



**The Mumbai Münster Institute of Advanced Studies (MMIAS)
University of Mumbai**

Invites you to a hybrid (online/offline) talk on

**Challenges of Migration and Citizenship: African Americans and
Asian Americans, 1850-1925**

In the MMIAS International Interdisciplinary Lecture Series

by

Professor Amritjit Singh

Langston Hughes Professor Emeritus of English and African American Studies at Ohio University (OU), USA

Chairperson: Professor Rajeshri Varhadi

Department of Law, University of Mumbai

Date: 15th February 2023 | Time: 2:00 PM IST

Venue: ICSSR Conference Hall, J. P. Naik Bhavan, University of Mumbai, Kalina

This illustrated talk explores from a comparative perspective the patterns of African Americans' internal migration from the South between the end of the Civil War to the peak years of the Harlem Renaissance and the hurdles that Asians from various locations faced in their search for "home" and citizenship from U.S. custom and law during the same years, 1850-1925. In examining the parallels and intersections between these two major historical experiences on the American continent, the talk will attempt to establish (a) that no satisfactory understanding of citizenship in the U.S. can be achieved without examining the migratory patterns of "non-immigrant" groups such as African Americans, and Chicanos and the often forced internal migrations of Indigenous Peoples throughout North America; (b) that it is woefully inadequate to focus primarily on immigration paradigms (melting pot, salad bowl, mosaic, consent and descent, etc.) in examining the narratives of nation and hegemony in North America; and (c) that it is only with the emergence of Critical Race Studies and other new paradigms of interdisciplinary and inter-ethnic work that we have had the real possibility of achieving a layered understanding of "race" beyond the black-white equation.



Amritjit Singh is the Langston Hughes Professor Emeritus of English and African American Studies at Ohio University (OU) and served as the senior editor for the MELA Series, Rutgers University Press. Currently, he is a Visiting Fellow at the South Asia Institute, University of Texas-Austin. He has earlier taught for 20 years at Rhode Island College, where he was named the Mary Tucker Thorp Professor of Arts and Sciences and also received the 2003 Alumni Association's Distinguished Faculty Award. Singh has held visiting positions at several universities. Past President of MELUS, SALA, and USACLALS, Singh was also the Creative Writing Editor for South Asian Review. He serves on the editorial boards of several academic and literary national and international journals. An internationally known literary critic and scholar, Singh has lectured and/or taught widely at many international universities. Singh has been the recipient of many prestigious fellowships. Singh's scholarly interests include African American Studies and South Asian Studies, as well as inter-ethnic, migration, transnational and postcolonial studies. His work examines the issues of borders and border-crossings in both North America and South Asia at the cusp of Postcolonial Theory and Critical Race Theory. Singh has authored, edited, or coedited over fifteen books.



Professor Dr. Rajeshri N. Varhadi is Professor and former Head of the Department of Law, University of Mumbai. She has been appointed on prestigious positions of various institutions and agencies, including the NAAC, where she served as a member coordinator. She has participated in more than a hundred national and international conferences such as the *International Visitor Programme on Humanitarian Responses to Crises and Disasters* in Washington DC, USA, where she represented India among thirteen other participants. Seven students, three of them eminent personalities like Justice Rebello in the field of law, completed their PhD under her guidance. Professor Varhadi has been felicitated with numerous accolades by many honourable and influential personalities in her field. She has published several research papers and articles and has conducted/organised over fifty workshops and seminars. Professor Varhadi was recently felicitated at the House of Lords, London, UK, by Lord Taylor and Mayor Sunil Chopra for her dedicated work in the field of law.

Please RSVP on office.mmias@mu.ac.in if you would like to attend the lecture in person latest by **13th February 2023**.

Zoom details:

Meeting ID - 896 4353 0464 | Passcode - 653641

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89643530464?pwd=eUlmVS8wSERrZ1d3bUdWMHU4N1JFdz09>