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# *THE CONTEMPORARY HISTORY OF CITIZENSHIP IN INDIA*

**LAW AND BELONGING**

Speaker

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Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University

Chair

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Chairperson, KCHR

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# The Contemporary History of Citizenship in India: Law and Belonging

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The law of citizenship in India, it is argued, is not embedded in a continuum of chronological time, but unfolds in a sequential time frame in which each amendment in the law effectively puts in place a new one. The changes in the citizenship law must be seen in terms of their location in a historical chronosophy whereby each change represents an interruption marked by conscious decision making, buttressed by legitimation practices and justifications which make a case for their indispensability. The manner in which the discursive space of citizenship is assembled and the properties which provide coherence to a political and ideological context, I argue, constitute an assemblage within which the citizenship law acquires meaning. The contemporary assemblage of citizenship space, dominated by the CAA and NRC, may be seen as one where disparate and, indeed, adversarial political tendencies have coincided and become conjoined in their particularistic articulation of citizenship.



## PROFESSOR ANUPAMA ROY

Anupama Roy is a Professor at the Centre for Political Studies in Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Her research interests straddle legal studies, political anthropology of public institutions, political ideas, and gender studies. She obtained her MPhil degree from University of Delhi, and her PhD degree from the State University of New York at Binghamton, USA. She is the co-author of the book *Election Commission of India: Institutionalising Democratic Uncertainties* (OUP, 2019) and author of the books *Citizenship in India* (Oxford India Short Introduction Series, OUP, 2016), *Mapping Citizenship in India* (OUP, 2010, reprinted 2015), and *Gendered Citizenship: Historical and Conceptual Explorations* (Orient Longman, 2005, paperback, 2013). She has co-edited *Poverty, Gender and Migration in South Asia* (Sage, 2008) and *Dimensions of Constitutional Democracy: India and Germany* (Springer Nature 2019). Her research articles have appeared in various national and international journals including Asian Studies Review, Australian Feminist Studies, Critical Asian Studies, Contributions to Indian Sociology, Economic and Political Weekly and Election Law Journal. Anupama Roy was a senior fellow in the Centre for Women's Development Studies, before she joined the Centre for Political Studies in JNU. She has been a visiting scholar in Sydney University, University of Warwick and University of Wurzburg, Germany. She was Sir Ratan Tata post-doctoral Fellow at the Institute of Economic Growth in Delhi and KTP Fellow at University of Technology, Sydney, Australia.

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