

Smitu Kothari

*We encourage you to share your thoughts,
memories, photos, videos of Smitu :
<http://celebrating-smitu.org>*

Co-sponsors



Celebration of Life

Smitu Kothari

*Smitu was a dear friend to many of us, a source of
constant inspiration!*



April 24th, 2009

6:30pm

Smitu's life and work

Smitu Kothari was one of the most active, progressive and consistent voices against the neo-liberal anti-poor agenda of privatization, globalization and liberalization in recent times. Smitu was a widely respected scholar, visiting academic at the Cornell and Princeton Universities, author of several publications on contemporary socio-political and economic discourses and above all an indomitable activist.

One of the founders of Lokayan ("Dialogue of the People") and Intercultural Resources, two centres in Delhi promoting exchange between non-party political formations and concerned scholars and other citizens from India and the rest of the world, he was actively involved in ecological, cultural and human rights issues, and strived to collectively forge a national and global alternative that is socially just and ecologically sane. In this capacity, he vigorously pursued multifarious academic and activist initiatives.

Development induced displacement, people's governance and social-environmental movements were some of his core concerns. He was also one of the striving spirits behind the Independent People's Tribunal on the World Bank Group in India held in 2007.

Smitu was a long time vocal supporter of the struggle of thousands of adivasis, farmers, labourers, fishworkers, potters and all the project-affected people in the Narmada valley and articulated their concerns at various fora, both within India and across continents.

A truly loving person, Smitu continues to be a source of inspiration not just for people's movements and struggles in India, but also to voices of dissent and alternatives across the globe.

We honor his decades of invaluable contribution to diverse people's movements and resolve to take forward his message and commitment to come together and unite against all odds to strengthen our collective force for justice.

Celebrating Smitu

Cocktails

Welcome- David Hunter

Dinner Served

Remembering Smitu

Manish Bapna

Robin Broad

Robert Herman

Juliette Majot

John Cavanagh

Lori Udall

Bruce Rich

Anne Stewart

Zia Mian

Antonio Tricarico

Jim Riker

(Others as moved)