

The Deoliwallahs:

Stories from Inside the Barbed Wires of the 1962 Chinese-Indian Internment



February 17, 2023 | 5:00-7:00pm

Room 208N, Munk School, 1 Devonshire Pl.

Joy Ma

Author of "The Deoliwallahs: The True Story of the 1962 Chinese-Indian Incarceration" (Pan Macmillan India, 2020)

Chair: Takashi Fujitani

Dr. David Chu Chair in Asia-Pacific Studies, Professor of History, and Director of the Dr. David Chu Program in Asia-Pacific Studies at the Asian Institute, Munk School, University of Toronto

REGISTER: <https://uoft.me/Deoliwallahs>

There's a little known story of nearly 3000 Chinese Indians who were incarcerated in a prison camp in Deoli, Rajasthan in 1962 following a border war between India and China. Families, parts of families and single men were taken across India to the west to be imprisoned for up to five years in some cases. What was their experience in the Camp like? And where are they now?

"The Deoliwallahs" explores the identity of incarcerated people. The stories of the survivors are beautiful and heart-breaking: a 13-year old girl who became the head of the family, three friends who forged their bonds amid despair and the vivid memories of the Camp that haunted a mother in her nightmares. Their story is more relevant now than ever as regional wars over territory rages on and injustice against civilians is a stark reality.



Image credit: Steve Chiu

Centre for
South Asian
Studies

ASIAN
INSTITUTE

munk school
OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS & PUBLIC POLICY



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO

Co-sponsored by the Dr. David Chu Program in Asia-Pacific Studies