

## Departmental talk at the Political Science, Presidency University

By Prof. Kingshuk Chatterjee

Dated-23.04.2024

In the talk, Prof. Chatterjee delved into the multifaceted histories of the ongoing Israel-Palestinian conflict in the Gaza Strip, emphasizing the structural factors that perpetuate the violence. A key point was the demographic shifts that have significantly shaped both Israel and the Gaza Strip, highlighting how population changes influence political dynamics and resource distribution. These shifts have exacerbated tensions, as different groups compete for control over limited space and infrastructure.

Prof. Chatterjee also discussed the role of Western mediation, noting how international actors, particularly the U.S. and the EU, have played crucial roles in the peace process, but often with limited success. Their efforts, while intended to stabilize the region, have at times been seen as biased or ineffective, further complicating the resolution of the conflict.

Moreover, the talk examined the ongoing struggle for space—both physical and political—in the region. The competition for land, settlements, and strategic territories has been a central driver of conflict. Lastly, the professor pointed out how the ongoing violence in Gaza is reshaping the broader Middle East's regional balance, affecting relations between neighboring states and global powers involved in the conflict. This dynamic interplay of history, demography, and geopolitics continues to fuel one of the most intractable conflicts in modern history.

Participant list- <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1A9sqtLfx91t3KePU0IT9M8IMFCbwdvm>