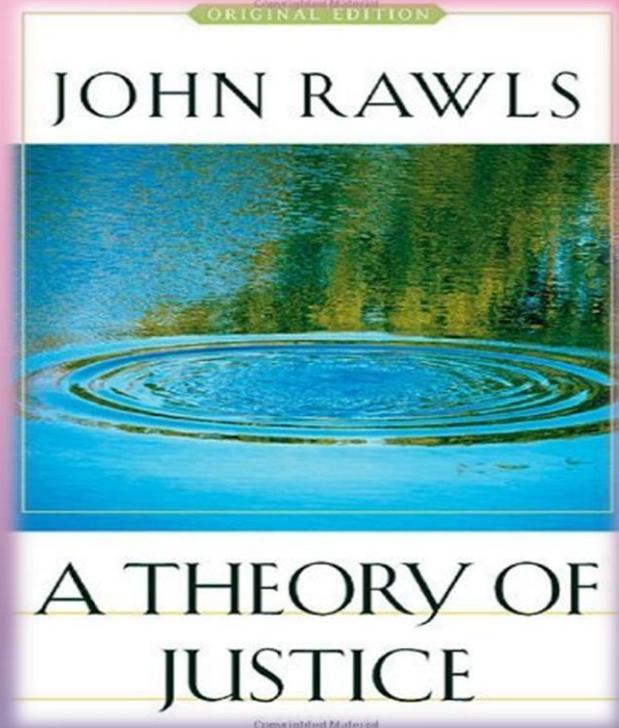




Webinar on “A Theory of Justice” at 50: Revisiting John Rawls’ Legacy

29 May 2021 at 06.00 p.m



John Rawls came up with a theory of justice as fairness. The theory had a strong focus on redistribution. But his student Robert Nozick did not agree with his seeming suggestion that the less-advantaged people in society are automatically entitled to a share in the earnings of their more successful peers. He advanced his entitlement theory instead. Sen’s development of the capability approach was motivated by a desire to extend the structure of the Rawlsian theory of justice as fairness by introducing the idea of capabilities to give it a less idealistic tone and make the concept that is operationalizable. Martha Nussbaum builds on Sen but expands the notion of capabilities to include internal capabilities that are attitudes or talents, combined capabilities that are what the context allows us to do, and basic capabilities that are the natural endowments we have. She gives emphasis on combined capabilities and says that the purpose of a theory of justice is not just to ensure minimum standards of existence, but that it would to better life and human flourishing. The ideas of Rawls have considerable influence on public policy especially public investment in crucial areas like health and education. It has implications for jurisprudence. Rawls seems to be a philosopher who speaks about a progressive form of justice without renouncing liberalism and the market. There lies its relevance for democracies like ours.



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Moderator

Prof. John S Moolakkattu
Department of International Relations &
Politics, Coordinator, Centre for
Gandhian Studies, Central University of
Kerala, Kasargod.



Panelist

Prof. Samir Kumar Das
Professor of Political Science
University of Calcutta
Previously the Vice-Chancellor of the
University of North Bengal.



Panelist

Prof. Ananta Kumar Giri
Madras Institute of Development Studies
(MIDS), Chennai.



Panelist

Dr. Sushila Ramaswamy
Associate Professor in Political Science
Jesus and Mary College
New Delhi.



Panelist

Dr. B. Vijayalakshmi
Joint Director, Accounts Training Wing,
Dr. MCRHRDI
Hyderabad.



Panelist

Prof. Kuruvilla Pandikattu SJ
Dean, Faculty of Philosophy
Jnana Deepa Institute of Philosophy
and Theology, Pune.



Panelist

Prof. Fr. K M George
Chairperson
Dr Paulos Gregorios Chair
SGT&DS, MG University
Kottayam.



Welcome Address

Dr. T M Joseph
Hon. Professor
BS Bhargava Chair on Decentralized
Governance and Development, CRM,
Kottayam, Kerala,



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All are Welcome

Please sign in at least 10 minutes before 6.00 p.m on 29 May 2021

Greetings from Dr. Jos Chathukulam, Director, CRM, Kottayam, Kerala