

DENYS P. LEIGHTON, VISITING PROFESSOR (SUS and SLS)

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

Dr Leighton's research and teaching interests center on: (1) history of political thought and political culture, with focus on the period since 1750; (2) history of philosophy, including Indian philosophy; and (3) world history of the modern and early modern eras. He is particularly interested in the phenomenon of secularization in relation to the formation of modernity. He earned a BA at the University of Virginia with majors in history and German language and literature. During that period he also studied at the Albert-Ludwigs-Universität-Freiburg (Germany). He subsequently conducted postgraduate research at Oxford University and Washington University (USA), where he was awarded the MA and the PhD in British and European history. He has received study and research fellowships from Washington University, the Max Kade Foundation and the Mellon Foundation.

PAST EMPLOYMENT

Dr Leighton joined Ambedkar University, Delhi, in August 2009. He taught at colleges and universities in the USA before taking up visiting faculty positions at the University of Delhi (2003-7, 2008-9). He taught in the History Department of Tulane University (2007-8) before returning to India. Dr Leighton has worked as a freelance editor in the academic publishing business and has been associate editor and consultant editor for *Mid-Atlantic Almanack* and *German Studies in India*. He also writes book reviews and evaluates manuscripts for journals in the fields of history and philosophy. He has conducted several seminars for Centre for Professional Development in Higher Education (University of Delhi) and served on advisory committees for BA (Programme) course in History at the University of Delhi.

BOOKS

1. *Lives of Victorian Political Figures IV, Volume Two: Thomas Hill Green and William Morris* (London: Pickering and Chatto, 2009). ISBN 9781851969197. [An annotated collection of historical documents with introduction.]
2. *The Greenian Moment: T. H. Green, Religion and Political Argument in Victorian Britain* (Exeter, UK, and Charlottesville, USA: Imprint Academic, 2004). ISBN 0907845541.

SELECTED SHORTER PUBLICATIONS

1. 'The Invention of Hinduism and Comparativism in Modern Indian Philosophy: Explaining the Career of Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan,' in William Sweet (ed.), *Migrating Texts and Traditions* (Ottawa: University of Ottawa Press, 2010).
2. (Denys Leighton and Nancy Lopatin-Lumms), 'A Public Life: Richard W. Davis, Historian, Mentor, Gentleman,' in *Parliamentary History. Festschrift issue for R. W. Davis*, vol. 27/ no. 1 (February, 2008): 1-6.
3. 'T. H. Green and the Dissidence of Dissent: On Religion and National Character in Nineteenth-Century England,' in *Parliamentary History. Festschrift issue for R. W. Davis*, vol. 27/ no. 1 (February, 2008): 43-56.

4. 'Between Artistry and Political Realism: Changing Patterns in Assessments of William Morris,' in *Yearly Review of English Studies* [University of Delhi, Dept. of English], 15 (May, 2007): 130-42.
5. 'Temperance Movements' and 'Welfare State,' in *Oxford Encyclopedia of Women in World History*, Ed.-in-Chief, Bonnie G. Smith (New York: Oxford UP, 2007).
6. [co-authored with Suresh Babu], 'The Shompen of Great Nicobar Island (India): Between 'Development' and Disappearance,' *Policy Matters. Special Issue: History, Culture and Conservation*, vol. 13 (November, 2004): 198-211.
7. 'Municipal Progress, Democracy and Radical Identity in Birmingham, 1838-1886,' *Midland History*, vol. 25 (2000): 115-42.

SELECTED CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

1. Commentator on panel 'Race, Caste and Labouring Identities,' *8th International Conference on Labour History*, Association of Indian Labour Historians, New Delhi, India, March 18, 2010.
2. 'Politics, Poetics and the Culture of Character: On Reading Milton since the 19th Century': paper presented to international seminar *Inhabiting this Hour: John Milton, His Bequest, 1608-2010*, Dept. of English, University of Delhi, February 18, 2010.
3. 'Orientalism and Modern Indian Philosophy: Explaining the Career of Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan (1888-1975)': paper presented to conference *History and Philosophy*, Aligarh Historians' Society and Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, June 13, 2006.
4. 'Some Reflections on Authorial Authenticity and Cultural Interlocution': paper presented to conference *Rites of Passage: Exploring Changes in the Travel Motif*, Department of Germanic and Romance Studies, University of Delhi, March 3, 2006.
5. 'Being An Indian Philosopher in the Twentieth Century: Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan and World Philosophy': talk given at Department of Comparative Literature, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, February 2, 2006.
6. 'Communalism and Secularism: Some National Comparisons': talk given at Developing Countries Research Centre, University of Delhi, March 30, 2004.
7. 'Secularization, Secularism and European Modernity': paper presented to seminar *Rethinking the Idea of Europe: Cultural Studies as European Studies*, Centre for German Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, February 23, 2004.
8. 'What's Wrong with Religious Commitment?: Liberalism, Community and Social Mobilization': paper presented to the Department of Political Science, University of Delhi, November 3, 2003.

9. 'Individual Liberty, Social Order, and Social Evolution in Late Nineteenth Century Political Thought': invited presenter, colloquium sponsored by the Liberty Fund, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, June 5-8, 2003.
10. 'T. H. Green, Liberalism and the Idea of Character' (conference paper): *T. H. Green and Contemporary Philosophy, An Interdisciplinary Conference*, Harris Manchester College, Oxford, England, September 2-4, 2002.
11. 'Democracy, Radicalism, and the Civic Gospel in Birmingham, 1838-1886' (conference paper): Annual Meeting of the North American Conference on British Studies, Monterey, California, USA, November 1, 1997.

CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS AND INTERESTS

Dr Leighton wrote two chapters in a global history textbook to be published in 2010 by the National Institute of Open Schooling, New Delhi. He continues to research aspects of modern Indian philosophy and the philosophical movement known as 'global Idealism'. Other current projects include 'Literary classics and plebeian political culture in Britain, c. 1780-1914' and 'Defining the political in Idealist philosophy: a comparison of Green, Bosanquet, Oakeshott, Iqbal and Radhakrishnan'.

PROFESSIONAL DISTINCTIONS/AWARDS

Dr Leighton's book *The Greenian Moment* (2004) has been included on the official reading lists of two history of political thought courses of the Cambridge Historical Tripos (i.e., University of Cambridge BA Honours History examinations).