

One City, Two Worlds: The Making of Mumbai as India's Global City

Summary

Achieving an equitable and inclusive distribution of urban infrastructure and services poses various challenges for local authorities in cities around the world due to lack of financing. The inaccessibility or non-existence of urban infrastructure and services particularly in the Global South, exacerbates existing social inequalities, as marginalized social groups suffer disproportionately from these problems. There is a rising critique of what constitutes ideal infrastructure. While it seems obvious that infrastructural inequality is related to social inequality, this talk examines and seeks to bring together social as well as spatial inequalities.

- Using the case study of Mumbai the talk outlines contemporary urban environment and characteristics of a mega world city from the Global South highlighting social and economic inequalities associated with urbanisation.
- The scale and pace of economic migration increased from rural to urban, creating consequences for people and their everyday physical environment.
- The talk analyses the intersections of social and infrastructural inequalities, the conflicts and tensions that accompany them and the effects of poverty and wealth on infrastructure provision and accessibility.
- The talk looks at social and economic issues associated with urbanisation - How have city spaces have changed, making places for everyday living and survival? How is the city experienced by its citizens?
- Urban problems will be presented in the context of broader global development processes.
- The talk explores the range of urban development and planning challenges faced by governments and populations.

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