

**PANJAB UNIVERSITY**



You are cordially invited to the  
**Inaugural Professor Urmi Kessar Memorial Oration**  
by

**William Dalrymple**

on

**'Princes and Painters in Late Mughal Delhi, 1707-1857'**

at 5:30 pm, Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2016

Venue: Department of Evening Studies, Principal P. L.  
Anand Auditorium, Arts Block I & II

Please join us for Tea at 5:00 pm

RSVP

Prof. Arun Kumar Grover  
Vice Chancellor,  
Panjab University,  
Chandigarh

Prof. B. N. Goswamy | Prof. S. V. Kessar

Dr. Jagtej Grewal,  
Chairperson  
Dept. of Art History  
& Visual Arts  
Ph. 9872417700

**Dr. William Dalrymple**, the celebrated Scotsman is an eminent historian, a much acclaimed author of the genres of travel and history writing, a prominent broadcaster, critic and curator. He started his career with *In Xanadu* in 1989 and has traversed a glittering award studded journey in the field of historical literature. Amongst his unforgettable works are *From the Holy Mountain*, *White Mughals*, *The Last Mughal: The Fall of a Dynasty, Delhi, 1857*, the latest being *The Return of a King: the First Battle for Afghanistan 1839-42*. A Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, the Royal Geographical Society and of the Royal Asiatic Society, he is also a founder and co-director of the renowned Jaipur Literature Festival.

**Prof. Urmi Kessar** (1940 -2015), from the first batch of the Department of Fine Arts, Panjab University, was inextricably linked with the history of the department where she went on to teach with distinction and head the department. An endearing figure among her students and other leading lights of the university faculty, she is known for her seminal work on the Social Content in Modern Indian Painting. Amongst her many published works are "Twentieth-Century Sikh Painting: The Presence of the Past", "Presenting Punjab: Variations on a Theme", and "Interpreting an Idea – A Study of "Revivalism" in Punjab Painting (ca. 1920-1950)" which brought into sharp focus the arts of Punjab. She, along with her husband Prof. S. V. Kessar have immensely contributed towards making this University the renowned centre of higher learning that it is today.

**The Dr. Urmi Kessar Memorial Fund** has been endowed by her family. The fund is for supporting an annual lecture/oration in the area of art history and appreciation at Panjab University, Chandigarh. It is intended to provide a forum for scholars and discerning appreciators of art and its history for interaction with the leading luminaries of the field.