



The War Within

A Seminar on Students and Social Activism in Kashmir

Date and time changed: March 30th, 2010 - 15.00-18.00

It's still there
In the midst of a wild longing
Looking with empty eyes
At exiled horizons

Excerpt from a poem by a young Kashmiri woman



The South Asian region of Jammu and Kashmir has been enmeshed in both international and domestic conflict. Citizens of Indian-Controlled Kashmir have perpetually demanded the right to self-determination, which they had been promised in 1947. Since 1989, the authorities have stationed nearly 700,000 'security' forces in the area. Their presence has coincided with the death of 80,000 to 100,000, and the 'disappearance' of 8,000 to 10,000 Kashmiri citizens, apart from the use of rape as a major instrument of terror.

The summer of 2008 saw the outburst of a nonviolent people's movement with a significant participation of youth. While aimed at resisting the violence, it has faced harsh repression.

We are honored to welcome three Kashmiri student activists at the VU. They will talk about their experiences and efforts, and invite all Social Science students to a discussion:

What scope is there in conflict areas for students to involve in social activism?

Testimonies & Discussion

Same program - new date and time due to unforeseen circumstances in Kashmir

The All Jammu & Kashmir Student Front (AJKSF) strives to give a voice to young Kashmiris. Three of its members will participate in the seminar.

Further, two Dutch Social Science graduates will present the findings of their fieldwork in Kashmir:

Richard Gerritsen - MSc Conflict Resolution and Governance, University of Amsterdam
Thomas van der Molen - MSc Social and Cultural Anthropology, VU University

Also participating:

Prof. Noor Ahmad Baba - University of Kashmir
Marjan Lucas - IKV Pax Christi
Stefanie Kuijvenhoven - IKV Pax Christi
Dr. Ellen Bal - Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, VU University

Venue:

VU University - Metropolitan Building - Room Z009

For more information and contact, see:

<http://www.fsw.vu.nl/en/departments/social-and-cultural-anthropology>

Co-organized by:

