Broadcasting, the BBC and the British Empire in India

Dr Chandrika Kaul

The BBC is one of the most iconic of British institutions. This talk will focus on the BBC’s Indian service during the 1930s and 1940s. What role did the BBC play in the establishment of broadcasting in India? How did the BBC convey the dramatic developments during these years including the Second World War, Indian Independence and Partition? Who were the key broadcasters involved with Indian programming and what motivated their approach? Did the BBC maintain its journalistic integrity or succumb to the pressures of war propaganda and the demands of imperial rule?

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