

The Friday Forum

On Zoom

3.30pm–5.00pm AEST, 26 August 2022

India—75 Years after Independence: Past, Present, Future

August marks 75 years since India's independence from colonial rule. With India's transformation into a major economic and political power in world affairs, as well the transition to Hindu nationalist politics under the leadership of Narendra Modi, this anniversary represents a timely moment to reflect critically upon the impacts of development and socio-political change on India's diverse peoples and communities. Bringing together critical scholars, the forum will address broad questions about India's past and present, ranging from the country's emergence as a rapidly developing 'BRIC' economy, the rise to dominance of Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and its allies, the changing position of women in society, challenges of social marginalisation for indigenous peoples, as well as the recent impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on workers and the poor. This forum provides an opportunity to consider such contemporary questions in the light of India's long-term social, political and economic development.

Moderator/Chair: Dr Tom Barnes, IHSS, ACU

Speakers:

Dr Priya Chacko, University of Adelaide

Prof Devleena Ghosh, University of Technology Sydney

Prof Ernesto Noronha, Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad

Prof Jeemol Unni, Ahmedabad University



The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi being welcomed by the Governor of Uttarakhand, Dr Krishan Kant Paul, on his arrival at Dehradun in Uttarakhand on 3 May, 2017. Credit: Press Information Bureau, Government of India. Image c/o Wikimedia Commons.