

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS™

Department of Philosophy and Religion Studies

presents

A Lecture By

Jayanta Bandyopadhyay

Economy and Ecology in Mountain Development:

Reflections on the Chipko Movement in the Indian Himalaya

The region of Uttaranchal in the Indian Himalaya has been well-known for a people's movement known as CHIPKO (Embrace the Trees). This presentation will discuss the emergence of this movement in the context of the economic and institutional changes brought about by the British colonial rule.

This movement came to be known as an ecological movement asking for a total ban on commercial felling of trees and stabilization of the Himalayan watersheds. The presentation will examine whether at the root of this widely known movement the interests that worked are economic or ecological in nature. There is a fine line dividing the two types of concerns, which need to be recognized for reaching a realistic understanding natural resource conflicts in Uttaranchal in particular, and the South countries in general.



Jayanta Bandyopadhyay is Professor and Head of the Centre for Development and Environment Policy at the Indian Institute of Management in Calcutta, India and Adjunct Professor at the University of Waterloo, Canada. Prior to taking up his present position, he was a member of the Senior Professional Staff at the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, Kathmandu, and Director of Research at the International Academy of Environment, Geneva. Presently he is also the President of the South Asian Consortium for Interdisciplinary Water Resource Studies, which has taken a leading role in the promotion of new and holistic curriculum on water management in a number of South Asian Universities. He has published a number of important research papers on world's mountain systems and water policy in South Asia, in particular on the Himalayan rivers.

Thursday, April 20, 3:30 pm in EESAT 110

This lecture is free and open to the public.

For special accommodation, contact us at 565-2266 or

philosophy@unt.edu