



## **Azim Premji University Colloquium Series**

presents a lecture

### **"Theory, 'Capital' and the Global South"**

Speaker

**Aditya Nigam**

Professor, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi

**Date: January 13, 2017 (Friday)**

**Time: 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm**

**Venue: Seminar Hall, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Pixel A, Azim Premji University**

Watch the live broadcast of the talk by clicking <http://lectures.azimpremjiuniversity.edu.in/>. It can be accessed from Android and iOS devices too.

### **About the Lecture**

Basically, I will address two questions in the talk. (1) What it means to do theory from or in the global south, with special reference to the empirical/historical as distinct from the universal/philosophical. (2) In the specific instance of Capital and its relation to the global south, why and how its universal history can be challenged. Here the emphasis will be on why capital is theorized the way it has been, given the paraphernalia of Western thought and how a possible alternative story can be produced.

### **About the Speaker**

Aditya Nigam works in the broad field of social and political theory. His work attempts to theorize the experience of politics and democracy by moving away from the standard mainstream frameworks that base themselves on notions of popular will and sovereignty and focusing on the mundane and the everyday. A parallel part of Nigam's work has been concerned with alternative histories of capital, from the vantage point of contemporary experiences in India and the non-West in general. As part of this endeavour, Nigam has also been working collaboratively with some other colleagues at CSDS, in exploring thought in the conceptual universe of Indian languages. He works with the Centre's Indian Languages Programme and its Hindi journal *Pratiman*. He has published *The Insurrection of Little Selves: The Crisis of Secular Nationalism in India* (2006), *Power and Contestation: India Since 1989*, with Nivedita Menon (2007), *After Utopia: Modernity and Socialism and the Postcolony* (2010), and *Desire Named Development* (2011).