

The Centre for Feminist Research & The York Centre for Asian Studies Present:

# BOOK LAUNCH

**DR. VANAJA DHRUVARAJAN**

CROSSING THE LAXMAN REKHA: ONE WOMAN'S STRUGGLES AGAINST  
GENDER, RACIAL, AND ETHNIC BIAS

When: November 8, 2017, 2.30-4.30pm

Where: Dahdaleh Building 0010 [formerly TEL]

In conversation with Dr. Tania Das Gupta, Department of Equity Studies

The “Laxman Rekha,” from the ancient Indian epic Ramayana, was a line drawn to protect Prince Rama’s wife, Sita, from the dangers of the outside world. In Hindu culture today, the notion of the Laxman Rekha has shifted from protecting women to actually circumscribing their conduct; it has become a metaphor for the proper behavior of Hindu women.

Vanaja Dhruvarajan’s story of upheaval and hope—of courage in the face of continual censure and discrimination—opens a window on what it means to survive crossing the Laxman Rekha.



**Dr. Vanaja Dhruvarajan** is an Adjunct Professor at Carleton University. She has served as the president of the Canadian

Sociology and Anthropology Association and the Canadian Women’s Studies Association, and held the Ruth Wynn Woodward Chair of Women’s Studies at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia.

Co-Sponsored by: Department of Equity Studies and the School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies.

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ONE WOMAN'S STRUGGLES  
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