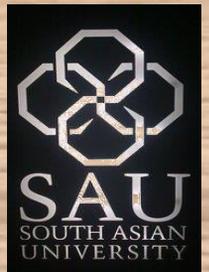
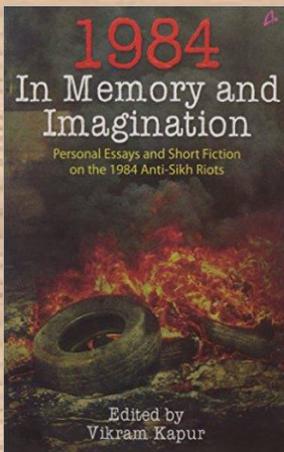


Department of Sociology
Faculty of Social Sciences
South Asian University



The Ghosts of 1984: The anti-Sikh pogrom and its never-ending after-burn

By
Vikram Kapur



Abstract:

More than thirty years after they occurred, the events of 1984 refuse to slide into the past. As recently as 2012, Lieutenant General Brar, who led Operation Blue Star, was attacked in London for his role in that operation. In 2014, the Punjabi film *Kaam De Heere*, based on the lives of the men responsible for Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's assassination, was banned. Last year there were calls to ban the Bollywood film *3rd October*, which is based on the anti-Sikh pogrom that followed Mrs Gandhi's assassination. To this day the struggle goes on to deliver justice to the victims of that pogrom. Rather than entering the garbage heap of history, the events of 1984 have become a testament to William Faulkner's words: 'The past is never dead. It isn't even past.'

This presentation will focus on the events of 1984 and how they resonate in India more than three decades later. To that end, it will utilise the means of conventional lecture as well as a prose reading.

Author:

Vikram Kapur is the author of two novels *Time Is a Fire* and *The Wages of Life*, as well as the editor of an anthology of short fiction and nonfiction on the anti-Sikh riots of 1984 called *1984 In Memory and Imagination*. His short fiction and nonfiction have been published widely in India and abroad. His short stories have been shortlisted for major international prizes including, among others, the Commonwealth Short Story Prize and broadcast over the radio. He has received a number of international writing fellowships. His new novel will be published in 2017 by Speaking Tiger. He is currently an associate professor of English at Shiv Nadar University. His website is www.vikramkapur.com



Wednesday, 1st March 2017

Time: 2.30 pm

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ALL ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

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