



Salesian Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences:

**Call for Papers
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The Predicament of Democracy in India: Past and Present

The Nation in contemporary times, is being re(produced) discursively and materially in lines of unequal representations based on identity, a project that is actively sponsored by the State. The implications of the supremacist desires, albeit targeted towards a distinct other within the nation, translate to fears of any kind and degree of opposition or threat of it. Dissent and dissenters have been attacked and/or demolished through decentralized channels that institutionally claw into every nook and corner of the intellectual, social and economic territorial landscape of India. Further, the uncanniness unleashed by the CoVid-19 pandemic brought to bear the always already existing inequalities with regard to access to basic healthcare facilities, education and livelihood. The pandemic, although touted by some as an equalizer, threw open to contestation the notion of universal applicability that constitutional rights, primarily the right to life, are formally and substantively meant to be. Yet, within or without the 'viral times', Ambedkar's principle of "one man, one value" remains to be realized, as through the very garb of political equality (in terms of India being an electoral democracy) cultural, social and economic equality or democracy are being undercut to re-imagine the nation that New India is supposed to be.

Keeping the contemporaneous predicament of democracy in India at the foreground, in the upcoming issue, the Salesian Research Centre and *Salesian Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences* attempts to focus on the normalized, the exceptional, and everyday social, political and economic concerns in the vast territorial space of India. We call upon scholars from various Humanities and Social Sciences disciplines for their academic insights on the present situation in the form of theoretical and/or empirical essays and critical reviews (6000 words), short commentaries (2000 words) and book reviews (1000 words).

The contributions can explore the following themes (the list is not exhaustive):

Minorities and Discrimination
Social Protests, Movements and Confrontations
Dissent: Art and Performance
Territory and Self Determination
Politics of Language
Democratic Institutional Spaces: Universities, Museums, Archives and Libraries
Authoritarian Laws and Violence
(Un)Freedoms: Speech, Expression, Mobility, Profession
The Public and the Private: Gender, Religion and Caste
Democracy in India's North-east.
(Im)Possibility of democratising the experiences of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Instructions to the authors:

The articles must use footnotes, **not in-text citations or endnotes**. Footnotes should conform to the latest **Chicago Manual**. The issue is open to theoretical and/or empirical essays and critical reviews (6000 words), short commentaries (2000 words) and book reviews (1000 words).

The articles should be emailed to Dr. Bikash Sarma at bsarma7@gmail.com and cc to Professor George Thadathil at geothil@gmail.com with the subject line 'Article Submission for Review' with a author's bio in a separate sheet. All the documents should be submitted in **MS Word**.

The last date for submitting the articles via email is **15th of October 2022**.