



## Venice-Delhi Seminars

10-11-12 October 2013, New Delhi

# Religious Pluralism

## Freedom and Diversity, Blasphemy and Respect

Images and Ideas on proximity, conflicts and living together with differences; Traditions and hierarchies challenged by irreverence; Democracy to the test of minorities

A Reset-Dialogues on Civilizations project, in cooperation with the Jamia Millia Islamia, Seminar and the India Habitat Centre

## Program

**Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi**

Conference Hall, FTK Centre for Information Technology, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi-110025

**First session – 10.30 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.**

*Democracy and the tension between freedom of speech and respect for the other's religion, culture, identity. India and Europe*

Inaugural Address: **S. Sajid** - Vice-Chancellor of Jamia Millia Islamia University, India

Introduces and chairs: **Nina zu Fürstenberg** - President, Reset-Dialogues on Civilizations

Speakers:

**Peter Ronald deSouza** - Director IIAS, India

**Jytte Klausen** - Brandeis University, USA

**Akhil Sibal** - Lawyer, India

**Usha Ramanathan** - Lawyer, India

**Second session – 2.00 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.**

*Minorities: democracy to the test of religious, cultural, linguistic and ethnic pluralism.*

Chair: **Harsh Sethi** - Consulting Editor, Seminar, India

Speakers:

**Rajeev Bhargava** - Director CSDS, India

**Roberto Toscano** - Former Italian Ambassador to India

**Fawzia Koofi** - Politician and activist, Afghanistan

**Mani Shankar Aiyar** - Former diplomat, Member of Parliament, India

**Sandeep Dikshit** - Member of Parliament, India

## **Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup>**

### **India Habitat Centre, New Delhi**

**"Silver Oak", Habitat World, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003 (Entry from gate number 3 on Vardhman Marg)**

#### **Third session – 10.30 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.**

*Blasphemy between present and past: the history of punishment and decriminalization of blasphemy in Europe, India and other countries*

Opening:

**Raj Liberhan** - Director, India Habitat Centre, India

Chair:

**Jytte Klausen** - Brandeis University, USA

Speakers:

**Silvio Ferrari** - Professor in Law, University of Milan, Italy

**Ruchira Gupta** - Founder of Apne Aap Women Worldwide, India

**Teesta Setlavad** - Civil rights activist and journalist, India (Mumbai)

#### **Fourth session – 2.00 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.**

*In the eyes of the other: religions seen by other religions.*

*Proximity, conflicts, hybrids and syncretism through traditions, rituals, food and dress codes*

Chair:

**Najeeb Jung** - Lieutenant Governor of Delhi

Speakers:

**Giancarlo Bosetti** - Director of Reset-Dialogues on Civilizations

**Francesca Cadeddu** - Researcher, University of Bologna, Italy

**Pavan K. Varma** - Author and Diplomat, India

**Mihir Sharma** - Journalist and writer, Business Standard newspaper, India

**Laila Tyabji** - Activist and Chairperson of Dastkar, India

**Silvia Ronchey** - Professor, University of Roma Tre, Italy

#### **Roundtable on the media – 4.45 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.**

**Shoma Chaudhury** - Managing Editor, Tehelka, India

**Basharat Peer** - Kashmiri journalist, author, and political commentator

**Jonathan Shainin** - Editor, Caravan Magazine, India

**Rachel Dwyer** - Professor of Indian Culture and Cinema, SOAS, UK

**Manini Chatterjee** - The Hindu, India

**Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>**

**India Habitat Centre, New Delhi**

**Fifth session – 10.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.**

*Traditional society, habits, hierarchies challenged by irreverence and provocation*

Chair:

**Peter Ronald de Souza** - Director IIAS, India

Speakers :

**Shiv Visvanathan** - Professor at O P Jindal Global University, India

**Rachel Dwyer** - Professor of Indian Culture and Cinema, SOAS, UK

**Ananya Vajpeyi** - Fellow, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, India

**Manvendra Singh** - Member of Parliament, Bharatiya Janata Party, India

**FREE ENTRANCE**

*With a contribution by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

**Reset Dialogues on Civilizations**

[www.resetdoc.org](http://www.resetdoc.org)

Via San Telesforo, 10 – 00165 Rome, Italy

Tel: +39 0694368323 – Fax +39 0668807262

For info about the Seminars: [luisa.rovati@resetdoc.org](mailto:luisa.rovati@resetdoc.org)