

CENTRE FOR CULTURE, MEDIA & GOVERNANCE

Jamia Millia Islamia

New Delhi



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SPEECH ACT: THE ART OF COMMUNICATION IN ANCIENT INDIAN TRADITION

By

Prof. Heeraman Tiwari

About the Lecture

How do we communicate? What are the mechanisms involved in trying to articulate some sounds which give meaning to listeners and readers? Most civilisations of the world have wonderful stories of how the relationship between word and what it does – communicates meaning – is established, and which are celebrated as sources of knowledge. Ancient India, too, in its long textual and speech tradition developed very illuminating theories of speech, its acts, purpose and its objectives. From the innocent chants of the R̥g Vedic sages until the medieval period of India's linguistic and textual history, the thinkers have invested much in fashioning the art of speech to communicate their literary and philosophical ideas, exclusively through Sanskrit language, to the world. This talk will only provide a glimpse of this long tradition to suggest that India has an extremely live and vibrant tradition of the art communication, and the only objective of this art was to communicate and generate knowledge.

About the Speaker

Prof. Heeraman Tiwari was educated in Lucknow (M.A.), Delhi (M.Phil. and Ph.D.), and at Oxford (M.Litt. and D.Phil.). He is currently a Professor at the Centre for Historical Studies, JNU, a Concurrent Professor of Sanskrit and Indian Philosophy at the Special Centre for Sanskrit Studies, JNU, and also a Concurrent Professor and Chairperson at the Centre for Media Studies, JNU. His academic interest and work have been in the area of Indian Philosophy, Sanskrit language and intellectual history of ancient India. He has also been associated with the electronic media, both radio and television.

Venue: CCMG, Network Lab

Date: Thursday, 9th November, 2017

Time: 2:00 pm

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