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**Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy**
India's First Public Policy School

Jindal School of Government and Public Policy

cordially invites you to an

Open Lecture

on

How India Works: Caste, Community and Capitalism.

by



Prof. Thomas Blom Hansen

Professor, Department of Anthropology
Stanford University

Abstract

During the colonial era, the new industrial and commercial economy was completely dominated by very small bania communities that converted their trading expertise into modern industrial entrepreneurship. While the industrial economy grew very substantially during the decades of License raj, the community based pattern of control and employment within the private sector did not change. Liberalization made the Indian economy vastly more dynamic but did it also transform the social basis of the private sector? Did a more open market open opportunities for new groups and categories of people? Is there evidence that the much heralded vikas of a new India is creating a more inclusive India with fewer barriers to social mobility? Does capitalism transform Indian society as it did other societies? Or are the patterns of the Indian economy merely consolidating the existing distribution of opportunities, capital and employment?

Profile of Speaker

Professor Thomas Blom Hansen is the Reliance-Dhirubhai Ambani Professor of Anthropology at Stanford University. He has written on the rise of Hindu nationalism in India, Hindu-Muslim conflicts, urban politics in Mumbai, and melancholia, memory and cultural politics in post-apartheid South Africa.

He is the author of *The Saffron Wave. Democracy and Hindu nationalism in modern India* (Princeton University Press 1999); *Wages of Violence. Naming and identity in postcolonial Bombay* (Princeton University Press 2001); *Cool Passion. The Political Theology of Modern Convictions* (Amsterdam University Press 2009) and *Melancholia of Freedom. Social Life in an Indian Township in South Africa*. (Princeton University Press 2012).

Monday, 12 March 2018, 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm
T3, Conference Room, O.P. Jindal Global University
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