



Sarojini Naidu Centre for Women's Studies

Jamia Millia Islamia

Cordially invites you

For

A Special Lecture on

“The climate of fear against minorities in India”

by

Mr. Harsh Mander

(Director, Centre for Equity Studies and Special Commissioner
to the Supreme Court of India in the Right to Food case)

Date: 6th March 2017

Time: 2:00-4:00PM

Venue: Mir Anis Hall, JMI

R.S.V.P.

scws@jmi.ac.in

Harsh Mander



Harsh Mander, human rights and peace worker, writer, columnist, researcher and teacher, works with survivors of mass violence, hunger, homeless persons and street children. He is Director, Centre for Equity Studies and Special Commissioner to the Supreme Court of India in the Right to Food case. He is the founder of the campaigns Aman Biradari, for secularism, peace and justice; Nyayagrah, for legal justice and reconciliation for the survivors of communal violence; Dil Se, for street children, and 'Hausla' for urban homeless people. He worked formerly in the Indian Administrative Service in Madhya Pradesh and Chhatisgarh for almost two decades.

Books include 'Unheard Voices', 'Fear and Forgiveness: The Aftermath of Massacre', 'Fractured Freedom', 'Ash in the Belly: India's Unfinished Battle against Hunger'; 'Looking Away: Inequality, Prejudice and Indifference in New India'; and 'Fatal Accidents of Birth: Stories of Suffering, Oppression and Resistance'. Stories have been adapted for films, such as Shyam Benegal's Samar, and Mallika Sarabhai's dance drama Unsuni.

His books include 'Unheard Voices: Stories of Forgotten Lives', 'The Ripped Chest: Public Policy and the Poor in India', 'Fear and Forgiveness: The Aftermath of Massacre', 'Fractured Freedom: Chronicles from India's Margins', 'Untouchability in Rural India' (co-authored), 'Ash in the Belly: India's Unfinished Battle against Hunger' 'Looking Away: Inequality, Prejudice and Indifference in New India'; and 'Fatal Accidents of Birth: Stories of Suffering, Oppression and Resistance'. He regularly writes columns for the Hindustan Times, Scroll and the Indian Express, and wrote a fortnightly column for more than 12 years for the Hindu; he also contributes frequently to scholarly journals. He coordinates the production of the annual India Exclusion Report. His real-life stories have been adapted for films, such as Shyam Benegal's Samar, and Mallika Sarabhai's dance drama Unsuni.

As Member of India's National Advisory Council from June 2010-12, he convened the working groups on the Food Security Bill, Land Acquisition and Rehabilitation Bill, Child Labour Abolition, Manual Scavenging Abolition, Urban Poverty and Homelessness, Disability Rights, Bonded Labour, Street Vendors and Urban Slums, and co-convened the groups on the Communal and Targeted Violence Bill, Dalits and Minorities, Tribal Rights, among others.

He writes and speaks regularly on issues of social justice. He teaches courses on poverty and governance in the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad. Past teaching assignments include the LBS National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie; and the Nelson Mandela Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution, Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi; and St Stephen's College, Delhi. He has also lectured at the California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco; the Centre for Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi; the Institute for Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK; ISS in the Hague; NALSAR (National Academy for Law) Hyderabad; MIT, Boston, UCLA, Universities of Stanford, Washington (Stanford), Austin, and several others.

He was Chairperson of the committee of the Government of India for suggesting ways to make the Urban Health Mission to make it work for urban poor people. He was also on various national official National Committees such as on Social Protection and both the Saxena Committee for Rural BPL and Hashim Committee for Urban BPL. He was a Member of the Core Groups on Bonded Labour and Mental Hospitals of the statutory National Human Rights Commission. He was founder Chairperson of the State Health Resource Centre, Chhatisgarh, which established the Mitani Community Health Programme, which was the fore-runner of the Asha Programme.

He is associated with social causes and movements, such for communal harmony and justice, tribal, dalit, child and disability rights, homeless people and bonded labour. He is a founding member of the National Campaign for the People's Right to Information. He is also a Member of the AraPacis Initiative in Rome aimed to launch an active reflection on forgiveness as a moral, spiritual and political tool for achieving reconciliation among peoples. From October, 1999 to March 2004, worked as Country Director, ActionAid India, a development support organization. He is Patron of the Sanjivini Society for Mental Health, and Chairperson of INCENSE (The Inclusion and Empowerment of People with Severe Mental Disorders).

Among his awards are the Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana Award for peace work, the M.A. Thomas National Human Rights Award 2002, the South Asian Minority Lawyers Harmony Award 2012 and the Chisthi Harmony Award 2012.