

"A nation's culture resides in the hearts and in the soul of its people"

Mahatma Gandhi -

Celebrating 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi

"Inaugural lecture " Under the Lecture Series Organized By HNB Garhwal (Central) University, Srinagar Garhwal, Uttarakhand, India

At the behest of University Grant Commission, New Delhi

"The politics of cultural transformation on the Kullu Frontier, c. 1850-2000"



Patron Prof. Annpurna Nautiyal Hon'ble Vice Chancellor HNB Garhwal University, Srinagar Garhwal



Speaker Dr. Arik Moran (DPhil, Oxon) Senior Lecturer in the History and Culture of Modern South Asia Department of Asian Studies, University of Haifa, Israel



UGC

<u>Chief Guest</u> Dr. Ashok Kumar Jain Pr. Consultant NITI Aayog Government of India

On 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2020

Time: 11:20 AM to 1:00 PM (IST)

## Abstract

The use of autochthonous culture to generate political change is among the hallmarks of the National Movement's struggle under Mohandas (Mahatma) K. Gandhi. Considered at a higher level of abstraction, this principle of political action resonates with the transformation of ritual forms as a result of socio-historical changes across modern South Asia. This talk shall explore a unique case of ritual transformation among a marginalized peasant community of the Kullu Valley (Himachal Pradesh, India). It shall argue that the removal of the Rajput rulers of Kullu from power (in 1845) had enabled one especially creative group of ritual specialists to assume the prized position of celebrated officiants in the most potent purification rite in the region to date. The alteration of ritual protocol that were entailed in this process suggests that the nexus of politics and culture that underlay Gandhi's strategies was perhaps more universal than Indian and could, in this respect, provide an explanation for its remarkable success.

## Program Schedule

- Welcome of Guests
- Introductory remark by Chief Guest
- Address by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor
- Special Lecture
- Question & Answer Session
- End note by Prof. D.P. Saklani

## **Organizing Committee**

- Dr. Prashant kandari (Coordinator)
- Dr. Nagendra Rawat (Member)
- Dr. Rakesh Negi (Member)
- Dr. Shweta Verma (Member)
- Dr. Naresh Kumar (Member)

## **Please Note**

- Faculty member and research scholars of HNB Garhwal University and University of Haifa, Israel are only invited to be part of the special lecture.
- Registration is essential for attending the lecture (kindly use the following link for registration) Link for Registration: <u>https://forms.gle/U1jSsgGE39ZVvEV68</u>
- Meeting ID and Password will be provided only to the registered participants by 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2020 through E-Mail
- Last date of Registration : July 21, 2020

For any further enquiry or information please write us : M kandari1980@gmail.com, nagendra.rawat957@gmail.com S +91-9411737647, +91-8802141850