

Dr B R Ambedkar Central Library
Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)

cordially invites you to the

28th Library Lecture Series and Outreach Programme

Topic

**Online Archives of Indian Photography: Towards an Accessibility of Visual
Cultural Heritage**

Speaker

Dr. Katja Müller | Zentrum für Interdisziplinäre Regionalstudien |
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Chairperson

Professor Kavita Singh
Dean,
School of Arts & Aesthetics (SAA). JNU

Date

Friday, August 25, 2017 at 4:00 pm

Venue

Committee Room, Central Library, JNU, New Delhi

About the Topic:

Photographs have for a long time been perceived as accessories only: they illustrate books in libraries, represent objects in museums, or complement documents in archives. However, photographs are entities in their own right. They can be read and understood, they are three-dimensional objects with a specific materiality, and they are visual documents that refer to the past.

With the internet - which in the popular domain relies heavily on visuals - historic photographs of India experience a revival. They attract attention on websites and social media, and are used, shared and accessed in large numbers, but often in a random manner.

But their widened use and attraction also influenced a more systematic reassessment. In public and private photo-collections the possibility of digital and online access often led to a (new) inventory of the stored Indian photographs. This talk introduces some of the archives of Indian photography in India and abroad. It looks from both an anthropological and an archival point of view at the various ways these archives have been digitized and made accessible. It shows how the digital photographs and their metadata can be used to make sense of the past and consequently points out the advantages, challenges and constraints of a visual cultural heritage that becomes in its digital form accessible for memorizing, viewing, and research.

Please make it convenient to attend.

Regards

Ramesh

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