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## LASSNET WEBINAR SERIES 2 0 2 4

INDIA'S
COMMUNAL
CONSTITUTION
Law, Religion and the Making of a People

MATHEW JOHN

Book discussion on

## INDIA'S COMMUNAL CONSTITUTION: Law, Religion and the Making of a People

AUTHOR



**MATHEW JOHN** 



DISCUSSANTS



MOHSIN ALAM BHAT

PHILIPP DANN

## ABOUT THE BOOK

This book speaks to debates on law, constitutionalism, and the contested terrain of political identity in modern India. Set against the overwhelmingly liberal design of the Indian Constitution, the book demonstrates a tendency in the Constitution and its practice to identify the Indian people in parochial and communal terms. This tendency is identified as India's Communal Constitution and its imprint on contemporary constitutional practice is illustrated by drawing on the constitutional practice as it addresses religious freedom, personal law, minority rights and the identification of caste groups. Thus, casting the Constitution and its practice as a field of contest, the aspiration to define the Indian people as a community of individual citizens is brought face to face with its antagonists. The most significant of these antagonists is the tendency to cast the Indian people as a collection of communities which this book examines and details as India's Communal Constitution.

**Tuesday 30 January, 2024** 06:00 PM IST (Onwards)



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