



Press Release

Marx Conference by ADRI

Patna, June 13. "Marxism is not as alive today as it was during the two preceding centuries. But, even now ideas of Karl Marx continue to engage intellect, imagination and conscience of human minds across the world from perspectives that are understandably very diverse." This is what Asian Development Research Institute (ADRI), a social science research organisation based in Patna, would like you to believe. On the bicentenary of Karl Marx in 2018, ADRI made it a point not just to remember him but to rethink and interrogate all that is sourced to Marx. With this aim, ADRI is organising an International Conference entitled '**Karl Marx - Life, Ideas, Influence: A Critical Examination on the Bicentenary**' from June 16 to 20 in Patna.

The international conference on Karl Marx is being organised in the memory of Pijushendu Gupta and Radha Krishna Chaudhary who were instrumental in organising a conference on Marx on his 150th birth anniversary in Begusarai in 1967 – about which, renowned scholar Mohit Sen commented that it was the finest and largest conference organised in India at that time. The conference was also attended by Debiprasad Chattopadhyaya and R.S. Sharma. This historic legacy has manifested into a fine amalgamation of best minds from across the globe to examine the profound impact of Marx from divergent ideological perspective.

Dr Shaibal Gupta, member-secretary of ADRI, thinks the theme of the conference is indeed broad and its deliberations could encompass many strands — his life struggles; he and his lifelong collaborator Engels; enormous span of his writings covering economics, history, sociology, political theory, literature and other social issues; his political activities starting from, say, First International; or the continuation of his academic and political legacy by scholars and political leaders, opening new frontiers of Marxism.

World renowned academics including Gayatri Spivak, Samuel Hollander, Samir Amin, Jan Toporowski, Riccardo Bellofiore, Julio Boltvinik and Elvira Concheiro would be speaking on some of the most interesting topics at the conference. Gayatri Spivak (University Professor, University of Columbia) would be talking on "How Can We Use Marxism Today?" Samuel Hollander's (Professor Emeritus, University of Toronto) lecture is titled "On Revolutionary Credentials of Karl Marx and the Marx-John Stuart Mill Intellectual Relationship". Samir Amin's (Economist, currently based in Senegal) topic is "The Communist Manifesto (1848), 170 Years Later". Jan Toporowski (Professor, SOAS) would be talking on "Marx's Critical Notes on the Classical Theory of Interest". Riccardo Bellofiore's (Professor, University of Bergamo) lecture will be titled "Is There Life on Marx? - The Critique of Political Economy as a Macro-Monetary Theory of Capitalist Production".

A total of 53 academics from all the continents of the world would be gathering at the 5-day conference.

(Anjani Kumar Verma)

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