



Azim Premji University Colloquium Series

presents a lecture

"Intermediaries and Indian Democracy"

Speaker

Josy Joseph

National Security Editor, The Hindu

Date: October 21, 2016 (Friday)

Time: 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm

Venue: Seminar Hall, 10th 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

How important are middlemen to Indian democracy? How powerful are they? And more importantly are they all bad? The talk will discuss the various kinds of middlemen who run, manipulate and quicken the world's largest democracy. From the village level to the highest offices in New Delhi, Indian democracy is populated by millions of middlemen. We are very familiar with many of them—ones who get us driving licence, passport and get us to police stations. Occasionally, we ourselves become intermediaries for others. However, some of the most powerful middlemen in the system are not even known to us. Such secretive and powerful men control the levers of power in modern India. Are all middlemen bad? What is the extra cost on our lives because of these intermediaries? Do at least some of the intermediaries serve a purpose? Do some of them make the system more efficient?

About the Speaker

Award winning investigative journalist Josy Joseph spent almost a decade travelling across India to examine major business deals, government decisions, and institutions to unravel the reality of modern India in an unparalleled way. His recently published, *A Feast of Vultures: The Hidden Business of Democracy in India* (Harper Collins, 2016), weaves together the daily struggles of India's poorest with the shenanigans of its rich, and documents the crisis gripping the world's largest democracy. Josy Joseph's stories have over the years resulted in several investigations by the CBI, military, and other agencies. Among his scoops are the Adarsh

Housing Scam, Naval War Room Leak, several aspects of 2G scandal, Commonwealth Games scams etc. He has been with the Times of India, the Asian Age, Delhi Mid Day, DNA, Rediff.com, and the Blitz. He is presently the National Security Editor of The Hindu. He holds a Master's from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, and is a Mathematics graduate.