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4:30pm -6:00pm

Avinash Hingorani

"A Clash of Color: Dialogues on Race, Caste, and Solidarity in the United States and India (1900-1954)"

The marginalization of Black Americans due to white supremacy and the oppression of Indians under British colonialism featured inescapable similarities. At the turn of the twentieth century, these parallels led Indian and Black nationalists, intellectuals, and activists to share their experiences and engage in dialogues towards improving the social status of their people. Specifically, Black internationalists such as W.E.B. Du Bois, Walter White, and Paul Robeson studied the Indian independence movement, and came to regard India as a template in the fight against white supremacy in the US. Ultimately, they came together in their desire to overthrow the structures that subjugated them. Throughout the late nineteenth and early twentieth century some Indians and Americans exchanged ideas about race, caste, and class, creating lasting cultural connections.

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