

ISA International Guest Lectures

Ghosts of Scandals Past

Inter-Caste Relationships and the
Question of the Village in Himalayan India

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22 January, 2026
16:00–17:30

Meeting Room 4, 4th Floor
Georg-Coch-Platz 2
1010 Wien

This talk explores how the political economy of sexuality is at the heart of the question of the village in South Asia. It draws on ethnographic fieldwork in the Indian Himalaya to examine how specters of caste violence (literally) haunt the present in ways that disrupt idealized theories of the village as a distinct social formation.

Radhika Govindrajan is an Associate Professor of Anthropology and International Studies at the University of Washington, Seattle. She is the author of *Animal Intimacies: Interspecies Relatedness in India's Central Himalayas*, published by the University of Chicago Press in 2018 and Penguin India in 2019.

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No registration required.

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