Understanding India (Lecture Series) Monday, 3rd, 2014

“Nuclear India: Deeper into the Military and Civilian Abyss?”

Praful Bidwai is a political columnist, social science researcher, and activist on issues of human rights, secularism, the environment, global justice and peace, based in New Delhi. He has been active in national and international campaigns against nuclear power and for nuclear disarmament and peace. A founder-member of the Coalition for Nuclear Disarmament and Peace, India, Bidwai received the 2000 Sean MacBride International Peace Prize of the International Peace Bureau, Geneva and London. His last book, “The Politics of Climate Change and the Global Crisis: Mortgaging Our Future”, was published in 2012 by Orient BlackSwan in South Asia. Until October 2014 he was a professor with a Chair in Social Development, Equity and Human Security at the Council for Social Development, Delhi. During his three-year tenure in this Chair, he completed a book with the working title, “Gathering the Fragments: Can the Indian Left Survive its Crisis?”

Most recently, he contributed critical articles to the discussion around India’s latest election cycle, the rise of Hindu nationalism and the new Prime Minister, and what is at stake for the nation’s economy, its environment, its religious minorities, and eventually for democracy itself.

His articles appear regularly in 20 newspapers and magazines in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh. He also writes for The Guardian, Le Monde Diplomatique, The Nation (New York), and Il Manifesto.

Bidwai’s articles can be read at www.prafulbidwai.org and www.tni.org.