

POLS0332 City and Politics

This paper will introduce the political negotiations that take place at the level of a metropolitan city on questions of land, development of infrastructure, identity and culture. As an instance, some of the points that would be discussed will pertain to why cities develop the way they do, who has a right over urban space, what is the history of particular kind of architecture? The idea is to dig out the political economic logic of present form of urban development- flyovers, multi-storied gated neighbourhoods, beautification, shopping malls and so on. In the process, we hope to understand stakes of different groups in politics of the city, including labourers, refugees, women, religious communities, etc. The focus of the paper will be the metropolitan cities in India, however the first two units will set out a comparative framework of urbanization in America, Europe and Asia.

Syllabus:

1. Urban Planning Models
2. Cities in the Global South
3. City Planning in India
4. Land and Urban Housing
5. Architecture, History and Public Culture

References:

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