

The University of Queensland and IIT Delhi Research Academy

KNOWLEDGE NEXUS SEMINAR SERIES

Dr. Adrian Athique

Associate Professor
Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities,
University of Queensland



Digital Transaction Platforms in Asia

ABSTRACT

Whilst digital transactions have existed within financial systems and markets for decades, it is the expansion of digital platforms via mobile Internets that has made mundane digital transactions a ubiquitous feature of everyday life. In this talk, I posit digital transaction platforms as functional interchanges for the complex transaction chains engendered by network economies, serving as clearing houses for a cascading range of digital tokens. At a systemic level, six classes of transaction platforms provide exchange functions necessary to the platform economy and, consequently, constitute the vital organs of digital capitalism. In synchronising online marketplaces for goods, services, labour, information and credit, transaction platforms ensure the interoperability of profuse digital currencies, the functioning of complex transaction chains and, above all, the velocity of money in digital societies. Asia is the region demonstrating the strongest and swiftest transition to digital transactions, reflecting its more mobile tendencies, digital majority, competitive and cooperative investments in digital futures. From this, I infer that digital transactions are not only the nerves and veins of algorithmic capitalism, but also symptomatic indicators of emergent transactional cultures, each with their own material histories and aspirations, social and semantic ontologies.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Dr. Athique is an Associate Professor and programme leader in Cultural Studies at the Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, University of Queensland. Having previously held positions at the University of Waikato and the University of Essex, Adrian's career research has focused upon the sociology and political economy of media in Asia.

His major works include *The Multiplex in India* (2010, with Douglas Hill), *Indian Media* (2012), *Digital Media and Society* (2013), *Transnational Audiences* (2016) *The Indian Media Economy* (2018, 2 Vols, with Vibodh Parthasarathi and SV Srinivas), *Digital Transactions in Asia* (2019, with Emma Baulch) and *Platform Capitalism in India* (2020, with Vibodh Parthasarathi). He is currently leading the Australian Research Council Discovery Project 'Digital Transaction Platforms in Asia', and is contributing to the SSHRC project 'Global Media and Internet Concentration'.

Thursday, 5 December, 2024

10:30 am IST / 3:00 pm AEST onwards

**Room No. TX-120 (Ground Floor), Department
of Textile & Fibre Engineering Building, IIT Delhi
Hauz Khas, New Delhi-110016**

LINK TO JOIN ONLINE : <https://t.ly/ROKTg>

