



Department of Humanities and Social Sciences,  
IISER Bhopal

Lecture series

## Conceptions of State and Society in Indian Political Thought

In this talk, Dr. Lamba will highlight the conceptual resources in Indian political thought regarding the relationship between the realm of rule and the domain of the social. The main focus of the talk will be to highlight how some modern Indian thinkers articulated conceptions of state and society in the interest of values like freedom. In so doing, the talk will also allude to features of some precolonial conceptions of state and society. The aim will be to consider the extent to which these conceptions of political community contain alternatives to the nation-state model.

Dr. Rinku Lamba is an Associate Professor, Social Sciences (Politics) at National Law School of India University (NLSIU) Bengaluru. Previously, she has worked at the Centre for Political Studies in Jawaharlal Nehru University for over 13 years. She has taught courses in contemporary political theory and the history of political thought (Indian and Western). She previously held visiting faculty positions at Humboldt University and the University of Wurzburg in Germany and served as an instructor at the University of Toronto. Her work focuses on state power, multiculturalism, secularism, and conceptions of religion in India, as well as on the political thought of Ranade, Phule, Ambedkar, and Gandhi.



Dr. Rinku Lamba



Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026



05:00 PM



LHC, L2