Digitized Humanity: the "contractual" ethico-political dimensions of the "machinic" networks

Overview

The philosophical and literary discourses no longer perceive humanity the way they did in the bygone eras. In the past these discourses figured humanity as a nuanced variation of the way the routinized identarian state politics sought to represent it to those it governed in order to meet its political imperatives and expediencies, as a kind of totalizable organic entity, which could be tamed into meeting its goals and agendas. However, lately these discourses have taken a self-reflexive turn towards de-constructing its earlier attempt and this turn has culminated in the creation of what we lately call digitized humanity. This is a humanity that in the current scenario manifests itself in the form of those tangled, overlapping wires of PCs or as indefatigable mesh of media networks.

However the question is does this digital humanity shelter any of those conventional ethical dimensions? For many commentators of Deleuze while ethicality means shifting towards a position that Deleuze calls "becoming minor" or what Irving Goh calls the "reject" political, for them, stands cognate with both agonizing and expanding state politics while prevailing as a means to elude totalitarian regimes and of experiencing what Negri calls 'absolute democracy'. The purpose of this course then is to first of all re-position digital humanity as a living reality and then to showcase the way it stands as an emphatic societal actualization of Deleuze's theoretical disclosures. Secondly, this course proposes to both critique and expand contemporary thinking while clarifying Deleuze's concepts such as 'assemblage', 'machinic connections', 'becoming minor', 'body without organs' and the 'micropolitical' and the notion of political and ethical that we have been living with so far. To drive home its point the course will discuss many social issues and political issues threadbare.

Modules	A: **From classical notion of self to Digitized Humanity: June 20-June 22** B: **From Deleuze's *Micropolitics* to its Critique: June 23-June 24** C: **Postcolonizing Deleuze: June 27** D: **Deleuze and the contemporary Indian politics : June 28** **Number of participants for this course shall be limited to 30**
You Should Attend If...	• You are a PhD scholar of Humanities/ management/ architecture and law who are likely to be benefited by learning the fundamental aspects of Deleuzean thinking and its late appropriation by the postcolonial thinkers. • Faculty members and Research Associates from reputed academic institutions and technical institutions are also welcome.
Fees	**Participants from abroad** : US $500 **Academic Institutions from India:** Teachers: Rs. 3000/ The above fees include all instructional materials, computer use for tutorials, 24 hr free internet facility. The participants will be provided with single bedded accommodation on payment basis.

The Faculty

Prof. Nathan Widder works as a professor in the Department of politics and international relations, Royal Holloway, University of London. He has previously taught at the University of Exeter and the London School of Economics. His teaching and research covers the history of Western political thought and philosophy, contemporary Continental philosophy, and feminist political theory.

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Saswat S. Das is an Associate Professor in the Department of Humanities and Social sciences, IIT Kharagpur, India. He carries out research in Critical Theory, Postmodern and Post-Colonial Studies and Continental philosophy.

Dr.AnindyaSekharPurakayastha, is an Associate Professor in the Department of English, KaziNazrul University, Asansol and his area of research covers domains of contemporary critical theory, postcolonial politics and radical political theology.

Course Co-ordinator

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