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# What Responsibility? Whose Responsibility?

## Intention, Agency, and Emotions of Collective Entities



### WHAT RESPONSIBILITY? WHOSE RESPONSIBILITY?

INTENTION, AGENCY, AND EMOTIONS OF  
COLLECTIVE ENTITIES

Bhaskarjit Neog



The main objective of the book is to defend our ordinary concept of collective responsibility from the attacks of normative and methodological individualism and to rationalize it by drawing on the latest resources from philosophy of mind, action, and social ontology. It redeems this everyday understanding of moral responsibility of collectives by developing a non-individualist account of collective moral agency- an agency that avoids not just the extravagant commitments of collectivism but also certain platitudinal truths of individualism. The resultant analysis suggests that collective responsibility can be interpreted as the responsibility of a collective without either necessarily reducing it to the responsibility of the constituent members or making it a case where their moral positions become completely blurred because of the presence of the collectivity.



**05 MARCH 2024, 5 PM**

**L-2 , LECTURE HALL COMPLEX**



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Bhaskarjit Neog studied at IIT Kanpur, Utrecht University (the Netherlands), Linköping University (Sweden) and Gauhati University (India). His primary research interests are in ethics, social ontology, moral and political philosophy, and philosophy of religion. He has been an Endeavor Research Fellow at the Australian National University and Charles Sturt University, Australia, and a Visiting Resident Scholar at the Centre for Human Values at the Indian Institute of Management Calcutta.

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