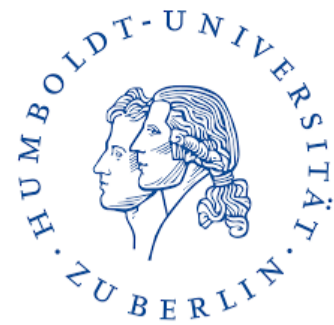


The Chair for Transregional Southeast Asian Studies and the Department for Gender and Media Studies for the South Asian Region - in cooperation with the Heinrich Böll Stiftung - cordially invite you to the lecture:

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# WOMEN AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION IN INDIA – LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE 2019 ELECTIONS



Monday, June 17  
18.00, Room 315  
Institute for Asian  
and African Studies  
Humboldt-Universität  
zu Berlin

Welcome remarks by:

- Jost Pachaly, Senior Programme Officer Asia Division, Heinrich Böll Stiftung
- Prof. Dr. Claudia Derichs, Chair for Transregional Southeast Asian Studies

Moderated by:

- Dr. Fritzi-Marie Titzmann, Interim Professor for Gender and Media Studies for the South Asian Region

## Urvashi Butalia

Publisher, writer and  
women's rights activist

This election has been fought on a lot of abuse and venom on the part of political leaders and politicians, making one wonder about 'the people' and who they are, how they respond to such abuse in their decision when choosing political leaders, argues Urvashi Butalia. So when looking at women in the 2019 elections, what pictures and patterns emerge about their voting behaviour, their ideas and choices of political leadership, women candidates fielded by political parties and the attitude of political parties towards women as candidates, voters and political leaders? Are the 2019 elections different from previous elections or what does a look into the history of elections in India and women's behaviour tell us? What does it mean for women's political participation and activism in the future?

For over twenty years, Urvashi Butalia taught at Delhi University and is currently visiting professor at Ashoka University. In 1984, together with Ritu Menon, she founded the first feminist publishing house in India, Kali for Women. In 2003 she set up Zubaan, which is today the leading publisher of women's writing in India. For over forty years, she has worked to give marginalized social groups, in particular minorities and women, a voice and has been vocal as a feminist activist, advocating for legal reforms dealing with dowry, marriage, sexual violence and sexual harassment at the workplace.