

Finding Their Niche: Unheard Stories of Migrant Women

Screening & discussion with Megha Wadhwa

Hosted by **David H. Slater**

Online Lecture Series
**“Migration, Memory,
and the Art of Storytelling
on Film”**
Lecture 5

22 October 2024
(Tue)

11:00 to 13:00 (CEST)
18:00 to 20:00 (JST)

All the lectures will be on Zoom.
Please register from here:



<https://forms.office.com/r/YRfdXeybLt>

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Finding their niche: Unheard stories of Migrant Women by Megha Wadhwa
Japan and Berlin 2024 | 58 mins
Hindi/English with English Subtitles

This film documents the lives of two Indian women migrants who moved to Japan more than a decade ago, as a case study of the ‘trailing spouses’ concept in migration.

Jyoti, 41 and Mandeep, 39, grew up in the state of Punjab, northern India, in middle-class households. They received a good education and had promising careers in India. Then, in their early 20s, they each agreed to marry men living in Japan by arrangement.

The women were excited to move to a foreign country and to be with their husbands but they had no prior knowledge of Japan. Through personal narratives told by the women, we examine past, present and future expectations and see how these affect their roles as Indian women, wives, mothers and workers in a foreign country, as well as the challenges they faced in ‘Finding their Niche’.

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/743482060?share=copy>

Megha Wadhwa is an anthropologist, filmmaker, and writer based at the Free University of Berlin’s Japanese Studies department. She is an adjunct assistant professor at Temple University Japan. She is also a visiting scholar at Sophia University Tokyo. She is the author of *Indian migrants in Tokyo: A study of*

socio-cultural, religious and working worlds (Routledge:2021). Her current research looks into migration trends of Indians in Japan, Singapore and Germany.

