

CRAFTING the STATE-NATION

Diversity and Democracy in India

Guest Lecture with:

MONDAY

Dr Yogendra Yadav

March 21

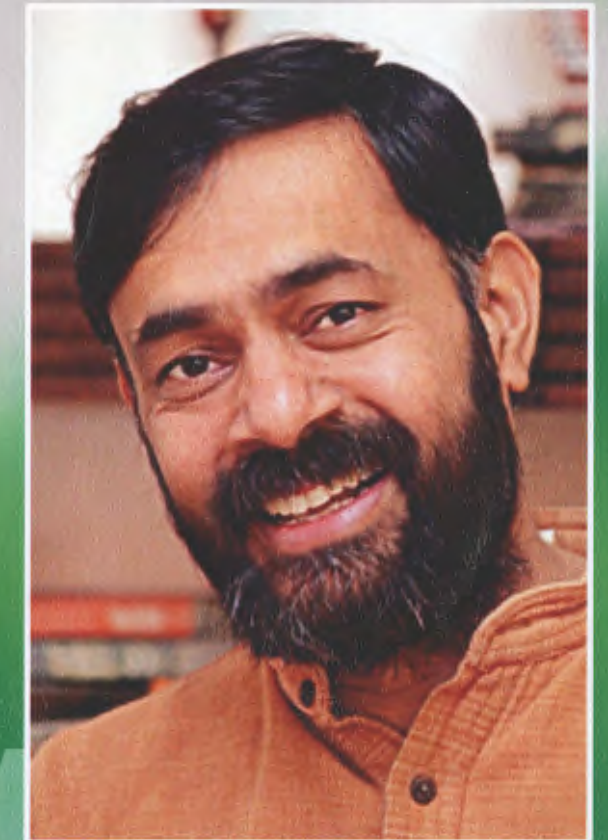
7pm

Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies

Room F125

The existence of deep and cross-cutting diversity in India is seen as an astonishing social fact rather than as an extraordinary political artifact. This commonsense is shaped by the dominant but mistaken 'nation-state' model that expects political boundaries of a state to coincide with the cultural boundaries of a homogeneous community. India's experience suggests another model, a 'state-nation' rather than a 'nation-state', where political unity is forged by foregrounding social diversity and building constitutional and legal safeguards for its diverse religious, linguistic and caste communities. India's unexpected success - and some instructive cases of failure - offers some general lessons for how deep and potentially multinational diversities can be accommodated within a democratic frame.

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the Department of Social, Cultural and Media Studies



*Dr Yogendra Yadav is Senior Fellow at the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, Delhi. He is co-author of **Crafting State-Nations: India and other Multinational Democracies** (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2011), along with Dr Alfred Stepan and Dr Juan Linz. In 2009 the International Political Science Association honoured Dr Yadav with the first Global South Solidarity Award "in recognition of outstanding work on the politics of the developing world".*