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RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

Guest Lecture at the Käte Hamburger Kolleg

Uday Balakrishnan (Bangalore)

Accommodating Islam - Indian Lessons

25 November 2013 | 18:00 | FNO 02/40-46

For much of its course India's freedom struggle spearheaded by Gandhi and Nehru had only the conditional support of the Muslim community. The community had several insecurities centered on its social and economic backwardness, historical internal differences, as well as the prospect of being rendered powerless in a Hindu dominated independent India. While Gandhi and Nehru, both strongly secular, realized that India would not have an easy freedom without Muslim support, neither understood the community enough to calibrate responses that would have effectively addressed its several concerns.

Dr. Uday Balakrishnan's talk dwells on India's failure to emerge into freedom as a single country, and its successful accommodation of Muslims in post-independence India within the ambit of a secular democratic state.



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