



# **Revisiting Core Questions of May Fourth Movement** ***Discourse, Narratives and Contestations***

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International Conference to mark the Centenary of the May  
Fourth Movement of 1919

Organized by **Institute of Chinese Studies**, Delhi

in collaboration with **India International Centre**, New Delhi

and **Harvard Yenching Institute**, USA

**15-16 March 2019**  
**Conference Room II**  
**India International Centre, New Delhi**

# PROGRAMME

## Day One: Friday, 15 March 2019

9:30-10:00: *Registration*

### 10:00 – 11:00 Inaugural Session

Chair: **Prof. Sreemati Chakrabarti**, Vice Chairperson, Institute of Chinese Studies

Welcome Address: **Ambassador Ashok Kantha**, Director, Institute of Chinese Studies

Introducing the Conference: **Prof. Sabaree Mitra**, Conference Convenor, Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University & Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies

Special Address: **Ambassador Shivshankar Menon**, Former Ambassador to People's Republic of China, and Former Foreign Secretary, Government of India

Keynote Address: **Prof. Patricia Uberoi**, Chairperson, Institute of Chinese Studies

Vote of thanks: **Dr. Madhurima Nundy**, Assistant Director, Institute of Chinese Studies

*Tea: 11:00 – 11:30*

### 11:30 – 1:00 Session 1 – Rethinking May Fourth Movement: An Interdisciplinary Approach

Chair: **Prof. Manoranjan Mohanty**

Speakers:

**Kamal Sheel**, Indian Institute of Technology, Varanasi, India

*The May Fourth Movement of 1919: Nationalism and Predicaments of Nation-State in China*

**Viren Murthy**, University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA

*Rethinking the Temporality of the May Fourth: Takeuchi Yoshimi and Mizoguchi Yūzō*

**Christian Uhl**, Ghent University, Belgium

*Evolution, Eternal Recurrence, and Lu Xun's Struggle with the Aporetic Temporalities of Capitalist Modernity: Reapproaching Lu Xun's Yecao (Xu, Guoke, Ying de gaobie)*

**Hemant Adlakha**, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India  
*Creating New Culture Movement/May Fourth Binaries: Are Contemporary Chinese Interpretations of Wusi (五四) Unhistorical?*

Lunch: 1:00 – 2:00

**2:00 – 3:30      Session 2 – Legacy of May Fourth Movement: View from India**

Chair: **Mr. Ravi Boothalingam**

Speakers:

**Natasha Nongbri**, University of Delhi, India  
*The May Fourth Movement in Indian Newsprint*

**Nirmola Sharma**, Institute of Chinese Studies, Delhi, India  
*1919 in Indian and Chinese History: Analyzing the Legacies of the May Fourth and the Jalianwalla Bagh Incidents*

**Dhrub Kumar Singh**, Banaras Hindu University, India  
*The May Fourth Debates on Science: Issues in Quest for Modernity and Progress in China and India*

Tea: 3:30 – 4:00

**4:00 – 5:30      Session 3 – Panel Discussion - Recasting Some Universal Ideas of May Fourth Movement: Evolution, Modernity, Enlightenment, Democracy and Nationalism**

Chair: **TBC**

Speakers:

**Prof. Alok Rai**  
**Ambassador Dr. T. C. A. Raghavan**  
**Prof. Wang Chaoguang**  
**Prof. Manoranjan Mohanty**

**Day Two: Saturday, 16 March 2019**

**9:30 – 11:00      Session 4 – Making of May Fourth Spirit**

Chair: **Prof. Kamal Sheel**

Speakers:

**Prashant Kaushik**, Central University of Gujrat, India  
*The May Fourth Spirit: Origin, Evolution and Significance*

**Rakesh Kumar**, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India  
*Contribution of Youth Activism in Shaping May Fourth Spirit in China*

**Usha Chandran**, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India  
*One Movement Illuminating Another: The Birth of “New Women” from within the ‘May Fourth Movement’*

Tea: 11:00 – 11:30

**11:30 – 1:00      Session 5: New Literature and New Cultural Formations**

Chair: **Prof. B. R. Deepak**

Speakers:

**Manju Hara**, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India  
*Female Subjectivity and Consciousness: A ‘New Culture’ in Women’s Literature of Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century*

**Wang Chaoguang**, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, PRC  
*May Fourth Movement and the Rise of Modern Nationalism in China: View from the development of Chinese National Film Industry in 1920’s*

**Nishit Kumar**, Peking University, Beijing, PRC  
*The New Culture Movement and Huaju: From an Art Form to an Agent of Change*

Lunch: 1:15 – 2:00

**2:00 – 3:00**

**Session 6: Construction of New Culture**

Chair: **Prof. Alka Acharya**

Speakers

**Poonam Surie**, Adjunct Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, Delhi, India  
*Towards Modernity: New Cultural Constructs and Contestations*

**Sabaree Mitra**, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India  
*The Making of a 'New Culture': From 1919 to 2018*

**3:00 – 3:45**

**Concluding Session**

Chair: **Ambassador Vinod C. Khanna**

**Conference Report:** Rapporteurs and Research Staff of Institute of Chinese Studies

**Vote of thanks:** Prof. Sabaree Mitra, Conference Convenor, Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University & Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies

*Tea: 3:45 – 4:15*