



Azim Premji University Faculty Seminar Series

presents a talk on

“Double Discrimination: Dalit Women’s Education in Modern Maharashtra”

Speaker
Dr. Shailaja Paik

Date: 29 July 2015 (Wednesday)

Time: 02.00 pm to 03:30 pm

Venue: 618, 6th Floor, Pixel B, Azim Premji University

About the Topic

Inspired by egalitarian doctrines, the Dalit communities in India have been fighting for basic human and civic rights since the middle of the nineteenth century. In this talk, I examine the struggle of Dalit women in the realm of formal education and investigate a range of interconnected social, cultural, and political questions. Drawing upon archival research and oral histories, my paper breathes life into the ideas, actions, and lives of Dalit women in the urban spaces of modern Maharashtra. I challenge the triumphant narrative of modern secular education and bring to light the deep dissonance between the rhetoric and practice of formal education.

About the Speaker

Dr. Shailaja Paik is an Assistant Professor of South Asian history and Affiliate Faculty in Asian Studies and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at the University of Cincinnati, OH. Her research and teaching interests focus on modern South Asia, Dalit Studies, women, gender and sexuality studies, popular culture, and oral history. Her first book *Dalit Women’s Education in Modern India: Double Discrimination* (Routledge: London and New York, 2014) dealt with the nexus of caste, class, gender, and state pedagogic practices among Dalit women in the cities of modern India. Paik has written several articles in reputed peer-reviewed journals. Her article on “Forging a New Dalit Womanhood” is forthcoming in the *Journal of Women’s History*.