

## Centre for Himalayan Studies

# FRIDAY COLLOQUIUM

January 22, 2021, 3 pm (IST) onwards

Meeting link: [meet.google.com/hnh-jhkd-xkk](https://meet.google.com/hnh-jhkd-xkk)

### **Decolonizing Development in Nepal: Tragedies, Subjugations, and the Conjunction of Possibilities**

In Nepal, Western developmentalism focused primarily on cultural change, neoliberal subjugation and developmental subjectivities. Nepal became a de-facto geopolitical battleground where Western NGOism, Indian meddling and the Chinese security interests became dominant. This situation, on the one hand, cultivated an inferiority complex among the Nepali populations and on the other a commitment to rejuvenate the Nepali consciousness, prosperity and independence was growing. A new conjuncture arrived in the post-2015 Nepal, especially informed by the post-conflict, post-earthquake, post-Indian blockade and post-Constitution contexts. The emergence of the Belt and Road Initiatives (BRI) of China, has radically transformed Nepal to this new conjuncture. In this talk, I will explore how this conjuncture can generate the conditions of possibility for decolonization of development and knowledge.



**Dr. Dinesh Paudel** is an Associate Professor at Appalachian State University, North Carolina, USA. A geographer by training his research focuses on geopolitical, economic and environmental issues in Nepal and the Himalayan region. His current research focuses on the trans-Himalayan connectivity and the geopolitical infrastructure in the Himalayan region, and evolving disaster capitalism in Nepal.