

FRIDAY

RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM

Conversations on society since 1960

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi
<http://sociology.du.ac.in/sociological-research-colloquium/>

FRIDAY, 21ST APRIL 2023 AT 3:00 PM
SRINIVAS SEMINAR ROOM, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

**GNANA
ALOYSIUS**



DIMENSIONS OF CASTE TODAY

Abstract:

Long ago, the late Professor M N Srinivas pointed out that caste had acquired a new, political lease of life. Probably he had in mind the caste-communities using the principle of caste in order to mobilise people for the appropriation of the perks that modern life promises – representation, opportunities, recognition etc. This presentation would explore, on the other hand, the new structural and ideological implications of caste as it functions in the spheres of state and public life. The perspective here is unabashedly its abolition.

The Speaker:

G. Aloysius is among our leading social thinkers today. His landmark work *Nationalism Without a Nation in India* (1997, currently in its 18th printing) remains the most authoritative sociological critique of dominant nationalism. He has written extensively on caste and caste-linked social movements, including new editions of the works of Lyothithassar and Periyar. He spent nearly two decades as an activist in Jharkhand along with Josna Jacob, with whom he founded the Critical Quest New Social Science Library, a non-profit venture for popularising emancipatory social theory. (<https://publications.criticalquest.info/Home.html>) Aloysius is a non-institutional academic who has held visiting or short-term professorships in leading universities and research institutions across India.