



Centre for Comparative Literature  
Bhasha Bhavana  
Visva-Bharati

Cordially invites you to a talk by

**Indranil Chakravarty**

**on**

**OCTAVIO PAZ AND INDIA**

Date: January 10, 2025

Time: 2:30 P.M.

Venue: Room no. 305

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# Abstract:

Octavio Paz, the Nobel Laureate poet and essayist from Mexico, spent the most creative and bountiful years of his life in India during the 1960s as a diplomat, deeply immersing himself in its cultural and contemplative traditions. His connections with figures like Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi enabled him to engage with India's cultural and political history, impacting many notable artists and shaping his own work. Unlike other foreign artists drawn to India across our history, Paz's experience stands out for its depth and duration. His desire to bridge the 'East' and the 'West' influenced his writings, leaving a mark on Spanish-American literature. This seminar examines his relationship with India, revealing how it profoundly inspired his poetry and essays. In India, Paz also met his great love, a French woman he married in New Delhi. He described India as the country of his 'second birth' that transformed him deeply.