

Office of the Chief Public Relations Officer
Jamia Millia Islamia

Press Release

**JMI's Sarojini Naidu Centre for Women's Studies organizes a Lecture on
'Transgressive Love as an example of Historical Pluralism in South Asia'**

New Delhi, September 1, 2025

The Sarojini Naidu Centre for Women's studies organised an online lecture by eminent scholar Professor Inderpal Grewal on the topic 'Transgressive Love as an example of Historical Pluralism in South Asia' on 31st August 2025. The session was attended by scholars across universities and subjective fields and proved to be a great success.

The event was moderated by Phd scholar Preeti Maurya and commenced with introductory remarks by Dr. Amina Hussain. The welcome address was given by Prof. Nishat Zaidi, Honorary director of SNCWS who emphasized the importance of engaging with themes of post-modern imaginations of solidarity, especially within feminist studies.

In her thought-provoking lecture, Prof. Grewal examined transnational histories of plural societies and the mobility of people across geographical boundaries. Drawing on pre-modern love narratives such as *Heer-Ranjha*, she illustrated how these stories evoke memories of a pluralistic world that existed prior to the emergence of borders and nation-states—offering hope for renewed transnational solidarity in contemporary times.

The insightful session was followed by an intriguing set of questions from the audience around the themes of queer love, feminism in conflicted areas, and the re-invention of female solidarity in the current era. The lecture was officially ended with a vote of thanks given by Arushi Poddar, MA scholar at sncws.

Prof. Saima Saeed

Chief Public Relations Officer



Historical pluralism

- 1) Fluidity of culture that remembers the world before the nation-state
- 2) deep pluralism is about spaces across borderzones, and times before the territorial nation-state
- 3) a temporality that is not aligned with the history of the nation-state or with the teleology of progress. Religious, cultural, political time is both of the past but also forward into the future without closure or redemption.
- 4) It's not functional – it operates through tragedy and romance and the making of desires that do not operate through the marriage plot.
- 5) It's about a world before colonial settling and the making of the village and the normative idea of settlement.
- 6) Embracing the romance – a female domain (of all the Hir's)

◀ 18 ▶

A smaller version of the Zoom participant grid, showing Inderpal Grewal in the main window and other participants in a grid to the right.

A screenshot of a Google Slides presentation titled "Historical Pluralism...". The slide shows a photograph of ancient ruins. The interface includes a menu bar (File, Edit, View, Insert, Format), a toolbar with various editing tools, and a sidebar with a list of slides. A note at the bottom says "Click to add speaker notes".

A smaller version of the Zoom participant grid, showing Inderpal Grewal in the main window and other participants in a grid to the right.

JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA
SAROJINI NAIDU CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES
organises
DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES
TRANSGRESSIVE LOVE AS AN EXAMPLE OF
HISTORICAL PLURALISM IN SOUTH ASIA



Speaker

Prof. Inderpal Grewal
Professor Emerita
(Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies)
Yale University



Scan to Register

Coordinator
Dr. Amina Hussain
SNCWS

Platform - Google Meet
Date - 31st August 2025
(Sunday)
Time - 07:00 P.M (IST)
07:30 A.M (PDT)

Prof. Nishat Zaidi
Hony. Director, SNCWS
Jamia Millia Islamia