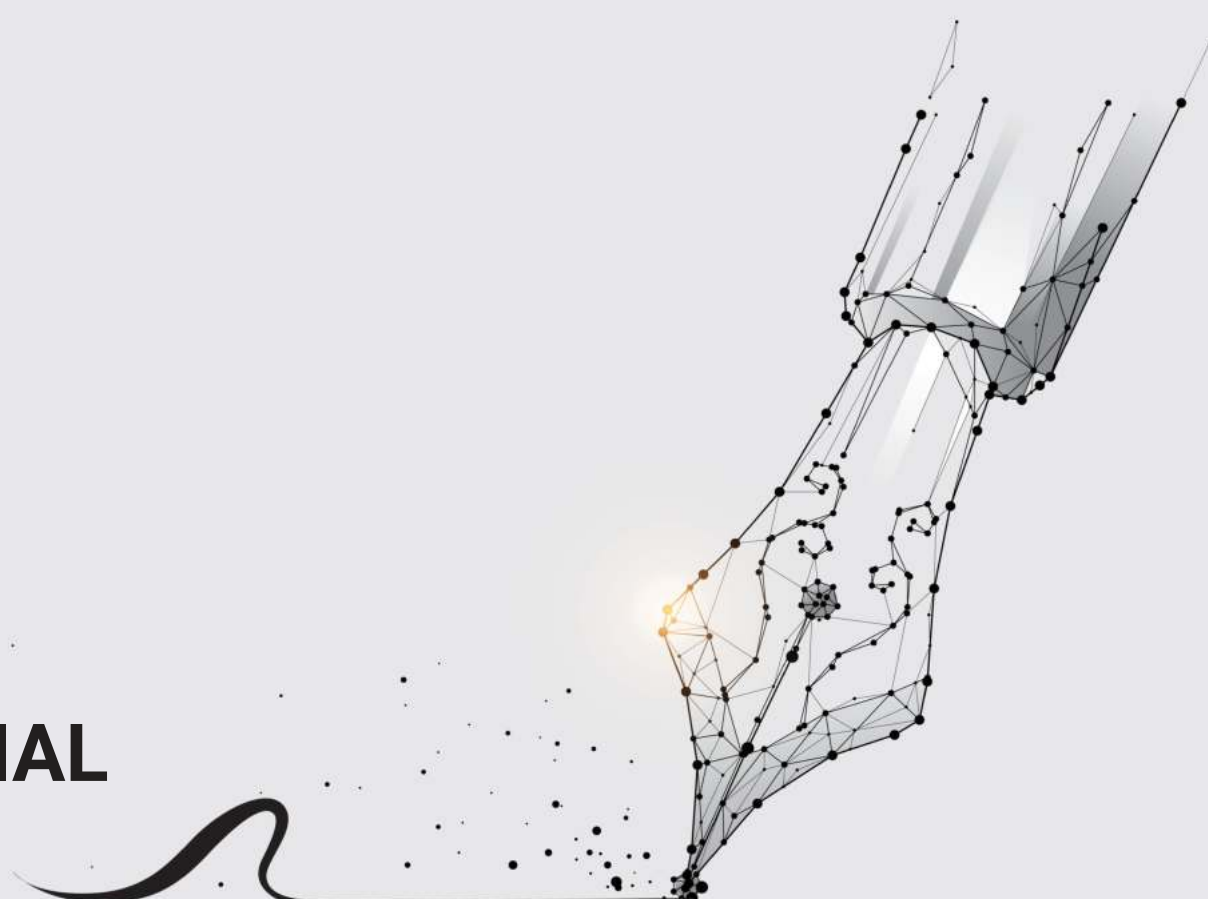
**NOVEMBER 20, | 5 PM**  
SUNDAY

\_\_\_\_\_ (2022). Gene therapy 'costly but saves lives. SciDev.net. URL: <https://www.scidev.net/asia-pacific/role-models/gene-therapy-costly-but-saves-lives/>

Sharma, Roshni (2022). Refugee Women: The Othered 'Other'. International Journal of Research and Analytical Reviews. 9(4).



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