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The Department of Philosophy at the University of Johannesburg invites you to the UJ PHILOSOPHY COLLOQUIUM WEBINAR

The Function of *Hetu* (Probans) and *Udāharaṇa* (Example) in the Inferential Structure of Indian Logic

The structure of inference in Indian logic exhibits a necessary binding in the sequence of the inferential steps, which in turn reveals the role played by the *hetu* (probans/evidence) used as an inferential mark, based on which inferential knowledge is derived. Furthermore, it also highlights the significance of the use of a relevant *udāharaṇa* (example) demonstrating the *relation of vyāpti* (invariable concomitance) between the ground of the inference and the inferred object. In the absence of this knowledge of *vyāpti*, one will simply fail to draw any inference. In Indian logic, any argument has to be valid as well as sound. This demand stems from the epistemological concern that no inference (as an instrument of valid knowledge) should have false or zero content. The epistemological concern explains why *hetu* (inferential mark) and *udāharaṇa* (real example) form an integral part of the inference structure. This talk will discuss the role of *hetu* and *udāharaṇa* in the inferential structure of Indian logic, and how an inadequate *hetu* leads to inferential fallacies.

PRESENTER ▪ **Prof Smita Sirker** (Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi)

Smita Sirker is an Associate Professor at the Center for Philosophy, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. She also taught at the Department of Philosophy, Jadavpur University for a decade and was the Associate Editor of the Jadavpur Journal of Philosophy. She was also appointed as the joint director of School of Cognitive Science, Jadavpur University. Her research interests include philosophy of cognitive science and mind, psychology of moral reasoning, human reasoning and rationality, and philosophy of mathematics. She has co-authored a book entitled Mental Reasoning: Experiment and Theories (2010). She has jointly edited Mind and Cognition: An Interdisciplinary Sharing. She has published in Philosophy East and West, Mind and Language, Journal of Mathematics and Culture and Noûs.

DATE ▪ **13 October 2021** / **TIME** ▪ **11:20-12:50 (UTC+2)**

ZOOM LINK ▪ <https://zoom.us/j/96151898502>

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