Neoliberalism has failed, cruel populism has us by the throat.

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Lecture series: South Asia in the World

From the 1970s onwards, a major shift took place in the world economy, driven by technological changes and new political developments. The upshot of this new accumulation strategy was great social inequality on a planetary scale. Neoliberalism emerged as a policy slate to manage this new accumulation structure, but it failed - both in the West and in the Global South. Now comes what Pankaj Mishra calls the 'age of anger', in which cruel populism rides roughshod from India to Turkey, from the United States to the Philippines. The present lies in ruins between a disoriented neoliberalism and a triumphant cruel populism. Hope struggles to be born in this conjuncture.

Vijay Prashad is Professor of International Studies and the George and Martha Kellner Chair of South Asian History at Trinity College. He is the author of over twenty books, most recently *The Death of the Nation and the Future of the Arab Revolution* (California, 2016) and the edited volume *Will the Flower Slip Through the Asphalt: Writers Respond to Capitalist Climate Change*, which has essays by Naomi Klein, Amitav Ghosh, Rafia Zakaria, Susan Abulhawa and Masturah Alatas among others (LeftWord, 2017). He reports regularly for *Frontline* and *The Hindu* (India), *BirGün* (Turkey) and *Alternet* (United States). He is the Chief Editor of LeftWord Books (New Delhi).

**In the Ruins of the Present:**

Friday, March 3rd | 3:30pm

Golda Meir Library, 4th Floor Conference Center

Vijay Prashad