

SAMEEKSHA-2007

SCHEDULE

"REVOLUTION AND COUNTER REVOLUTION"

14th December 2007 (Friday)

INAUGURAL SESSION 1600hrs – 2000hrs

Key note address – Professor T.K OOMEN

"KALAUTSAV" CULTURAL NITE 2100hrs – 2300hrs
Performance by Madan Gopal Singh and Group (Sufi Music)

15th December 2007 (Saturday)

PANEL DISCUSSION 1000hrs – 1300hrs

Theme: **Deconstructing revolution and counter revolution**

Panelists:

Mr. Paul Divakar: Marginalised Issues (NCDHR)

Ashok Rao Kavi: Homosexuality (Humsafar Trust)

Chaynika Shah: Gender perspective (Forum Against Oppression of Women)

Awaaz: Inter college Street play competition 1400hrs-1600hrs

Theme: **Perception and Realities.**

Venue: Outside DH

Khulla Manch: Inter college Debate competition 1630hrs – 1800hrs

Venue: Conference hall

Ghungroo: Inter college Cultural Dance competition 1800hrs – 2000hrs

Theme: **Culture of Silence**

Expressions: 2100hrs – 2300hrs

Cultural programmes by students of TISS

16th December 2007 (Sunday)

Session - 1000hrs – 1200hrs

Theme: **Politics of Identity**

Closing Address 1230hrs – 1330hrs

Speaker: Parmita Goswami

Grand Lunch 1330hrs- 1430hrs

NGO Mela will run parallel to the Events.
(The venue of the event is mainly Main lounge else mentioned along with the event)

REVOLUTION AND COUNTER REVOLUTION – moving towards change

Change is all pervasive. It is constant yet dynamic. It is the essence of our existence. Change occurs in various forms, at different levels and through several means. One cannot look at change in isolation and as an entity separate from the concept of revolution. “Revolution is not a new phenomenon but in fact, is as old as the history of human kind. Revolution first starts within one’s self; in the mind. Only then can it be translated into a larger framework for action. Intrinsic to the concept of revolution is that of counter revolution.

Revolution and Counter Revolution concepts are not equal and opposite to each other, rather they are enmeshed with each other, giving rise to an interesting interplay of forces. Revolution can be crudely defined as an upheaval by the masses and characterised by a sudden change. The values attributed to revolution are absolute equality and complete liberty. However, the word has not only political, but economic, spiritual, and structural connotations also. Counter revolution on the other hand, is sometimes defined as the attempt to reverse the transformations that have been effected in a Revolution. However, there is more in counter revolutions than merely reversing revolution’s effect. A Counter revolution can also happen to bring about changes in the existing system that has been established in the course of the revolution. Counter revolution achieved popularity with the revolt of the peasants against the revolutionary government in Vendee, France, in 1793. However, in India, revolution and counter revolution had happened long before. 2000 yrs ago, when Buddhism came as a threat to the existing system, it was in turn Brahmanised. Democracy may also be seen as the revolution for freedom, and dictatorship as the counter-revolution against it. Revolution is an extremely broad term which has different meanings to different people. A Revolution starts with a thought, a change in one’s idea about the existing structure based on creating a system which is more egalitarian. One can see the growth and development of revolutionary ideas in the women’s

movements, in the ideas of ecological primacy and even in changes needed in justice delivery systems.

There are several questions which come to one's mind in the current context of "development"-Is the overwhelming paradigm of globalisation which marginalises the haves and haves-not a counter revolution, or is it calling for a counter revolution? Is there any possibility of the revolution in economic practices that rule the world to be countered with the common sense of the common people?

Sameeksha 2007 aims to locate issues of gender, caste, race, power, state, and market in the realm of Revolutions and Counter Revolutions. The questions that one has to raise are; is there an interplay between these apparently diverse but inter-connected phenomena? Or are we living in a world of false sensibilities that have muted the capacity for a revolution or counter revolution?

Welcome to all those who like to live on these ideas and debates, on reason and logic, and on history or her-story

Come- lets explore those important questions, in our quest to understand our own world.