



Azim Premji University Colloquium Series
presents a lecture on

“Quality Learning: Its Science and Critical Theory”

Speaker

Prof. Rajan Gurukkal,

Soundararajan Chair Visiting Professor, Centre for Contemporary Studies,
Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru

Date: April 23, 2015 (Thursday)

Time: 2.00 to 3.30 pm

Venue: 10th Floor Auditorium, 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

That India provides poor quality education is a belief so entrenched today that one almost hesitates to question it. Most of us are obsessed with quality but with little clarity about what the term means. None of our expert committees spells it out as if its attributes are self-evident and universal. Does the science of pedagogy define meanings, measures and parameters of quality learning? Cognitive science differentiates levels of knowing but with none conceived having precedence over the rest. In philosophy of education, quality is ontologically subjective, unstable in time and hardly amenable to epistemological scrutiny. The lecture seeks to explore at the instance of the critical social theory of production, transmission and legitimization of knowledge, who decides what quality higher education means and what needs to be done for its assurance.

About the Speaker

Rajan Gurukkal holds the Soundararajan Chair Visiting Professor at the Centre for Contemporary Studies, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru. He was formerly Vice-Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala and was founder Director of School of Social Sciences at the same university. He has published extensively in English and Malayalam. His publications include *Social Formations of Early South India* (Oxford University Press, 2009), *The Kerala Temple and the Early Medieval Agrarian System* (Vallathol Vidyapitham, Edappal, 1992) and *Levi-Strauss* (in Malayalam, Viswadarsana publications, Trissur, 1986). He has co-authored *History of Kerala* (in Malayalam, Vallathol Vidyapitham, Edappal, 1991) and co-edited *Forest Landscapes of the Southern Western Ghats* (French Institute, Pondicherry, 2007).