

ToIndia Summer School 2025

The persistence of caste in contemporary India

when and where

30 June - 4 July, 2025 Campus Luigi Einaudi, Turin

who

Barbara Harriss-White (*University of Oxford*)

Karin Kapadia (*University of Oxford*)

Anupama Rao (*Barnard College NY*)

Jens Lerche (*SOAS London*)

Nicolas Jaoul (*EHESS, Paris*)

Sambhaji Bhagat (*Artist and activist*)

Ganga Sahay Meena (*Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi*)

Prem Shankar Jha (*Journalist and writer*)

why

The 2025 edition will deal with issues of marginalisation, cultural and economic discrimination from the perspective of the still existing caste segregation. Using an interdisciplinary approach, this year's programme will explore the multidimensional forms of caste discrimination in contemporary India, looking at the persistence of the stigma of untouchability and its intersecting dimension with forms of segregation based on class, belonging and gender.

Moreover, the religious dimension of caste urges us to also consider the changing nature of caste in the context of the various actors and dynamics that have fostered forms of Hindu revivalism and brought religious identity as a catalyst - and polariser - at the centre of the political arena. The weekly programme will thus include lectures, talks and discussions addressing issues related to exclusion, resistance, mobilisation, labour, as well as cultural productions.

Through an interdisciplinary approach, the School provides students with an opportunity to analyse key political, social and cultural issues of contemporary India. Important recent trajectories of social change – as well as continuity – will be explored, encouraging critical reflection among students.

