



past for a positive future

SPACES, BODIES, ABSENCES

SOME QUESTIONS WHILE WRITING

A HISTORY OF TRIVANDRUM, ca. 1800-1930

Webinar by

Professor G. Arunima

Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Chair

Professor P.K.Michael Tharakan

Chairperson, KCHR

On 6 th July at 3.00 p.m

You are cordially invited

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Critical geographies, and urban studies, have recast ways of studying towns and cities. This talk is on Trivandrum, and is part of the ongoing work on reading the history of Kerala through a lens of its different religious groups and claimants. This is an attempt to understand the ways in which towns and cities are produced as a relationship of bodies and spaces, marking differential claims, entitlements and erasures. The talk will also unpack the paradoxical ways in which the archive of the city determines both ways in which its history may be written, while containing significant absences that limit our understanding of histories of caste, labour or gender that are critical to a study of city formation.





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Professor G. Arunima

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Professor G. Arunima teaches in the Centre for Women's Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University and has researched and published on both historical and modern contexts in India, focusing particularly on cultural, visual and material texts, and rethinking the politics of the contemporary. Some of her areas of interest have been the study of family and kinship; different aspects of aesthetics and modernities; visual culture and theory; and religion and faith practices. She's the author of *There Comes Papa: Colonialism and the Transformation of Matriliney in Kerala, Malabar, ca. 1855-1940* (Orient Longman, 2003), and has recently translated Rosy Thomas's biography of her husband, the iconic playwright CJ Thomas, from Malayalam to English (*He, My Beloved CJ, Women Unlimited, 2018*).

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