



Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur

INSTITUTE LECTURE SERIES

October 31, 2022 (Monday) | 6.15 pm | L - 17

Speaker: Dr. Koenraad Elst

Talk Title: Out of India: the necessary alternative to the Aryan Invasion Theory

About the Speaker



Dr. Koenraad Elst is an eminent historian, author and public speaker on Indology, Hindu revivalism, Sinology and Philosophy. He earned his Ph.D. degree from the Catholic University of Leuven in Oriental Philology and History. As part of his research, he had a stay at the Banaras Hindu University (BHU). Dr. Elst belongs to the elite group that housed scholars like Ram Swarup and Sita Ram Goel; people who made their voice heard for facts across the globe, in scientific temperament, despite facing harsh criticism from scholars of other schools of thoughts. Over the years, Dr. Elst has championed the theory of Indigeneous Aryans and use of Paleolinguistics. His work on Ayodhya is regarded by many as prime amongst most.

Dr. Elst, till date, has authored more than 20 books that include decolonizing the Hindu mind, the Saffron Swastika, Hindu Dharma and culture wars, why and how Mohandas Gandhi was killed, Ayodhya Ram Temple, the Aryan Invasion Debate, negationism in Indian history discourse, psychology of Prophetism, communal violence and propaganda, etc.

Abstract of the Talk

The Aryan Invasion Theory, that hypothesizes streams of Aryans entering India around 1500 BCE, displacing the local population, and ultimately forcing their culture, language and social practices, has little evidence. Sadly, however, it is still the most prominent theory, and is taught in history textbooks throughout the country. It is one thing to say that there was no Aryan Invasion, but this leaves with the duty to explain what happened instead. The speaker has surveyed what is already known by way of alternative propositions, including the Out-of-India Theory, and what gaps remain to be filled.

All are cordially invited to attend

Covid protocols to be followed strictly

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