



Humanities Institute at Stony Brook

p r e s e n t s

Wednesday, October 30th, 2013

4:00 p.m.

Humanities 1006

Reception to follow

Ramachandran Guha

Gandhi as Environmentalist

Mohandas K. Gandhi is widely admired for having led India's independence struggle, and for having pioneered techniques of non-violent resistance since successfully used all over the world, from the civil rights movement in the USA to the Arab Spring. This talk focuses on a little-known aspect of Gandhi's legacy — his precocious environmentalism. Gandhi urged India to adopt a more sustainable path of development than that followed by the industrialized west, deplored chemical agriculture, and promoted recycling and reuse of scarce materials. After outlining Gandhi's environmental philosophy, Guha outlines how it has influenced contemporary social movements in India.

Ramachandra Guha is a historian and biographer based in Bangalore. He has taught at the universities of Yale and Stanford, held the Arné Naess Chair at the University of Oslo, been the Indo-American Community Visiting Professor at the University of California at Berkeley, and served as Philippe Roman Professor of History and International Affairs at the London School of Economics. His books include a pioneering environmental history, *The Unquiet Woods*, and an award-winning social history of cricket, *A Corner of a Foreign Field*. *India after Gandhi* was chosen as a book of the year by the *Economist*, the *Washington Post*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Time Out*, and *Outlook*, and as a book of the decade in the *Times of India*, the *Times of London*, and *The Hindu*.

