



CCMG INVITED LECTURE ON

Contested Religion, Media & Culture in India: History & Theory

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Abstract:

This presentation will specifically deal with the history and theorisation of contested religion, media & culture in India. It will begin with a brief account of some of the early structural functionalist studies that dealt with Indian (Hindu) culture that were couched mainly in ideational terms before dealing with studies that problematized the relationship between religion media and culture within the non-Brahman movements in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu. In the context of this latter tradition one sees the beginnings of efforts by academics to capture the role played by both the ideational and the material. I argue that in any contemporary account of media, religion and culture in India that it is necessary to deal with both the ideational and the material. The presentation will then very briefly with insights from Bourdieu on religion before concluding with a look at the speaker's own work in this area along with recommendations for further study.

Bio

Pradip Ninan Thomas is at the School of Communication & Arts, University of Queensland. He has written extensively on the media in India and on religion and media. He completed a trilogy on the media in India with the publication of the book *Digital India: Information, Communication & Social Change* (2012) by Sage. He has written a number of articles in some of the best known international journals including *Media, Culture & Society*, the *International Communication Gazette*, the *International Journal of Communication*, and *Media International Australia*.

EVENT DETAILS

Venue: CCMG Network Governance Lab

Date: Thursday, 7 April, 2016

Time: 2:00 pm