

CERAS and SAWCC (South Asian Women's Community Centre)

present

RAJASHRI DASGUPTA

**independent journalist, activist and researcher
(women, gender, Indo-Pak peace, movements of peasants and indigenous people)**

on

Tribal Insurrection and the para-military Salwa Judum in India

For the past one year, India has witnessed a seething mass revolt by Adivasi (aboriginal) tribal people in a central swathe of the country, comprising of nearly 200 districts. The Government of India has sent in a para-military force of 250,000 soldiers, armed with light to heavy armoury, helicopters, mortars, counter-insurgency trained commandos. New airstrips are being built in the region. In addition, the government has herded the tribals out of over 600 villages and placed them in strategic hamlets. These hamlets are in turn policed by a section of the tribal population, fully armed, known as the Selwa Judum. Who are they? What is behind this major strife? What are the actual conditions on the ground? Why has the Indian government declared such an offensive against its own citizens? What is the impact of such divisions amongst the tribal people?

(Ms. Rajashri Dasgupta, Commissioning Editor with infochangeindia.org, Contributing Editor with Himal Southasian, freelance editor and journalist since January 2000. Frequent contributor to newspapers like The Telegraph, The Hindu, The Times of India and websites and former Features Editor with The Telegraph)

There will be an information session as well with a slide presentation

August 17th, 2010 at 1930 hours

Second Floor Meeting Room

Atwater Library

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