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Jindal Global Law School
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Center for Law and Humanities

cordially invites you to a

Public Lecture

on

The Fourth Estate in the Age of Modi.

by



Dr. Siddharth Varadarajan

Founding Editor, The Wire

Siddharth Varadarajan is a Founding Editor of The Wire. He was earlier the Editor of The Hindu and is a recipient of the Ramnath Goenka Award for Journalist of the Year. He has taught Economics at New York University and Journalism at the University of California, Berkeley, besides working at the Times of India and the Centre for Public Affairs and Critical Theory, Shiv Nadar University.

Abstract

How should the Indian media react to the challenges of the Modi age? The Indian media today is on the cusp of several challenges: an increasing shift towards more digitized platforms, competition for audiences on the social media, the phenomenon of fake news, as well as an acute shortfall of finances. Yet, its role as an institution has never been more important, especially when official attitudes towards information flows are unhelpful and illegal and quasi-legal methods of suppressing dissent are on the rise. Increasing intolerance towards individual freedoms and so called 'anti-nationalism' have also vitiated the public sphere. This talk will analyze the indispensability of the role of an independent media, and its importance in bringing attention to the contrasts between the strategies of communication that the political leadership uses to cultivate images which have a populist appeal, with their actions and rhetoric that systematically undermine the rights of the people they represent.

Date: Friday, 5 May 2017

Time: 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm

**Venue: T-1, The Big Bang Conference Room
O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat**