

# CENTRE FOR LAW AND HUMANITIES

## TALK



Jindal Global Law School  
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O.P. Jindal Global University  
A Private University Promoting Public Service

Friday, 30 October 2015, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
T1, Conference Hall, 1st Floor  
O.P. Jindal Global University  
Sonipat Narela Road, Sonipat - 131001, Haryana (NCR of Delhi)

## “From Atali to Dadri and beyond: Hindu Rashtra, Village by Village”



### SPEAKER

**Dr. Apoorvanand**  
University of Delhi

Dr. Apoorvanand teaches Hindi at the University of Delhi. He studied at Bihar University, Muzaffarpur and Patna University, where he did his Doctorate on “*Hindi mein Marxvadee Saundarya Shastra ka Swarop Vikas*”. Starting his teaching career in 1996 at T.P.S. College, Patna, he joined in the year 2000, the Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishvavidyalaya at Wardha. Since 2004, he has been at the University of Delhi. Dr. Apoorvanand's research interests lie in literary aesthetics, ideologies and the interface between school and university education – in 2007 he published a monograph titled *School or Hate Labs: a Study of the School Textbooks of Rajasthan*. He has taught Modern Hindi Poetry, Novel, Short Stories and has published two books of essays in literary criticism: *SUNDAR KA SWAPNA* and *SAHITYA KA EKANT*. He is the editor of *Aalochana*, a journal of literary criticism. His recent publications include an edited volume titled *TEEN SAURAMAYANA*, on the 1991 essay by AK Ramanujan – “Three Hundred Ramayanas: Five Examples and Three Thoughts on Translation” – that was removed by the Academic Council of Delhi University from its BA History syllabus in 2011. The History Department was vandalised by the *Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad* on this issue in 2008. In his recent articles and papers, he has written on figures as diverse as Premchand and Muktibodh, Nehru and Lohia, Agyeya and Nagarjun and topics as varied as religion and secularism and women and writing. These have appeared in all major Hindi journals, newspapers and magazines while his commentaries on current affairs can be read on the website *Kafila.org*. Dr. Apoorvanand is very active in University and wider Public Service and, in the last ten years, has been involved with the NCERT, CBSE, MHRD and the influential Yashpal Committee on higher education in 2008. In June this year, he - along with Profs. Ali Javed and Satish Deshpande - visited Atali (Haryana), 59 kilometers from Delhi - in the aftermath of communal violence there and came away wondering, **“Is this the future of India – a state of permanent fear and tension for religious, ethnic, caste, or linguistic minorities bullied by an intolerant majority, egged on by venal politicians and an ineffective state machinery?”** Recent incidents of violence in Dadri and Mainpuri, Gohana and Sunpedh against Muslims and Dalits make it a both prescient and portentous question.

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